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CEA-W

Wisconsin Resource Center
PO Box 16
Winnebago, WI 54985-0016
PHONE: (920) 426-4310 x 4160
FAX: (920) 236-4199
BEDNAGR@dhfs.state.wi.us

Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

MSDF Education Vision: Transition and Reintegration

A Design Team of education directors Jean Thieme, RCI; Mark Melcher, WCI; Jack Rice, OCI; and Ted Harig, RYOCF and Education Coordinator Lisa McClure have been meeting to plan the education program which will be established at the Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility.



Because MSDF is more of a "jail" environment with most inmates returning directly to the community, the MSDF Education Vision emphasizes Transition and Reintegration. Subject matter will focus on life skills, employment skills, literacy, and community resources.

The educational programming will be offered on two of the institution's 50-bed pods. Because of the rapid population turnover, the education program has been designed to allow enrollment to occur each week and the program content to be covered on a 6-week cycle. Inmates will attend classes three hours each day.

The topics to be covered each week are:

Monday: Money Management/Literacy
Tuesday: Employability/Literacy
Wednesday: Communication, Goal Setting/Literacy
Thursday: Family Living, Housing, Wellness, Community Resources
Friday: Literacy, Cognitive Based Training, Pre-Release Planning

Classes will be offered from 8:00 - 11:00 and 1:00 - 4:00 with alternating groups of students attending each session.

Each session will consist of a 1-period "presentation" (related to the topic of the day) either the teacher will present a lesson on the specific topic or show a topic related video, or a guest speaker may address the topic. Following the presentation period, there would be a 1-period small group session applying the information learned in the first period. Following the application is a literacy "study hall", where the same students work on pre-assigned work in their areas of weakness as determined by the Bader Reading, Language and Math inventory.

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Prisoners Prepare Teddy Bears for Orphans and Others



Prison inmates aren't the first people you would probably associate with teddy bears. But if it weren't for dozens of inmates at the Green Bay Correctional Institution, hundreds of children might have to wait to hold their first cuddly bear.

Grown men sit in a room sewing. It's not uncommon at the prison in Allouez. "You catch some grief every now and then, 'You're making teddy bears?'" Garry Monroe said. "Once you start doing it, it gets addictive," Edward Singleton added.

"This is a polar bear. This is one we haven't tried yet," Monroe showed us, ready for a new challenge. The first 50 bears Monroe and Singleton helped to make are now on their way to Zimbabwe. "This is wonderful because the Zimbabwe people are so poor," said Donna Hart, who's collecting the bears for the country. The men have been working for about three months and so far made 90 bears. While some are going overseas to Africa, some are staying much closer to home.

"We have 100 bears for Christmas going to a women's shelter in Milwaukee, and we have 100 bears going the Golden House here in Green Bay," project coordinator Mary Dahl said. "It's a pretty good feeling that at some point in time you are going to make somebody happy," Monroe said. Singleton shared, "I victimized the community and now this is giving me an opportunity. It's not much, but I can give back where I can, here and there."

As demand grows for the teddy bears, so does interest from fellow inmates. Said Monroe, "They think it's great. 'How can we get in? How do we do this?'"

Even if you can't sew, you can still help. The project needs more supplies to fill the orders. Contact the Green Bay Correctional Institution at **(920) 432-4877**.

By Becky Freemal
WBAY-TV website
www.wbay.com

Executive Officers		<p>The CEA-W News Review is published by the members of the Correctional Education Association Wisconsin Chapter.</p> <p>The opinions herein are entirely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the executive officers, the Department of Corrections, or the body as a whole.</p> <p>It is our hope that this newsletter will be used to communicate information concerning activities, special events, new directions and policies of the CEA-W and DOC.</p> <p>Reports or articles for publication may be submitted to CEA-W News Review Editor at: The Wisconsin Resource Center, PO Box 16, Winnebago, WI 54985-0016</p>
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Fair Helps Fathers Know Best

This was an article that was written by Jeff Wilford and appeared in The Journal Times.

Racine - Joseph Thomas has one year of a prison sentence down and two more to go. He has a 6-year-old daughter on the outside, back in Richland Center, who asks where Daddy is and when he's coming home.

Thomas, 28, worries about falling into the same pattern when he gets out of prison that put him there in the first place - drinking, smoking marijuana, hanging out with the wrong people. He worries about being a better father.

When Thomas walked into the gym at Racine Correctional Institution for the Fathers' Fair on Monday afternoon, one of his first stops was a table set up by Big Brothers and Big Sisters. They offer a mentoring program for children of inmates. Thomas sighed up his daughter. "To help her out and stuff," he said. "Since I can't be there right now."

Hundreds of prisoners walked through the gym, getting information on being better parents, getting jobs when they get out, eating right, staying healthy and staying clean. More than 30 agencies had set up tables as part of the fourth annual Fathers' Fair.

The Fathers' Fair helps inmates connect with agencies that can help them or their families, while they're still behind bars or once they get out, organizer Barb Rasmussen said. About 485 prisoners visited the Fathers Fair last year, she said. This year's attendance should equal or exceed that.

Exhibitors included the AIDS Resource Center, Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Racine County, Racine Family Resource Center, WIC and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Milwaukee. The Mexican Consulate Chicago office also had a table. It was their first year at the Fathers' Fair. They helped Mexican inmates, many of whom face deportation when their sentences are up, understand what to expect when they get out of prison.

One of the most popular exhibits was Job Service. There, inmates asked about how to get a job when they get out of prison. Most of them worried that their time behind bars would make getting a job difficult.

"What we tell them, because of the ex-felon stigma they're going to have....employers might not want to hire them," said Orlando Ortiz, who works in Job Service's Department of Workforce Development in Milwaukee.

The key is to tell the truth, not hide their past and turn the negatives into positives, Ortiz said. Yes, they were convicted of a crime, but they are being rehabilitated. Yes, they spent time in prison, but they want to become taxpayers.

Thornon Talley, 24 of Madison, stopped to get information about finding a job when he gets out of prison in December. He has an associates degree in health management, a certificate in business management and a license to drive a forklift. But he doesn't have any job leads, yet. He hopes to have some solid leads in hand when he is released.

Rickard Klemp, 23, from Watertown, was scheduled to be released from prison next April, but that could be delayed because he was kicked out of one of his treatment groups. He wants to show the parole board a solid plan for finding work upon his release, in hopes his release won't be pushed back to 2006.



MSDF continued from page 1

The curriculum for the Transition courses will be developed by the teachers based upon materials already at MSDF, coordination with teachers from other facilities, and materials that can be purchased through a combination of the Career Development Project, Title 1, Special Education, and some money from MSDF. The focus will be real-materials, from actual community agencies, so there could be free materials gathered from these agencies as well. This development will take place with assistance from mentor teachers, from RYOCF and RCI and the supervising Education Directors.

The role of the mentor teacher will be to train the teachers on the concept of individualized instruction as it is used within DAI, assist in the development of Learning Guides, provide support during visits, and act as a resource teacher for questions, materials, etc.

KMCI Hosts 3rd Job Fair

Last month, KMCI hosted its third annual Job Fair. The Job Fair provides the Department of Corrections and Department of Workforce Development a chance to educate employers, inmates and the public about the misconceptions and barriers inmates have traditionally faced while trying to make a productive transition back in to the workforce and the community. At the Job Fair, about 30 local employers learned that many offenders use their time in prison to obtain vocational training in areas such as welding, woodworking, building services, custodial skills, auto detailing, and office software.

Just prior to the KMCI Job Fair, Secretary Roberta Gassman of DWD addressed employers on the importance of greater collaboration with Corrections in order to provide employment opportunities to all Wisconsin Citizens. She also mentioned that Wisconsin recently received the Building A World-Class Workforce Award from the United States Department of Labor and the National Association of State Workforce Agencies. The national customer service award annually honors outstanding achievements by state workforce agencies across the country.

The award resulted from a partnership with DWD and Corrections to develop and deliver training for Wisconsin Job Center staff to better serve customers with an offender background. Fond du Lac Job Center personnel were available at the job fair to assist inmates in accessing available jobs on the JobNet.

WCI Teacher Recognized

Teaching for Success®, a Pentronics Publishing e-zine for technical and junior college instructors, awarded WCI teacher Ray Schlesinger first place in a contest for brief teaching tips. Ray's winning entry appeared in the Teaching for Success September 2003 issue and can be found in an article entitled "Make Learners Owners" in the a March/April edition of this year's CEA-W News Review.



Back issues of the CEA-W News Review can be found on our website at www.ceawisconsin.org

SCI Teacher Receives Sunshine Award

Diane Birch was recently awarded the Sunshine Award by WEAU-TV Channel 13 in Eau Claire. The community of Lublin wanted to express their sincere appreciation for her volunteer work with Lublin Days. Lublin Days honors the visiting dignitaries of their sister city of Lublin, Poland. Diane is a teacher at Stanley Correctional Institution and has been a member of CEA since 1997. Congratulations Diane!

By: Peggy Meyers, SCI

DOC Educators Partner with Habitat for Humanity

Wisconsin affiliates of Habitat for Humanity have joined with Education Directors and teachers from several institutions, and representatives of the Bureau of Correctional Enterprises and Department of Workforce Development to be part of Habitat's "Prison Partnership".

The working relationship between Habitat and DOC began with some projects at the Fox Lake Correctional Institution in 1997. Four years ago, the partnership was formalized and expanded to include several institutions.

Jan Nigh the Wisconsin Coordinator for Habitat for Humanity meets periodically with Art Besse of DAI, Bea Jay Panke of DWD, Representative Kestell, and various Education Directors and teachers for planning and evaluation purposes.

Because the labor involved in the projects is part of the vocational training programs at the institutions, Habitat for Humanity can obtain high quality products for only the cost of materials.

Some of the Habitat for Humanity projects completed by DOC institutions are:

- ✂ CCI had built many walls for Habitat
- ✂ FLCI has built kitchen cabinets through their Cabinet making and Millwork vocational program
- ✂ FLCI has also used resources from their vocational drafting program to develop blue prints and assist with design
- ✂ TCI has constructed picnic tables through their Building Maintenance and Care vocational program
- ✂ JCI has done framing and built walls for Habitat homes
- ✂ OSCI has built Storage Sheds as part of their Building Maintenance and Care vocational program
- ✂ OSCI has provided landscaping plants and landscaping design through their Horticulture vocational program
- ✂ OSCI had developed brochures for Habitat
- ✂ WCI, as well as other facilities involved, has donated craft items, hobby items, and other inmate-developed products for raffles and auctions that raise funds for Habitat
- ✂ KMCI has provided cabinets through their Cabinetmaking vocational program
- ✂ OCI inmates have done some work at a Habitat home site in Green Lake County
- ✂ SCCC has assisted with the building of one to three homes per year with the Hudson/River Falls affiliate. They build the walls on the Center grounds, and then assist with putting the walls together at the site. They have also done some landscaping and exterior work on the homes
- ✂ DACC has worked on 3 houses on the Oshkosh area



There is much positive support from the Education Directors and teacher involved in the "Prison Partnership" and they hope that the project can continue to be revitalized.

ProLiteracy-Wisconsin Continues to Grow

ProLiteracy-Wisconsin Institutions held it's quarterly Advisory Board meeting at Columbia Correctional Institution on September 16, 2003. The board welcomed Stanley Correctional Institution to the affiliate. Laurie Prochnow will be representing Stanley Correctional on the board. Linda Kozlowski and Judy Schelble, both from CCI, trained 6 staff from the Education Department at Stanley Correctional and Jim Gilles from Jackson Correctional. Stanley is currently using tutors who were already trained at other institutions on the education unit, in the custodial program and as floaters in classrooms. They are working hard to establish their first tutor training which will be held in upcoming months. Welcome SCI and Laurie! With the addition of Stanley, the affiliate continues to grow.

The board also welcomed Sheila Hanson as the new board member representing GBCI. Welcome Sheila

Betty Yost from OSCI presented the annual report submitted to the National PLA-America office for the '02-'03 fiscal year. Total numbers showed that 325 tutors served 2339 students for a total of 74,348 tutoring hours. Way to go tutors!

In the upcoming months, the board will be preparing for the PLA accreditation. We hope to get all the necessary accreditation information after the National Convention held in Washington D.C. November 14-17.

Redgranite Correctional Institution trained 12 tutors in September. They currently have 22 tutors working with teachers in the classrooms or on the units. In September, teacher Jane Schirger, Education Director Kim Koeck and Warden Jeffrey Endicott recognized all the tutors during the HSED graduation. The tutors received many accolades from students who spoke at the graduation explaining that the tutors were a great help and inspiration to them in getting their HSED's. the tutors spoke as well, stating feelings of gratitude and privilege to be able to make a difference and help others experience success. And after all, that is what this program is all about!

The next meeting will be held at Columbia Correctional on December 4, 2003. For more information on the affiliate contact Linda Kozlowski at Columbia Correctional Institution.

By: Mary Stierna, WRC



It is always hard to say farewell but particularly when the contribution and dedication of the individual were so great. In August, CEAW Board of Directors approved the resignation of Betty Volquardson from the board position of president-elect. After a great deal of contemplation, Betty made a difficult decision to resign her position. For many years, Betty was the minimum-security representative on the CEAW Board and for the past two years, the president-elect. The board would like to express thanks to Betty for the many years she held a board position. Her strong support for correctional education is evident not only in the classroom but as well in the community. Though Betty is leaving the board, she will continue to be a CEA member and share her ideas and creativity with us. Betty is currently an Adult Basic Education teacher at Oakhill Correctional Institution.

As individuals leave the board, openings and opportunities for other members to get involved are made available. Each board position holds a two-year term with elections held every April. Board meetings are held every other month and usually at a correctional institution. If you are interested in

getting more involved with CEA or just interested in finding out more about the association, please contact any board member or myself. Get involved with CEA today!

Turning Point Sponsors Art Contest

Turning Point of Wisconsin (TPW) is inviting all artist incarcerated in any facility operated by the Department of Corrections in the state of Wisconsin to participate in an art contest. All proceeds will benefit TPW and their ongoing programs to reintegrate offenders in to the community.

Goal:

- ✍ To promote art produced by inmates.
- ✍ To encourage inmates to create art reflecting positive, socially valuable pursuits to replace thinking about past negative behaviors and practices that may have gotten them into trouble. The art should demonstrate "where they want to go" rather than "where they have been".
- ✍ To show all Wisconsin residents - average citizens and lawmakers alike - that there are many talented artists house in Wisconsin correctional facilities, that many of those incarcerated have unique skills and talents, which can enhance their positive reintegration into the community and help them remain crime free. The only capital that cannot be replaced is human capital.
- ✍ To assist artists presently incarcerated to reintegrate into the community successfully, and introduce their artistry to the Art work community, which may lead to an occupation in art.

The artwork will be displayed in private and public venues throughout Madison from May-August. Also during this time judges will record their rankings of the art. Lastly, TPW will hold an auction where the art is sold and contest winners are announced, this will likely be done in conjunction with presentations by government and private officials. Winning inmates will receive a certificate/ribbon/plaque while all participants receive and acknowledgement of their participation. NO inmate will receive any compensation beyond the acknowledgement and the corresponding promotional value of their participation. All contestants will receive recognition for their artwork in the news media. No artwork will be returned to inmates.

Art will be accepted in any media that conforms to the following four criteria:

1. Art must be non-controversial and conform to all Department of Corrections rules and the dictates of appropriateness. **Themes of gangs, nudity, profanity, defamation, violence, drugs, or overtly political subject matter will not be accepted.** Department rules do not permit the freedom of expression available in the larger world
2. Artwork must be original. Although submissions of woodwork, ceramics, beadwork, etc., will be considered and are part of the wealth of diversity of art in the prisons, other submissions from kits, molds, pattern plans, stencils, prefabricated forms, or portrayals copied from other art will not be accepted.
3. Art must demonstrate a high level of artistry and skill in the chosen medium.
4. Art must be no more than 18" x 24" for paintings. 20"H and 12" to 15" W and weigh no more than 10 lbs. for sculpture.

How to Enter

November - January

Letter of Inquiry - A one-page Letter of Inquiry describing the artwork and a sample diagram or sketch no more than 8 1/2" x 11" on paper of the artwork must be sent to 2317 International Lane, Suite 220, Madison, WI 53704, along with a short biography focusing on the role of art in the inmates' life. Please include name of inmate, name of institution and inmate's institution number. A one-page Biography Letter including inspiration and number of years as an artist, relevant training, etc. should also be included. Letters must be postmarked by January 1, 2004.

Mid January

Letter of Acceptance or Denial - a letter either accepting the artwork or denying the artwork based upon the Letter of Inquiry and the Biography Letter will be sent to inmates.

February - March

Submit Artwork - TPW will pay for postage on all accepted artwork. Artwork must be postmarked by March 31, 2004.

May - August

Display Artwork - Artwork will be displayed from May to August in various city and or state offices and buildings in Madison.

September

Auction Artwork - Artwork will be auctioned off in a silent auction. All proceeds to go TPW.

Mid September

Participation certification - Participants will receive letters of participation and winners in each category will be acknowledged.

CEA Membership Application

Please print your name and address carefully. List your name and address, as you would like them published in the annual Directory of Correctional Educators.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip/Postal Code _____

Mail to:

CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
4380 Forbes Blvd, Lanham, MD 20706

Phone: (800) 783-1232
Fax: (302) 918-1900

Referred By: _____
Membership #: _____

We Accept VISA or MasterCard

Card No. _____

Expiration Date: _____

Type of Membership:

- Individual \$50 year
- Institutional/Library \$85 year
- Student/Volunteer/Retiree \$30 year
- Clerical/Support Staff \$20 year

For More Information Contact:

Barb Rasmussen, CEAW Secretary
Phone: (262) 886-3214 Ext. 520
Email: barbara.rasmussen@doc.state.wi.us

check here if you are a Federal Bureau of Prisons Employee

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PO Box 16
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