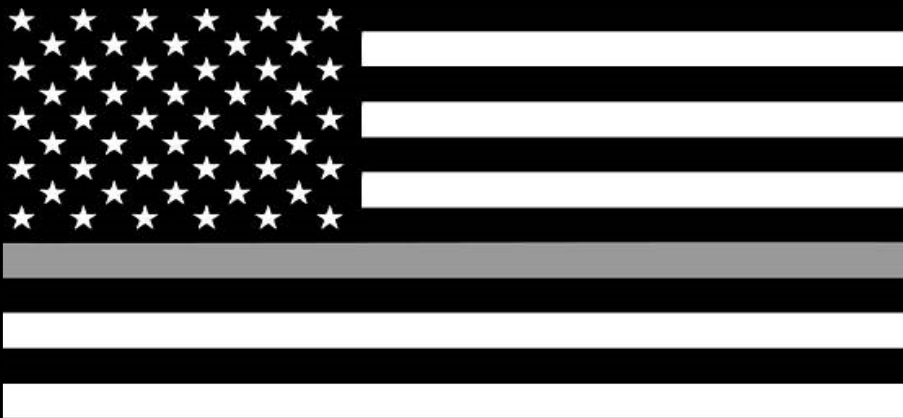


MCA FORUM

Volume 41 No. 4

August 2018



To contact MCA, join a committee, sponsor us or to get involved, please contact:

mca-mn@hotmail.com

www.mn-ca.org



GET IN TOUCH!

In This Issue:

- Honoring Corrections Officer Joseph Gomm
- President's Corner
- Technology News
- Training & Education
- Legislative Updates
- Annual Fall Institute
- ... and more.

HONORING A HERO



After 16 years of honorable service with the Minnesota Department of Corrections located at MCF-Stillwater, Officer Joseph Gomm's life was taken in the line of duty on 7/18/18. Joe, a man full of compassion and integrity, was known for his witty sense of humor, his humble approach to life, genuine persona, dedication to his family, faith and for his love of animals.

On Thursday, 7/26/18, a Full Honors Funeral brought together over 4,000 people, from over 30 states and Canada, to support and honor this amazing hero.

Thank you for your dedication and service Joe!

End of Watch 7/18/18

Joe Gomm will be forever missed, but never forgotten.



HONORING A HERO





President's Message

Mark Groves, 2018 MCA President

I hope you are enjoying this wonderful summer. Sometimes we get too wrapped up in our work to enjoy some of what nature puts all around us. All of us in the corrections/criminal justice field have earned a relaxing walk after work, attending a ball game, taking in a round of golf, a weekend at the lake. But there is work to be done and your MCA Board is busy as ever. Some of the things we are working on include outreach to members and former members, our monthly education and training events and our annual conference. Our Juvenile Justice Committee has been examining the development of an Annual Juvenile Justice Forum. We will keep you apprised of our progress.

Our Annual Training Institute Committee is putting on the finishing touches and finalizing details for this year's event. Please save the dates of October 23 - 26, 2018; we will once again offer an outstanding training program. Our theme this year is: *Past Reflections and Future Bridges*. We are excited to return to Duluth on October 23-26, 2018 to celebrate who we are. ***We especially want you to attend our special Tuesday night kick-off and MCA awards presentation event.*** There is plenty of excitement with this institute, not only because we have the opportunity to meet and network with our colleagues but also because of the featured speakers and workshops. We expect this to be an excellent institute and I encourage booking hotel reservations and registering for the institute promptly.

As I am writing this message, we are planning on attending the ACA 148th Congress of Corrections at the Minneapolis Convention Center the first week of August. The Annual ACA Conference is one of the premier events for corrections professionals throughout North America. This year is extra special as we get to show off our state, city and populace. We'll take some pics and share our experiences with you in this issue of the Forum.

Over the past few months, I have been meeting with the Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers (MACPO) leadership (Carter Diers, Eric Johnson, Jon Schiro, Terry Fawcett, Deanna Ruffing, Amber Chase) to see how our two organizations can collaborate and form a deeper partnership. Preliminary conversations have focused on connecting our newsletters: A MACPO Corner on MCA Website, an MCA Corner on MACPO Website. We're deliberating about combining efforts on monthly regional education and training events. We're considering a partnership to develop joint workshop presentations at the Minnesota Social Service Association (MSSA) and the Minnesota Association of Resources for Recovery and Chemical Health (MARRCH) conferences. We're planning to have both association presidents attend each other's executive board and full-board meetings on occasion. We will keep you apprised as these discussions unfold.

MCA is successful because of the work many of us do on a voluntarily basis. Of course, we cannot accomplish these in isolation and will continue to seek your input on various aspects of our association. Your active participation is essential. Please be on the lookout for calls for articles in our newsletters, be prepared to submit nominations, volunteer for serving on committees, and be willing to run for elections.

Please contact me or any members of the executive committee with suggestions. I look forward to engaging with all of you in serving MCA.

SAVE THE DATE



2018 Fall Institute

October 24-26, 2018 | Duluth, Minnesota

85^{YEAR} ANNIVERSARY

Past Reflections and Future Bridges

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Charles Marshall

Gary Noesner

Joe Schmit

Learn more at: www.mn-ca.org

Let's Celebrate 85 Years of MCA!

MCA Annual Training Institute

AMY MOECKEL/DAN RADEN/SHANNON FETTE

MCA Annual Training Institute Chairs



The Minnesota Corrections Association (MCA) Annual Training Institute Committee is looking forward to what is sure to be a memorable conference in Duluth on *October 24-26, 2018!*

Join us **October 23rd at 6:30pm** to **kick off MCA's 85th Anniversary Event and Awards Ceremony!**

Registration is now open:

<http://www.mn-ca.org/event-2988701/Registration>

MCA is committed to making this year the most amazing year yet and is excited to celebrate 85 years with its members.





Highlights of the MCA Annual Training Institute

Highlights of this year's Annual Training Institute Committee include:

Tuesday, 10/23/18 6:30 pm - 85th Anniversary MCA Kickoff and Awards Ceremony!

Watch for location details.

Join us to kick off our 85th Anniversary! Come and support your peers as they are recognized for their hard work over the past year!

**Raffle Drawings (must be present to win)!*

Wednesday, 10/24/18 8:30 am - Opening Ceremony - Symphony Hall:

Charles Marshall - *Real Heroes Don't Wear Spandex* (how to positively impact the lives of others without wearing a costume)

Hospitality Night

When: Wednesday October 24, 2018, 6:00 pm- 11:00 pm

Where: Clyde's Iron Works

Please join us to a networking vendor sponsored event with food and fun!

****Raffle drawings (must be present to win)!***

****We will be providing shuttle rides to and from this location***

Thursday, 10/25/18 8:30 am - Keynote Speaker:

Gary Noesner - *From Conflict to Cooperation*

Networking

When: Thursday October 25, 2018 6:00 pm

Where: Grandma's Sports Garden

Join us for a fun night of music and celebration while we connect with others in the field of corrections.

Friday, 10/26/18 8:00 am

MCA Members Business Meeting

Joe Schmit - *Silent Impact*: Influence Through Purpose, Persistence and Passion

Closing and Drawing (Must be present to win)!



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

By: Calvin Saari, MCA Legislative Liaison



Greetings to everyone interested in what's going on in the field of Criminal Justice and Corrections! August is a very, very busy month, particularly this year in Minnesota with the ACA Conference being held in the Twin Cities, preparations in full swing for the Fall Institute and everyone hopefully finding time to enjoy this beautiful Minnesota summer we've been having.

Our priorities this time of the year is to fulfill our obligations to MCA by presenting a very good Legislative Update workshop at the Fall Institute. We've been assigned a time slot for our workshop on the opening day, Wednesday, the time to be announced. We plan to have four or five Legislators join us for discussions on legislative activities and what we might expect in the next session. August brings the primary election in Minnesota, and that will not only cut the number of candidates in half, but it will also give us some insight into legislative trends.

I expect that we will see a rather large number of new faces in the House of Representatives next January. Predictions are that we will have 26-28 new faces as we begin the session. Election results will also determine which party will control the House and whether we'll see all new leadership in the Committee work. Elections are stressful, but exciting as they always influence the political climate. Such an exciting time!

We are also working on behalf of MCA to bring Governor Dayton to Duluth to join us for our 85th Anniversary event. Scheduling his appearance is not an easy task as they won't make a commitment until the event is about to occur; but we'll keep working on this and hopefully he can see his way to join us as our conference begins. More to you later on this.

The Legislative Committee is diligently working to prepare our legislative agenda for 2019, so please contact a member of the Committee or myself with your suggestions. Hope to see you in Duluth in October!



MACPO

President's Address

By Carter Diers

Hello MACPO Members,

As your MACPO President, I would first like to invite all corrections staff across the state to not only join this unique organization, but also to get involved on a committee. For me, getting involved with MACPO has led to close friendships and great opportunities for growth. Our members, volunteer board, and committee members are the best in the business!

Mark your calendars now for the 2019 MACPO Spring Conference. With your help, we have made some adjustments, so this next Spring Conference will be one week earlier on May 15, 2019, through May 17, 2019 (Breezy Point). The MACPO Spring Conference is a dynamic way to get your training in and network with other professionals with your stories and struggles. Also new is our Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) Track. Although academic research shows evidence-based practice to offender rehabilitation works, academic research does not always translate into practice. MACPO is working hard to partner in the training and implementation of such practices. Please join us at our next spring conference so that you can get your EBP training booster and stay up to date on the latest practices.

MACPO recognizes that correctional work is stressful and can place all employees, to include support staff, with high-risk individuals and in high-risk situations. This stress, caused by both critical incidents and cumulative job stress, has the potential to jeopardize work performance, safety, health, and relationships. Further, if we expect agents to effectively engage in evidence-based practices, they need to be engaged and healthy. There is significant evidence that suggests that staff need to be healthy if there is to be successful implementation of EBP. This year, MACPO is doubling down on our efforts to deliver this skill to all members by sending three talented MACPO members to Phoenix, AZ to be trained to deliver these strategies to you. Along with an EBP track, we will be offering peer support and stress management sessions at regional trainings and at the MACPO Spring Conference.

MACPO and MCA have been working toward more collaboration. These discussions are going to make MACPO and MCA stronger and help bring our members more and better representation. Stay tuned for more combined trainings, communication, and representation.

Finally, I would like to invite each and every one of you to contact me personally if you have any suggestions.

Let's move forward together.

Carter Diers,
MACPO President

Carter.Diers@co.wright.mn.us



Manual Phone Searching Tips

By David Heath—Technical Committee Chair

I know many of our MCA members are in the probation field, and may sometimes be tasked with searching a client phone for violations. I decided to pass along a couple of tips to our readers, to make sure they are doing two important things, if involved in a manual phone search. Those doing phone searches regularly are probably aware of these tips. My hope, is that new agents, or those only doing a rare confiscation of a client phone, will benefit. With that said, be sure to do these two things on a manual phone search. This text applies to an i-phone, but should be similar on Androids and could be in a slightly different location.

1. Hiding Photos. This is a must tip if you are searching a client phone manually.

For i-phones, go to: Camera>All Photos>Albums and scroll up. You will see a folder called **Hidden and Recently Deleted**. **These photos will not show up on your ALL Photos View.** Make sure you look here as well if searching through photos.

To hide a photo in the Hidden Album, all you need to do is: Select the photo and press the **UP ARROW BOX**. Then scroll swipe left until you see the Hide option. Press that and select Hide Photo.

2. As soon as you confiscate a phone:

Put it in **AIRPLANE MODE**. **Also, shut off WI-FI (This will happen automatically on most I-phones put in Airplane mode) and Location Services.** Then **turn the phone completely off, until you're ready to search it.** The reason behind all this is reducing the possibility of a remote wipe of the phones contents by a client, when you turn it back on. These may be known tricks for many, but I suspect there are PO's around the state that are not aware of these two important functions.

On a side note, if you really need to do a complete search/investigation on a phone, you need a product called Cellebrite. This software is commonly used by law enforcement and some probation offices in the state. The hardware/software solution is expensive, in the 10K + neighborhood, but effective for those fortunate enough to have access to a Cellebrite setup.

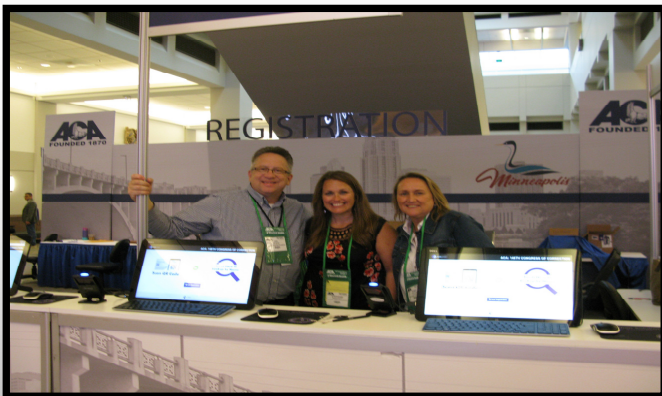
<https://www.cellebrite.com/en/home/>





MCA was represented at the American Correctional Association's 148th Congress of Correction Conference

August 3-7, 2018
Minneapolis, MN



Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)

A Need for Greater Awareness, Education and Understanding Among Criminal Justice and Forensic Mental Health Professionals

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) occurs in babies that experience prenatal exposure to opioids. The baby is simply exposed to opioids in the womb during the course of pregnancy. As a result, the infant is born already addicted to whatever substances that the mother consumed during her pregnancy. These substances could be prescription (e.g., methadone and oxycodone) or illegal (e.g., heroin) in nature. When the baby no longer receives the drug after birth, withdrawal symptoms such as vomiting, seizures, sensory sensitivity, and loss of weight become apparent. This syndrome can have both short and long-term developmental consequences. Concerns of NAS have increased with the opioid addiction crisis in the United States. In fact, research suggests somewhere between 25% and 30% of American pregnant women are prescribed opioids like OxyContin, Percocet, and Vicodin. This does not even account for instances where illegal drugs are consumed by pregnant women. Fueled by the consumption of these drugs, NAS has become one of the largest public health problems in the United States. For example, cases of NAS skyrocketed by approximately 400% from 2000 to 2012 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). This leaves 3.9 out of every 1000 delivery admissions in the United States with NAS. As such, it is imperative for criminal justice and forensic mental health professionals to increase their awareness and understanding of NAS and its implications on these systems of care through comprehensive continuing education training programs.

Training Recommendations

Training programs should be designed for criminal justice and forensic mental health professionals to increase their awareness of NAS and prepare these professionals to address this public health crisis in the field. Specifically, training programs should define NAS, explore the developmental and behavioral health consequences of NAS, discuss screening and assessment options, and identify evidence-based treatments and interventions for the baby and mother. Training programs in this area should focus on the following key objectives:

1. Define Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)
2. Develop a working knowledge of the developmental and behavioral health consequences of NAS across the lifespan.
3. Review the growing prevalence rates of NAS in the United States and the broader world
4. Explore the growing opioid crisis and its origins along with government-led responses
5. Identify and contrast different types of opioids
6. Discuss screening and assessment options to improve the identification and diagnosis of NAS
7. Learn about evidence-based pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic treatments and interventions for NAS
8. Explore possible protective factors and prevention strategies
9. Acquire a basic understanding of the existing empirical research on NAS
10. Learn about the criminal justice and forensic implications of NAS
11. Discuss current gaps in knowledge and highlight future directions for research on NAS

Pathways Counseling Center, Inc
1919 University Avenue West, Suite 6
St Paul, Minnesota 55104

Office: 651-641-1555
Fax: 651-641-0340

Jerrold Brown, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor and Program Director for the Master of Arts degree in Human Services with an emphasis in Forensic Behavioral Health for Concordia University, St. Paul, Minnesota. Jerrod has also been employed with Pathways Counseling Center in St. Paul, Minnesota for the past fifteen years. Pathways provides programs and services benefiting individuals impacted by mental illness and addictions. Jerrod is also the founder and CEO of the American Institute for the Advancement of Forensic Studies (AIAFS), and the Editor-in-Chief of Forensic Scholars Today (FST) and the Journal of Special Populations (JSP). Jerrod has completed four separate master's degree programs and holds graduate certificates in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Other Health Disabilities (OHD), and Traumatic-Brain Injuries (TBI). For a complete list of references used for this article, please email Jerrod at: Jerrod01234Brown@live.com



MCA Education and Training Committee Update

The Education and Training Committee is in the process of collaborating with MACPO's Education and Training Committee. This will allow members of both associations to attend each other's training events and to work together to put on joint training events as well. This is a great opportunity for MCA members to network with professionals from outside of MCA as well!

Join us for our next monthly workshop in September. On the MCA website, click on the "MCA Events" link at the top or bottom of the website page.

Don't forget to register for this training opportunity!

Topic:	Probation: Transition, Programs and Service Collaborations
Presenter:	Odell Wilson, Supervising U.S. Probation Officer
Date:	Friday, September 21, 2018
Time:	9:00am-12:00pm
Location:	Minnesota Department of Corrections Central Office (Afton Room)



MINNESOTA JUSTICE

RESEARCH CENTER

MJRC: WHAT IS JUSTICE FORUM

The Minnesota Justice Research Center (MJRC) hosted a, *What is Justice?* Forum on June 27, 2018 at the Day Block Event Center in Minneapolis. The forum addressed fundamental questions about our justice system. The keynote conversation kicked off the event with Sharon Sayles Belton interviewing Justice Alan Page. The primary message of Justice Page was: "We need to change the criminal justice system foundation to effect change." He cited the 1993 Minnesota Supreme Court Task Force on Racial Bias in the Judicial System (http://www.mncourts.gov/mncourtsgov/media/assets/documents/reports/Race_Bias_Report_Complete.pdf) and lamented that he hasn't witnessed much progress outlined in that report.



The keynote conversation was followed by a panel discussion hosted by Robert Stewart, MJRC Executive Director. Panelists included:

Gina Evans, MN Adult and Teen Challenge and MCA secretary

Josh Esmay, Legal Rights Center Attorney

John Harrington, Metro Transit Police Chief

Tom Heffelfinger, Former U.S. Attorney

Tom Johnson, Former Hennepin County Attorney

Chris Uggen, University of Minnesota Professor of Sociology, Law and Public Affairs.



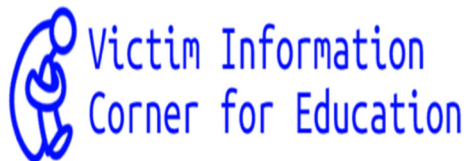
The questions posed to the panel included: What is the meaning

of justice? What principles should justice encompass? What should reform look like so that Minnesota's criminal justice system can be more effective, humane and equitable for all Minnesotans?

Please visit this link: <https://www.mnjrc.org/> to learn more.



Minnesota Justice Research Center
2355 Fairview Ave. #262
Roseville, MN 55113
651-337-9255
info@mnjrc.org



Program Highlight—Cornerstone

CORNERSTONE is a multi-service organization founded in 1983, dedicated to helping Individuals experiencing domestic violence, sexual violence and human trafficking achieve safe, healthy and stabilized lives for themselves and their children. They are also committed to ensuring that all victims of crime have crisis support and services available to address trauma and its consequences.



CORNERSTONE'S COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS

Through the **DAY ONE® PROGRAM**, Cornerstone hosts the statewide crisis hotline that provides support to callers and connects them to the nearest service or agency in their geographic area. It is staffed around the clock, seven days a week, with advocates who can provide victims of domestic violence, sexual violence and human trafficking options and immediate access to safe housing and other resources.

Minnesota Day One® Crisis Line: 1(866) 223-1111

Through the Day One® program, Cornerstone also hosts the **STATEWIDE GENERAL CRIME VICTIM SUPPORT LINE** which is staffed around the clock to provide support and resources to all crime victims.

Minnesota Crime Victim Support Line: 1(866) 385-2699

Cornerstone offers a seamless continuum of safe **EMERGENCY SHELTER** and supportive services designed to meet the needs of victims fleeing from violence. Once in shelter, comprehensive programming helps victims rebuild their lives and restore hope. This programming includes individual and group support, economic empowerment services, housing services, clinical therapy services and criminal and civil justice services. **Cornerstone's Local Crisis Line: (952) 884-0330**

Cornerstone's innovative program designed for **CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES** addresses early childhood education, affordable mental health therapy for children, support groups, parenting, after-school programming, services for sexually-exploited youth and school-based violence prevention that teaches children and youth the skills they need to negotiate and mitigate the violence in their lives.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT SERVICES offer educational and support services for victims and their families. The program works to create long-term stability and pathways out of poverty through transitional housing, case management at supportive housing complexes, home-based advocacy, personal empowerment, job readiness, financial literacy and matched savings accounts.

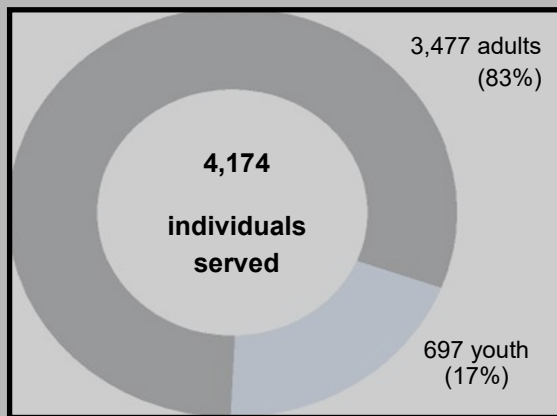
The **VICTIM ADVOCACY PROGRAM** provides advocacy and support in criminal, civil and family court. Partnerships with local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and the courts improve the justice process and protect victims. Advocates provide support and connect victims of property crimes and crimes against persons to a range of Cornerstone's services and administer the State of Minnesota's Emergency Funds assistance program.

Continued on next page...



Cornerstone of Minnesota, continued

2017 SERVICE STATISTICS



- 126 adults and 127 children received 11,851 nights of safe housing and 35,553 meals in 2017.
- 23,896 calls, texts and online chats were placed to Cornerstone's Day One® Call Center last year. Of those, 1,142 were assisted through interpreter services.
- Cornerstone Advocates wrote 281 Harassment Orders and Orders for Protection in 2017.
- Cornerstone's mental health professionals provided specialized, affordable mental health services to 201 adults and children affected by violence and abuse.
- Over 18,000 students participated in presentations on unhealthy/healthy relationships, bullying, anger management and sexual harassment in school.

GET INVOLVED – DONATE

AND VOLUNTEER

Cornerstone depends on generous financial contributions and the volunteer support of community members who value their innovative programs offered to victims of domestic violence, sexual violence and human trafficking.

Learn more about how you can support Cornerstone's life-changing work by calling 952-884-0376 or visiting our website, www.cornerstonemn.org

Cornerstone's Contact Information

Crisis Hotline: 1-866-223-1111

E-mail: info@cornerstonemn.org

Address: 1000 E 80th St

Bloomington, MN 55420

Business Phone: 952-884-0376

If you know of an agency or program that you would like highlighted in the Forum, please send the contact information for the program to lori.korts@state.mn.us.

Please feel free to share this program's information with your peers, as well.

Juvenile Justice Update: YMCA Juvenile Services



YMCA Supports Youth in the Juvenile Justice System to Achieve Success

- The Center for Law and Social Policy reports that on any given day, approximately 57,000 youth in the United States are in juvenile detention and correctional facilities with hundreds of thousands more on probation.
- According to a study by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 75 to 93 percent of youth in the juvenile justice system report exposure to trauma versus 25 to 34 of all youth.
- According to the U.S. Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs (youth.gov), there is a significant increase in a young person's likelihood of being involved in the juvenile justice system the year following suspension or expulsion from school.

The YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities, a leading nonprofit dedicated to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, partners with the community to provide support and resources for Minnesota youth facing barriers to success due to involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Studies show that involvement in the juvenile justice system has a negative impact on young people's education and employment prospects. The YMCA Youth Intervention Services team employs a positive youth development approach to build on young people's strengths and partner with them to achieve success.

"At the Y, we work with youth to identify challenges and goals," said Glen Gunderson, president and CEO for the Y. "The Y meets young people where they are and builds capacity with them to overcome barriers, achieve self-sufficiency and thrive."

Gunderson explained that the Y supports youth facing barriers through access to resources that help them build skills and connect to opportunities. YMCA youth support specialists work in partnership with probation officers, school officials and others to meet the unique needs of each young person. The Y helps to:

- Assist young people transitioning back into the community.
- Remove barriers and provide resources to obtain proper identification, secure transportation, build life skills, prepare for independent living and more.
- Empower young people to accomplish goals and successfully complete probation.
- Support young people's education goals to complete high school or pursue post-secondary opportunities.
- Increase youth employment opportunities.
- Connect to prosocial activities in the young person's community.
- Build relationships and connect youth to caring adults and positive role models.

YMCA Youth Intervention Services offers many additional programs to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness, involvement with the juvenile justice or foster care systems, or who are disconnected from their school or community. Among these services is the Youth Resource Line, a free resource staffed 365 days a year by Y team members to assist youth ages 12 to 24 who are in need of community resources: 763-493-3052.

Because the Y is a leading nonprofit committed to helping all young people thrive, financial assistance is available to those in need. With the generous support of community members, the Y ensures that all have the opportunity to participate. To learn more about the Y's Youth Intervention Services and other youth development programs, please visit ymcamn.org.

About the YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities

The YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities is a leading nonprofit dedicated to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Established 161 years ago, the Ys provide life-strengthening services across the greater Twin Cities metro region, southeastern Minnesota and western Wisconsin communities. The 29 Y locations and program sites, seven overnight camps, 10 day camps, and more than 90 child care sites engage nearly a quarter million men, women and children of all ages, incomes and backgrounds. To learn more about the Y's mission and work, visit www.ymcamn.org.

YMCA Youth Intervention Services



Increase equity and access in our community

The Center for Law and Social Policy reports that on any given day, approximately 57,000 youth in the United States are in juvenile detention and correctional facilities with hundreds of thousands more on probation. Youth of color are disproportionately represented in this population.

Involvement in the juvenile justice system has a negative impact on young people's education and employment prospects. The YMCA Youth Intervention Services team employs a positive youth development approach to build on young people's strengths and work with them to achieve success. By partnering with the community, the Y provides support and resources for Minnesota youth facing barriers to success due to involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Paul connected with the Y while he was on probation. With two older brothers and a father in-and-out of jail, Paul was stuck in a cycle he wanted to break. The Y's Youth Support Specialists partnered with Paul and provided him with the resources and support to improve in school, find a job and complete his probation – proving those who never believed in him wrong.

YMCA Youth Intervention Services offers many additional programs to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness, involvement with the juvenile justice or foster care systems, or who are disconnected from their school or community. Among these services is the Youth Resource Line, a free resource staffed 365 days a year by Y team members to assist youth ages 12 to 24 who are in need of community resources.

"I was a careless kid, going nowhere, with nothing in front of me. Now, I'm a kid who has their eyes open. I do have dreams and very high hopes."

Paul
YMCA Youth Intervention Services Participant

Brooklyn Park Police Mentoring Program for Teens Includes Dirt Bikes

Fox 9 News - Jonathan Choe

Posted: Jul 23 2015 09:08PM CDT

Video Posted: Aug 04 2015 02:09AM CDT

Updated: Jul 23 2015 09:25PM CDT News



Mention the police in some Twin Cities communities, and you could get a negative response. But in Brooklyn Park, a summer mentoring program with dirt bikes is starting to change this perception.

All the teens involved are from troubled backgrounds and some have had run-ins with police. So when they find out an officer with the SWAT team is their mentor, the program can get real interesting.

Derrick Bolden, 18, and Elijah Nelson, 14, admit they've made mistakes and aren't too fond of the authorities they've encountered along the way.

"Wasn't really doing well with my family, getting trouble, domestics," Nelson said.

Bolden said he doesn't really like police, but that is starting to change because there are officers in the program that treat them well.

"I didn't really respect them as much as I do now," Nelson said.

It's because of mentors like Tom Minister, a veteran Brooklyn Police officer and SWAT team member. The police department is partnering with the YMCA this summer to connect officers with certain skill sets with troubled teenagers who are trying to turn their lives around.

"If I had a police shirt on, there was that instant resentment, and I almost had to prove myself," Minister said.

Some of it involves working on a relationship at home, seeking a job, or finishing school. The dirt bikes are also really helping to bring the teenagers and police together. But the only way to make it to the track is if each teen meets their goal.

"The next day they're here they start joking with you," Minister said. "And that rift out there slowly breaks down."

On the surface, it seems like the teens were the only ones who needed to change. But in reality, officer Minister says, so did he.

"All of a sudden, you start to realize these kids aren't bad," Minister said. "They're just in bad environments, or in bad situations." The Fox 9 News story can be found at this link:

www.fox9.com/news/brooklyn-park-police-mentoring-program-for-teens-includes-dirt-bikes



RS EDEN Corrections Services operates three community corrections facilities to serve men and women. Utilizing evidence-based practices and gender responsive programming, we provide a safe environment for clients to make internal changes to promote rehabilitation, while ensuring public safety.

RS EDEN Supportive Housing plays an active role in the development and operation of affordable, safe, and supportive housing throughout the Twin Cities. We oversee nine distinct projects serving youth, singles, and families.

RSI LABORATORIES specializes in drugs of abuse testing for corrections, chemical dependency, and human service agencies. Our lab is accredited by the College of American Pathologists (C.A.P.) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (C.L.I.A.).

RS EDEN Recovery Services has a reputation of working successfully with people who have substance use disorders. We offer inpatient and outpatient programs, specializing in serving culturally diverse, poly-drug addicted adult males and females.



Since 1971, RS EDEN has been a leader in delivering effective community human services in Minnesota. Our mission is to provide a spectrum of care—recovery and support services—to facilitate self-sufficiency for individuals, families, and communities. We believe that with structure, stability, and accountability people can and do change.

Learn more about available career opportunities at rseden.org.

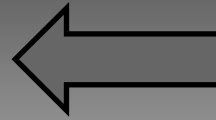
rseden.org
651-287-1600

rsilaboratories.org
612-287-1654

PRESIDENT-ELECT

- ⇒ Lori Korts
- ⇒ Mary Oberstar
- ⇒ Jeff Titus

VOTE!!



2020 President

VOTE!!

VICE PRESIDENT

- Laura Anderson
- Brian Collins
- Wayne Niles

SECRETARY

- ♦ Kaylee Henson
- ♦ Ajibola (Bola) Olarande
- ♦ Quenilla Pettigrew

**Voting closes at 5 p.m.
on August 27th**

TREASURER

- * Emmy Seidling
- * Robyn Wood

2-year term

2019-2020



To Vote click or copy and paste:

<http://www.mn-ca.org/Sys/Poll/2441>

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