



Minnesota
Community
Corrections
Association

MINNESOTA COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION

HAPPENINGS

President's Message

By Anna McLafferty

Greetings! With the legislative session and the extra trainings we have been hosting, this has been a busy quarter for MCCA. And now you can stay up-to-the-minute on all of our activities because we're on Facebook! If you are on Facebook too, please take a moment to look us up and join the group. We will keep you updated on things like trainings, our 35th Anniversary Motorcycle Ride and Reception, a new gang training that's currently in the works and the latest happenings at the Capitol.



Although MCCA does not lobby, we follow what goes on at the Capitol closely to watch for decisions that impact our field. The regular 2012 legislative session ended on May 23 and was a tough one. The legislature proposed cuts to probation, prison-based chemical dependency treatment, the Office of Justice Programs and more. See our Facebook page for a detailed breakdown of the proposed cuts. Relatively speaking, most public safety agencies made out well compared to other parts of the state budget. However, community corrections would take an indirect hit with the deeper cuts proposed to mental health, housing, the Department of Human Rights and other services that are inextricably related to supporting reentry and recovery.

So where do we really stand at the Capitol? The bottom line is that nothing is final yet. As soon as the legislature and governor agree on a budget, the governor will call a special session so the legislature can pass it. If there is no budget agreement before July 1, Minnesota will experience a government shutdown until a budget is passed.

On another note, I want to recognize and thank our new and returning organizational sponsors for supporting MCCA, especially since the economy is still tough for many of our agencies. Thanks and welcome to Amicus, the NetWork for Better Futures and Twin Cities Rise! We're glad to have you with us.

Yours,

Anna McLafferty

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MCCA Workshops

June 24: Drug Trends/ Synthetic Marijuana

July 22: Working with Sex Offenders

August 5: Pioneers in Corrections

August 26: Motivational Interviewing

September 16: Rule 25 & 31

October 21: National Association on Mental Illness



Minnesota
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MCCA Board of Directors

MCCA

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We're on the Web!
www.mnmcca.com

The MCCA *Happenings* newsletter is prepared by

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The statements contained in *Happenings* are the personal views of the authors and do not constitute MCCA policy or endorsement by the Association or its Board of Directors, unless so indicated. MCCA does not assume responsibility for the contents of the *Happenings* articles as submitted by contributors.

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MCCA Mission Statement

The mission of MCCA is to promote the value and recognition of community corrections as an equal partner in the societal response to public safety and offender reintegration. We accomplish this mission through training, advocacy, fellowship and collaboration.

Education & Training Events

Current Trends in Drug Abuse – Minnesota and Nationally / Synthetic Marijuana

Current Trends in Drug Abuse - Minnesota and Nationally: This presentation covers the most current trends in drug abuse – in Minnesota and nationally. It is an up-to-the-minute snapshot of emerging and persistent trends and issues in drug abuse that features the most recent, available data and information from multiple sources: emergency rooms, medical examiners, addiction treatment facilities, crime labs, and population surveys and more. This engaging, fast-paced session will cover the purchase of dangerous, mood-altering substances over the Internet, such as hallucinogens like 2C-I in the phenylethylamine family and bath salts consumed for cocaine-like effects; heroin abuse; and the rising tide of prescription drug abuse. It also presents strategies on what everyone can do address these issues.

Objectives:

- To learn how drug abuse in Minnesota compares with drug abuse nationally.
 - To become familiar with new drugs of abuse, Sources of drugs, and populations at risk.
- To learn about what underlies the rising tide of prescription drug abuse and what people can do about it.

Presenter: Carol Falkowski, Drug Abuse Strategy Officer at the Minnesota Department of Human Services

Synthetic Cannabinoids have become very popular in today's work because of its effects on the brain/body and near delectability in traditional urine drug screens. This course of instruction will give an overview of the chemistry of the substance, effects on cognition, symptoms of intoxication and withdrawal, as well as cover current legislative efforts around it.

Objectives:

- Recognizing "street" names and parent compounds
- Identify common symptoms on intoxication and withdrawal, including subjective vs. objective effects on the user
- Become familiar with legislation. Nationally and locally, to control these substances

Presenter: Rick Moldenhauer, Treatment Services Consultant at the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, Minnesota Department of Human Services

Date: Friday, June 24, 2011

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm

Location: Minnesota Department of Corrections — Itasca Training Room 1450 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul 55108 (West Entrance – Downstairs)

Trainings are free to all current MCCA Members.

If you are currently a MCCA member, please go to mnmcca.com to sign in and register for the training; if you are currently not a member, please sign up at mnmcca.com for membership, a training fee of \$30 will be owed. This annual investment pays for one year of monthly training sessions and your complimentary membership to MCCA. Any questions can be directed to Dani Harrington, Director of Membership at dharrington@rseden.org

Education & Training Events

Pioneers in Corrections: Looking Back (and Forward) at Our History

In order to determine the future course, it is wise to review our past. History appears to move in parallels. The dramatic growth of Minnesota's Corrections systems have steadily grown to accommodate the increase of the inmate population. Minnesota's leadership, staff and programs started in the 1970s resulted in our being a model for corrections in the nation. We've invited six distinguished individuals who helped shape the industry, introduced ideas on how to improve the delivery of services and make Minnesota Corrections safer and one of the best in the United States.

The presenters for this workshop are a "who's who in Corrections." They will highlight the challenges and accomplishments over the past 40 years through their unique lens. They are our "Pioneers in Corrections" in Minnesota. We will get a federal, state and county perspective on how corrections developed and has grown to where it is today. Their stories and anecdotes are sure to be educational, enjoyable and remarkable. Register early, space is limited.

Presenters:

- **Dan Cain**, RS Eden President and former Sentencing Guidelines Commission Chair, Corrections Person of the Year in 1991
- **Andy Doom**, Community Services Regional Director, Corrections Person of the Year in 2010
- **Sig Fine**, Hennepin County Community Corrections
- **Dave Gair**, Hennepin County Probation Officer
- **Dr. Les Green**, SCSU, and former Executive Officer of the Office of Adult Release, former Parole Board Commissioner, Minnesota Corrections Association President in 1986
- **Orville Pung**, former teacher and Superintendent at Red Wing Training School, former Commissioner of Corrections, Corrections Person of the Year in 1992

Date: Friday, August 5th, 2011

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm

Location: Minnesota Department of Corrections — Itasca Training Room
1450 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul 55108 (West Entrance – Downstairs)

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Education & Training Events

Upcoming Education & Training Events

July 22: *Working with Sex Offenders*

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon—DOC Central Office, Pung Meeting room

August 5: *Pioneers in Corrections*

9:00 a.m. — 12:00 noon—DOC Central Office, Itasca Training Room

August 26: *Introduction to Motivational Interviewing*

9:00 a.m. —12:00 noon—DOC Central Office, Pung Meeting Rooms

September 2: *Tentative: Hybrid Gangs*

9:00 a.m. —12:00 noon—DOC Central Office, Pung Meeting Rooms

September 16: *Rule 25 & 31*

9:00 a.m. —12:00 noon—DOC Central Office,

October 21: *National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)*

Please visit our website at:

www.mnmcca.com

for details.

Central MN Re-Entry Project



Service area includes Stearns, Benton, and Sherburne counties in the St. Cloud area

Our mission is to create safer communities by providing ex-offenders the opportunity to transform their lives through mentoring, resources and community

CMNRP is a Minnesota non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation.

CMNRP is a referral agency that assists ex-offenders to identify local resources.

CMNRP offers services to ex-offenders returning to the community after incarceration.

The mentoring program matches trained volunteer mentors with motivated individuals to provide friendship and mentoring. Through these relationships, mentees feel cared about, develop trust, and gain a new outlook on life. By having re-entry and mentoring services available, recidivism rates are expected to drop which will significantly reduce cost to tax payers.



We invite you to be a part of this opportunity. We are now enrolling men and women to be a part of our mentor program, please call Twyla at 320-656-9004 or visit our website www.cmnrp.org for more information.

Mark Your Calendars!

2011 9th Annual MCCA Golf Tournament

The Wilds Golf Club

3151 Wilds Ridge - Prior Lake, MN 55372



Monday SEPTEMBER 12th, 2011

This year's event will be a **FOUR PERSON SCRAMBLE** with a **8:00 a.m. SHOTGUN START.**

Tournament cost will be \$75.00 per person, which includes - Tournament and green fees, cart, lunch, awards, and prizes.

Watch for details!

Organizational Spotlight: Twin Cities RISE! By Amy Anderson

A criminal record and struggles with alcoholism left Comanche Fairbanks hopeless. With his shy personality and no college degree, Fairbanks felt unable to succeed in a career. But a wife and seven children to care for at home meant a life change was necessary.

"I didn't really care what I was doing. I had no motivation. The whole time, I didn't like where I was at but I didn't try to get out of it," Fairbanks said.

While waiting in line for food stamps, Fairbanks found out about Twin Cities RISE! (TCR!). He delved into the program, working as an intern while also taking classes and learning more about his personality and strengths. Today, Fairbanks still spends his time at TCR!, but now on staff as a Recruiter and Personal Empowerment Facilitator, using the skills he learned to help others in similar situations.

"The change in my life is huge... I've gone from an alcoholic to a role model in my community," Fairbanks said.

TCR! was incorporated in 1993 by Steve Rothschild, a former General Mills executive who was disheartened by the lack of long-term programs that approached

job training from an employer's perspective—who knows what qualifications and skills applicants should have better than the employers themselves?

qualifications and skills applicants should have better than the employers themselves?

"I thought about being 23, a black man, a dropout, with kids out of wedlock, with a history of incarceration...who had hit the wall and wanted to do more with his life," Rothschild said.

"If I were that man, where would I go for training that would get me a living wage job? I couldn't find it. Programs weren't producing graduates with the skill level necessary to work and succeed in the long term."

Instead of bandaging unemployment with revolving door, minimum wage jobs, Rothschild sought to train people for living wage jobs with benefits that could lead to fulfilling careers.

TCR! participants come from poverty, unstable housing, incarceration and chemical dependence, looking for a place to gain skills and ultimately employment. By taking classes and getting one-one-one coaching and job search help, they learn

writing, computer skills, customer service, math and—most importantly—Personal Empowerment.

Personal Empowerment training sets TCR! apart from other similar programs and is one of the five organizational principles TCR! lives by, along with Reciprocal Accountability, Market-Driven, Purpose Focused, and Learning-Driven.

Personal Empowerment

Personal Empowerment is the cornerstone of TCR! and is woven throughout the entire program. It is based on the principles of cognitive restructuring for permanent change to belief structure and behaviors.

Participants attend Personal Empowerment classes and learn how to use the skills of self-regulation and responsibility in their other classes and on the job.

"Empowerment helped me realize that I have all these skills and to be confident in them," Fairbanks said.

Through Personal Empowerment, participants learn to transform themselves, understand the reasons behind their feelings and

Continued on next page

Twin Cities RISE! Con't.

actions, and control their lives and futures. This internal change provides a sense of hope that participants often lacked in the past.

Personal Empowerment is also a key to job retention, something that can allow participants to advance in a career rather than bouncing from job to job. Participants are rewarded by "graduating" from TCR! once they've stayed on their job for at least one year, a feat that is significantly more attainable when self-confidence and Personal Empowerment are high.

Reciprocal Accountability

By gaining assurance and responsibility through Personal Empowerment, participants are learning the traits needed for the work environment and practicing them daily in the classroom. Participants are held to the same standards of accountability in TCR! classes that they would be in a job—timeliness, respect, responsibility, appropriateness.

Just as participants are held accountable for their actions, TCR! is held accountable to hiring partners, funders and clients for program outcomes. TCR! established a pay-for-performance system with the

state of Minnesota in which the organization is paid only once it reaches predetermined benchmarks, including participants obtaining a full-time job with benefits of at least \$20,000 and retention. Once those participants stay on the job for a year (and 82% of them do), TCR! gets funding from the state.

Because of this system, the success of participants truly is the success of TCR!, and the results of these accomplishments are what keep the program going.

Market-Driven

As job seekers go through TCR!, they get coaching from staff members who know the employment market well. Through an Employer Advisory Panel and consistent communication with local companies, TCR! staff stays up-to-date on training required for entry-level positions, hiring trends and recruiting methods, then shares this wisdom with participants.

When the market went sour and full-time jobs were at a minimum, TCR! launched a successful internship program to keep participants competitive and enhance their resumes.

"Virtually all of our partici-

pants get a paid internship to develop their skills, give them more marketable skills, develop their sense of self, and make them more competitive in the marketplace," Rothschild said.

In 2010, 97 participants had internships and 52 participants found full-time, living wage jobs.

Purpose Focused

TCR! has set its sights on eradicating poverty through living wage jobs with benefits. This is the ultimate purpose of the organization, and what each class, coaching session and internship is designed to accomplish.

TCR! sees on a daily basis how people's lives move from poverty into empowered living. In 2010, 84% of participants were unemployed when they began at TCR!, and at least 60% had criminal backgrounds. The participants who found a full-time job saw an increase in their annual income of 246%, with an average salary of \$24,655 plus benefits. 82% retained those jobs for one year and 71% for two years.

But these new workers also return money to Minnesota taxpayers—\$7.24 for every \$1

Continued on next page

Twin Cities RISE! Con't.

invested in the program. This comes from the reduction of dependence on social services and increase in taxes paid by TCR! graduates. There's only a 12% recidivism rate for ex-offenders who find full-time jobs through TCR!, compared to 62% for national ex-offenders. Not only do participants get themselves and their families out of poverty, but they also become contributing members of society.

Learning-Driven

In the end, TCR! is about learning and making life changes that will result in successful

employment. While participants learn how to succeed in a work environment and pursue a career path, TCR! learns what works and what should be changed. It's this flexibility based on feedback and needs that keeps TCR! relevant to its population.

As more participants starting coming in with criminal records, TCR! adapted by creating Awali Inside/Out, a program that helps men transition from incarceration to long-term employment, instead of following a path of recidivism.

TCR! Has morphed with the economic ups and downs, but

the desire to get people out of generational poverty and into long-term self-sufficiency stays the same.

"I thought I pretty much had nowhere to go in life and Twin Cities RISE! started helping me," Fairbanks said. "I'm known as a positive role model, a male role model. And there's not too many male native American role models out there in the community. I get to say I'm one of them."

Deep Thoughts

- I wonder if angels believe in ghosts.
- One thing that makes me believe in UFOs is, sometimes I lose stuff.
- When you go in for a job interview, I think a good thing to ask is if they ever press charges.
- If trees could scream, would we be so cavalier about cutting them down? We might, if they screamed all the time, for no good reason.
- If you ever teach a yodeling class, probably the hardest thing is to keep the students from trying to yodel right off. You see, we build to that.
- To me, truth is not some vague, foggy notion. Truth is real. And, at the same time, unreal. Fiction and fact and everything in between, plus some things I can't remember, all rolled into one big "thing." This is truth, to me.
- I think in one of my previous lives I was a mighty king, because I like people to do what I say.
- If nothing ever sticks to Teflon, how do they make Teflon stick to the pan?

MCCA 4th Annual Motorcycle Rally & Reception

Saturday July 30, 2011

Registration

Single riders: \$20.

Two riders/one bike: \$25

Register by 7/15/11

dharrington@rseden.org

Start: 9:00 a.m.

DOC Central Office

Stop 1: Lino Lakes

Stop 2: Rush City

Stop 3: Stillwater

Finish: Grumpy's



Puns

- I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.
- There was a sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center that said "Keep off the Grass."
- To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
- When William joined the army he disliked the phrase "fire at will."
- I used to be addicted to soap, but I'm clean now.
- John Deer's manure spreader is the only equipment the company won't stand behind.
- Did you hear about these new reversible jackets? I'm excited to see how they turn out.
- A prisoner's favorite punctuation mark is the period. It marks the end of his sentence.
- Two peanuts were walking in a tough neighborhood and one of them was a-salted.
- Cartoonist found dead in home. Details are sketchy.
- The one who invented the door knocker got a No-bell prize.
- Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.
- I've been to the dentist several times so I know the drill.
- It was an emotional wedding. Even the cake was in tiers.
- A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was ticketed for littering.
- Did you hear about the fire at the circus? The heat was in tents.
- The two guys caught drinking battery acid will soon be charged.
- We were so poor when I was growing up we couldn't even afford to pay attention.
- The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- I used to be a banker but I lost interest.
- A circus lion won't eat clowns because they taste funny.
- A baker stopped making donuts after he got tired of the hole thing.

Wouldn't it be Nice? Con't.

Okay, okay, I know. This all sounds pretty melodramatic, but let's try one last scenario. Same circumstances, different action plan. You begin practicing a morsel of this new-found material in your daily routine. It's kinda, sorta, radical and revolutionary compared to the natural order of things regarding service delivery amongst the staff. It's somewhat controversial relative to the ideology and canons of what the status quo is.

But hey, you're no newbie here. You're just doing what's best for the client by integrating the latest, greatest technology into your repertoire. Besides, it's not undermining the program philosophy or ethics. Guess what, Jack?! It's carpet time, as in, called on! You are summarily introduced to the riot act and told in no uncertain terms that you just happen to fall into a rather large category of folks that are worth about a dime. Gadzooks!

Anyhow, you get the picture. It's important to recall, in the words of Bob Dylan, "These Times, They are a Changin'." The world has always been about change. People change. Approaches change. Programs and professional practitioners that don't change and adapt will soon find themselves "Blowing in the Wind." They'll be like relics in a museum. You'll be part of an organization that models itself after Blockbuster Video. What's that saying?: "Education and knowledge are nutritional and good for you too!"

Programs must be dynamic, not static; in a constant state of transformation. We need perspective. New thoughts refresh and expand our minds, widen our horizons and provide perspective. Workshops and training seminars aren't designed/intended to come and take you to a place, and when it's over, you go back to wherever you were. There's a whole lot more to it than to just recharge our batteries and then at some point everyone meets back at the corral.

After you have digested new ideas, the key is to think, "Okay, now I know what I mean to do." The notion is to follow the path and the light which leads to discovery, enthusiasm. We must not become narrow, static. Of course, we know that, don't we? But do they!? You know who the notorious "they" are right? Them! Like I said, all the right people are going to the wrong workshops. Or is it: All the wrong people are going to the right workshops? Hrruuuummmpphh. Whatever! The mystery will continue to unravel and untangle itself. It's endless. The possibilities are endless. It's a matter of being closed-, versus open-minded. Just imagine.

Have you ever heard any of these whoppers?

- You get this one, I'll pay next time.
- Trust me, I'll take care of everything.
- Drinking? Why, no officer.
- Don't worry, he's never bitten anyone.
- I've never done anything like this before.
- ... Then take a left. You can't miss it.
- Yes, I did.
- I'll call you later
- The check is in the mail.
- Now, I'm going to tell you the truth.