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# “ONE DAY WITH GOD” SUPPORTS RE-ENTRY, FAMILY REUNIFICATION

A program that helps establish family ties through religious support is seeing success in the Michigan Department of Corrections. In late September, Pugsley Correctional Facility (MPF) hosted the “One Day with God” camp. MPF is Michigan’s third facility to host the program.

The program provides incarcerated parents the opportunity to spend quality time with their children in a Christian-themed environment designed to remove certain barriers present in a prison setting. The “One Day with God” camp allows prisoners the chance to reconcile their relationship with their children while spouses participate in a special “care giver” program at a local church.



*A father gets a big hug from his daughter.*

One wife, who has two children with her incarcerated husband, was surprised the program would allow children into the prison beyond the visiting room. She was more amazed that they were able to spend the entire day with their father.

Pugsley’s camp began on Friday, September 24, with prisoners participating in a program called “Great Dads” which teaches parenting skills and helps prepare the fathers for interaction with their children the next day. Prisoners picked out gifts for their children and wrote messages to them in a Bible. The gifts, bible, and a certificate were presented to the children during the bonding time at the “One Day with God” camp the next day.

One prisoner said, “I realized that my children love me unconditionally and that I have not always been the best dad that I could be for them. I under-

**CAMP** (Continued on page 2)



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**Tuesday November 2, is Election Day.**  
Please participate in our democracy by voting.  
Your vote is your voice. Be heard on Tuesday.





**“ONE DAY WITH GOD” CAMP  
STRENGTHENS FAMILY TIES (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)**

stand it is never too late to become the dad they deserve and need. This experience gave me a great opportunity to make things right with my children, ask for their forgiveness and forgive myself, before I go home.”

On Saturday, September 25, nearly 90 volunteers from the community, along with many community sponsors and donations, helped make MPF’s “One Day with God” camp a huge success. The community response to this camp was outstanding and extremely positive. Activities included group prayer, games, craft time, Dynamite the Clown, lunch, music, a bounce house, children and father quiet time, and a balloon release. One spouse commented, “The children had a wonderful time at the camp and they talk about their day with daddy at the prison all the time.” In fact, she shared that she and the children have visited Larry since the camp and the children wanted to go play with their dad in the gym again. She said, “We are all looking forward to him coming home. We were offered additional marriage counseling sessions through MPRI prior to his release to help us work out some issues. This time has been different for all of us; I really feel like people really care and want to help us succeed!”

Forgiven Ministry and the founder of the “One Day with God” camps, Scottie Barnes, partnered with the Michigan Department of Corrections to bring the first “One Day with God” camp to Michigan in 2009 at Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility (WHV). WHV also hosted



*Daughters and sons rush to greet their fathers.*



one in 2010. MPF’s camp was the fourth to be run in the state and the first in Northern Michigan. Muskegon Correctional Facility also hosted a camp.

Generous donations by many local churches and businesses helped offset the cost of providing the camp. Ms. Barnes said that she never had a community embrace and support a camp in the manner that the local community near MPF did.

For many staff, volunteers and the families who participated in the camp, the experience was life changing. For the first time they saw prisoners as fathers and now better understand that these children and families are also “victims” of their father’s crime. Witnessing the unconditional love these children have for their fathers shows how important camps like this are to help prisoners re-establish and maintain relationships with their children while incarcerated. The camp motivated positive change and encouraged the fathers to work toward preparing for their release.

Said one spouse, “The camp has been a wonderful experience that embraced the entire family in a way that is difficult to put in words. I will say that the experience has provided us with a support system, forgiveness to heal, preparation for our loved one coming home and a positive memory for the children during the time their dad was in prison. The whole experience has brought us closer together as a family.”



**RE-ENTRY ROUNDTABLE:  
SAFER NEIGHBORHOODS &  
BETTER CITIZENS**

*Re-Entry Roundtable* is a continuing column that provides news, facts, and program successes within the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative.

**Preparing Women for Success a Priority for Macomb MPRI**

For Macomb MPRI, ensuring that women are just as prepared for success as men means doing away with one-size-fits-all approaches. Women returning home after prison face different challenges, have different needs and achieve success differently than men returning from prison. However, considering that more than 90% of the prison population in Michigan is male, it is easy to see how the needs of women could be overlooked in re-entry planning. Rather than let that happen, Macomb MPRI continues to build an expanding network of evidence-based, gender-specific programming and services for the women returning to Macomb County.

Macomb MPRI established a women's subcommittee with representatives from Legal Aid and Defender, the local parole office, Michigan Works!, Career Directions, the MPRI Steering Team, former MPRI participants who have successfully completed parole and others. The subcommittee focuses on exploring and developing appropriate programming to provide the tools necessary to transition successfully into the community. Approximately 50 women have transitioned to the community through MPRI over the past 2 years, and their input has been critical in identifying what works and where changes need to be made.

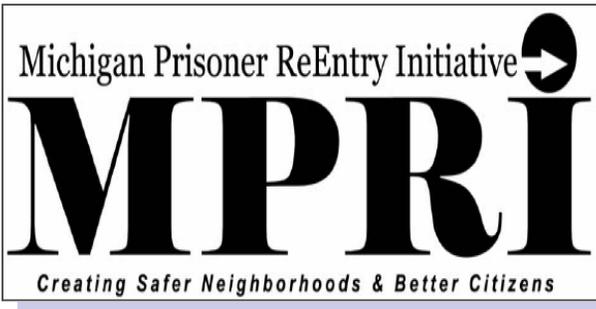
The core of the gender-specific programming in Macomb County is the Beyond Trauma work-

shop, an 11-week series for all females being supervised on parole. This group, facilitated by Deb Garrett of CARE (Community, Assessment, Referral and Education), integrates treatment around the interrelated issues of addiction, mental health, power, violence and response to trauma. The program has proven to be valuable in a population where 80% are estimated to have experienced some form of abuse, 85% are substance involved and over 40% have been diagnosed with both a mental health and substance use disorder. The partnership with CARE also allows MPRI participants to continue

with support groups specifically for women with substance abuse issues after completion of Beyond Trauma.

Within the last year, Oakland/Livingston MPRI and Macomb MPRI have col-

laborated to offer legal presentations to Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility inmates through Legal Aid and Defender, Inc., and employment workshops from Career Directions, Inc. The Macomb MPRI Family Specialist is designated as the point of contact for all MPRI services for women and now begins the transition process at in-reach with all female MPRI participants. This has led to a network of resources in Macomb County for the participant as well as their families. The Family Specialist has developed relationships with local agencies that provide treatment for women's health issues including prenatal care, domestic violence shelters and counseling, in-home specialist visits for in-



*MPRI (Continued on page 4)*



*MPRI (Continued from page 3)*

fants and toddlers, access to mentoring programs for children and many others.

Because of the efforts of the women’s subcommittee, further changes are underway in women’s programming, including starting a local mentoring program specifically for the children of MPRI participants, ensuring that accurate, local information is given to women prior to their re-

lease, and making arrangements for more intensive family reunification services focused on the individual needs of all family members. The committee will continue to meet to ensure women participating in MPRI in Macomb County are receiving the same level of resources as the male participants and the tools they have are preparing them for a successful return to the community.

**OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

In recognition of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, please share with your staff information on the Department of Corrections Work/Life Web page on Domestic Violence. The Web page can be accessed at [www.michigan.gov/corrections](http://www.michigan.gov/corrections), (first click on "Human Resources," then on "Work/Life Services").

One of the resources listed on the Domestic Violence page is the **Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence** (MCADSV) located at 3893 Okemos Road, Suite B-2, Okemos, MI. They can be reached at 517-347-7000; TTY is 517-381-8470. MCADSV has many domestic and sexual violence programs and identifies agencies statewide. Much more information is available on their Web site at <http://www.mcadsv.org/>.



Another resource is the **National Domestic Violence** (NDV) Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233), TTY: 1-800-787-3224. This hotline is free and available 24 hours a day. The NDV Hotline provides trained counselors who can be of assistance during a crisis and/or for support. Coun-

seling staff also can provide locations of shelters by cities in Michigan, and resources on legal assistance.

The DOC Work/Life Web page also offers DOC employees a variety of resources on family issues including taking care of children, caring for the elderly, physical fitness, mental health, financial services, abuse in the home and legal services.

**OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS CYBER SECURITY**

Online safety is more important than ever. Highlighted below are some basics for social networking safety. For more information on children’s safety, parental awareness, online financial security, etc., go to: [www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org)

- Once posted, always posted
- Your online reputation can be a good thing
- Keep personal info personal
- Protect your hardware
- Know and manage your friends
- Use strong passwords
- Be cautious about messages you receive on social networking sites that contain links.

## FIELD REPORT: WHAT'S GOING ON IN FOA

### ***Outstanding Professionalism***

Field Agent William Robinson received an *Outstanding Service Workforce Development Professional Award* for his dedication to ensuring parolee success, some for the first time in their lives. He sought out religious and community leaders and service providers to donate their time to help these men become "men." William has devoted professional and personal time to develop relationships with other agencies that could provide assistance.



**From Left:** Michael McQuade and Agent William Robinson.

Parolee Michael McQuade received an *Outstanding Job Training Participant Award* for earning a degree in Construction Management, then opened a business rehabilitating foreclosed residences, creating a sober living residence where a team of his workers could live while working with him to rehabilitate other homes.

The award presentation is held annually and hosted by Michigan Works!. It is attended by local Livingston County business professionals, politicians, and others. Additionally, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow attended the event this year.

### ***Osborn Neighborhood Revitalized with Help from MDOC and Community Partners***

On August 24, 2010, the Department of Corrections, along with representatives from the city of Detroit, and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, attended the Inner City Neighborhood media event sponsored by AmeriCorps and the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency (MCCD). Several current parolees were also in attendance. The event was held outside three rehabilitated homes in the Osborn neighborhood in the city of Detroit. Director Caruso was a featured speaker. Her remarks highlighted the collaboration between the Department, Habitat for Humanity, Motor City Blight Busters, the Skillman Foundation and other community partners. The Director emphasized the cultural shift by the Department toward assisting offender transition to the community.

The Inner City Neighborhood MPRI initiative, a statewide public safety and national community service project of the MCCD, sponsored a city-wide neighborhood revitalization event. The initiative engages former prisoners to meet some of the city's most critical revitalization needs including:

- Neighborhood clean-ups;
- Food and clothing distribution;
- Urban gardening;
- Cleaning up illegal neighborhood dump sites; and
- Boarding up vacant homes to create safe routes for children.

It was an exciting day for everyone!





## HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Halloween is this Sunday and children will be trick-or-treating as ghosts and ghouls, princesses and fairies. Our job is to keep them safe. Here are some safety tips for your little goblin:



- Make sure your child's clothing is flame retardant. Review the stop-drop-roll exercise in case a costume catches on fire.
- Attach your child's name and address to the inside of their costume.
- Imitation knives, guns and swords are not recommended costume accessories.
- Give children flashlights and/or reflective tape, especially if their costume is a dark color.
- Lighted pumpkins and luminaries with an open flame should never be left unattended.
- Make sure all outdoor lights are operational.
- Remove items kids could trip over from your walkway and doorstep.
- Keep dogs and other pets away from your front door, so that visiting children will not become frightened.
- Set up a curfew for your older kids.
- Discuss the route trick-or-treaters intend to follow.
- Watch for signs of tampered candy such as loose wrappers and check all treats before they are eaten. Throw away homemade or unwrapped treats.
- When in doubt, throw it out.
- Serve an early healthy dinner so the kids won't fill up on candy.
- Teach children how to dial 9-1-1 if they become lost or have an emergency.



Adults will also be out this weekend enjoying Halloween festivities. Please enjoy them safely and responsibly by exercising moderation, using a designated driver, calling a cab, using the buddy system, knowing the areas you are visiting and staying overnight rather than driving if necessary.

## CANINE PROGRAM RECEIVES GRANT FUNDING

The Canine Correctional Companion Program will get a boost from a grant by the Banfield Charitable Trust. Refurbished Pets of Southern Michigan (RPSM) will receive a \$3,000 grant to provide medical treatment for up to a year for dogs entering Lakeland Correctional Facility's program. Shelter dogs are in the program for up to three months. Under the supervision of a professional trainer, the dogs are trained and socialized by prisoners before being adopted into caring homes. Lakeland's program teamed up with RPSM in 2008 to place at-risk shelter dogs who would otherwise be euthanized. This program is completely supported by donations.





**AUGUST 2010 RETIREMENTS**



Alvarado, Josie .....	Adrian Correctional Facility
Bertucci, Terry J. ....	Marquette Branch Prison
Bonnau, Thomas J. ....	Mid-Michigan Correctional Facility
Click, Christopher R.....	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Cole, Robin L.....	Macomb Correctional Facility
Cook, Timothy N.....	Florence Crane Correctional Facility
Corsi, Tony P.....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Czech, Richard A.....	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Dixon, Wills B. ....	Charles E. Egeler Correctional Facility
Donley, John P. ....	Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Dunham, Clyde.....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Dust, Connie R. ....	Alger Correctional Facility
Dutcher, Gary C.....	Carson City Correctional Facility
Ensworth, Donald E.....	Field Operations Metro Region
Ford, Larry D. ....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Fullerton, Robert T.....	Mid-Michigan Correctional Facility
Goik, Jim S. ....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Gorte, John L.....	Thumb Correctional Facility
Gravelle, Helen.....	Michigan State Industries
Guiles, Neil G. ....	CFA Southern Region - Jackson
Hair, Karla J.....	CFA Southern Region - Jackson
Hammermeister, Kevin W. ....	Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Higbie, Quentin K. ....	Pine River Correctional Facility
Hoopes, Laura F.....	Florence Crane Correctional Facility
Hovatter, Alan.....	CFA Northern Region
Howell, Beth A. ....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Knapp, Nancy E.....	Field Operations Metro Region
Kolpack, Daniel L.....	Marquette Branch Prison
Lacy, Gary L. ....	Marquette Branch Prison
Lemma, David F. ....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Losito, Thomas D. ....	Saginaw Correctional Facility

**PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE**





**RETIREMENTS CONT.**

McBride, John T. ....	Marquette Branch Prison
Miklos, Sally S. ....	Field Operation Outstate Region
Moran, Neil R.....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Mroz, Henry A.....	Parnall Correctional Facility
Nelson, John S. ....	Thumb Correctional Facility
Piercefield, Anne .....	Michigan Reformatory
Pindur, Perry.....	Thumb Correctional Facility
Plodzick, Frank J. ....	Florence Crane Correctional Facility
Raden, Frederick D. ....	CFA Northern Region
Ray, Cherie D. ....	Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Ray, William P. ....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Raymond, Rively .....	Ionia Maximum Correctional Facility
Reno, Timothy F.....	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Rigotti, Michael A.....	Chippewa Correctional Facility
Sauve, Thomas A.....	Ernest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Sholes, Lanita L.....	Thumb Correctional Facility
Simpson, Janet L.....	Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Stanley, Jack J. ....	Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Stearns, Nancy S.....	Pugsley Correctional Facility
Stermin, Guy E. ....	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Sutton, Daniel L.....	Florence Crane Correctional Facility
Szafranski, Shirley M.....	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Trumbley, Tami L.....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Vallie, Carol S.....	Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Walker, Douglas F.....	Parnall Correctional Facility
Warnes, John F. ....	Michigan Reformatory
Wheeler, John R.....	Michigan Reformatory
Whitman, Gary W. ....	Thumb Correctional Facility
Wolfinger, Donald K.....	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Yonke, Louis .....	Parnall Correctional Facility



*PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE*

