



November/December 2011
Volume 26, Issue 3

Inside this Issue

- 1** DUNN COUNTY JAIL RESPONDS TO PROBLEMS POSED TO COMMUNITY
- 4** FAIR SHAKE'S VIRTUAL OFFICE FOCUSES ON REENTRY
- 5** CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
- 6** IT'S BACK: CEA-WISCONSIN STATE TRAINING DAY RETURNS
- 7** CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS
- 9** CEA-WISCONSIN 2012 TEACHER OF THE YEAR
- 10** CEA-WISCONSIN SHOWCASE AWARD
- 10** YOUR STUDENTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY GRIEF
- 11** THE STATE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE IN WISCONSIN
- 11** 67TH CEA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND TRAINING
- 12** PUBLIC SUPPORTS REHABILITATION & TREATMENT OF YOUTH
- 13** IMPORTANT RESOURCE FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

Dunn County Jail Responds to Problems Posed to Community

The Dunn County Sheriff's Department sees itself as integrally involved in understanding and responding to problems posed to the community by alcohol and other drug abuse. Programming is offered to both male and female inmates in the jail in an effort to effect positive change in their lives while creating a safe and secure jail environment. Below is a list of all of the programs that are being offered at the Dunn County Jail.

Alcoholics Anonymous – AA meetings are held every other Wednesday evening for males and once monthly for females. Alcoholics Anonymous groups are provided by community volunteers.

Alcoholic Assessments and Evaluations – AODA evaluations and assessments are provided at the jail by Arbor Place. The assessments and evaluations are done at the expense of the inmate. Orders must come from probation and parole or from the courts and payments must be made to Arbor Place in advance.

Alcohol and Other Drug Education – AODA awareness/education classes are provided for the high number of inmates with identified AODA concerns. Education and counseling aids the inmate in becoming a more productive member in the community and also reduces future alcohol or drug related offenses. The program provides structured education in AODA, promotes positive recovery skills, develops relapse prevention plans, and increases understanding of the self-defeating nature of AODA, both personally and legally. AODA awareness/education classes are offered every other month and are contracted through Aurora Community Counseling.

Anger Management – Anger Management an educational and support group designed to teach participants how anger is learned, the negative effects of anger, and specific ways to control anger. The Anger Management group is offered every other month and is a contracted through Aurora Community Counseling.

Breaking Barriers – This cognitive reality model training series is designed is very effective at creating awareness in the participant that change is possible. It provides the tools to develop cognitive thinking skills so change can take place. This program is held every other month. Instruction is provided by the Dunn County Jail Program Director.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

Parents Sharing Books Program

The Parents Sharing Books Program is offered in December and June to those inmates who will be incarcerated over the holidays or summer and have children under the age of 10. The goal for the class is to help the offenders continue their bond with their children while incarcerated. Inmates read a book on to CD and the book and CD are sent to the child before the holiday. The Parents Sharing Books Program is provided and funded by Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley.

Computer Lab – There are four laptop computers available for use by the inmates for accessing Law Library materials, searching for employment, applying for admission to college, applying for financial aid, working on cover letters or resumes, and keyboard practice. The Computer Lab is directly supervised by the Program Director.

Creative Writing – Creative Writing is a four week program meeting one hour a week and held bi-monthly. The format employed is to identify a topic and read it aloud. The facilitator then models a writing on that topic and reads it aloud. The class is instructed to write their own thoughts on the topic for ten minutes. They are allowed to read their writings aloud (optional). The facilitator picks those writings that she feels to be outstanding and sends them to *The Sun* magazine for publication with the permission of the author. Creative Writing contracted through Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley.

Crisis Counseling and Mental Health Counseling – Mental Health counseling is provided by Aurora Community Counseling. They provide crisis assessments and suicide risk screenings, along with one or two follow up counseling sessions for incarcerated persons. This service is conducted through referrals provided by jail staff.

Education – Education classes are contracted through Literacy Volunteers - Chippewa Valley and are held on Monday and Wednesday. Inmates over 21 years old can participate. The goal is to increase the specific literacy skills of each participant. They may need to improve their math or vocabulary or computer skills. Ultimately, the goal is to prepare them for GED testing. To participate, the inmate is required to be in jail for a minimum of one month.

Exercise Program – The Exercise Program focuses on giving the inmates the opportunity to do a variety of exercises to allow them to physically exert themselves in a positive manner. It is held twice weekly for an hour. Offenders can walk, jump rope or participate in a DVD group which can be Yoga, Tae-Bo, or Cardio Fitness. The Exercise Program is provided by the Jail Program Director.

GED/HSED Testing – Testing is held at the jail during the school year, usually once or twice per month. Inmates must be enrolled in the Education or HSED class in order to take the tests. The county pays \$12.00 for each test.

Executive Officers		<p>The CEA-W News Review is published by the members of the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin Chapter. 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 CEA-W and DOC.</p> <p>Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: W6443 Old Highway Road Menasha, WI 54952 920-734-5902 jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com</p>
President	Margaret Done, REECC	
President-Elect	Mary Stierna, WRC	
Secretary	Sharon Nesemann, WRC	
Treasurer	Ray Schlesinger, WCI	
Executive Board		
Maximum/Minimum Security	David Chapman, WCI	
Medium Security	Jean Bently-Jones, NLCI	
Juvenile	Janell Lathrop, DJC	
State Agency	Peggy Meyers, WTCS	
Local Educational Agency	Chuck Brendel, MPTC	
Community Corrections	Laurie Jarvis, FVTC/Waushara CJ	
Member at Large	Jerry Bednarowski	
Member at Large	Holly Audley, FLCI	
Member at Large	Laura Reisinger, LVCV	
News Review Staff		
Editor	Jerry Bednarowski	
Layout & Design	DeNeal Ericksen, REECC	
Proofreader	Laura Reisinger, LVCV	
Collating/Folding	WRC Vocational Workshop	

HSED – High School Equivalency Diploma class is held Monday through Friday for three hours every school day. The goal is for the participant to prepare for HSED testing. Inmates under 21 years old can participate. HSED classes are funded by the Menomonie School District.

Jail Garden – The Jail Garden is maintained by Huber inmates with work search privileges who have not yet attained employment and by those inmates that are working and want to volunteer on their day off from work. The Huber inmates are monitored by volunteers at all times. The proceeds from the garden are donated to the Food Pantry. The Jail Garden is overseen by the Jail Program Director and community volunteers.

Library Services – Inmates have access to library services every Thursday morning. The Dunn County Jail Library is supplied by inmate and community donations of books.

New Creations – New Creations is a biblically-based addictions program. This 14-week bible study focuses on the basic principles of salvation and growth in God's word. Participants study the Bible to find answers to overcome their addictions. New Creations is provided by volunteers from the Jesus Fellowship church.

Parenting From the Heart – (Coming soon) Parenting From the Heart is a resiliency based parenting style provided by Menomonie High School teacher volunteers and a grant funded program for the Dunn County Area.

Reformers Unanimous – Reformers Unanimous a weekly addictions program offered for males in jail. The focus is on a plan of salvation that is accomplished through stories of victory, motivational awards, and well-trained leadership staff. Reformers Unanimous offers a comprehensive discipleship curriculum and is provided by volunteers from the Baptist Church.

Spiritual Transitions – Spiritual Transitions is a ten-week course designed to help the incarcerated individual meet the challenges of living a Christian life upon release from the correctional facility. The goal is to teach a life of spiritual application in practical living situations. Spiritual Transitions is provided by volunteers from the Jesus Fellowship church.

Sunday Church – Jesus Fellowship and Gideons non denominational services are available to male and female offenders. The Sunday church services are provided by church volunteers from the community.

Vocational Literacy – The Vocational Literacy course provides vocational training, education, and job-seeking skills such as skills to develop resumes, improve interview skills, understand employer expectations and maximize opportunities for employment. Students are asked to complete applications, develop resumes, cover letters and thank you letters. The Vocational Literacy instruction is contracted through Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley.

Other Services Offered at the Dunn County Jail –

- Electronic Monitoring
- HUBER Work Release
- Diversion Court Participation
- Workshops - AIDS Awareness, Sexual Assault Awareness, Domestic Violence Awareness
- Inmate Worker Program
- Education Opportunity Center

If you are interested in volunteering your services please contact the following coordinators:

- Literacy Services – Laura Reisinger, LVCV Education Coordinator, lreisinger@lvcv.org
- All other services – Sherry Hanson, Jail Program Director, shanson@co.dunn.wi.us

GED Testing Service Working with CEA

CEA Executive Director Steve Steurer has announced that CEA is working with the GED Testing Service on a soon-to-be published 10-year study comparing incarcerated GED graduates with “free population” graduates. This is the first study ever undertaken to identify the numbers of incarcerated test-takers, their demographic characteristics and any significant trends and differences. Among other things the GED report will confirm that over 750,000 people take the GED annually and over 10% of them are incarcerated. More on this study will be published in future editions of this newsletter.

Fair Shake's Virtual Office Focuses on Reentry

Fair Shake is an innovative new website focused on successful prisoner reentry nationwide. Through an interactive blend of electronic tools, reentry awareness, and community building; Fair Shake encourages all stakeholders to participate in the successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated people back into society.

Fair Shake, a 501(c)(3) charity, was founded in 2008 by Sue Kastensen in Westby, Wisconsin. Sue began her connection with corrections as a concerned business owner faced with a job applicant who was a newly-released prisoner. She recognized several hurdles to employment between a returning prisoner and an employer. To understand and work to remove these barriers, she attended a reentry conference in 2000 and has been studying and developing Fair Shake ever since. Over the past 8 years she has intermittently sought and received critiques and comments from Walter Dickey, faculty director of the Remington Center for Research, Education and Service in Criminal Justice at the University of Wisconsin – Madison Law School and former administrator of Wisconsin's Division of Corrections.

As you are aware, walking away from prison and successfully returning to families and communities is just the first step in re-starting a former felon's life. Most are faced with overwhelming challenges ranging from finding employment and securing housing, to paying restitution or fines, and to developing and restoring relationships. Central to all of that, and too often overlooked, is developing and sustaining self-confidence and a positive outlook.

Many inmates have limited access to computers while they are incarcerated. The majority has no access at all. None are able to use the internet or email. Imagine how difficult it must be to jump from the isolation of prison into today's often overwhelming, yet essential, electronic world?

Fair Shake offers former felons a free virtual office that can be accessed from any computer. In addition to email, data storage and a personal resource directory, members can create a web page to use as a supplement to employment or housing applications. Instructional tutorials are also available. The website is also loaded with information for all stakeholders: former felons, families and friends, employers, property managers, communities and corrections. Many features are available to all visitors, such as the nationwide Resource Directory (with over 11,000 entries), the Custom Reentry Packet, and an Ownership Manual. Our Culture Shock page reminds people — both inside and outside the fence — that cultural reentry is a huge hurdle in itself.

In the Welcome Center, visitors can view a quick slide-show tour of the website as well as information for specific areas of interest, from getting back to work to positive ways to get involved in reentry and community building. To find news, facts, statistics, and a multi-media page with stories about reentry, visit our detailed Information Center.

We are recognized and listed as a reference by the National Reentry Resource Center for People Returning Home. We're thrilled to support successful reentry in this capacity; however, creating a multi-stakeholder resource center with member benefits is only one aspect of the work we have set out to do.

The next phase of our work involves constructing a certification program that provides former prisoners with an opportunity to differentiate themselves from the stigmas — "They All Come Out the Same" and "Nothing Works." We believe that if people have a chance to demonstrate character and intention, as well as show they understand and choose to navigate their life within 'prosocial' concepts, barriers to opportunities could begin to break down. Studies in the humanities, civics and health address these concerns, so we are creating an Areas of Study (AOS) program which considers Philosophy/Epistemology, Psychology/Sociology, Employment and Renting considerations, Civics, and Physical and

Mental Health. Since these disciplines are rarely studied in our education system, they can also provide a whole new world of perspectives and options for folks coming back.

We understand that the internet is not available to inmates. Once the AOS is complete, we will turn our entire website into a simulation program that can be used very much like a video game. We will send copies to prisons all over the country for inmates to begin, or even complete, the program prior to release so when they come back to society, they are ready to open their account, post their personal web page, print a member card and set out to find a job. Fair Shake will post AOS completion information on their personal web page.

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, over 1,600,000 people are currently serving a prison sentence. More than 95% of them will eventually be released. Sadly, nearly 7 out of 10 of those who come home will return to prison, often because of a lack of opportunity and support. In most cases this is an avoidable tragedy for the inmate and an unnecessary burden to the taxpayer. Through the kind of practical support and opportunity provided by Fair Shake we can reduce the high cost of criminal justice while preserving community safety by supporting the successful transition from prison to life in society.

If you would like to contact us with questions, comments, critiques or suggestions, please email Sue Kastensen at sue@fairshake.net or call 608-634-6363.

Call for Nominations

During March, the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin will be conducting its annual election for Executive Board Members.

Nominations are being accepted for the following offices:

Executive Officers

**President-Elect
Secretary
Treasurer**

Executive Board Members

**Maximum/Minimum Security Representative
Medium Security Representative
State Agency Representative
At-Large Representative/Newsletter Editor**

Any CEAW member is eligible to run for office. All Offices and Board Members serve two-year terms with the President-Elect assuming the office of President at the end of his/her term.

Nominations must be received by **February 1, 2012**. Newly elected members will assume their offices at the May 2012 Executive Board Meeting.

Nominations are to be sent to:

**Laurie Jarvis, Adult Education Instructor
Fox Valley Technical College/Waushara County Jail
205 East Main Street, Suite 12
Wautoma WI, 54982
Phone: 920-787-3319 ext.6313
Email: jarvis@fvtc.edu**

To join CEA go to: www.ceanational.org

It's Back: CEA-Wisconsin Training Day Returns

CEA-Wisconsin Training Day May 7th, 2012 Concourse Hotel & Governor's Club Downtown Madison

After a one-year hiatus to host the Region III & IV CEA Conference in 2010, the CEA-Wisconsin Board is making plans for the return of the annual CEA-Wisconsin Training Day.

Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin will hold its 2012 CEA-Wisconsin Training Day on May 7. After several years at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, the site for the training day is shifting to the beautiful Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club.

A wide variety of workshops will make this training day an excellent professional development opportunity for educators working in prisons, jails, and detention centers. The Training Day Planning Committee is constructing a program that includes workshops on re-entry, literacy, special education, county jails, vocational education, and other areas. Also featured will be vendor displays and a silent auction.

Because our jail membership continues to grow, we are planning to include a jail educators' track at the CEA-Wisconsin Training Day. In addition to the County Jail workshop track, we are making arrangements for networking opportunities for the jail instructors attending the conference.

If you would like to present a workshop at the 2012 CEA-Wisconsin Training Day, complete the Call for Presenters form on pages 7-8 in this newsletter. The deadline for proposal submission is January 30, 2012.

A complete conference program and the registration form for the conference will be included in the March/April issue of the CEA-W newsletter.

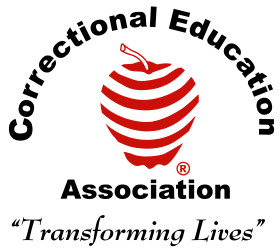
For conference participants who would like to arrive early and enjoy the beautiful Madison Concourse Hotel and everything Madison has to offer, the Concourse has agreed to offer a limited number of rooms at state rates for May 5 and a larger number of rooms for May 6. You may choose from a single room for \$70 and a double for \$110. A block of rooms will be held at these rates until April 10, 2012.

Mark May 7, 2012 on your calendar and plan to join us for an informative and fun training day. It will be a great training opportunity for correctional educators! Hope to see you in Madison.

Study to Examine Correctional Education

A new study of correctional education is being funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) through the Second Chance Act. The study is being conducted through a partnership between BJA, the RAND Corporation and CEA. The study will help correctional education practitioners determine how to change their approaches to education in the future to keep up with industry standards.

RAND is currently in the scientific literature review phase of the project which will assess the impact of correctional education on things such as recidivism and employment. An update on the study will be presented at the CEA Leadership Forum in early April, with a more extensive report this summer at the CEA conference in St. Paul. More information on the study will be in future issues of this newsletter.



Call for Presentations

CEA-Wisconsin Training Day

May 7, 2012

The Concourse Hotel – Madison, WI

The Wisconsin Chapter of CEA will be hosting a training day on Monday, May 7, 2012. A wide variety of workshops will be needed to make this conference an excellent professional development opportunity. This is your opportunity to share information about your program or services with correctional professionals!

Sessions will last 75 minutes. You are responsible for providing all materials (i.e. copies of handouts, AV equipment, etc.) needed for your session. Due to incompatibilities of hardware/software you must provide a computer and projector, if needed, for your presentation. We will provide screens and flipcharts.

Deadline for proposal submission: January 30, 2012

You will be notified by March 2, 2012 if your presentation is selected.

Mail proposals to:

Margaret Done
 Ellsworth Correctional Center
 21425A Spring Street
 Union Grove, WI 53182

or e-mail to: margaret.done@wisconsin.gov



Workshop title: (12 words or less)

Workshop description: (65 words or less)

Intended/Targeted Audience: (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Partnerships | <input type="checkbox"/> County Jails/Detention Centers | <input type="checkbox"/> ESL/ELL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female Offenders | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Literacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting | <input type="checkbox"/> Reintegration/Reentry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Vocational/Technical Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Library Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post Secondary | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

Preferred presentation time (circle one): No Preference AM PM
 Are you planning to attend the whole conference? (circle one): Yes No
 I need the following equipment (circle needed item/s): Screen Flipchart

Special Arrangements/Needs/Concerns:

Presenter Information: Please make sure this information is complete and accurate as it will be used for the conference program. Include as many sheets as needed for the number of presenters.

1. Name of Presenter: _____ **Title:** _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address: _____

Telephone: (Day) _____ **(Evening)** _____

E-mail Address: _____

Biographical Data: _____

2. Name of Presenter: _____ **Title:** _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address: _____

Telephone: (Day) _____ **(Evening)** _____

E-mail Address: _____

Biographical Data: _____

Correctional Education Association 2012 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Purpose:

The Correctional Education Association of Wisconsin (CEA-W), in cooperation with the International Correctional Education Association, has established the TEACHER OF THE YEAR award to recognize outstanding educational contributions by a teacher in a correctional facility.

Who Is Eligible:

To be eligible, the teacher must:

- spend at least 51% of his/her work time in classroom instruction
- have taught in correctional facilities a minimum of two years
- have demonstrated leadership qualities and be active in promoting improvements in correctional education
- have demonstrated devotion to the teaching profession as evidenced by a willingness to work beyond his/her job description
- have been an active member of CEA for the past one year

Teachers who were nominated previous years, but were not selected as the CEA-W TEACHER OF THE YEAR may be re-nominated. CEA-W Board members are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination Process:

Anyone may submit a nomination for TEACHER OF THE YEAR. The nomination may be a colleague or the teacher him or herself. The nomination deadline is **January 1, 2012**.

Qualities To Be Considered:

- Teaching excellence
- Classroom and program innovation
- Professional development activities
- Ability to serve as a representative for correctional education in the state of Wisconsin



Awards:

The CEA-W TEACHER OF THE YEAR will receive a plaque attesting to his or her achievement. He/she will be furnished expenses to attend the CEA-Wisconsin Training Day at the Madison Concourse Hotel and Conference Center on May 7, 2012. If the Wisconsin Teacher of the Year is selected as the Region III Teacher of the Year, he/she will be furnished expenses to attend the 67th International CEA Conference to be held in St. Paul, Minnesota on July 29-August 1, 2012.

HURRY!!! Phone, fax, or mail your nomination by **January 1, 2012** to:

Margaret Done
CEA-W Awards & Recognition Committee
Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center
21425A Spring Street,, Union Grove, WI 53182
Phone: 262-878-6000 ext. 5017
Email: margaret.done@wisconsin.gov

CEA-Wisconsin Showcase Award

Would you like to present a workshop on your program, classroom activities, or special area of interest? The Wisconsin chapter of the Correctional Education Association would like to help.

The CEA-W Executive Board is offering a \$250 grant to help defray the professional expenses for a CEA-Wisconsin member to present a workshop at the CEA-Wisconsin Training Day at the Concourse Hotel in Madison, Wisconsin on May 7, 2012, the 67th International CEA Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota on July 29-August 1, 2012, the Wisconsin GED/HSED & Adult Literacy Conference in Fall 2012, or any other professional education or correctional conference.

Your presentation may be on an existing program that has been effective, a new innovative program, creative classroom activities, unique instructional methods, or a special project.

To be eligible for consideration, you must be an active CEA member, submit a proposal outlining the workshop you wish to present, and submit a statement of support from your supervisor. The CEA-W Board will review the proposals received and select the proposal to receive the \$250 grant.

Your proposal should include:

- ❖ Title of presentation
- ❖ Intended audience
- ❖ Presentation description (200 words or less)

Entries will be evaluated on:

- ❖ Relevance to the needs of correctional students
- ❖ Creativity
- ❖ Effectiveness of program or techniques
- ❖ Potential to be used in other settings
- ❖ Interest to conference attendees

The deadline for submission of your proposal is January 1, 2012. Submit your proposal to:

Holly Audley, Education Director
CEA-W Awards & Recognition Committee
Fox Lake Correctional Institution
PO Box 147, Fox Lake, WI 53933
Phone: 920-928-6922
Email: holly.audley@wisconsin.gov

Your Students May Be Affected by Grief

Some of the students in your classes may be experiencing grief issues.

Statistics state that 75%-90% of all juveniles, who are or have been incarcerated, have experienced trauma — physical, psychological, or both. If the grief associated with this trauma is not dealt with as a juvenile, it will be carried over into adulthood. This can lead to an increase in symptoms, re-traumatization (a feeling of repetition of a childhood history of trauma, which leaves them more vulnerable), poor treatment outcomes and an increase in relapse.

How can we help those we work with who are struggling with issues of grief? Susan Butcher may be able to help. Susan is a teacher at the Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility and is a certified grief counselor.

If you would like to have Susan talk to your staff or class about grief, its effects, and its treatment, you may contact her at 414-225-5658 or susan.butcher@wisconsin.gov.

The State of Juvenile Justice in Wisconsin

The State of Juvenile Justice in Wisconsin: What Do We Really Know? report released by the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families on October 17, 2011 examines recent trends in juvenile arrests and incarceration in the state, as well as the success of recent community-based alternatives to secure confinement of youth offenders. It includes these highlights:

- The number of juvenile arrests in Wisconsin has declined by 42% over the last decade, and the juvenile arrest rate has gone down by 37% over that span.
- The number of arrests of juveniles in the state for violent offenses has declined by 17.5% over the past five years.
- The average daily population in the juvenile correctional facilities has declined by 70% over the decade.
- Racial disparities remain significant at all stages of the juvenile justice system.
- The number and effectiveness of community-based alternatives to incarceration and the use of research-based practice throughout the juvenile justice system have increased.

Based on the trends identified in the report, as well as the large volume of research findings on juvenile corrections in recent years, Wisconsin Council on Children and Families recommends:

- Returning 17-year-olds to the juvenile system, since the juvenile system is proving to be effective, has the capacity to handle it, and would avoid the unnecessary harm youth experience from being in the adult system
- Reaffirming what is working with youthful offenders, such as local approaches that keep youth in their own communities
- Reinvesting savings from reduced use of incarceration to support the continued expansion of evidence-based, cost-effective community alternatives to confinement

The complete *The State of Juvenile Justice in Wisconsin: What Do We Really Know?* report may be found on the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families website, www.wccf.org.

67th CEA Annual Conference & Training July 29-August 1, 2012 Crowne Plaza Hotel - Riverfront St. Paul, MN

The 67th CEA Annual Conference & Training will be held in our neighboring state of Minnesota.

Even in these times of tight budgets, we are hoping many CEA-Wisconsin members will be able to attend the conference and several Wisconsin presenters will be included in the conference program. If you would like to present a workshop at the CEA Annual Conference & Training contact Conference Co-Chairs Ruth Stadheim (ruth.stadheim@state.mn.us) or AnDee Flohr (andee.flohr@state.mn.us).

To help some members attend the conference, the CEA national office offers a limited number of scholarships. To be eligible for a scholarship, the individual must have been member of the Correctional Education Association for a minimum of two years prior to application and must agree to maintain membership for two years following receipt of the scholarship. Scholarship application must be received by the CEA Executive Office at least ninety days prior to the conference. Priority will be given to first time applicants.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for an informative and fun conference. Registration and lodging information will be published in future issues of this newsletter.

Public Strongly Supports Treatment and Rehabilitation of Youth

A new national poll highlights released on October 12, 2011 showed overwhelming public support for treatment and rehabilitation of youth over incarceration and automatic prosecution in adult criminal court. This survey, a sample of 1,000 American adults, was commissioned by the Campaign for Youth Justice (CFYJ) and conducted by GBA Strategies.

"This survey shows the vast majority of Americans believe youth in the justice system can take responsibility for their actions and, through rehabilitation and treatment, make better decisions and positive contributions to society," said Mike Bocian, Founding Partner at GBA Strategies.

Highlights of Poll:

- Public strongly favors rehabilitation and treatment approaches, such as counseling, education, treatment, restitution, and community service (89%)
- Americans strongly favor involving the youth's families in treatment (86%), keeping youth close to home (77%), and ensuring youth are connected with their families (86%)
- Public strongly favors individualized determinations on a case-by-case basis by juvenile court judges in the juvenile justice system than automatic prosecution in adult criminal court (76%)
- Public supports requiring the juvenile justice system to reduce racial and ethnic disparities (66%)
- Public supports increasing funds to provide more public defenders for youth in court (71%)
- Public supports independent oversight to ensure youth are protected from abuse while in state or local custody (84%)
- Public rejects placement of youth in adult jails and prisons (69%)

"In light of this research, it is urgent that state officials accelerate youth justice reforms to reduce the incarceration of youth and prosecution in adult criminal court, and that Congress and the Administration reject deep cuts to juvenile justice funding," stated CFYJ's President & CEO Liz Ryan.

A few states have started to move away from the punitive approach that relies on incarceration as well as prosecution in adult criminal court. On October 4, the Annie E. Casey Foundation released a new report, *No Place for Kids*, on the roughly 60,500 U.S. youth — disproportionately young people of color — who are confined in juvenile correctional facilities or other residential programs on any given night. The report documents that youth prisons do not reduce future reoffending, waste taxpayer dollars and frequently expose youth to dangerous and abusive conditions. The Casey report highlights an emerging trend in which states have substantially reduced their juvenile correctional facility populations in recent years, and that at least 18 states have closed more than 50 juvenile corrections facilities over the past four years.

Earlier this year, CFYJ released *State Trends: Legislative Changes from 2005-2010 Removing Youth from the Adult Criminal Justice System* on the estimated 250,000 youth who are tried, sentenced, or incarcerated as adults every year across the United States. Over 10,000 youth are at risk in adult jails and prisons on a daily basis, and youth in adult facilities are at the greatest risk of prison rape. The report documents more than 20 states in the United States that have changed or are considering changes to their state policies on the prosecution of youth in adult criminal court.

Counter to this public opinion research and state trends, Congress is considering deep cuts to juvenile justice programs. Congress is in the process of making important decisions about funding critical programs that prevent delinquency, protect children from the dangers of adult jails and prisons, and keep communities safe. They are considering cuts of 60-90% that will result in increases in the inappropriate use of detention and incarceration of children, including placement of children in adult jails and prisons.

For more information or to view this poll, please visit www.campaignforyouthjustice.org.

Important Resource for Teachers/ Students

There is an excellent resource available to correctional teachers when working with visually-impaired students, which I uncovered recently. A new student was assigned to my classroom, which happens all the time. This time, however, there was a little note attached to my assignment sheet with two words, "He's blind."

I asked myself, "Okay, now what?" My first step was a trip to the American Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator. From my visit with our Racine Correctional Institution ADA coordinator, a lead emerged. I discovered an excellent resource available to the correctional teacher of a visually-impaired student, the Hadley School for the Blind. Hadley offers Braille (and other) classes at no cost to students who are visually impaired and is very helpful in the enrollment process. Class materials are shipped free of charge, and assignments that the students complete can either be emailed or sent to the school — free of charge. Materials for the blind are postage-free. The Hadley School for the Blind even offers classes to professionals who work with the blind, some of which are also free of charge.

Contact information for Hadley is:

The Hadley School for the Blind
700 Elm Street
Winnetka, IL 60093-2554
800-323-4238 (for receptionist or instructors)
800-526-9909 (for Student Services representative)
Email: info@hadley.edu
Website: www.hadley.edu

As a footnote, my student just completed his first course. His Hadley instructor provided excellent feedback on his work, and my student even received a very nice certificate!

by: Barb Rasmussen, RCI

Upcoming Conferences

Poverty Matters! Conference

Presented by: Wisconsin Community Action Program Association
November 15 and 16, 2011
Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells
Registration materials are available at www.wiscap.org

Careers Conference 2012!

Presented by: Univ. of Wisconsin Center on Education and Work
January 31 - February 1, 2012
Pre-conference January 30, 2012
The Madison Concourse Hotel
Registration materials are available at www.cew.wisc.edu/careers

**For past issues of the CEA-W newsletter
go to : www.ceawisconsin.org**

President's Message

Last month you should have received an e-mail from board member Chuck Brendel asking you to complete a brief computerized survey. As I write this message, I have not seen the results of the survey, but I am anxious to see them. The survey looked at what you value about your membership in CEA-W.

As a board we recognize that money is tight for everyone in these difficult economic times. We want to make sure that when you trust us with your membership dollars we give you the best value for your money and provide what you need and want from a professional organization. In the months ahead we hope to use these results to make CEA-W an even better organization than it is today. If, for some reason, you did not get a survey, please let me know. Your input is valuable and we want to hear from you.

We are beginning to plan our May Training Day. Details are included in this newsletter. Please take a moment to consider presenting a session at the training day. It is always great to hear presentations from a variety of our members. I hope to see you on May 7th in Madison!

Margaret

margaret.done@wisconsin.gov

Learn All About CEA-Wisconsin at:
www.ceawisconsin.org

CEA-Wisconsin News Review
Sharon Neemann, CEA-W Secretary
Wisconsin Resource Center
P.O. Box 16
Winnebago, WI 54985

