



CENTER FOR CREATIVE JUSTICE
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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 2015 Newsletter

Director's Message

Mark Kubik, Executive Director



In this issue of our newsletter, we are sharing the year-end statistics for fiscal year 2014/2015.

The good news is that this year's statistics show that CCJ has continued to serve our Story County communities at the same high level as in previous years.

The even better news is that in the past year, CCJ had the highest non-recidivism rate in its history—93% of the clients who successfully completed their probation in 2013 did not re-offend within the following 12 months.

This is an outcome that we can all be proud of and is a testament to the hard work of our probation officers and their clients.

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

210 Lynn Avenue, Ames, Iowa 50014
(515) 292-3820 (515) 292-1223 (fax)
www.creativejustice.org

Board Members

Chris Crippen
President

John Asmussen
Carolyn Brockman
Sue Cloud
Glenn Connor
Mark Hagley
Stephen Holmes
Robert Knight
Rollie Link
Jere Maddux
Randi Peters
David Russell

Staff Members

Mark Kubik
Executive Director

Christy Boyer
Probation Officer

Cheri DeGroot
Probation Officer

Craig Evans
Probation Officer

Doug Jones
Probation Officer

Taylor Schram
Office Manager

Looking for new board members

Do you know someone who would like to serve an organization dedicated to rehabilitating offenders, reducing victimization, increasing public safety and improving our Story County communities?

CCJ is looking for new members to serve on its board of directors. The board is responsible for setting policy, fiscal guidance and ongoing governance for CCJ.

Board members do not have to have a background in law, criminal justice or social services—just a desire to help support an organization working for positive change in the community.

The board meets four times each year. Board members may also volunteer their time and talents to support CCJ in other ways throughout the year. For example, board members help serve dinner at the French Toast Feast, CCJ's annual fundraising event.

If you or someone you know would be interested in serving on the board or would like more information, please contact CCJ's executive director, Mark Kubik, at 515-292-3820.

Client Story

"CCJ, and especially Mr. Craig Evans, have been a tremendous help for me. The amount of progress I've made boggles even my own mind. I learned that alcohol was the worst thing that has ever happened to me. I look back on it now in shock at what I was doing to myself. I'm very open about my life with others, especially those whom I view to be stuck in the same rut that I was in, in hope that my story and how far I've come may be of some help or guidance for them. I entered probation a broken young adult with a drinking problem; I left a new man, working toward a brighter future."

Staff changes

In August, CCJ's office manager, Zak Tyler, left CCJ to join the respite support staff with Optimae Life Services in Des Moines. Zak started at CCJ as an intern in 2012 while pursuing his bachelor's degree in criminal justice and sociology at Iowa State University. As office manager, Zak handled client and general inquiries, day-to-day agency operations, and intern and student worker management. Zak always gave CCJ his best, and we wish him well at his new position.



On September 8, Taylor Schram began work as our new office manager. Taylor worked for CCJ this spring as a student worker. She earned her bachelor's degree in child, adult and family services from Iowa State University in May and had been working at Optimae Life Services since graduation. She has impressive skills and we expect her transition to go well.

CCJ's impact in 2014-2015

- 1,592 low-risk and first-time offenders supervised by CCJ
- 87% successfully completed probation
- \$837,610 in repayment of court-related costs (including victim restitution) supervised by CCJ
- 1,290 hours of community service performed
- 93% who completed probation in 2013 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