



HOUSEKEEPER



A Publication of the METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 8

October/November/December 1977

MCCA CHOSEN FOR CORRECTIONS BOARD

Dear Community Corrections Co-workers:

The Hennepin County Commissioners have chosen the MCCA to represent social service agencies on the newly formed Corrections Advisory Board. MCCA now has one of its members on the Anoka, Hennepin and Ramsey Corrections Advisory Boards.

The International Halfway House Association Region V Conference sponsored by MCCA was considered by all as a worthwhile experience. Over one hundred people from eight states shared ideas on community-based programs.

The MCCA sponsored three workshops at the recent MCA Conference. Our topics were: Treatment of the Sex Offender, Specialized Problems of the Female Offender, and Corrections Problems in the Rural Community. We tried to address issues that are often avoided by most conferences.

Don't miss the series now distributed by the United Press International on Crime and Justice in America in Courses by Newspaper. For more information on this credit course contact: George A. Colburn, Project Director, Courses by Newspaper, University of California- San Diego, Q-056, LaJolla, California 92093.

The MCCA is forming two new committees and we are asking for persons who are interested in working on these to call the MCCA office, 871-0221, Ext. 218. The committees are: Continuum of Services - which will study the Community Corrections Act and keep in touch with county advisory boards as they implement the act. The second committee is on training. You are reminded about the other committees who also need more members: Legislative Committee, Newsletter Committee and Evaluation and Standards Committee.

The MCCA is co-sponsoring the Governor's Conference on Ex-offender Employment on Friday, November 18. It will be at the St. Paul Radisson from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It was scheduled to be at the Holiday Inn St. Paul, but remodeling there will not be completed in time.

1978 membership renewals are now due in the MCCA office. Send in the application form and five dollars so you can continue to receive this newsletter and all the mailings for the coming year. (application form enclosed)

The major point I received from the MCA Conference was from the keynote speaker, Ramsey Clark, the former Attorney General. He stated that with the ability and talent now available in the corrections field, especially in community-based programs, there was no way that the phrase "rehabilitation doesn't work" will go unchallenged. He said we can do it, we are doing it and we will do it better and better. Thanks, Ramsey. We needed that.

Tom Christian

Director, MCCA

What's Happening

THE MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE, INC., is holding their annual dinner meeting at the Marriott I (I-94 and Cedar Avenue South, November 16 at 6:30 p.m. Featured speakers are Sylvia G. McCollum and Dr. Cherry B. Sederleaf. For further information contact Marnie Hanson, 824-9878. Unfortunately, November 10 was the cutoff date for dinner reservations.

The Minnesota Association of Women In Criminal Justice (MAWCJ) hosted an open meeting at the MCA Conference in St. Paul on Tuesday, November 1. Guest speaker Rosalie Wahl, Minnesota Supreme Court Justice, discussed her views on the role of the women professional in the Criminal Justice System.

THE RESTITUTION UNIT has moved from Lino Lakes to 430 Metro Square Building, St. Paul, MN 55101. Telephone: (612)296-1343.

Congratulations to NEW CONNECTION of St. Paul and ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, of Minnea - polis for being pointed up by ABC News as model adolescent drug treatment programs. For those of you who didn't watch, ABC Closeup included them as part of their apECIAL program: "Teenage Turn On : Drinking and Drugs".

Don't forget THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE - EMPLOYING THE EX-OFFENDER on November 18, 1977. The MCCA along with Amicus, HIRED, Minnesota AFL-CIO, Minnesota Association of Commerce and Industry, Minnesota Department of Corrections, National Alliance of Businessmen, and Twin Cities Personnel Associations are sponsoring this program which will be held at the St. Paul Radisson, Kellogg Boulevard at Wabasha, St. Paul, Minnesota. Registration is \$15.00 and if there is a group, \$10.00 for each additional registrant. For further information contact Tom Christian.

Well, they broke the ground for the new high security facility on 10-19-77.

HENNEPIN COUNTY is now planning to join the Community Corrections Act as of January, 1978. The Community Corrections Advisory Board has been formed to develop a comprehensive plan with the assistance of a planning unit. For further information contact John O'Sullivan, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Hennepin County.

The 1977-78 MINNESOTA CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN is available for review in the Public Information Office of the Department of Corrections, 430 Metro Square Building, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.

Former Governor's Aide, JEFF PETERSON, works as a planner with the Department of Corrections, and will be responsible for updating the total master plan and a number of special projects including development of a plan for future use of institutions.

The GESTALT CENTER, 3108 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408, is beginning its therapy training programs on January 6: three months skills program or two year intensive program. Telephone: 824-1403.

THE ST. PAUL AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER and Delmar Smith, Director of the Alcohol and Drug Program, want the public to be aware of the services they offer in the criminal justice/chemical dependency area. They work predominantly with Indian people, but will also serve members of other groups.

Their Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program provides information and referral services, individual counseling, family counseling, home visits, alcohol education, counselor training, A.A. and Al-Anon groups. A.A. and Al-Anon meetings are held at the center, 1001 Payne Ave., on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 p.m.

Their Court Advocate Program provides referral services, outreach, counseling, family education, crafts groups, alternatives to incarceration for drug related offenses, and employment and training.

The new Director of Team House is P.K. ARZI. Chris Peterson is now with Ramsey County Court Services.

more happening

TEAM HOUSE, 54 W. Exchange, St. Paul, will be having its sixth annual Ham & Bean Feed Benefit, Friday, December 10 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets include, fun, food, dance, speakers, entertainment and prizes. Tickets will be available starting November 12. For additional info or tickets contact Ron Jensen or Mike Burns at 291-3800. The proceeds from this benefit will be used for program and resident needs not covered by regular yearly budget.

TEAM HOUSE residential program and the Exchange Out Patient Program will be sponsoring bi-monthly work shops focused on interpersonal communication skills development. These non discriminatory work shops are for any couples wishing to enrich their communication and enhance their relationships through the teaching of specific skills and frameworks for dealing with day to day issues. If interested info may be obtained regarding dates and material costs by contacting Ron Jensen or Greg Boss at 291-3800.

Five women received certificates of completion from GENESIS II on Friday, November 4, during ceremonies held at DeLaSalle High School. Graduation marks successful completion of their first phase of training in independent living skills and career development. The women will continue advanced coursework in career development for the next three months as they pursue individual employment and training goals.

A MEETING to discuss problems faced by battered women and their advocates will be held at the State Capitol, Room 112, on Tuesday, November 22 at 9:30 a.m. Also to be discussed will be the implementation of the legislation passed during the last session. If you wish to be placed on the agenda, contact Connie Dabelow at 269-4166 or 296-6436.

THE MINNESOTA COUNCIL ON FOUNDATIONS, Foshay Towers, Room 413, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402, is staging a series of meetings to increase public knowledge of proposals and grants. On November 30, 1977, the Dayton-Hudson and Northwest Area Foundations will present their philosophy of giving and describe their various grant making processes.

On December 7, 1977, at 8:00 p.m. at St. Paul TVI there will be a program on what you need to know before you are ready to write your proposal. On December 14, 1977, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas College, O'Shaughnessy Education Center, the Bush Foundation will conduct an evening of small group sessions simulating the process of an actual foundation board of directors in their decision making as to which projects to fund.

A new idea to incorporate into some of your programs! You are all aware of new emphasis on programs to assist the battered woman. Many of our clients do the battering. A staff person from the St. Paul Women's Advocates has pointed out the lack of counseling and groups specifically aimed at wife beaters. The problem is real and the need is obviously there.

The Minnesota Chemical Dependency Association is sponsoring a conference, "CHEMICALLY DEPENDENT WOMEN: THE PRESENT AND ALTERNATIVES FOR THE FUTURE", November 21 and 22.

This Conference, designed for professionals, will cover the treatment process from referral to aftercare. It will run November 21 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. through November 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information contact Continuing Education, St. Mary's Junior College, 2500 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55454; 332-5521

The staff of the HOUSEKEEPER is appointed for one year and the year is just about over. During the month of December we would like to put together a new committee of MCCA members to work on the newsletter.

The work involves gathering news and information from adult community corrections services in the metro area, writing, editing, and doing layout. Meeting time averages 1½ hours per month. Gathering news takes a maximum of one hour per week. If you are interested contact Tom Christian at 871-0221.

more happening

MCCA MEETS ON COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT

The MCCA general membership meeting was held October 26 and the topic was how the Community Corrections Act affects community based programs. Panel members were: Tom Foster, Anoka Court Services; Pat McManus and Bev Tallman, Department of Corrections; Dick Scherman, Hennepin County Court Services; John O'Sullivan, Hennepin County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and Bob Hanson, Ramsey County Court Services.

Sixteen programs were represented at the meeting and questions flowed freely from the audience. The cooperation and communication was evident and the Act is a real boon for community based programs. It is up to us to lobby and provide quality service to the Act counties.

GROUP INSURANCE

Brenda Benton of Mehus and Associates/ Insurance Brokers, Minneapolis, is in the process of visiting our programs to explain our MCCA Group Insurance program. If you are interested call the MCCA office and she will pay you a visit. The more we have in the plan the cheaper our rates.

LEGISLATIVE CONCERNS

The Legislative Committee of the MCCA met on November 9th to discuss any legislation which might affect community corrections and which is being considered for the next legislative session.

It appears that the Determinate Sentencing bill may not come out of committee and therefore it may be a dead issue this session.

Representative Thomas Stoa is working on a bill in which work release would be extended to include education and treatment.

The Department of Corrections has prepared draft copies of some bills they may propose during the up-coming session.

One bill proposes that a \$10.00 fee be charged to each felon when they are convicted. This money is to be used to compensate victims of crime.

LEGISLATIVE CONCERNS - cont'd.

Another proposed bill would provide community service orders as an alternative to prison sentences. It would make it possible for community work to take the place of a sentence, up to 300 hours in a twelve month period provided:

1. the person consents;
2. the work is available;
3. a P.S.I. is done.

Another proposed bill would make some changes in Minnesota Statutes 1976, Section 241.021, Subdivision 1. This present law requires the Commissioner of Corrections to inspect all Correctional Facilities. The proposed revision would require the Commissioner to license and inspect correctional facilities.

It also defines what a correctional facility is, and provides for the revocation of the license of those correctional facilities (except jails and lockups) which do not conform to minimum standards.

In this proposed admendment "correctional facility" is defined to mean any facility having a residential component and in which fifty-one percent of the persons served by the facility in any calender year were placed therein by a court, court services department, parole authority, or other correctional agency having dispositional power over persons charged with, convicted, or adjudicated to be guilty or delinquent.

THE MINNEAPOLIS REGIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN CENTER located at 1530 East Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis, (348-5618) now has services which include a C/D prevention program, out-patient and a complete chemical dependency center.

ANTIOCH MINNEAPOLIS COMMUNIVERSITY is offering opportunities for halfway house staff & residents to earn a college degree. Their services offer in-service training, life experience credits (which include your life experience in a halfway house), afternoon & night classes, bus transportation, and student scholarships. Contact Gwyn Jones-Davis or Gary Watson at 529-7754.

ATTENTION .. Directors of Community-based Correctional Programs! There will be a \$5.00 MCCA luncheon for all directors to discuss common concerns/problems -Kahler Motel, 41 No. 10th St., Mpls. - Tuesday, November 29 - 12 noon. More info-call MCCA office, 871-0221, ext. 218.

more happening

MCCA WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

Lynn Priebe - Portland House
 Thomas J. Schmid Ph. D., Mankato State Univ.
 Theodore Jefferson-Fairhaven, Mpls.
 Clifford Johnson } Dept. of Corrections
 Gloria Von Doehren }
 Richard Draves - Mpls. Regional Native
 American Center
 Harriet Manis } Lake Region Homes, Inc.
 Gordon Dupre } Fergus Falls
 Jerry Smith - MRC
 Art Cartrette } Ramsey Co. Community Corrections
 Joan Minzeski }
 Gary Watson - Antioch Community
 Sharon Johnson } St. Croix Camp,
 Judy Schrag } A M Wilder Foundation
 Tim Matthews } Cincinnati, Ohio
 Greg Lemmon }
 Charlotte Cohen } HIRED
 Janice Tijerina }

Wayne Dahl, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
 Jay Lindgren, PORT, Rochester, MN
 Margaret Katrosick, Project Start,
 Detroit, Michigan
 Larrie Dee Price, Harbor Light, Mpls.
 Robert O'Brien } American Indian Services,
 Phil Archambault } Inc., Mpls.
 Richard Zeglen, Hennepin Co. Court Services
 Thomas A. Hammerel, State Industrial School,
 Mandan, North Dakota
 Edwin C. Wood, Ph. D., Kettle Moraine Cor-
 rectional Institute, Plymouth, Wisconsin
 Lesley Powell } St. George's House for Women
 Linda May } Kansas City, Missouri
 Frankie Ferguson
 Karen Pauly, Sauke Center, MN
 Burton Daly, Fargo, North Dakota

Membership is now up to 183. We will push for over the 200 mark in 1978!

* * * * *
 MEMBER last month's anonymous letter? The following are responses we received.

"To The Anonymous Letter Writer:

Personally, I think your letter smacks of professional snobery and has the flavor of someone who feels powerless. I also believe that someone with your attitude would tend to be ineffectual in their job.

When we receive a resident into Portland House with your set of problems, we try to teach him that life, indeed, is unmanageable (everyones). That a power greater than ourselves is managing for all of us and that human beings, as well as systems, aren't perfect. (Alas, there are a few disgruntleds at P.H.) I am grateful for the knowledge and comfort received when something in my life, like a system, is unmanageable. I can turn it over to a higher power to manage (In my case, God).

What might help you to work comfortably and effectively in an imperfect system with imperfect people is to learn: (1st) The serenity prayer; God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference, (2nd) to become aware of your arrogance, feelings of powerlessness and the need to control, (3rd) do what you can everyday to make an impact that will help to improve the system. This is all any of us can really do.

Eula Ringenwald
Portland House "

more happening

A second response:

"In response to your anonymous but cynical reader I would like to point out the Self Concept Improvement Program as one designed for the client, which is working on no grant money and who will take all referrals on the basis that we feel confident in our program design.

Our total budget is under \$40,000 and includes the salary, expenses, equipment and supplies for two full time and one part time staff.

The staff personnel, in addition to prior training requirements, must be associated with the SCIP program a minimum of 9 months before being allowed to facilitate our workshop. During this time they are required to take outside training in Gestalt techniques as well as 70 hours of in-house training.

We serve clients of the state Department of Corrections, Hennepin County Court Services, and other agencies both public and private, and have designed programming for Genesis II, Freeport West, WHO, Tri House and others, based on the needs of their clientele.

Is our program successful? I don't know. We have yet to come up with a satisfactory device to measure our success. However, in the two and a half years of our existence, our recidivism ratio is about 3% and using the Tennessee Self Concept Scale as a pre and post testing device we have had only one client who has not shown marked improvement in the overall areas being tested.

We are proud of our record and we delight in being open, honest and direct in stating who we are and what we stand for.

Sincerely,

Victor S. McCoy, Director
Self Concept Improvement Program

MCCA

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