



CENTER FOR CREATIVE JUSTICE
210 Lynn Avenue, Ames, IA 50014

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Dedicated to positive change in our communities...one life at a time

CCJ CENTER FOR CREATIVE JUSTICE

"Dedicated to positive change in our communities...one life at a time"

Fall 2013 Newsletter

Director's Message

Mark Kubik, Executive Director

For over 39 years, CCJ has been in the business of changing lives by



promoting personal change and accountability for one's actions. During that time, we have grown and reinvented ourself in response to the changing needs of the community. One thing that has never changed, however, is our dedication to the rehabilitation of our clients and to increasing public safety. Probation accomplishes both of those goals.

Our clients are held responsible for their actions and receive support in their efforts to make better choices. Of the clients required to complete substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, a batterer's education program or an anger management course, a large majority them successfully complete the treatment or program. Historically, 86-90% of CCJ's clients do not reoffend in the 12 months following completion of their probation.

A successful probation also has a monetary impact. Probation is 1% of the cost of incarceration. In addition, each year CCJ supervises the repayment of hundreds of thousands of dollars in court costs and victim restitution.

These results all provide a positive impact on the community by increasing public safety, decreasing victimization, reducing stress on the judicial system, improving the quality of life for both offenders and community members, and providing a major savings to you, the taxpayer.

Thank you for your continued support of CCJ and our mission.

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Craig Evans
Probation Officer

Cheri DeGroot
Probation Officer

Zak Tyler
Office Manager

Farewell to Mike Gluesing



Michael Gluesing, a probation officer with CCJ since January 2010, has taken a new position as a correction officer with the Iowa Department of Corrections.

Mike's last day with CCJ was October 24. We will miss him, and wish him well with his new position.

A Client's Story

"Since the legal system was all new to me I really wasn't sure what to expect from probation or a probation officer. These past months I had been working with Christy Boyer. During that time I was able to deeply think about my actions. This will stay with me forever. Now that I have gone through something like this I know in my heart that it cannot, and will not, happen ever again. A life is something not to take for granted no matter how big or small. No matter what happens in life you have to always be looking ahead. I have to take a step back in my life and evaluate the past. That being said the Center for Creative Justice has helped a lot with many of my situations."

Volunteer of the Year Goeff Huff

Congratulations to Commander Geoff Huff with the Ames Police Department for being named CCJ's Volunteer of the Year!



Geoff was a member of our Board of Directors for the past six years. He served as president and vice president, and was a member of the Probation Advisory Committee.

Congratulations, Geoff, and thank you for all you have done for CCJ!

Welcome to a New Staff Member



On November 11, CCJ welcomed a new probation officer to its staff, Cheri DeGroot.

Cheri comes to us with a BA in Criminal Justice/Behavioral Science. She has been a certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor since 1999 and has been employed by Creative

Counseling Services in Ames. Cheri's work experience includes four years working as a substance abuse counselor in a prison in South Dakota and one year working as an outpatient counselor in a half-way house setting in Des Moines.

Cheri is already known to our staff as she has been attending CCJ staff meetings once a month to discuss the progress of mutual clients.

CCJ's Impact in 2012-2013

- 1,410 low-risk and first-time offenders supervised by CCJ
- 86% successfully completed probation
- \$1,092,378 in repayment of court-related costs (including victim restitution) supervised by CCJ
- 1,370 hours of community service performed
- 87% who completed probation in 2011 did not re-offend in the following 12 months

How Can I Help?

Assist with CCJ projects or events

Assist clerical staff

Make a monetary donation to CCJ