MCA FORUM

Summer 2021



Volume 44. No 3

OUR MISSION:

TO PROMOTE THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUALS WORKING IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE CORRECTIONS FIELD AND TO PROMOTE ETHICAL AND JUST CORRECTIONAL PRACTICE.

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 - 2021 MCA Award Nominations
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 - Legislative Update
- Monthly Workshop Schedule
 - · PLUS MORE!!!

mca-mn@hotmail.com

Feel free to e-mail MCA to get in contact, join a committee, become a sponsor or to get involved!

MCA website: www.mn-ca.org



"Distanced but Together"

Celebrating 88 years of MCA!
October 27th - October 29th



Mark Bliven 2021 MCA President



President's Message - August 14, 2021

We are winding down summer and approaching the start of school and hopefully a break in heat and drought conditions in Minnesota. I want to address the latest issues with the continuing Covid situation. Most of us really expected that with the availability of vaccines that we would have turned the corner by now and would be on track to the new normal regarding work and general life. Unfortunately, our vaccine utilization in Minnesota while higher than many other areas of the country, is still too low based on many factors including those not able to be vaccinated and those unwilling to participate in this important public health initiative. The corrections field is not immune to these disappointing levels.

With the resurgence of Covid particularly due to the highly infective Delta variant, we are seeing increased and necessary precautions being implemented. On August 12, 2021 the MCA board met and addressed a proposal to require all those attending in-person at the upcoming Fall Institute Oct 26-29 to provide proof of vaccination. This was done to demonstrate to sponsoring organizations both private and governmental that we will be taking necessary precautions to ensure that this in-person gathering won't contribute to Covid spread.

We cannot predict new developments but we are confident that this vaccination requirement along with additional precautions based on current and future CDC and Minnesota Dept. of Health guidelines will demonstrate to employers and attendees that we are taking into account best practices in regard to health concerns. We look forward to this safe in-person gathering of our important corrections community.

For those not able or unwilling to be vaccinated for any reason we will still make sure that you can benefit from the important information, training, and networking of the MCA Fall Institute through some virtual connections and recorded sessions. While this will not be the same as in-person we will work over the next two months toward the goal of developing this as an important part of your corrections experience even without the still important actual in-person portion.

My thanks to all of you who in these difficult times have continued to provide your valuable services in our endeavors to use best practices and efforts. You are making sure that we can successfully transition those within the criminal justice system back into successful crime-free community contributors.



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Experience Matters

All of our attorneys have experience coordinating workers' compensation, PERA/MSRS disability, healthcare continuation, and personal injury claims to achieve better results.



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2021 MCA Awards

Have you nominated a person or group for an award yet?

The deadline is fast approaching to nominate a person or group you know who has done outstanding work in our field. We know there are many – who will *you* nominate?

Awards are given in the following areas:

Corrections Person of the Year

This award is given for outstanding contribution in the field of corrections in Minnesota by an individual in any employment. It could be clergy, judge, legislator, group home parent. etc., as well as a correctional professional.

Corrections Officer of the Year

This award is inspired by Minnesota Corrections Officers Joseph Gomm and Joseph Parise, who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the performance of their duties. This award will be given to a uniformed officer who demonstrates extraordinary character; who has gone above and beyond the scope and responsibilities of their position to ensure the safety and security of their colleagues. The recipient of this award will be nominated for their standard of professional achievement.

Professional Achievement Awards

This award is given to two correctional staff persons (field services and correctional facilities) who have demonstrated achievement over a period of time, but shall not exclude professionals new to the field who have displayed outstanding achievement.

President's Award

This award is given to programs, resources or facilities working in the broad field of corrections and criminal justice, which demonstrate creativity, resourcefulness, effectiveness and innovation.

Technology Award

This award is given to individuals, programs, resources or facilities working with technology in the broad field of corrections and criminal justice, which demonstrate creativity, resourcefulness, effectiveness and innovation.

Board of Directors' Award (chosen and voted by Board of Directors)

This award recognizes exemplary service to MCA members through participation in association activities.

The nominator and nominated individual or group do not need to be MCA members.

E-mail this <u>nomination form</u> and supporting documents by September 1, 2021 to: Mary Oberstar - Past President /Awards Committee Chairperson:

mary.oberstar@gmail.com



A Leader in Treatment for Justice Involved Individuals

Substance Use Treatment Medication Assisted Therapy Intensive Outpatient Mental Health Recovery Residences Outpatient

Partners In Recovery is a leader in treatment for justice involved individuals. We partner with corrections to ensure participants receive comprehensive care. Our specialized programming includes Decision Points, MRT, Criminogenic Needs, and Trauma. Partners In Recovery provides intensive outpatient treatment, outpatient treatment, mental health services and medication assisted treatment. We believe in specialized care customized to the individual. Our recovery programs create opportunities to understand and overcome the forces that lead to substance use as we work with individuals towards demonstrable and sustained positive change.

www.pirmn.com 888-648-7652



Awards Ceremony

MCA Annual Training Institute
Grand View Lodge
Celebrating 88 years of MCA!

Corrections Person of the Year
Corrections Officer of the Year
Professional Achievement Awards
President's Award
Technology Award
Board of Director's Award

Tuesday, October 26th 6:00 p.m.

Awards Ceremony sponsored by:





MCA Annual Training Institute
October 27th - October 29th
Grand View Lodge

Wednesday, October 27th*

Exhibitor Hosted Hospitality Night at Grandview



Thursday, October 28th*

Networking & Entertainment Night
Roundhouse Brewery
6:00 p.m.— 12 midnight
Join us for food, music & activities!
Sponsored by:



*Event will be evaluated and will take place based on CDC/MDH COVID guidelines at conference time.



Are you still experiencing symptoms from your previous COVID-19 illness? Will Workers' Comp Pay for my Post-COVID-19 syndrome (Long COVID)?

There's a growing body of evidence to suggest that COVID-19 continues to impact patients long after the acute illness has resolved in the body. These ongoing effects have been categorized as "long COVID" or "long COVID-19".

Researchers at the Mayo Clinic continue to study and document long-term damage to heart muscle, lung tissue, blood vessels, and the brain. The list of symptoms includes fatigue, shortness of breath, cough, joint pain, chest pain, memory or concentration problems ("brain fog"), muscle pain, headache, increased heart rate, loss of smell or taste, fever, dizziness, and depression or anxiety. Additionally, the effects of long COVID can increase risk of heart failure, long-term breathing problems, stroke, seizures, Guillain-Barre syndrome, Parkinson's disease, and Alzheimer's disease.

In Minnesota, injuries or conditions that develop after contracting COVID may be compensable under the workers' compensation statute. Generally, non-first responders who contract COVID-19 at work are entitled to workers' compensation benefits for their lost wages, medical treatment, and more associated with both the immediate and long-term effects of the virus. Under Minnesota Statutes § 176.011, subdivision 15, first responders like police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, state patrol officers, paramedics, EMTs, and nurses are entitled to the same benefits when they contract the virus; however, first responders receive the added benefit of a legal presumption that their COVID-19 illness was contracted at work.

Since the pandemic began, our firm has seen many cases involving severe after-effects of COVID-19. For example, one client had a stroke and suffered permanent injuries that led to memory loss, vision issues, and more while he was recovering from COVID-19. Similarly, other clients who had previously contracted COVID-19 later experienced light headedness, AFIB, increased heart rate, fatigue, mental fogginess, and mental health symptoms associated with anxiety, depression, and PTSD.

If you previously contracted COVID-19, and you're experiencing any of these symptoms or conditions, it's important to understand your rights and the benefits that you may be entitled to receive. Waiting to pursue a claim could jeopardize your potential benefits based on statute of limitations or notice issues. Our firm provides fee consultations to assess your workers' compensation claim and determine what benefits you are owed.



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS UPDATE

Submitted by: Calvin Saari - MCA Legislative Liaison

Well, it took a lengthy Special Session before the Legislature got it's work done and at least passed a budget bill for the next two years. As you all know, it was the Public Safety Omnibus bill that was the final block to agreement and it all centered on the police reform proposals. In the end the Public Safety bill did muster sufficient votes to get to the Governor for signature. It is a decent bill for Corrections with some minor increases in financial support and a number of new policy initiatives, but a lot was left on the table. We are still very disappointed with the lack of commitment on juvenile issues particularly in the Senate. Judiciary Chair Senator Warren Limmer kept telling me that we'd address them in the next Session. Remember however, that the 2022 Session also is the beginning of a new election cycle, and it is very unlikely that the Legislature will be willing to move forward on any controversial matters, including juvenile justice reform.



One item that will be very evident in 2022 is the continuing debate on Police Reform. During this past Session, I encountered several questions from legislators about what our position was as Corrections staff on the issue of police reform. This is something we have not had an open discussion on, but there is interest in some circles as to our position. Having worked so closely throughout my career with law enforcement, my thought process is naturally as an advocate for law enforcement and opposed to any effort to make their work more complicated, yet being sensitive to the need to address reform. Many of us have strong feelings that the entire issue of reform centers around the Metro area, and for the most part, is not an issue in greater Minnesota. I have been told many times by law enforcement staff from greater Minnesota that desired reforms advocated in the Metro area just don't work in our rural communities. I do think that as a criminal justice organization, we need to further explore the issues and possible responses, so I'm advocating for more in-depth discussions by our Committees and our general membership. Legislative Chair Mary Cardinal has agreed to include this concern on our discussion agenda as we prepare our legislative agenda for 2022. It is important for us in this Committee to have your feedback, questions and concerns on the concept of police reform. Please contact Mary or me, or any member of the Legislative Committee to voice your opinions.

The MCA Fall Institute is quickly coming up with a return to in-person sessions. This year we will use our legislative workshop time to bring the membership an experience with "The Lifers", a program started a few years ago by Dan Cain and several long term inmates who will share their experiences and issues in trying to re-enter into the community following long term incarceration. Two years ago MCA recognized this group with an award at the Fall Institute and this workshop will give a more in depth look at their experiences. We will also present the MCA 2022 Legislative Agenda for comment by the membership.. This will again be a worthwhile workshop for your time at the Institute.

As we work now to develop our new legislative agenda in the next couple of months, please share your interests and concerns with any member of the Committee or reach out at any time to me. Thank you for your support!









rseden.org 651-287-1600



rsilaboratories.org 612-287-1654 RS EDEN Reentry Services operates three community reentry 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.

For 50 years, RS EDEN has been a leader in creating unique solutions to the challenges our community faces, including the entrenched, multigenerational poverty and systemic racism experienced by communities of color. Our mission is to create thriving, just communities where healing occurs and new beginnings are possible. We envision a community built upon a shared commitment to wellbeing and equity, where individuals and families are free from injustice and anchored by generational resilience. Learn more at rseden.org.



The Fall Institute information/program will be digital again this year.

Please go to the app store on your mobile device and download the attendify app.

Conference registrants will receive more information on access to Fall Conference information!



STAY SAFE



COVID-19 FACTS

The COVID-19 vaccine is free.

You can get the vaccine no matter if you have insurance or what your immigration status is.

The COVID-19 vaccine is safe.

It has gone through all the same safety steps of any other vaccine.

The COVID-19 vaccine works.

The vaccine is very good at protecting people from COVID-19 disease. It takes some time after your final shot to build up protection against COVID-19. The person giving you the vaccine will let you know if you need one or two doses. If you need two doses, it is important to get both doses for the best protection.

2-DOSE VACCINE



1-DOSE VACCINE





mn.gov/vaccine

Minnesota Department of Health | health.mn.gov | 651-201-5000 | 625 Robert Street North PO Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975 Contact health.communications@state.mn.us to request an alternate format. | 02/24/2021



Sneak Peak

MCA

Celebrating 88 years!

MCA Annual Training Institute October 27th - October 29th Grand View Lodge

Here's just some of the sessions being offered this year:

- · Competency Restoration Task Force: Working to Decriminalize Mental Illness
- · Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Pilot Project at Northwestern Juvenile Facility
- · Coordination, Collaboration and Connection in Rural Communities (Lessons Learned from becoming a Blueprint Community)
- · Freeze and Fawn How Learning About Trauma Response Will Change Your World
- Mental Mindset
- · Officer Resiliency
- · Cultural Responsivity: A Tool for Treatment, Engagement, and Sustained Recovery
- · Trafficking of Indigenous Youth: Risk and Resilience
- · Verbal Commands, Training and De-escalation
- · Voices from the Field The Impact of Gender Responsive Services in Probation Supervision





Behind every number is a person and a story. Everyone needs help sometimes. Amicus will be there.

For more than 50 years, Amicus has been a healing force in our community, helping justice-involved people find a safe home, jobs to begin building anew, and the comforting fellowship of community belonging.



Serve 1,222 people through supportive re-entry services



Support 1,002 adults with transportation



Provide 227 men and women with volunteer mentors



voamnwi.org/amicus

Provide 197 individuals with winter clothing and toiletries



Assist 176 people as they find permanent employment



Help 50 individuals find stable housing



Support 45 women as they transition from prison to community



Attain 7.6% three-year recidivism rate for participants







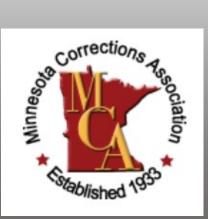


Volunteers of America:

voamnwi.org/amicus









Key Note Speaker

MCA

Celebrating 88 years!

MCA Annual Training Institute October 27th - October 29th Grand View Lodge

Kelly Swanson is an <u>award-winning storyteller</u>, comedian, <u>motivational speaker</u>, <u>Huffington Post Contributor</u>, and cast member of <u>The Fashion Hero</u> television show airing on Amazon Prime. She is also author of <u>Who Hijacked My Fairy Tale</u>, <u>The Land of If Only</u>, <u>The Story Formula</u>, and <u>The Gutsy Girls Pocket Guide to Public Speaking</u>. She was a featured entertainer for <u>Holland America Cruise Lines</u>, keynote speaker for the International Toastmasters Convention, and has keynoted major conferences and corporate events from coast to coast.

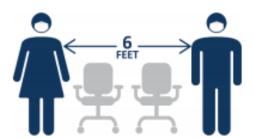
Kelly's wacky wit and powerful stories have charmed hearts and tickled funny bones for over 15 years. In addition to her role as a funny motivational speaker, Kelly teaches people how she does it by sharing what she has learned about connecting and engaging to have more influence in business, through the use of one tool – strategic storytelling. Sharing her own powerful journey through story and the formula she discovered, you come to that magical place



Social Distancing at Work



Attend meetings virtually if possible.



Allow for 6 feet of space per person.



Maintain sufficient spacing in conference rooms.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT **HEALTH.MN.GOV**. COVID-19 HOTLINE: **1-833-431-2053**





Minnesota Department of Health 3/24/2021

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MONTHLY TRAINING

August 20th: Ethical Issues and Boundaries

in Counseling Practice (registration closes 8/18)

September 17th: to be announced

October 15th: Ignition Interlock Industry

Overview

November 19th: MCA Silver Line Support

December 17th: Programs to Support Students

Involved in the Juvenile Justice

System ~ Partnering with the

Minnesota Department of Education & Department of

Employment and Economic

Development





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- Structured programming
- Case management
- · Transitional housing opportunities



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See you at Grand View! October 27th-29th October 27th-29th



Key Note Speaker

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Kay Frances: Known as "America's Funniest Stressbuster," Kay Frances has shared her message to "lighten up, stress less and take care of ourselves" in 38 states and Canada for over 25 years. She holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration, a degree in Physical Education and a 4th degree black belt in karate. She was also a family caregiver for 7 years.

Kay is the author of *The Funny Thing about Stress; A Seriously Humorous Guide to a Happier Life*.

When it comes to humor, Kay is the "real deal" having performed as a professional standup comedian for many years and appearing on a number of national television and radio programs including Lifetime Cable's *Girls Night Out* and NBC's *America's Funniest People*. She also lived and performed in New York City where she appeared at the nation's top comedy clubs such as "The Improvisation" and "Catch a Rising Star."

When it comes to managing stress, Kay learned the hard way by engaging in every unhealthy habit known to man before making her way back to good health and sanity. It was a long, winding, hilarious road!





Residential Program | Individual & Group Therapy | On-Site School | IEPs Available

Lakeside Academy is a residential behavior and recovery center for teen boys. We are committed to helping boys learn their worth and reset their priorities through counseling, hard work and individualized therapy.

- Behavior therapy
- Mental health counseling
- Residential chemical dependency counseling
- Onsite high school (IEPs)
- 48 acres with 2 lakes and a gym
- Licensed through the MN DHS as a 2960 Children's Residential program

There are many funding options available including private pay (financial aid available for families who qualify), some commercial insurance accepted, county approved CCDTF with a 6-month funding plan, and Title IV-E eligible for those that qualify. Please call our admissions office for more information.



Learn More:

boysteenchallenge.mntc.org 844-768-TEEN (8336)



Key Note Speaker

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James Robilotta: James is an author, professional speaker, personal coach, and trained improv comedian. After nearly 15 years of building, training, supervising, and evaluating teams, James followed an entrepreneurial dream and built two successful businesses. One is an organization that incorporates freestyle rapping into improv comedy (a story for another day). The other is his speaking and coaching business (a story for today).

With years of research (and a few too many real-life case studies within his work), James learned everything he could about authenticity in the workplace and uses this insight to host conversations about communication, rapport building, engagement, feedback, retention, promoting memorability, life balance, increased productivity, and more.

James has been speaking professionally to willing and unwilling audiences for years and has found that quality humor is the secret to hosting powerful conversations that make a genuine impact. His attendees leave feeling recharged, introspective, and ready to get out of their own way.





MCA

Celebrating 88 years!

Thank you to our current sponsors!

Exclusive Sponsors

Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance—Awards Ceremony

GTL—Fall Conference Thursday Evening Event

Diamond Sponsors

Intoxalock Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge

Meuser, Yackley & Rowland

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Prairie Lakes Youth Programs

Gold Sponsors

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Treatment for women.





The Best Place for Help and Healing

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New Programs Designed for Moms

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- Residential program for moms with active CPS cases

To learn more visit mntc.org or contact **Melissa.Esperum@mntc.org**.

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OUTPATIENT | LICENSED | LONG TERM | TEEN | PREVENTION





The Fall Institute information/program will be digital again this year.

Please go to the app store on your mobile device and download the attendify app.

Conference registrants will receive more information on access to Fall Conference information!







"Distanced but Together"

MCA Annual Training Institute October 27th - October 29th Grand View Lodge

Thank you to all the MCA Committee Members who made this year's event possible, but especially those members who serve on the Fall Institute Committee. MCA is looking forward to this year's event and can't wait to welcome you back to Grand View to celebrate 88 years together!

Dan Raden/Amy Moeckel/Shannon Fette – Chairs
Tom Redmond/Tom Jungmann – Arrangements
Christine Schweich/Margit Heald – Program
Vicki Lanners/Jean Wipper – Registration
Jason Mereness/Jae Wiese – Resource Fair
Raul Sanchez/Adriana Dibella - Hospitality/Networking



OUR MISSION:

TO PROMOTE THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOP-MENT OF INDIVIDUALS WORKING IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE CORRECTIONS FIELD AND TO PROMOTE ETHICAL AND JUST CORRECTIONAL PRACTICE.



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Past President/Awards: Mary Oberstar

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About the MCA FORUM

The **FORUM** is published six times a year by the Minnesota Corrections Association, a nonprofit, professional association incorporated in Minnesota.

Articles submitted by our membership do not express the views of MCA or the board of directors.

MCA is always looking for articles that are informative on topics of interest to the MCA membership at large.

MCA Committees and Chairs

Adult Justice/Legislative: Mary Cardinal

Annual Training Institute: Shannon Fette,

Amy Moeckel & Dan Raden

Awards: Mary Oberstar

Communications: Contact the MCA Office

Education & Training: Cheri Humphrey & Pat Gerbozy

Juvenile Justice: Kari Boser

Legislative Liaison: Calvin Saari

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Safety: Wayne Niles

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Silver Line Support: Lori Quist & Landyn Prescott-Miles