



F.Y.I.



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SRF'S CRAIN HONORED WITH DIRECTOR'S AWARD

Saginaw Correctional Facility (SRF) Corrections Program Coordinator (CPC) Audette Crain is this year's recipient of the Director's Award for her development and implementation of prisoner programming at SRF. Crain also won a Professional Excellence Award for her work and was selected for the Director's Award from among the employees who had received Professional Excellence Awards over the past year.



L to R: Director Heyns, Audette and Terry Crain, and Warden Rapelje.

As the CPC, Crain developed a 12-week program called "Common Ground - Bridging the Gap." The program trains prisoners serving life sentences to mentor younger prisoners, assisting them with the adjustment to prison life. Ten lifers were trained to provide mentoring service and the results have been very successful. Younger prisoners are better at changing their thought processes and they are better at conflict resolution.

Crain also initiated the "Youth Deterrent" program which utilizes the same mentors who speak with at-risk youth in the community in an attempt to dissuade them from making life decisions that end in a prison sentence or worse. The program has also been very successful.

Crain didn't stop there. She introduced the "Power of Dad" program at the facility. Through this program, lifers work with adults from the community who are mentoring youth who do not have a male role model in their lives. The prisoners provide guidance to youth on issues like peer pressure and the importance of taking responsibility.

In addition to implementing these programs, Crain's professionalism and outstanding communication skills are lauded by her peers and supervisors. She exhibits a positive attitude and exceptional adaptability. Crain is a positive force and influence on both staff and prisoners. The Department is proud and honored to recognize Audette Crain with this year's Director's Award.



F.Y.I. is a publication of the Michigan Department of Corrections, Office of Public Information and Communications. Please submit articles through your supervisor to John Cordell at cordellj@michigan.gov



KUDOS TO OUR EMPLOYEES

F.Y.I. reprinted this recent email from Director Heyns to all Department employees. He acknowledges the effort, the professionalism and the inherent dangers employees face each day while protecting the public and creating a better corrections system.

In the fast pace of our world, it is easy to take important matters for granted, and so it is with the services you deliver on a daily basis. As I continue to speak with employees and visit institutions, field offices and other MDOC locations, I am constantly reminded of the enormity of your tasks. Supervising 44,000 offenders in confinement and another 70,000 in the field is an astounding feat. The truly amazing part is how seamlessly and effectively the services are delivered. No fanfare, no brava...just dedicated people doing a dangerous job with poise and professionalism.



Please be assured not a day goes by that I don't recognize your contributions and risks. With your help, we have been able to realize significant change and improvement in our correctional model. Much remains to be done, but with your continued commitment, we can do great things. Improving our Department is gratifying, but improving things and receiving the recognition due is ideal. Thank you for the work you do and what you will continue to do in the interests of public safety.

PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

ERT TAKES FIRST IN TEAM SKILLS COMPETITION

The Michigan Department of Corrections combined Emergency Response Team took First Place in the overall team competition at this year's [Mock Riot](#) in Moundsville, West Virginia. They competed against teams throughout the nation and beyond, eventually beating Singapore SPEAR Force (who has taken first in the past). Team results were: Third Place - Team Obstacle Course, Second Place - Low-Light Shooter Drill, First Place - Search and Clear Drill, Second Place - Disturbance Control and Second Place - Team Shooting Match.



The winning team consisted of (L to R front row): Team Leaders Scott Grinnell - Michigan Reformatory and Kris Maddox - Ernest C. Brooks Correctional Facility, and Jay Whitman - Thumb Correctional Facility. **(Back row):** Richard Drabek - Ionia Correctional Facility, Joel Wiard - Muskegon Correctional Facility, Clint Slusser - MDOC Ret. and Jake Poindexter - Isabella County Parole/Probation.

Individually, Clint Slusser took Third Place and Joel Wiard took Fifth Place in Super Swat, a grueling competition that is composed of several different emergency response drills!





EMPLOYEES' SON BATTLING CANCER

The son of Michigan Department of Corrections employees Doug and Tanya Etelamaki is in a courageous fight with cancer. Three-year-old Brody had surgery on a stage 4 malignant brain tumor last week, but surgeons could only remove 60-70% of the tumor, identified as Glioblastoma. Brody will soon transfer to a hospital in Texas for continued treatment.

If you are interested in supporting Brody, go to www.hopestartshere.org. There will be a group of Brody's supporters, including several MDOC employees, participating in a support walk on May 11.



MDOC employees are also selling shirts to support Brody. It is a navy blue uni-sex t-shirt with a large orange old English letter "B" that reads "Brody Strong" in white underneath. The cost is \$12 with proceeds going to Doug and Tanya Etelamaki to help with expenses related to Brody's hospital stay. Sizes are 2T-5T, Youth S-XL and Adult S-5XL. If you are interested, please contact FOA Supervisor Kevin Ayotte at ayottek@michigan.gov or 906-786-6568.

Tanya is an Parole/Probation Officer in Ontonagon County and Doug works at Baraga Correctional Facility. Please keep the Etelamaki family in your thoughts.

PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

OFFICERS EARN AWARDS

Officer Michael Giesken was at his son's baseball practice on July 13, 2012 when he heard a car horn blaring erratically and a woman screaming for help. Upon arrival at the scene, Giesken found the woman's boyfriend unconscious behind the wheel of the car. Giesken moved the victim from the car to the ground and assessed his condition. Finding no pulse or breathing, he sent someone to contact EMS while he started CPR. Giesken continued CPR until EMS arrived and took over. This is a clear example of compassion for the needs of others in an emergency situation.

On December 18, 2012, Officer Steve Bellows of St. Louis Correctional Facility was conducting rounds when he observed a prisoner fall from his bunk and he appeared to be unconscious. Bellows



L to R: Warden Steve Rivard, Director Dan Heyns, Officer Giesken, Officer Bellows, Officer Nicholson and RPA Michael Curley. (Continued on page 4)



immediately called for assistance and he and Officer Brian Nicholson entered the cell. After an assessment, Bellows found no breathing or pulse and the two officers began CPR. An AED was brought to the cell but indicated no shock advised so the two officers continued CPR until EMS arrived and took over lifesaving measures. The officers found homemade alcohol and evidence that a controlled substance that had been used by the prisoners in the cell. This information was forwarded to the local hospital and the prisoner's life was saved as a result of the decisive actions and follow-up investigative work of Officer Bellows and Officer Nicholson.

OCF STAFF AND PRISONERS HELP WITH FLOOD RELIEF

Prisoners from Ojibway Correctional Facility (OCF) helped flooded communities in the western Upper Peninsula recently. The cities of Marenisco, Ironwood, Wakefield, and Hurley, Wisconsin all recently experienced significant flooding as a result of snow melt, warm temperatures and heavy rain.

To assist with the flood relief efforts, the city of Ironwood along with OCF staff and prisoners collaborated to fill hundreds of sand bags from sand delivered by the city. Over 90 prisoners and staff converted three dump trucks full of sand into hundreds of sand bags. Prisoners were so responsive to the cause even a wheelchair-bound prisoner was seen helping out, holding bags open while other prisoners filled the bags.

The Michigan State police from the Wakefield Post also requested gate-pass eligible prisoner work crew to assist with flood mitigation in the city of Wakefield if needed.



LIKE BASEBALL? HEAD TO A MINOR LEAGUE GAME!

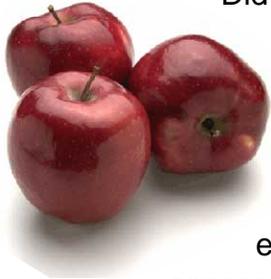
This year, all five of Michigan's minor league baseball teams have set aside dates for state employees, their friends, and families to relax and enjoy great baseball and other festivities. For more information, contact the ball park directly and ask about State Employee Recognition Night.

- The [Lansing Lugnuts](#) will Go Nuts for state employees as they take on the Fort Wayne Tincaps on Friday, June 28 at 7:05 at Cooley Law School Stadium in Lansing.
- The [Battle Creek Bombers](#) will challenge the Madison Mallards on Saturday, June 29 starting at 7:05 p.m. at C.O Brown Stadium in Bailey Park.
- The [West Michigan Whitecaps](#) in the Grand Rapids area, will play the Kane County Cougars and welcome state employees with special Family Day activities on Sunday, July 14 at 1:00.
- The [Great Lakes Loons](#) of Midland take on the Lansing Lugnuts at 7:05 on Saturday August 10 with post-game fireworks!
- The [Traverse City Beach Bums](#) will face the Windy City ThunderBolts on Friday, July 19 at 7:05 in Traverse City. To receive the state employee group-rate discount, please call Jacob at 231-943-0100.



**MI HEALTHIER TOMORROW NEWS**

In January, the Michigan Department of Community Health launched a campaign to address obesity in Michigan. This campaign provides an opportunity for you to make changes that can last a lifetime and not only extend your life, but improve the quality of your life.



Did you know that losing just 10% of your body weight can make significant improvements to both your physical and mental health? It can reduce your risk of heart disease, diabetes, stroke and cancer.

So make the time to take the MI Healthier Tomorrow pledge. You can get a free Getting Started Kit and sign up for healthy texts and/or email support. You may also find more inspiration, motivation and conversation on Facebook.

May is National Bike Month

Biking is one of many ways to help you remain active. If you have not biked in a while, you can find "Ride Better" information at the League of



American Bicyclists web site. You may also locate biking events.

WELCOA Bulletins

Access WELCOA (Wellness Councils of America) bulletins below for information on general health, safety, exercise and personal finance.

BETTER SAFE

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdcs/BetterSafe_268609_7.pdf

DAY IN & DAY OUT

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdcs/DayInDayOut_268610_7.pdf

TAKE CHARGE

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdcs/TakeCharge_372864_7.pdf

TO YOUR HEALTH

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdcs/ToYourHealth_268611_7.pdf

Healthy Lifestyle Stories

Inspire your fellow employees by sharing your healthy lifestyle story; e-mail MCSC-WOW-WorkingOnWellness@michigan.gov.

AMERICAN HEROES WEEK AT MICHIGAN'S ADVENTURE

Michigan's Adventure is hosting American Heroes Week June 10-16, 2013. The park will offer public safety employees (firefighters, police officers, corrections personnel and EMTs) and any member of the Armed Forces a special admission rate of only \$21.00 per person. All you need is a public safety employee ID or military ID. (DD214 or Veteran's Administration Hospital ID also accepted.) And as an added gesture of "Thanks" from Michigan's Adventure, they will extend that offer to your spouse and children who enjoy the park with you that week.





COST - TRAINING TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS

The COST (Corrections Operations & Services Transformation) Staff Training Team was developed in November, 2011. The Team is comprised of employees of varying classifications from different divisions and administrations who are being empowered to analyze procedures and recommend improvements which will benefit not only the Department and the public, but the very employees who design and implement the improvements.

The COST Staff Training Team's scope is the content, coordination, and delivery of all MDOC staff training. The COST team has met biweekly with representation from Correctional Facilities Administration (CFA), Field Operations Administration (FOA) and Budget and Operations Administration (BOA) employees.

The first task was to identify and then reach out to existing committees, work sessions and groups to gather information about their goals, tasks, and processes which was essential to the COST Staff Training Team's mission and scope. The COST Staff Training Team worked closely with those identified in an effort to consolidate and/or expedite best practices to training as a whole. This included the adoption and approval of a multi-phase training academy for new parole/probation agents and field services assistants for FOA. The multi-phase academy was



developed to implement topics taught in the classroom to be applied in the field prior to case staffing. The academy will thus provide the necessary training for new agents/field service assistants in a concentrated, comprehensive manner. Secondly, a Sex Offender Management Training was approved and is in the process of targeting over 400 staff for a three-day training held for sex offender agents. Sex Offender Management Training was also approved and will be underway to train all agents that supervise sex offenders or write sex offender PSIs, as well as all supervisors that supervise sex offender agents.

Another charge included a process to determine the Institutional Training Officer (ITO) reporting structure throughout CFA. The team met and interviewed ITOs within the state and a plan was thus developed to determine best practices to gain uniformity and consistency in the training program inside institutions. This plan has been submitted and is pending discussion with leadership.

The Staff Training Team continues to work collectively with leadership finding alternatives to get the best training plan. We are looking forward to what the next year brings!

Please send suggestions to Duncan Howard at howardd3@michigan.gov.

SHARE YOUR POSITIVE PERSONAL STORIES

Personal Portrait is a new addition to F.Y.I. that shares the personal accomplishments and actions of our employees. If you know about something an employee has done that deserves some praise or credit, let us know! Email the information, with pictures if you can get them, to me at cordellj@michigan.gov. We will share their story with the rest of the MDOC family.





REENTRY ROUNDTABLE

Reentry Roundtable is a continuing column that provides news, facts, and program successes within the prisoner reentry program.

For the past two years, the CFA Office of Offender Reentry (OOR) along with the Bureau of Healthcare Services (BHCS) has partnered with the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency (MCCD) on a grant-funded project to increase our capacity to identify eligible prisoners and assist them in applying for benefits and vital documents prior to release. The goal of the project is to reduce recidivism by connecting returning prisoners with the tools needed to be successful in the community. Specifically, the Prisoner Benefits Access project seeks to ensure that each inmate is pre-screened for eligibility and those who are likely eligible receive assistance filing applications for benefits administered by the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS), Michigan Department of Community Health (DCH), the Michigan Secretary of State, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and the Social Security Administration (SSA). Those benefits include:

- Medicaid
- Food Assistance
- Cash Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income
- Social Security Disability Insurance
- Birth Certificates
- Veterans Benefits
- Health Care Coverage for Adults
- State Disability Assistance

Since the project launch in 2011, the grant-funded Specialists have pre-screened more than 11,000 prisoners for benefits eligibility and conducted follow-up interviews with 1,122 individuals to further assess eligibility and begin helping with the appli-

cation process. These efforts have resulted in more than 700 birth certificate applications, nearly 1,000 DHS benefit applications (Medicaid, food assistance, cash assistance, state disability assistance), 150 SSI/SSDI applications or reinstatements, and more than 70 referrals to the VA for veterans benefits assistance. In addition to providing increased direct-service capacity to address the backlog of prisoners in need of benefits assistance, the project continues to facilitate strategic planning and cross-system collaboration to ensure that timely access to benefits for returning offenders becomes standard operating procedure within the state's corrections and human services systems.



Although the work of the Eligibility Specialists is mainly taking place inside the correctional facilities, collaboration with parole and community partners is equally important, and the impact has been recognized in communities. Last November, the MDOC, MCCD, and Washtenaw Community and Treatment Services won an "Exceptional Community Collaboration Award" for efforts targeted at creating a seamless transition from facility-based to community-based benefits access services for difficult cases requiring additional support and multi-agency communication following release. The Michigan Department of Community Health and the SOAR State Planning Group recognized this unique partnership aimed at helping solve the more difficult cases and honored all three with the Collaborative Award at their annual State SOAR Conference.

This article was submitted by the Correctional Facilities Administration Offender Reentry Team.

**RETIREMENTS - MARCH AND APRIL 2013****MARCH**

Antcliff, Susan J..... Ionia Correctional Facility
 Baker, Jason L..... Michigan Reformatory
 Beard, Robert J..... Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
 Birkett, Thomas M..... Central Michigan Correctional Facility
 Brassfield, David A. Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
 Calhoun, Nathaniel Detroit Reentry Center
 Carl, Richard T..... Macomb Correctional Facility
 Cathcart, Danny E. G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
 Conant, Brian S. Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
 Copeland, Bobby C..... Parnall Correctional Facility
 Costello, Thomas A. Pugsley Correctional Facility
 Cox, Angela M. Lakeland Correctional Facility
 Crawford, Donald R. Kinross Correctional Facility
 Dean, Darnell L..... Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
 Deline, Bruce E..... Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
 Dewitt, John E..... Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
 Dingwell, Pamela A..... Marquette Branch Prison
 Downing, Lynn Grandview Plaza
 Elkins, Suzanne E..... Michigan Reformatory
 Frank, Jay R. Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
 Gutchak, Carole E. Saginaw Correctional Facility
 Hatt, Edmund C. Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
 Hoag, Janet Grandview Plaza
 Hoffman, Edward E..... Parnall Correctional Facility
 Hughes, Philip A. Michigan Reformatory
 Kendziorski, James M..... Saginaw Correctional Facility
 Klavon, Nyan J..... G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility

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**RETIREMENTS** (Continued from page 8)

Knight, Michael D.....	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Koos, Ken A.....	Macomb Correctional Facility
Kroll, James A.....	Detroit Reentry Center
Lambert, Kevin T.	Thumb Correctional Facility
Lenhart, Keith F.	Field Operations - Hillsdale County Parole
Lewis, Martin J.....	Chippewa Correctional Facility
Moholland, Frederick J.	Parnall Correctional Facility
Mulnix, Gerald F.	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Nordquist, Edward S.....	Pugsley Correctional Facility
Prescott, Michael F.	Michigan Reformatory
Roth, William E.	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Sanders, Charles V.....	Oaks Correctional Facility
Sawyer, Michael D.....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Scheidt, Thomas P.	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Scutt, Debra L.....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Strong, Kirk L.....	Newberry Correctional Facility
Tabb, Carl.....	Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Talley, Katrina.....	Detroit Reentry Center
Tuddles, Cynthia D.	Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Wilson, Richard M.....	Michigan Reformatory
Wilson, Sharon A.....	Central Michigan Correctional

APRIL

Almy, Ronald.....	West Shoreline Correctional Facility
Beaudry, Raymond T.....	Marquette Branch Prison
Bergh, Carl E.	Marquette Branch Prison
Bosworth, Douglas L.....	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Cilibraise, Brian L.....	Carson City Correctional Facility
Davis-Phelps, Garcia L.....	Detroit Reentry Center

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**RETIREMENTS** (Continued from page 9)

Davis, Stephen J.....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Dean, Patricia A.....	West Shoreline Correctional Facility
Dennis, Alan W.....	Ojibway Correctional Facility
Durnell, Michael J.....	Carson City Correctional Facility
Fyvie, Kenneth W.....	Newberry Correctional Facility
Keller, Burk W.....	Thumb Correctional Facility
Koenig, Thomas.....	Field Operations Administration – Outstate Region
Lantis, Jeff A.....	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Malover, Gregory J.....	Field Operations - Greenfield District Probation
Martin, Brian J.....	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Martin, Rodger S.....	Michigan Reformatory
Murphy, Kerri S.....	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Pendell, Steven W.....	Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Perreault, Terry P.....	Baraga Correctional Facility
Robbins, William E.....	Field Operations - Kalamazoo County Parole/Probation
Sandborn, Lawrence H.....	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Schwesinger, Leo R.....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Scott, A. J.....	Chippewa Correctional Facility
Spencer-Smith, Nadine O.....	Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Stimpson, Diana K.....	Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Swajanen, Richard P.....	Alger Correctional Facility
Treesh, Denise E.....	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Trewhella, Harold S.....	Marquette Branch Prison
Warren, Kirk P.....	Newberry Correctional Facility
Wheaton, Clinton.....	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Wolbert, Perlita P.....	Woodland Center Correctional Facility