Welcome to the first edition of 
CORRECTIONS CONNECTION. 
This quarterly newsletter will provide a forum for sharing 
department news, highlighting services, introducing staff, 
and celebrating successes. If you have an idea for a story, 
contact Cindy Downey or your supervisor.

Thanks to all who contributed names for our new department newsletter. The winning title “Corrections Connection” was submitted by Sherry Poppe; she will receive a $15 Starbucks Gift Card for her suggestion.

Looking to the Future

Our department has a long history of implementing programs and services that are based on research. Much of the success we have had as an agency is the result of using data-driven practices. But this is a time of significant change in corrections as the body of research into best practices continues to grow. We are challenged to keep pace with these evolving practices, and two activities this fall are designed to help.

On November 3rd a cross section of Department staff will convene for a day of discussion and planning. It is my hope that we will walk away from that meeting with a sharper focus on our priorities, a better understanding of how we can support each other, and a commitment to services that align with research.

As described on page 2 in this newsletter, Mark Carey will join us for two days in December. He will conduct an all-staff training on December 5th and spend the following day working with supervisors. Mark is an expert in evidence-based practices in corrections and is an excellent trainer. I’m confident you’ll enjoy the training and take away much useful information.

While we should always be looking ahead, focusing on how to become a more effective organization becomes a challenge in a time of declining revenues and service reductions. It is unlikely we will see any revenue relief for the next several years, but we aren’t going to stop improving. We will continue to look for efficiencies and creative ways to do our work, with research to guide us along the way.

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Novation Grant Update

Washington County Community Corrections, in collaboration with CODA, Inc., was awarded a two-year 2nd Chance Re-Entry grant funded by the federal Bureau of Justice. The program is designed to specifically meet the treatment needs of Corrections clients who are high needs/high risk with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. Most of these clients have been in the correctional system for several years, with multiple treatment attempts, a need for trauma-informed treatment, and complex multi-dimensional psychosocial needs.

Novation began admitting clients in November 2010 and as of June, had admitted 36 clients to the program. The first group of five (3 men and 2 women) graduated on July 20th. Self-sufficiency is a primary goal to ensure successful re-entry. Graduates need to have completed treatment, stabilized on medications (if required), be residing in clean and sober housing, and be employed or have a steady source of income. Clients with more chronic and severe needs have received extensive case management services and are being transferred to community providers for on-going care and services. The program is staffed by two full-time mentors who provide an invaluable array of support in bridging the gap for these clients during their re-entry into the community. One client described Novation as the “anchor” which allowed her to reconnect with the other aspects of her life. Another client stated that Novation was the first program that was able to “meet his specific combination of needs.” The staff look forward to more opportunities to support these clients in their re-entry and re-integration.

New Employees

Marcus Ford
Marcus was recently hired as a Residential Services Monitor. He has been working at the Center as a temporary/on-call for the past year. He brings with him a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology and previous experience working for Lifeworks NW as a Supported Housing Specialist. Prior to his work at Lifeworks, he was an assistant manager for a program that worked with individuals who have developmental disabilities. Marcus brings a wide array of experience and skills in working with special needs clients. We are happy to have Marcus join us in a full-time position at the Center.

Melanie Farnsworth
Melanie has recently joined our team at the Center as a Residential Services Monitor. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice. Prior to coming to work for the department, she was employed by Northwest Regional Re-entry Center (formerly known as the Oregon Half-Way House). She was a case manager for federal offenders transitioning from Prison. Melanie brings with her the experience of working with some of the more challenging of the offender population. Melanie is a great addition to our staff at the Community Corrections Center.

Candace Reynolds and Robbie Tscharner are now working with the Early Case Resolution program, and the reception desk at Parole and Probation. We appreciate their efforts in these areas.

Carrie Kingsbury is the new Domestic Violence Deferred Sentencing coordinator. She works with the DV Team to monitor the Deferred Sentencing caseload.
Craig’s Story

I was addicted to drugs from age 12 and spent all of my teenage years in the Florida judicial system, eventually landing in prison.

Hoping that a geographic move would cure me, I paroled to Oregon. Wrong. Eighteen months later I was still addicted.

Willing to try anything to better myself, I finally became honest with my parole officer and admitted I had a problem that I couldn’t fix by myself. I felt the weight on my shoulders ease a bit but I was expecting her to send me back to prison, which is what happened when I’d asked for help in Florida.

Instead, she shocked me. She set an appointment with the intake counselor for the Community Corrections Center treatment dorm and I was accepted into the residential drug and alcohol program. I had to turn myself in first, though, and was unsure about that, but I badly wanted a change.

I expected them to work some magic and cure me. Instead, they taught me tools to use to get my life back on track in recovery. After 30 days I could begin to see a change. I completed the 90-day program along with the aftercare services, and I could look in the mirror and smile. I knew that smile was coming from the inside.

The counselors, mentors and staff loved me until I could love myself.

Washington County helped me save my life and showed me how to deal with life on life’s terms. My family and I will be forever grateful for the tools offered by the treatment facility and the recovering community. I have 21 months clean and am in service positions in the community. ~Craig S.

“they taught me tools to use to get my life back on track in recovery.”

New Employees

Kim Noall
The Center for Victims’ Services has hired Kim Noall to serve as a domestic violence advocate. Her position is funded through a two-year Community Development Block Grant and she’ll be working closely with the DV PO team and Amy Smith, CVS’s other resident advocate.

Kim is familiar to CVS as she served her graduate counseling internship at the Center, so we’re happy to have her return in a paid position. A Washington County native; Kim enjoys boating, cooking, and spending time with her family.

Robert Herriott
Robert joined us as a Residential Services Monitor on August 1st. He has worked with Multnomah Co. Community Justice for the past eight years, working in various positions within their juvenile department. He has also been employed in a part-time temporary position with Washington County Juvenile in their intake department for the past ten years. Robert has worked in a variety of positions, primarily within residential settings. We are pleased that Robert has joined our team at the Center.

Flu Prevention Tips

The 2011 Cold and Flu season is right around the corner. Here are a few simple steps that may reduce your risk of becoming sick.

Clean your hands before eating, or after coughing or sneezing. Wash with soap and warm water, or clean with hand sanitizer.

Cover your cough. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve – not your hands.

Keep your workspace clean. Clean your phone, computer keyboard and anything else that you use frequently. Even if you are the only user, germs can live on these objects and you can reinfect yourself.

If you do become sick, please stay home. Working while sick can be detrimental to you, your family, co-workers, and the public we serve.
Access to Recovery Program

Washington County Community Corrections will be joining a federal grant called Access to Recovery (ATR). ATR is a person-centered approach to alcohol and drug abuse treatment and recovery that works with communities and faith organizations to provide an array of services, designed to connect people to these services.

To qualify, participants must be 18 or older, have a history of alcohol/drug dependence and live in Washington County. This program allows participants to choose what services they want and where they will receive them.

Services available will include the following:

- Acupuncture
- Family and marital counseling
- Spiritual and faith-based support
- Parent education/child development
- Education/GED support
- Substance abuse outpatient treatment
- Pastoral family/marital counseling
- Employment services and job training
- Peer recovery coaching
- Life skills training
- Child care (for recovery activities)
- Transportation for recovery-related activities

A Recovery Care Evaluator will be hired in November. The evaluator will receive referrals from POs and Corrections Center Counselors. The evaluator’s office will be located in the Probation/Parole office, providing ready access to staff who have referral questions.

The program is designed to enhance addiction services at no cost to the participant or the department.

Judge Thompson officiated at the Oath of Office Ceremony on September 28th. Dominic Del Bosque started at the Center in 2003, and served as an RSM, Counselor, then Supervisor at the CCC. He was recently hired as a PO II on the domestic violence team. Cassandra Peterson began as an intern at P&P in 2008, then worked in a temporary capacity until her recent hire as a PO II on the general team. Jennifer Arel has been a PO II since 2008, and works on the women’s team.

Mark Carey
Monday, December 5th | PSB Auditorium

We are very pleased that Mark Carey will be spending two days with us in December. The first day, December 5th, is an all-department training. Some of you have had the opportunity to attend one of Mark’s trainings and know how engaging and informative he is. He is in demand around the country for his knowledge of evidence-based practices in our field and because of his ability to make it real. He is an excellent speaker, and we are excited that we are able to bring him to Washington County.

Mark Carey is the President of The Carey Group (TCG), a national consulting firm that provides training and technical assistance for justice and correctional professionals and community groups. He served as the Deputy Commissioner of Community and Juvenile Services for the Minnesota Department of Corrections from 1999 to 2003, the Director of Dakota County Community Corrections, the Director of Dodge-Fillmore-Olmsted County Community Corrections, and as the warden of MCF-Shakopee, the only women’s prison in Minnesota. He has over twenty years of experience in the correctional field serving as a counselor, probation/parole officer, planner, administrator, and consultant. Mark taught juvenile justice at the Community College in Rochester, Minnesota, and has published over a dozen articles and two books.