



4TH QUARTER 2018

A GEO Publication for Employees and their Families.



GEO Opens State-of-the-Art 1,000-Bed Montgomery Processing Center

In September 2018, GEO activated the 1,000-Bed Montgomery Processing Center in Conroe, Texas. The Center will provide greater unescorted movement, access to world-class medical care, and enhanced recreational opportunities, while also maintaining a safe and secure environment.



Chairman's Letter

George C. Zoley, Chairman, CEO and Founder

"Our growing public-private partnerships with federal, state, and local government agencies have not only placed GEO in a leadership position within our industry but have also given us the unique responsibility to continue to deliver high-quality services and innovative solutions to our customers on a daily basis."

To the GEO Family,

During the third quarter of the year, our company undertook two significant start-up projects that are representative of our ability to provide wide-ranging, innovative solutions to a diverse group of governmental customers.

Earlier this year, we entered into a contract with the State of Idaho for the out-of-state housing, management, and supervision of medium-custody inmates. After the signing of the contract in June, we began an \$8 million renovation of our company-owned, 661-bed Eagle Pass Correctional Facility in Texas to meet the needs and standards of the Idaho Department of Correction.

The renovation work was completed in August of this year, and we began intake at the Eagle Pass Correctional Facility. This important project is the beginning of a new public-private partnership for GEO with the State of Idaho. The contract will have a term of two years and is expected to generate approximately \$17 million in annualized revenues.

At the federal level, we completed the construction and began the activation of a state-of-the-art Processing Center in Conroe, Texas in September of this year. The company-owned, 1,000-bed Montgomery Processing Center was developed under a ten-year contract with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), which required \$120 million in capital investment from GEO. The new contract is expected to generate approximately \$44 million in annualized revenues.

The Center was constructed to meet or exceed ICE's standards of excellence under the federal government's Performance-Based National Detention Standards. The Center was designed in accordance with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards, which is globally recognized as a leading benchmark of environmental sustainability.

The Montgomery Processing Center is comprised of highly energy efficient buildings able to withstand a category 5 hurricane and provides enhanced recreational facilities including shaded

pavilions, artificial turf soccer fields, basketball courts, paved walkways, and handball courts.

We are proud of our long-standing public-private partnership with the federal government. Over more than three decades, GEO has developed state-of-the-art facilities that play an important role in helping the federal government fulfill its missions.

The activation of the Eagle Pass Correctional Facility in partnership with the State of Idaho and the Montgomery Processing Center in partnership with the federal government are clear examples of The GEO Group's ability to meet the diverse needs of our government partners.

Our growing public-private partnerships with federal, state, and local government agencies have not only placed GEO in a leadership position within our industry but have also given us the unique responsibility to continue to deliver high-quality services and innovative solutions to our customers on a daily basis.

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GEO Opens State-of-the-Art 1,000-Bed Montgomery Processing Center

In September 2018, GEO activated the 1,000-Bed Montgomery Processing Center in Conroe, Texas. The Center will provide greater unescorted movement, access to world-class medical care, and enhanced recreational opportunities, while also maintaining a safe and secure environment.

PICTURED ON PAGE 3: 1: Front entrance with parking garage to the right. 2: Artificial turf soccer fields. 3: Lobby. 4: Dental exam room. 5: Medical exam room. 6: Expansive outdoor recreation yard features shaded pavilions, artificial turf soccer fields, basketball courts, paved walk path, and handball courts.

In April 2017, The GEO Group (GEO) was awarded a new contract with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for the development and operation of a new 1,000-bed Processing Center located in Conroe, Texas. Following a year and half of construction and with \$120 million of capital investment, the state-of-the-art, company-owned Montgomery Processing Center was completed and activated in September 2018.

The Center was constructed to meet or exceed ICE's stringent standards of excellence under the Performance-Based National Detention Standards – as well as the standards established by the American Correctional Association and the Department of Homeland Security Prison Rape Elimination Act. The Center will provide greater unescorted movement, access to world-class medical care, and enhanced recreational

MONTGOMERY PROCESSING CENTER HIGHLIGHTS:

- *Designed to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards*
- *Category 5 hurricane rated Center*
- *Commercial generator providing 100 percent back-up power*
- *Enhanced recreational opportunities including artificial turf soccer fields, shaded pavilions, basketball courts, paved walk path, and handball courts*
- *Extensive onsite administrative office, courtroom, and support spaces*

opportunities, while also maintaining a safe and secure environment. Housing units at the Center feature game top tables, flat screen TVs, law kiosks, and abundant natural light utilizing sky lights and windows. In addition to the amenities available inside the facility, the expansive outdoor recreation yard features shaded pavilions, artificial turf soccer fields, basketball courts, a paved walk path, and handball courts.

The Center was designed in accordance with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards, a globally recognized symbol of sustainability achievement. The Center is comprised of highly efficient and cost-saving green buildings able to withstand a category 5 hurricane and capable of providing 100 percent auxiliary power in times of emergency.

GEO is proud to have been able to strengthen its long-standing public-private partnership with federal government, which dates back to the 1980s. The Processing Centers GEO operates on behalf of ICE provide high-quality, culturally responsive services in safe, secure, and humane residential environments that meet the needs of the individuals in the care of the federal government.



7 ACA ACCREDITED GEO FACILITIES

At the August 2018 American Correctional Association (ACA) conference held in Minneapolis, MN, seven GEO facilities received ACA reaccreditation. ACA established a national accreditation process to improve professionalism in corrections and community reentry. There are currently 75 GEO facilities that have received ACA accreditation or reaccreditation with an average score of 99.6%. GEO's facilities are always praised for their commitment to high operational standards. Congratulations to the following seven GEO Corrections & Detention and GEO Care facilities!



100% Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility



98.60% Golden State MCCF



100% Graceville Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility



99.46% Heritage Trail Correctional Facility



99.50% Salt Lake City Center



100% Grossman Center



97.56% Western Region Detention Facility

Did you know GEO has a monthly e-newsletter?

Get in the know!



Since 2014, GEO has been emailing an e-newsletter to all GEO employees and anyone interested in learning more about the abundance of positive GEO news stories around the world. This includes GEO facilities' active community involvement, facility recognition, and milestones. If interested in signing up, please visit GEO's website (geogroup.com) and scroll to the footer to sign up for the GEO Newsletter. It's that easy! Want to view past newsletters? Please visit GEO's website at geogroup.com/Newsletters.



Wheels for the World Program at Lea County Correctional Facility Helps Change Close to 300 Children Lives

Written By **Angela Wimberley, Lea County Correctional Facility**

Joni and Friends provides outreach to thousands of families in the world affected by a disability. Wheels for the World is a program Joni and Friends began by collecting donated wheelchairs and transporting them to restoration centers. Inmates are then trained to restore wheelchairs to like-new condition which includes greasing and replacement of bearings, as well as upholstery repair. Once total restoration is complete, more volunteer teams gather and distribute the specialty fitted wheelchairs to the appropriate recipient.

Lea County Correctional Facility supports Wheels for the World by restoring damaged wheelchairs. The program currently has thirteen participants who help refurbish and prepare the wheelchairs to be shipped out and distributed around the world. In August 2018, Lea County Correctional Facility's Wheels for the World program loaded its first cargo container with 292 wheelchairs and sent them to several countries in desperate need. Receiving a wheelchair allows the children to attend school and church, therefore becoming a part of their communities and villages, changing their lives forever.



GEO the Bull

Written By **Gary English, Blackwater River Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility**

Blackwater River Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility (BRCRF) would like everyone to meet GEO the bull. The bull is owned by BRCRF neighbors Kyle Holley and the Ates Ranch. He is a super baldy which means he is a Hereford and Brangus mix. GEO is fourteen-months old and weighs 1,000 lbs. In addition to breeding and being a show bull, GEO's other job is to serve as an example of community appreciation for The GEO Group. Mr. Holley states, "BRCRF is a perfect fit for our community." BRCRF is located on the east side of Santa Rosa County, which is a rural area. Mr. Holley named the bull GEO after BRCRF to show respect and gratitude to BRCRF for providing careers to the local community members and for being a wonderful community partner all these years.

Pictured: *GEO the bull.*



Did you know that the fastest cure for the cold or flu is a phone call away?

Written By **Susan Napolitano,**
Corporate Human Resources

Have you ever felt sick but didn't see a doctor because you couldn't get an appointment with your primary physician? Or sat in the emergency room (ER) waiting for hours to be seen and then got hit with a huge bill? Or been out of town and had no idea how to access care? According to the American Medical Association, 40-55 percent of emergency room visits could be avoided if individuals could just speak to a physician on the phone first.

Virtually everyone in a GEO medical plan has access to the convenience and affordability of speaking to a physician or nurse to provide relief from non-emergency injuries and illnesses. Don't worry — should you require emergency treatment, the physician or nurse will know within the first minute or two of the call and will direct you to the nearest emergency room, and you will not be charged for that call.

Teladoc is available to all Blue Cross Blue Shield medical plan participants for a **newly reduced \$10 co-payment** and provides **board-certified, licensed physicians in your state**, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This year alone, 23 percent of GEO's Teladoc users took advantage of this service for **weekend care** for themselves or their family members instead of heading to the ER. More than half of the calls to Teladoc (56 percent) were during the day, from 8am to 4pm; 34 percent were from 4pm to midnight and 10 percent were from midnight to 8am. On average, using Teladoc saved GEO employees nearly \$500 each!

Kaiser medical plan participants have **free access** to **NurseLine** to get professional advice on minor emergency care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Employees enrolled in the CIGNA Preventive Plus Plan have access to **MDLive**, which provides 24-hour physician advice for minor emergencies for a \$15 co-payment.

GEO employees have visited the ER nearly 2,000 times this year, and the average cost was over \$1,000. While some of these visits were true emergencies, many could have been handled via a phone call, where the average wait time is 5-10 minutes and a \$10 or \$15 co-payment — less than a doctor's visit — without leaving your house, job, or hotel room.

Telemedicine can be a major time and money saver for illnesses such as cold and flu symptoms, allergies, bronchitis, skin problems, respiratory infections, urinary tract infections, sinus problems, and more. Telemedicine is a great solution when you need care now, you are considering the ER or urgent care for a non-emergency issue, you are on vacation, a business trip, or away from home, or you need a short-term prescription (new or refill).

The first step in accessing care is to register yourself for an account:

BCBS Teladoc: www.Teladoc.com or call 800-Teladoc (835-2362)

Cigna Allegiance MDLive: www.mdlive.com/allegiance or call 877-753-7992

Kaiser Nurseline: www.KP.org or call 800-281-1059

FIT Program at Blackwater River

Written By **Bonnie Perkins, Michael Griffin, Buddy McNease, & Jessie Nelson,**
Blackwater River Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility

The Family Integrity Training (FIT) program at Blackwater River Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility is thriving. Miss Belinda, who volunteers at the Facility, trained five inmate facilitators earlier this year. The facilitators are investing in other inmates' lives and attempting to create leaders in the Facility. Recently, many inmates have completed several of the FIT classes including Anger Dynamics, Personal Insight, Change of Heart, and Practical Parenting classes. FIT inmate facilitator Jessie Nelson said, "The FIT program has been the most life changing program that I've been a part of. This program has been a blessing to me and brought me out of a very dark place in my life." The Facility also recently celebrated two dedicated volunteers, Belinda Jo Roy and Brother James Sledge, who have volunteered at the Facility for two and a half years.



Pine Prairie ICE Processing Center Supports Softball Tournament for CASA

Written By **Deborah Lucas-Stevens, Pine Prairie ICE Processing Center**

On August 11, 2018, the staff at Pine Prairie ICE Processing Center (PPIPC) participated in the First Responders' Softball Tournament hosted by CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) and Team Louisiana. Local first responders and vendors all came together to raise funds for this worthwhile and sometimes forgotten cause — raising money for foster children. Even though PPIPC did not win first place, the employees had a great time and most importantly children were helped.

Pictured from left to right:
Back row: Anthony Dessell, Dan Bailey, Timothy Guillory, Devin Darbonne, and Robert Williams.
Middle row: Kannetha Wilson, Trudy Ceasar, Brittany Joseph, Marcus Thomas, and Justin Holland.
Front row: Patrick Jolivette, James Fontenot, Tyrone Pinkston, and Paula Carrier.



New Castle Correctional Facility Honors Memorial Day

Written By **Shawn O'Conner, New Castle Correctional Facility**



On May 24, 2018, the veterans in the H-Unit Military Veterans (HUMV) unit at New Castle Correctional Facility hosted a Memorial Day service that was moving, disciplined, and marked with precision. In attendance were inmates, staff, and a special military guest from the community to commemorate the occasion. "The National Anthem," "Glory, Glory," "Nearer Thy God," and "Amazing Grace" were beautifully sung to the audience. Videos featured inspirational imagery and actual footage of events while powerful words and music were part of the service as well. In addition, the veterans performed the Posting of Colors, and Prisoners Of War/Missing In Action (POW/MIA) table settings decorated the room. Thoughtful remarks, a prayer, and a moment of silence commemorated the event. The HUMV veterans were able to evoke a sense of patriotism in the audience. To our military veterans all over the world, we honor and celebrate what you have done for our country and the global community.



Sister to Sister

Written By **Taquishia Parker, Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center**

On July 11, 2018, the staff at Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center, located in Bakersfield, California, graciously donated new and gently used shoes and clothing to a neighboring facility, McFarland Female Community Reentry Facility. The donation will help fill the McFarland Female Community Reentry Facility boutique and assist inmates with release clothing. The boutique allows inmates an opportunity to select several items that can help them look their best, as they set out to do their best when they are released from the Facility. McFarland Female Community Reentry Facility expressed sincere appreciation for the donation.

Pictured left to right: Top: Rebecca Barnett, Minga Wofford, Sarah Lyle-Palomares and Ryanna Morua. **Bottom:** Anita Vasquez, Ryanna Morua, Laura Rodriguez, Tonya Andrews, Minga Wofford, Liz Knott, Taquishia Parker and Rebecca Barnett.

The Muralists of Cerbat

Written By **Rachael Thompson, Arizona State Prison-Kingman**

Arizona State Prison-Kingman staff (ASP-Kingman) are dedicated to providing rehabilitative programming such as educational, vocational training, substance abuse, religious services, and reentry programming. Recently, administrators at the Cerbat unit implemented a new art program for inmates. The art program soon expanded into a muralist program, and ever since, Cerbat has been making many aesthetically pleasing changes to the Facility walls. It takes talent to get the details down, and two inmates from the program had the ability to rise to the challenge. There are a wide range of murals throughout the Cerbat unit at ASP-Kingman. Whether it is an inspirational quote painted onto a wall or a peaceful image of the local Havasu Falls, the muralists put in many hours of hard work and dedication to make sure each individual piece is a work of art. Staff also enjoy the beautiful murals which help brighten their day. It's a win-win for everyone who lives and works at ASP-Kingman.

Pictured: Jose Rojas and Gaston Rubio.





New Castle's PLUS Program Enjoys Giving Back to Their Community

Written By **Andy Beguhn, New Castle Correctional Facility**

Recently, New Castle Correctional Facility's PLUS (Purposeful Living Units Serve) program partnered with LifeStream Services by providing more than 100 bird feeders, 200 handmade bags, and 200 crocheted dishcloths. LifeStream Services is a Aging and Disability Resource Center for east-central Indiana. LifeStream Services provides programs and services to help seniors and people with disabilities remain independent.

Throughout the day, men in the PLUS program can be found clipping sticks, sanding, and stacking books on the parts that are drying. The bird feeders take more than twenty hours apiece to build out of popsicle sticks and wood glue. The bird feeders will provide enjoyment to seniors as they attract local birds outside a window. The handbags were made from donated materials and are the perfect size for books, groceries, or even to be used as a purse.

Every day the men in the PLUS program are learning to live for a purpose, living out a set of core values. In addition, the men are challenged to invest some of their time in community service every day. These men volunteer throughout the Facility but also enjoy helping their local community. Some of their activities include producing arts and crafts projects that are given to various organizations and ministries in east-central Indiana, purchasing and donating food to local food pantries, and sewing a variety of small dolls and quilts to be donated to various organizations.

In the past six months, 137 PLUS program participants have contributed approximately 12,000 hours toward the sewing crew efforts. The dolls they created were sent to organizations that work with children that have been through traumatic experiences. The quilts were given to senior-living facilities, organizations that serve those with special needs, and to local organizations to be sold at fundraisers.

The men in the PLUS program are happy and feel fulfilled knowing they are making a positive impact in their community. As part of their rehabilitation, their focus is shifting from their own wants to how to be a role model to others. The more than 200 local individuals who receive these projects are not only receiving a donation, but are also helping the New Castle Correctional Facility in its efforts to transform the lives of its residents.



CERT Team Assessment

Written By **Robert Farley, Great Plains Correctional Facility**

Recently, GEO's Central Regional Office held a Correctional Emergency Response Team (CERT) skills assessment for all CERT teams assigned to the Region. Great Plains Correctional Facility's (GPCF) CERT distinguished themselves from the other participants by placing first in three of the six events. Senior Warden Robert Farley presented certificates of achievement on behalf of GEO's Central Regional Office Vice President James Black to GPCF's first place winners. Officer Juan Del Angel set the record for the "Get Dressed Assessment" with an amazing 52 seconds. Sergeant Forest Ortiz set the record for the fastest time in the CERT challenge with a record time of 3:27. He also completed the push up challenge by performing 100 push-ups in one minute.

Pictured left to right:
*Sergeant Forest Ortiz,
 GPCF Senior Warden
 Robert Farley, and Officer
 Juan Del Angel.*

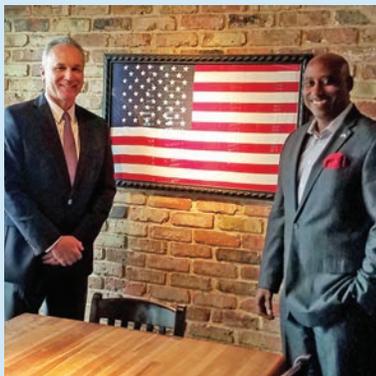
RADDF Supports Clayton County Commissioners

Written By **Donald Bowen,**
Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility

On April 9, 2018, on behalf of The GEO Group Foundation and the Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility located in Lovejoy, Georgia, Warden Randy K. Tillman presented Clayton County Chairman Jeffrey E. Turner with a \$10,000 student scholarship check. The check will be divided by the four Commissioners and the Chairman to provide scholarships to selected students within their respective districts.

Chairman Jeffrey E. Turner thanked The GEO Group and the Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility for their continued support of Clayton County and the students who will receive the scholarships. Chairman Jeffrey E. Turner also stated that the students and parents were very appreciative of the awards. The GEO Group is committed to making a difference in the communities in which it operates. Every year, through its charitable foundation, The GEO Group Foundation, GEO supports charities, schools, community organizations, and higher education scholarships for students across the country.

Pictured left to right: *Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility Warden Randy K. Tillman and Clayton County Chairman Jeffrey E. Turner.*



Rivers Attends Citywide Justice Assembly

Written By **Horatio Douglas,** **Rivers Correctional Institution**

On March 1, 2018, Release Preparation Program Coordinator Ms. Sydell Green at Rivers Correctional Institution (RCI) located in Winton, North Carolina, was invited to the Court Services and Offenders Supervision Agency's (CSOSA) Citywide Justice Assembly at Israel Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

Each year, CSOSA and community partners gather and discuss the challenges facing men and women returning home from being in-custody.

During the assembly, Ms. Sydell Green was awarded with the CSOSA Partner Service Award for her many years of productive collaboration with CSOSA. Ms. Sydell Green saw a former student who beat the odds and is now an example to many returning citizens. "Success is given to those who strive to succeed," a motto Ms. Sydell Green reminds each returning citizen who enters the Release Preparation Program at Rivers Correctional Institution.

Ms. Sydell Green's goal is to connect returning citizens with valuable resources that will help them and their families. Starting programming while individuals are in-custody and transitioning to community-based programs upon release facilitates consistency in treatment and promotes effectiveness in reducing recidivism.

The goal of the in-custody evidence-based programming is to facilitate a successful transition to life at home, continue their treatment at a day reporting center, and maximize the impact of programs delivered to reduce recidivism.

Pictured left to right: *Chaplain Roosevelt Askew, GEO Continuum of Care® Post Release Case Manager Monet Vaughn, Release Preparation Program Coordinator Sydell Green, Unit Manager Gladys Shearin, Rivers Correctional Institution Warden Brick Tripp, and CSOSA Acting Deputy Director Cedric Hendricks.*

Rivers Proudly Supports Chowan University and Hertford County High School

Written By Tracy Ennen, Rivers Correctional Institution



On June 4, 2018, Rivers Correctional Institution staff were honored to present \$13,000 in scholarships through The GEO Group Foundation. The student scholarships demonstrate Rivers Correctional Institution's commitment to the local community and empower students to reach their higher education goals. The recipients of this year's scholarships were Chowan University and Hertford County High School. Rivers Correctional Institution is proud to make a difference in the lives of the people in their community.

Pictured from left to right: Rivers Correctional Institution (RCI) Executive Secretary Deborah Gatling, Chowan University President Kirk Peterson, RCI Executive Assistant Tracy Ennen, and Chowan University Vice President for Development John Tayloe.

Couple Provides 'Ministry of Unconditional Love' in Texas

Written By Courtney Semlinger, Karnes County Residential Center



Nick Cardenas, Case Manger at GEO's Karnes County Residential Center, was recently featured in the June 2018 South Texas Catholic Magazine. The article, named 'Ministry of Unconditional Love', is about Nick and his wife Oralia Cardenas who have dedicated twenty-four years of their lives to helping organize ministry services and programs at four different detention centers in Beeville, Texas. Longtime parishioners at Our Lady of Victory in Beeville, TX, Nick and his wife Oralia both felt compelled to share the word of God. The article states, "Nick hopes to inspire younger generations to volunteer at least one hour a week at their local parish. I'd also like to remind parents that your children learn by example. It's important for children to see their parents helping others and caring for people, Nick stated."

Novice Writers Shine in Literacy Showcase

Written By **Fernando Lopez,**
**South Bay Correctional
and Rehabilitation Facility**



This past spring, six inmates from South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility, located in South Bay, Florida, participated in an adult essay writing contest presented by the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County. The purpose was to showcase the writing skills and talents of students enrolled in the adult education programs. The topic of the essay was to write a letter to your younger self. Hundreds of essays throughout South Florida were submitted for a chance to be showcased at the annual reception held in the Hilton Palm Beach Airport in April 2018.

Of the eighty awards distributed that evening, six were given to students from South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility— it was a first for correctional education, as well as the Facility. Ms. Cherry Doctor, Adult Basic Education Instructor at South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility, was present at the ceremony and accepted the six awards on the inmates' behalf. The goal for next year is to double the number of entries and award winners as well. Congratulations to the following winners: Robert Davis, Marcus Gosa, Joseph Kelley, and Aaron Rhone. Honorable mentions were awarded to Kenneth Jones and Dominic Zakery.

A special note of recognition goes to Ms. Cherry Doctor and her ongoing devotion and dedication in enlightening minds, encouraging students, and engaging in rewarding activities for South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility students. The Literacy Coalition is a non-profit organization committed to ensuring that every resident of Palm Beach County is able to read by ensuring that individuals who need to improve their literacy skills receive the help they need.

The programs department at South Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility is dedicated to providing enhanced in-custody offender rehabilitation programming, including cognitive behavioral treatment, integrated with post-release support services. The enhanced programming provides a path towards successful reintegration and transition through individualized learning with effective, evidenced-based programming in the areas of academics, vocational, cognitive behavioral, faith-based, and substance abuse treatment.

Pictured left to right: Academic Instructor Cherry Doctor, recipient Robert Davis, recipient Aaron Rhone, honorable mention recipient Kenneth Jones, and Programs Director Dr. Fernando Lopez. Honorable mention recipient Dominic Zakery, Programs Director Dr. Fernando Lopez, Academic Instructor Cherry Doctor, and recipient Joseph Kelley.



Your Legacy Lives On

Written By **Tiffany Hartley,**
Western Region Detention Facility

April 20, 2018, was a somber day for staff at the Western Region Detention Facility. We lost one of our own, Officer Monty Ramos at the young age of fifty-six to stomach cancer. Many of us didn't even know that he was sick as he remained devoted to his duties and was always in such good spirits. Monty began his career with The GEO Group in 1993 at the city jail in Otay, San Diego. Kathy, his wife of nearly thirty years, is also employed at the Facility. She shared memories of how music brought her and Monty together. His generosity and genuine desire to take care of others was unparalleled. He regularly brought in homemade Filipino specialties to share with his coworkers. One could always count on Monty to find the positive side of everything. He was such a jokester and loved to sing oldies. Monty's hat is now framed as a keepsake in our training room to always have him close to us. Monty will forever be in our hearts.

GEO Makes a Positive Impact on Local Organizations

Published In: **Hinton Record (July 11, 2018)**

Top: Great Plains Correctional Facility is donating \$1,050 to the Hinton Public Library for the Mango Language Grant. Mango Languages is an immersive language learning program that is free for its users with an active library account. Mango offers 70+ languages to learn as well as 21 English as a second language courses. They also offer specialty courses for business, travel and celebrations. Mango prepares learners for realistic conversations and strengthens everyday communication skills. Each Mango lesson begins with a culturally specific phrase or sentence, breaks it down into smaller pieces, and then builds it back up as the lesson progresses. This process helps you learn grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and meaning intuitively. Mango is offered for unlimited use through the Hinton Public Library.

Bottom: Senior Warden Robert Farley presenting a check to Assistant Chief/Canine handler Tyler Davis for \$1,000. Great Plains Correctional Facility donated \$1,000 to the Hydro Police Department towards their canine fund to purchase equipment and other training tools.

Pictured left to right: Top: Warden Robert Farley and Taylor Meriwether. **Bottom:** Warden Robert Farley and Assistant Chief/Canine handler Tyler Davis.



Back-to-School APPLES Supply Drive

Written By **Melinda Parker,**
LaSalle ICE Processing Center

Each school year, the LaSalle ICE Processing Center, located in Jena, Louisiana, partners with the local APPLES (Assistance, Program, People, LaSalle, Education, System) program in the LaSalle Parish area to participate in a back-to-school supply drive to help underprivileged and homeless children with the necessary school supplies for the upcoming school year. For the 2018-2019 school year, LaSalle ICE Processing Center was asked to provide paper, index cards, and tissues boxes. Human Resources Manager Melinda Parker led the drive collecting over 100 donated items of each requested school supply. Staff purchased, brought in, or contributed funds for the purchase of the school supplies. The items were delivered to the LaSalle Parish Media Center on August 9, 2018.

Pictured left to right: Accounts Clerk Virginia Walters, Payroll Clerk Jodi LeDoux, LaSalle Parish School Board Homeless Liaison Missy Bignar, Recreation Specialist Robert Spence, Records Clerk Corrie Roark, Human Resource Manager Melinda Parker, and Records Clerk Tabriya Robertson.

Blackwater River Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility Donates School Supplies and Hosts a Family Fun Day

Written By **Gary English, Blackwater River Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility**

During the entire month of July 2018, the Employee Planning Committee (EPC) of Blackwater River Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility (BRCRF) collected school supplies to donate to BRCRF staff members and the community.

BRCRF employees make it a priority to help others, especially those of the BRCRF family! The facility collected over 400 pencils,

sixty-two glue sticks, fifty-six folders, twenty-seven pink block erasers, twenty-two composition books, nineteen boxes of crayons and many more supplies.

Every child that signed up to participate in the program received their own backpack filled with school supplies specific to their gender, grade, and school/class requirements. On July 28, 2018, BRCRF wrapped up the

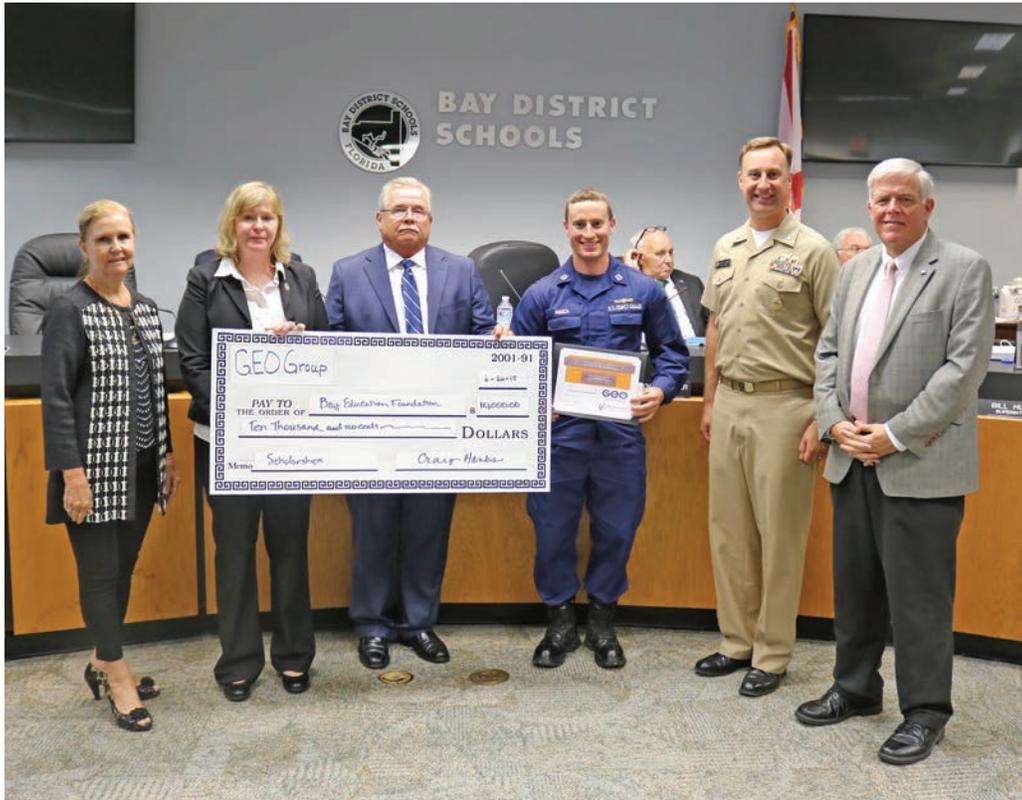
school summer break with a family fun day for all staff and their family members, and contractors and their family members as well. A full day of family fun activities was held at a park right on the Blackwater River. Activities included basketball, horseshoes, corn hole, volleyball, canoeing/kayaking, paddle boating and paddle boarding. The staff at BRCRF is truly an amazing and giving group of people.

Pictured left to right: Top: Officer Johnathan Armstrong, Assistant Warden of Operations Gary English, Assistant Business Manager Penny English, Grievance Coordinator Rolando Bethea, Assistant Warden of Programs Shad Rice, Dental Technician Amy Rogers, Inmate Records Clerk Jessica Heath, Lieutenant Annette Doremus, Warehouse Supervisor Cheryl Becton, and Arsenal Sergeant Justin Spears. **Bottom:** Having fun at BRCRF family fun day. Warden Charles Maiorana with the donated school supplies.



Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility Presents Scholarships to Bay Education Foundation

Written By **Craig Hanks, Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility**



At the June 2018 meeting for the Bay County School Board, the Bay Education Foundation presented scholarship checks donated from GEO's Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility on behalf of The GEO Group Foundation to recipients Victoria White and Jasmyn Coleman. Victoria White is a Navy dependent whose family recently transferred to the Naval Base. She plans to major in Psychology at Gulf Coast State College. Jasmyn Coleman is a Coast Guard dependent and plans to attend Florida Southern College to major in Computer Science and Business.

Pictured left to right: Bay County School Board Chairman Ginger Littleton, Bay Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility (BCRF) Assistant Warden Liz Keyes, BCRF Warden Craig Hanks, U.S. Coast Guard Lieutenant Sean March, Naval Support Facilities Commander Jay Segó, and Bay County Schools Superintendent William Husfelt.

In loving Memory of GCCF's Very Own Julian Velasquez

Written By **Vincent Horton, Guadalupe County Correctional Facility**



GEO's Guadalupe County Correctional Facility (GCCF) Food Service Manager Julian "V" Velasquez passed away peacefully at his home on July 26, 2018. Julian was a sixteen-year employee at GCCF beginning his career as a Food Service Supervisor in 2002. In 2004, Julian took his passion for his job at GCCF to the next level by graduating from the New Mexico Department of Corrections in Class #7. During his tenor as a Correctional Officer, Julian proudly served on the Facility's CERT and Fire Brigade unit. Julian later became a Fire Safety and Sanitation Officer before accepting the position of Food Service Manager. Julian was also very active in his community. For eighteen years, he served the Santa Rosa Volunteer Fire Department, and since 2014, he served on the Santa Rosa Little League Board. Julian is survived by his wife, former GCCF Executive Secretary, Berna Velasquez, along with his children, Alyssa Velasquez and newborn son Adan Velasquez.

Pictured: Julian Velasquez with his wife Berna, his newborn son Adan, his daughter Alyssa and nephew Julien Rael.

Thriving Religious Services

Written By **Amy Spence,**
LaSalle ICE Processing Center

This year, the LaSalle ICE Processing Center's (LIPC) religious department has a motto for their volunteers. From Matthew 28:19, the motto is "go and make disciples of all nations." LIPC recently trained fifty new and returning volunteers who will offer Baptist, Catholic, Pentecostal, Non-Denominational, Seventh Day Adventist, Jehovah's Witness, and Messianic Judaism services in English, Spanish, Creole, and Chinese. LIPC also provides resident-led services in Judaism, Rastafarian, and Islam. On average, the center has sixty-nine different worship opportunities each month resulting in over 1,200 residents attending services. The department has great support from organizations such as Kenneth Copeland Ministries and Our Daily Bread that help by providing Bibles, religious books, prayer beads, religious periodicals, and study material allowing the center to provide over 400 residents with requested items each month. On August 2, 2018, LIPC offered their first Baptism led by Pastor Mike Russell of Trinity Baptist Church located in Jena, Louisiana. During this event, Pastor Russell baptized eighteen new believers. The Center is very thankful for the continued support of the local and national organizations that allow them to provide counseling and ministry to a population that represents eighty different countries.



Riverbend Earns SACS CASI Accreditation

Written By **Beth Greene, Riverbend Correctional Facility**

Program Director Beth Greene is proud to announce that Riverbend Correctional Facility recently earned accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), an accreditation division of AdvancED. SACS CASI provides nationally-recognized accreditation for continuous school improvements focused on increasing student performance. Accreditation demonstrates the Facility leadership and education team are focused on raising student achievement, providing a safe and enriching learning environment, and maintaining an efficient and effective operation staffed by highly qualified educators. Dr. Mark Elgart, President and CEO of AdvancED, the parent organization of SACS CASI, stated, "SACS CASI accreditation is a rigorous process that focuses the entire school on the primary goal of creating lifelong learners. Riverbend Correctional Facility is to be commended for engaging in this process and demonstrating a commitment to continuous improvement."

Pictured left to right: Riverbend's education team: Willie Taylor, Garry Couch, Donna Jacobs, Beth Greene, Kennedy Smith, Belinda Grier, Rosalind Brown, and Carolyn Abrams.

Great Plains Hosts Benefits Fair

Written By **Mandy Davis, Great Plains Correctional Facility**



On September 5, 2018, Great Plains Correctional Facility Human Resources' department hosted a benefits fair event for all staff and their families. Staff were able to bring a spouse or a family member to learn about all of the many benefits GEO offers, as well as discuss the 2018-2019 health information. The Facility had a great turn out with over 100 employees and family in attendance. Staff and their families were very appreciative of the event and all the benefits GEO has to offer. **Pictured:** Human Resources Specialist Diana Headrick and Human Resources Manager Karrie Beth Little.



Event-Based vs. Offender-Based Recidivism

Written By Jason Boggs & Kasia Kijanczuk, GEO Continuum of Care® Division, Corporate

A recent study¹ published by the Bureau of Justice Statistics analyzed data from thirty states and found that 68 percent of individuals released from state prisons were arrested within three years and 77 percent were rearrested within 5 years of release. Further, 50 percent were again imprisoned within three years and 55 percent within five years. These high rates of recidivism are disheartening, especially for professionals who work and support the field of offender rehabilitation. Another recent study² utilizing data from seventeen different states over a thirteen year period reports that even after twelve years following release, 68 percent of offenders never return to prison. With both studies being valid, which reflects the truth about recidivism in the U.S.? The answer is, they both do.

The two studies mentioned differ in how they defined

their sample; the first utilized *event-based* sampling while the latter utilized *offender-based* sampling. As Rhodes and colleagues describe², event-based recidivism studies define a sample as individuals released from an institution(s) during a specified time-frame, and then tracks the rate at which an event (recidivism, in this case) occurs within the specified follow-up time.

On the other hand, *offender-based* samples control for the overrepresentation of higher-risk repeat offenders. For example, any cohort of releases are typically going to be comprised of; 1) individuals who are in-custody for the first time and who are lower risk, 2) individuals who have been in and out of the correctional system many times and who present a high degree of risk for reoffending, and 3) the rest of the individuals will fall somewhere in between.

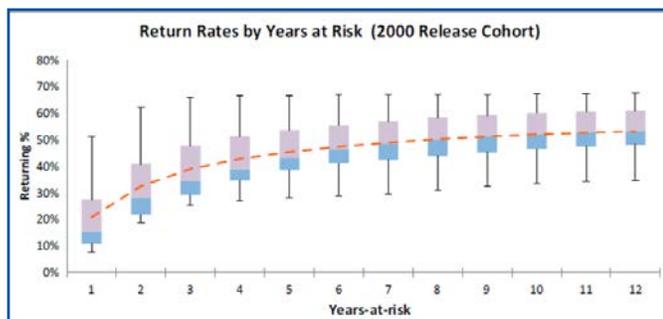
Studies that use *event-based* samples will simply track these types of cohorts and use the percentage of returns to describe patterns of recidivism (see Figure 1). The problem that arises from this type of recidivism reporting is that these types of samples are vastly overrepresented by individuals who are not first-time offenders, or what we could define as the “typical offender.” Longer, *offender-based* sample studies track all intakes over several years, or longer, and take into consideration the number of times that a given offender is in-custody over time. What we find from these studies is that most first-time offenders do not return to prison (68 percent), and 20 percent return only once (see Figure 2). The repeat offenders who return two or more times (12 percent) are those who are generally overrepresented in studies who utilize *event-based* sample.

In summary, it is important to know the different ways that recidivism is reported and how it is defined when looking at the recidivism rates. If you want to know how many people recidivate over a period of time, from a specified cohort, or you want to evaluate the impact of a program or other intervention, *event-based* samples are typically better. On the other hand, if you want to know the recidivism rates or probability of the average person who recidivates and goes back to prison, it is typically better to use *offender-based* samples.

References:

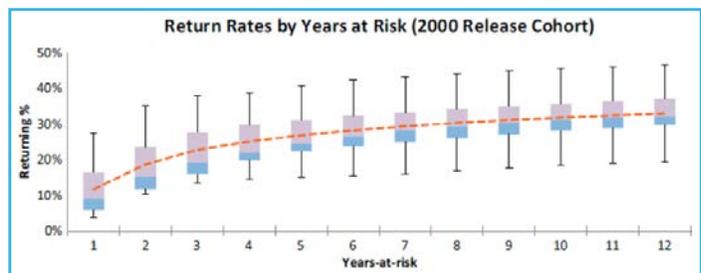
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2. Rhodes, W., Gaes, G., Luallen, J., Kling, R., Rich, T., & Shively, M. (2016). Following Incarceration, Most Released Offenders Never Return to Prison. *Crime & Delinquency*, 62(8), 1003-1025.

FIGURE 1: EVENT-BASED SAMPLE RECIDIVISM RATES



Source: Rhodes et al., 2016

FIGURE 2- OFFENDER-BASED SAMPLE RECIDIVISM RATES



Source: Rhodes et al., 2016



The GEO Group Foundation Supports The U.S. Marshals Survivors Benefit Fund

Written By **Chris Ferreira, Corporate**

On October 1, 2018, The GEO Group Foundation donated \$25,000 to the U.S. Marshals Survivors Benefit Fund (USMSBF). The USMSBF was founded in 2012 in response to the devastating loss of ten Deputy and Special Deputy U.S. Marshals in line of duty in 2011. It is a non-profit formed exclusively for charitable and educational disbursements of its funds to the surviving family members of active United States Marshals, Deputy U.S. Marshals, Marshals Service employees, and Special Deputy U.S. Marshals who are killed in the line of duty. USMSBF also provides economic support to programs that preserve the memory of those fallen heroes.

Pictured left to right: Retired Chief Deputy and USMSBF Board Chairman John Clark, GEO Transportation Vice President Ed Stubbs, and retired Chief Deputy and USMSBF Board Member Dan O'Donnell.

Inspiring Visions Of Hope

Written By **Quintana Andersen, Arizona State Prison-Florence West**

Inmates at GEO's Arizona State Prison-Florence West are using their creative talents by adding beautiful murals to the facility walls. In the mural pictured below, the message of hope is depicted through the different aspects of life. The three-man crew had never taken on a project of this size, but they were eager to meet the challenge and expressed a desire to leave the facility better than the way they found it. The project had such a positive impact throughout the facility that work has already begun on a second mural.

Pictured left to right: Jonathan Tsosie, Edgar Osobampo, and Jesse Yazzie.



HTCF Assists in Plainfield Little Free Libraries Project

Written By **Selina Lewis, Heritage Trail Correctional Facility**

When the Plainfield Public Library asked the Plainfield Rotary Club for assistance with getting their Little Free Libraries boxes improved, Donnie Emerson, GEO's Heritage Trail Correctional Facility (HTCF) Warden and President of the local Plainfield Rotary Club, saw an opportunity where the veterans at HTCF's American Legion Post #198 could help. When approached with the idea, the veterans were very excited about the opportunity to provide a community service that benefits children. Warden Donnie Emerson placed HTCF staff member and Plainfield Rotary member Selina Lewis in charge of coordinating the event and collecting the first eight of twenty boxes. Thinking For a Change and Vet to Vet Coordinator Tyrone Bostic provided on-site supervision. On July 3, 2018, the Little Free Libraries project was completed and the boxes were all moved to their designated locations in Plainfield.

Central Arizona Correctional Facility Supports Student Scholarships

Written By **Helen Kline,**
Central Arizona Correctional Facility



Central Arizona Correctional Facility, located in Florence, Arizona, is proud to support local students with achieving their higher education goals by presenting several \$1,000 scholarships, on behalf of The GEO Group Foundation, to six deserving individuals. Central Arizona Correctional Facility Warden Frank Strada attended the scholarship ceremony and was able to personally congratulate each recipient for their hard work and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors. Central Arizona Correctional Facility is proud to support their community and its future leaders.

Pictured: Scholarship recipients and Central Arizona Correctional Facility Warden Frank Strada.

WRDF Celebrates National Correctional Officers Week

Written By **Tiffany Hartley,** Western Region Detention Facility



On May 6, 2018, Western Region Detention Facility launched a fun-filled and exciting National Correctional Officers and Employees Week. The celebration started at Dave & Buster's where everyone was able to mingle and watch a slideshow of the facility's operations and events over the past eighteen years. Thank you to Reuben Contreras for putting it all together! Employees and their families were treated to delicious food and even received a heavily loaded playing card to enjoy the vast array of games. Everyone enjoyed watching the children run around with pure exhilaration. The rest of the week consisted of free pizza, tacos, ice cream, nachos, and sandwiches. The grand finale was a candy buffet with a vast display of GEO colored delicacies. Many thanks to Rosalie Smith for coordinating the entire week! Western Region Detention Facility also recently awarded Shannon Laya, LVN, the 2017 Nurse of the Year award. Shannon began his career with The GEO Group in 2014 and has been an incredible asset to the medical department. He is very knowledgeable within his field and his passion for patient care does not go unnoticed. Everyone knows they can count on Shannon. His trustworthiness, kindness, and dependability have nominated him as a 'go-to' person within the medical department. Congratulations Shannon!



Kutama Sinthumule Correctional Centre Hosts Wellness & Team Building Day

Written By **Hes Enslin, Kutama Sinthumule Correctional Centre**

"Together we can!" — these words could be seen on the backs of all the Kutama Sinthumule Correctional Centre staff member shirts taking part in the wellness and team building day on July 25, 2018. The day was filled with laughter, sweat, and a competitive and fun soccer game.

The staff members, including the Centre Director, participated in eight and five kilometer walks,

aerobics, relays, tug of war, spoon and egg races, and soccer matches throughout the day.

Participants were provided the opportunity to be tested for HIV, cholesterol, blood pressure, and diabetes by representatives from the Sizwe Medical Fund. Sizwe Medical Fund is a health and wellness provider in South Africa. In total, 110 Kutama Sinthumule Correctional Centre

staff members took part in the medical screening provided to them for free.

The goal of the team building wellness day was for employees to socialize with each other outside of the work environment, thus improving morale, leadership skills, and communication with each other.

Pictured from left to right:
First row: Kutama Sinthumule Correctional Centre staff members attended the wellness and team building day. **Second row:** Staff members taking part in eight kilometer walk around the centre in Louis Trichardt, South Africa. Staff members taking part in the medical screening provided by Sizwe Medical Fund. Staff members having fun in the aerobics class.



Train Journey Ends at Museum

Written By **Philip Goslin, Fulham Correctional Centre**

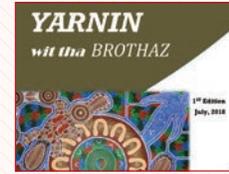
An inmate at Fulham Correctional Centre in Australia, moved by a suggestion from his young niece to “do something to help someone else,” has embarked on a nine-month project to build a model steam locomotive.

He sourced the plans and specifications of a 1923 LNER Class A3 4472 Flying Scotsman from library books and with the help of Fulham Correctional Centre staff. The model was constructed from scraps of timber, coffee cans, straws, ice cream sticks, matches, and craft materials.

The bulk of the modelling was done with a nail clipper and sandpaper — with occasional access to power tools in the industries area. The inmate asked Correctional Officer John Wharf if he knew of an appropriate charity he could donate the train to and Stratford Historical Society and Museum was suggested. The model is now on display at the museum, and society members were thrilled with the inmate’s generosity.

Not content with one big project, the inmate is now working on a 1950s classic diesel locomotive that will take about five months to complete, and he has plans to tackle a replica of the old rail bridge that runs over the nearby Avon River.

Pictured: Correctional Officer John Wharf pictured with the inmate's current project. Fulham Correctional Centre inmate presents his model train to representatives of the Stratford Historical Society and Museum.



Indigenous Newsletter

Written By **Haley Robertson, Junee Correctional Centre**

An exciting new quarterly Indigenous newsletter, Yarnin Wit Tha Brothaz, has been developed as part of the literacy and numeracy course at Junee Correctional Centre in Australia. The course is delivered by Technical and Further Education (TAFE NSW) — one of the country’s leading providers of vocational education and training — which has worked in partnership with GEO since 2009 and has established a campus within the Centre. The newsletter has been developed as part of a strategy to better engage Indigenous inmates in education and their culture while developing communication and teamwork skills. The newsletter contains Indigenous news including a focus on sports. It also provides inmate stories, art, poetry, songs and covers cultural stories and Indigenous language. Currently 60 percent of Junee Correctional Centre’s population is enrolled in twenty courses with TAFE NSW. It is one of the highest participation rates of any correctional centre in the state.

Inmates Protect Waterways

Written By **Philip Goslin,**
Fulham Correctional Centre



Inmates from Fulham Correctional Centre (Fulham) in Australia have helped the authority responsible for parks in the state, Parks Victoria, with an urgent fish removal program at the Sale Common Nature Conservation Reserve. The wetlands are going through a drying phase, and huge numbers of European carp are rapidly deoxygenating the water. As a result, Parks Victoria had to act swiftly to remove thirty tonnes of carp. "This will ensure the native species can continue to thrive in the future, and the wetlands can continue to be a place of enjoyment for locals and visitors alike," said Parks Victoria Ranger team leader Chris Holmes. Professional fishermen were engaged to catch the carp, and two Fulham inmates assisted over thirty days. The carp were transported to the Australian capital city, Canberra, for research as part of the National Carp Control Plan. Apart from working on the boat, inmates also assisted with stacking freezers with fish, loading trucks and cleaning tubs, sheds, and freezers. The Sale Common Nature Conservation Reserve is part of the Gippsland Lakes RAMSAR site, meaning it's recognised for its international importance with the aim of conservation for future generations.

Junee Expansion Update

Written By **Haley Robertson,** **Junee Correctional Centre**

Expansion work at Junee Correctional Centre in Australia is progressing well. The works are part of the New South Wales (NSW) government's AUS\$3.8 billion investment across the state.

The Centre is receiving 480 beds, updated health clinic and audio visual link spaces, a new industries building, program rooms for education, and a multi-faith worship space.

Refurbishments and extensions to existing buildings such as the gate house, visits area, kitchen, reception, and administration areas are also part of the development. Work commenced in April 2017 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2019.

The local member of state parliament, Stephanie Cooke, recently visited the Centre to update media on the progress as construction is now 60 percent complete. Construction is progressing well with all the four accommodation blocks now in place and work on the administration and industries buildings continuing.

It is estimated that more than a 1,000 contractors have worked on the site to date with a high percentage of these from the local area.

Once completed, the expansion will create over 100 new job positions, providing a diverse range of employment opportunities ranging from correctional officers to administration. It is estimated that these jobs will provide more than AUS\$5 million per year for the local economy.

Pictured: Aerial view of the expansion. The new accommodation blocks can be seen to the left of the existing Centre. Scott Brideoake and Steph Cooke inspecting one of the new modular cells.



Inaugural Job Fair a Huge Success

Written By Pam Bennett, GEO Care Strategic Marketing & Corlina Eisert, Solano DRC



Pictured left to right: Michael Reyes, Corlina Eisert, Blair Goff, Kevin Gomez, Brenda Haro, Haylee Castro, and GEO Regional Manager Amanda Owens.

Since the Solano Day Reporting Center (DRC) is fairly new to the community, they decided to do something that would demonstrate the DRC's desire to help and be a contributing member of the community. Thus, the Job Resource Fair was created through a collaboration with the Stockton and Napa DRCs. This inaugural event was a great success with twenty-one vendors and more than 100 attendees. With a variety of resources for individuals who were previously in-custody, the participants were very excited about the possibility of talking to employers who were willing to give them a chance. Some of the vendors gave interviews on the spot, many offering training and good pay. A transportation company even said that anyone who took the training would get a job – guaranteed. Area Manager Amanda Owens stated, "Everyone here believes in second chances."

New Mexico Men's Recovery Academy Attends July 4th Parade

Written By Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing



The New Mexico Men's Recovery Academy (NMMRA) in Los Lunas celebrated July 4th with an outing that uplifted all — celebrating the nation's birthday with a visit to the parade and a lunch to honor the occasion. Several residents at the residential reentry center are veterans and requested to attend the well-known annual Los Lunas July 4th parade. Thirty-one residents enjoyed the outing accompanied by facility staff and New Mexico Probation and Parole staff. Facility Director Michael Betrus stated, "We are proud to be supporting veterans and providing residents with GEO Reentry Services programming, that will help change lives, helping them become productive citizens." Residents received hand-held flags to commemorate the occasion and were treated to a lunch.

Tuolumne County DRC Celebrates Graduates and Two Awardees

Written By **Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

On May 17, 2018, Tuolumne County DRC, located in Sonora, California, held its transition celebration at the nearby Black Oak Hotel. The event honored twenty-four graduates of the reentry program.

"We are pleased to host this graduation ceremony that is a result of participants who have worked hard with the hope of attaining a positive lifestyle going forward," said Program Manager Lesette Ortiz. "The GEO Reentry programming provided to the participants will equip them with the skills needed to reduce recidivism and create change to become law-abiding citizens." The keynote speaker for the celebration was Dan Hawks, Assistant Chief Probation Officer for Tuolumne County, who gave an inspirational message to the graduates.

The celebration also honored two special awards to local community partnerships. The Tuolumne County DRC has a tradition of presenting a commitment award to acknowledge partners in reentry work. At this ceremony, Mr. Morris Gaede, an Inmate Program Specialist with Tuolumne County, was honored with this year's award and was acknowledged for his support of the reentry program.

Another special community partnership award was given to the Tuolumne County Collaborative Pre-Apprenticeship program. Tuolumne County DRC has had a successful record of working with the program to provide participants with necessary job skills to successfully reenter the community. The June 17, 2018 graduating group included two participants who completed construction training and certification. They will continue into union apprenticeship positions in electric and/or laboring jobs. This is the third collaboration with the pre-apprenticeship program for the Tuolumne County DRC, who previously assisted six female participants in successfully gaining employment in the construction field. The local school system was recognized as well, for assisting three of the graduates in attaining their high school diploma.

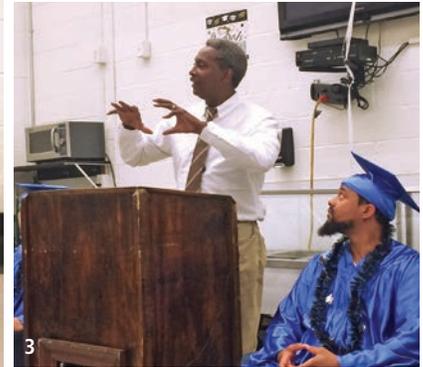


Tundra Center Participant Earns GED Diploma

Written By **Pam Bennett, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

Before receiving his GED, Chuck Itgarluk Parks was a high school dropout and had been in and out of custody as well as the GEO's Tundra Residential Reentry Center since the age of eighteen. In the last ten years, three participants have graduated with a GED at the Center. Currently, there are two other participants working towards getting their GED. When Mr. Parks arrived at the Center in October 2017, he didn't want to pursue a GED. He was much more interested in finding employment – a common need for participants. After passing two required tests, Mr. Parks was inspired to focus on getting his GED. He attended classes regularly and took part in week-long learning workshops as part of his education plan. Mr. Parks received his GED in May 2018 and said he will now focus on getting a driver's license, which is a requirement for almost every job in the area. Mr. Parks has two children and said he wants to set a good example for them. Mr. Parks stated that getting his GED "was one of the happiest moments I've had."

Pictured top to bottom: Tundra Center GED recipient Chuck Itgarluk Parks. Mr. Parks with his Case Manager Stephanie Olrun.



Seven Residents Earn Their Degree at The Harbor

Written By **Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

An uplifting ceremony was held at The Harbor in Newark that celebrated seven residents receiving their high school equivalency degrees on June 19, 2018. After months of hard work and studying to pass the test at the New Jersey residential reentry center, residents received their diploma in front of a large crowd of guests, staff, and fellow residents. With diploma in hand, residents can now further their education, secure employment, and enjoy the rewards of a positive accomplishment.

"It is inspiring to attend commencement celebrations and be a part of the good work provided by the staff at our facilities," said Richard McCourt, Senior Area Manager, Northeast, GEO Reentry Services. "We have seen many lives change

by achieving educational goals using the programming provided here." The commencement speaker was Arthur Townes, New Jersey Director of Alumni Services, who reminded the crowd of the importance of receiving their diploma and entering a new stage in their life.

"You have raised the bar on your life," said Mr. Townes. "Step into your greatness."

Thanks were extended to all supportive staff including Teacher Fredis Yanes, Unit Manager Raven Barnes, and Facility Coordinator Sharon Brooks, as well as the teacher's aides for their hard work and unending support for the graduates.

"Education is so important," said Ms. Brooks. "Be proud of your accomplishment and recognize the doors that this can open for you. Don't stop here, keep going and pursue your goals."

Mr. Yanes complimented the group by acknowledging their willingness to learn, ask questions, and be prepared. Some studied for months, and Mr. Yanes hopes their determination to succeed will continue once they leave the Center.

The Harbor held its first graduation celebration on April 23, 2013 and is proud to continue the tradition of helping residents earn their degree.

The staff is committed to providing the best educational programming that is a gateway to new opportunities and a positive lifestyle upon program completion. GEO Care provides a full program of evidence-based reentry services at The Harbor through its contract with Education and Health Centers of America (EHCA).

Pictured left to right: 1. Harbor graduates Arturo Nieves, Kenneth Christmas, Michael Boger, Sean McArdle, Christian Diaz, Angel Ruiz, and Joseph Ferguson. **2.** Kneeling: Teacher Fredis Yanes. **3.** Harbor graduates standing proud. **3.** Commencement speaker New Jersey Director of Alumni Services Arthur Townes.

Lancaster RSC Provides Opiate Overdose Prevention Services

Written By **Pam Bennett, GEO Care Strategic Marketing & Kim Reichenbach, Lancaster RSC**

Central Pennsylvania has been experiencing an opioid epidemic for quite some time, and the crisis has grown to the point that overdoses are now the leading cause of accidental death in the area. Last spring, the Lancaster Reentry Service Center (RSC) became directly involved in finding solutions when the Center's Program Manager, Kimberly Reichenbach, became involved in the startup committee to move Project Lazarus forward from idea to reality. Project Lazarus is a community-based organization that focuses on the opioid epidemic and strategies for community involvement. GEO Reentry Services helped sponsor a lunch where more than 100 attendees explored the idea of introducing Project Lazarus in Lancaster. The grant-funded program is administered by the Lancaster Health Center. The Lancaster RSC is now actively involved in referrals for treatment where the program data has shown a significant reduction in opioid overdose deaths. Participants in the program have learned that the only way to reverse an opioid overdose is to administer naloxone, commonly known as Narcan. Lancaster RSC offered free overdose reversal training for staff and participants on May 24, 2018. Attendees learned basic facts about opioid abuse and the opioid epidemic, as well as how to recognize and respond to an overdose.



Pictured: Kimberly Reichenbach.



Talbot Hall's Melissa Craten Honored with the Patriot Award

Written By **Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

Congratulations to Melissa Craten, Program Coordinator at Talbot Hall in Kearny, New Jersey, for being the recipient of the Patriot Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), United States Department of Defense. On July 10, 2018, Mary Tosline, ESGR Area Chair for Hudson County, came to the residential reentry facility to bestow the award to Ms. Craten. The award acknowledges employers and managers who support employees that serve in the military. Program Counselor Eric Munoz, who is a member of the Army National Guard currently deployed on active duty, nominated Mrs. Craten.

"The Patriot Award is given to employers who meet the criteria based on their support for employees actively engaged in military service," said ESGR Area Chair Mary Tosline. "ESGR chooses to award employers like GEO and Ms. Craten who safeguard the opportunity for Mr. Munoz to go and serve, protecting us all." Mr. Munoz nominated Ms. Craten for the Patriot Award, stating in his nomination that his supervisor has been very supportive of his service, and respectful when it comes to scheduling changes for drill dates and training. "We are proud to support Mr. Munoz in his military service, and we are supportive of the challenges of managing jobs, family, and service to our country," said Richard McCourt, Senior Area Manager, Northeast, GEO Reentry Services.

Ms. Craten supervises the Serenity Unit, where Mr. Munoz is assigned. She understands the difficulty of maintaining a job while in active service, and is keeping the position for him to return to. While accepting her award, she wanted staff from the unit to be present, and expressed her gratitude to them for their hard work in the absence of Mr. Munoz. "I am so honored and humbled to receive the Patriot Award," said an emotional Ms. Craten. "I wanted the staff of the Serenity Unit to be here so I can thank them for their hard work. I want them to know they are appreciated."

Pictured left to right: Back row: Senior Area Manager Richard McCourt, Unit Supervisor Kyashia Felton, Unit Manager Donnell Morrison, ESGR Area Chair Mary Tosline, Program Counselor Kerwin Delva, and GEO Reentry Director of New Jersey Alumni Services Arthur Townes. **Front row:** HR Manager Lakesha Turner, Program Coordinator Melissa Craten, Program Counselor Irina Santa, Program Counselor Thurga Sivananthan, and Program Counselor Crystal Williams.

Perth Amboy CRC Cleans Up

Written By **Peter Conerly, Perth Amboy CRC**



Perth Amboy CRC participants and staff recently participated in a volunteer community clean-up project at a waterfront park in Perth Amboy, New Jersey. The clean-up effort was organized in preparation for the city's annual Perth Amboy Waterfront Arts Festival. The two day family-friendly event is filled with live music, food trucks, and over sixty art vendors from throughout the state. Perth Amboy Clean Communities Coordinator Geri Barcheski presented the participants with certificates of acknowledgement and appreciation for their hard work and volunteer service to the local community.

Pictured left to right: *Supervising Case Manager Dana Carbone, participants Dashawn Greene, Joy Camino, Matthew Mingle, Christopher Thompson, and Nicholas Brown.*

Creativity Comes Alive at Tully House's Paint Social

Written By **Paula Lord, Tully House & Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**



Education Manager Samantha Brooks at Tully House in Newark, New Jersey, continually seeks new ways to engage her residents in learning as a path to creating better lives. Office Administrator Ms. Lord, Ms. Brooks, and the staff at Tully House organized a paint social party in July 2018, which allowed residents to use their inner creativity to express themselves through painting. "We welcome teaching aides that provide residents with tools that will improve thinking processes," said Senior Area Manager Richard McCourt. "Within the painting exercise is the lesson of decision making, problem solving, and socialization, all of which supports our reentry programming." Fifteen participants signed up and painted a variety of subjects, including colorful flamingoes, landscapes, and portraits. While painting, the participants were able to discuss their paintings with each other while enjoying coffee and cake. "I enjoyed the event, and I hope we can have more events like this," said resident Kavon W., who appreciated the opportunity to paint as a means of expression. Residents suggested similar sentiments, remarking that they enjoyed the opportunity for creative expression while sharing with others ideas and choices made through painting.

Center Marks 10 Years of Helping Parolees Transition

Published On: **Recordnet.com** (July 11, 2018)



Upon his release from prison in 2012, Robert Mosqueda was apprehensive about participating in a program provided by the Stockton Day Reporting Center to help him transition back into society. Mosqueda had just served three years in the state prison system, and on Wednesday said he had just wanted to go back to his life. "I did everything I could to get them to kick me out (of the program)," he said. "Once I realized they weren't going to give up on me, I invested in the program. I started understanding the fundamentals of things I didn't think I would." Mosqueda completed the six-month program later that year, then enrolled at San Joaquin Delta College, attaining a degree in behavioral science. From there he enrolled at University of the Pacific, graduating with a bachelor's degree in sociology.

He is now an outreach worker with the city of Stockton's Office of Violence Prevention, and is currently working on a master's degree at the University of Southern California. Now 41, he said his life has changed for the better, thanks in part to the Stockton Day Reporting Center, which on Wednesday celebrated 10 years of helping parolees transition back into the community. The center held an open house at its office at 1003 W. Mathews Road, featuring staff presentations about the services provided to help parolees return to the community at large. Those services include helping with job searches, enrolling in classes, obtaining transit passes and information, and computer and cellphone training, among others, provided by a staff of eight.

According to GEO Reentry Services, which oversees the center, nearly 60 percent of program participants are employed when they "graduate." Gloria Alcantara, the center's program manager, said about 500 parolees have graduated from the Stockton location, with about 20 individuals graduating every six months. Alcantara said the center's goal is to rehabilitate the county's offender population — many of whom have been in jail or prison so long that they are not familiar with cell phones, emails, or even computers — back into the community.

She said the center opened in 2008 when the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation found that its growing offender population would benefit from re-entry programs. "It's very exciting," she said. "One thing I'm most honored by and proud of is helping this population for the last 10 years. I'm looking forward to doing this for many years to come."

Although he graduated from the program six years ago, Mosqueda said he still comes back to the center to speak with Alcantara and other staffers, seeking advice about clients he now serves, or to just vent about the stresses of everyday life. He said the center and its program helped him overcome anger and empathy issues, as well as helped him realize he loves to give back to people. "Everything is great," he said. "Challenges come and go. That's part of life, but it's because of these challenges that have allowed me to become who I am and who I was meant to be."



NJ Alumni Help Pack 1,000 Backpacks for Back-to-School

Written By **Karen Collins,**
GEO Care Strategic Marketing

On August 16, 2018, members of GEO Reentry Services' New Jersey Alumni members participated in an event with Parents Engaging Parents (PEP) organization in Newark that helps children start the school year off right with backpacks loaded with school supplies. Alumni, PEP staff and families, and volunteer community members helped pack 1,000 backpacks filled with donated school supplies. Mr. Frazier, now a coordinator for PEP, is an alumnus of Talbot Hall's reentry program in Kearny, New Jersey. New Jersey Alumni members have participated at this important event for the past two years. Alumni understand the importance of supporting education as a component of their successful reentry. All were glad to attend and give back to the children in their community.



Luzerne County Reentry Program Graduates 37

Published In:
Fox56 WOLF
(June 19, 2018)

"Their success is their own. We're the tour guide. We give them the road map," said Stacey Velez. Last fall, 36-year-old Matthew Grohol was sitting on a judge's bench.

"Police entered my house, they found a couple bags of heroin and a marijuana grow operation," he shared. Part of his bail terms included going through the Luzerne County reentry program.

"I didn't want to do it at first, but I had to go so I kept going," he said. As of Tuesday morning, he has a certificate to prove he finished the rigorous, three-phase, several-months-long program.

"I had to look at a lot of things I did wrong in my life, and that was really hard. I mean who wants to do that and own up to their own mistakes?"

The father of an 11-year-old even got on stage as a keynote speaker - a representative his summer class of 37.

"I feel my thinking has changed a lot. It gave me confidence, helped me with my self-responsibility," said Grohol.

Stacey Velez manages GEO Reentry Services Program in Luzerne County. She says since the program is mandated by the judicial system, so most people do not want to be there.

"We roll with resistance, we find what motivates them to want to change and we build on that," she said.

Program leaders say that graduates are on average 40-50 percent less likely to commit crimes after completion than when they started.

"There are a percentage of people who committed crimes that do belong in jail. But there are a high percentage of people who in two years are going to get out. And they're sons and daughters and fathers and mothers, and they have children... and they want the same things that you and I want," said Velez.

Matthew says it would have been a very different story if he hadn't gone through the reentry program. "I'd probably be dead right now from a drug overdose or back in jail."

Program leaders say they graduate about 100 students each year.

Shasta County DRC Commemorates Five Years of Providing Services

Written By **Karen Collins,**
GEO Care Strategic Marketing

The Shasta County Day Reporting Center (DRC) in Redding, California, celebrated five years of providing reentry services to participants from the Shasta County Probation Department with a well-attended open house on April 19, 2018. Approximately 120 guests attended the event which welcomed esteemed visitors including Judges from the Supreme Court of California, Shasta County Superior and Grand Jury courts, local law enforcement, probation officers, and officers from the Shasta County Board of Supervisors. Staff went all out to present a comprehensive experience of the programming provided to participants. The mission of the Center is to have an impact on long-term behavior change while reducing recidivism. "We were proud to have an opportunity to provide awareness of what we do for the community," said Program Manager Danielle Caito. The Center provides an intensive curriculum designed to address the needs of the participants. Shasta County DRC is the second largest DRC in the country, having a capacity of 150 participants.

Stingers Take the Trophy Again!

Written By
Karen Graff, Napa CCSC

Every year, the Napa Community Corrections Service Center (CCSC) has the pleasure of partnering with the Napa County Probation Department to engage in the annual Probation vs. Stingers softball game. There is an infamous trophy (pictured below) that has gone back and forth for the last seven years between the two teams. This pro-social event is one of the highlights at the CCSC as it provides an environment where the participants, probation, and CCSC staff can come together and have fun. Chief of Probation Mary Butler umpires the game. This year, it was a close game with some heavy hitters on the probation team, but in the end, the Stingers would prevail taking home the trophy with a win of 11 - 8. CCSC is very grateful to have a strong partnership with the Napa County Probation Department. They invest in the lives of the participants and are always willing to take part in events that acknowledge not only their success in completing the program, but also in the fun, social gatherings along the way.



ADAPPT Pennsylvania Proudly Serves the City of Reading

Written By **Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

ADAPPT (Alcohol and Drug Addiction Parole and Probation Treatment), GEO Reentry Services' residential facility in Reading, Pennsylvania, once again proudly performed community service for the City of Reading on June 22, 2018. A group of volunteer participants from the inpatient unit partnered with the City of Reading and the Reading/Northern Railroad to clean up a section of the City located at 7th and Penn Streets. This very visible, highly traveled area of the City contains railroad tracks running through the section of streets in the downtown business district. The area on the tracks was cluttered with litter and the ADAPPT group joined in to help clean up the area and clear the tracks.

"Community service helps participants give back to their community and reinforces the reentry programming we provide," said Director of ADAPPT Michael Critchoshin. "We emphasize giving back to the community as a component of reentry programming and we are proud to partner with our community to keep the area clean."

Clean City Coordinator for the City of Reading Steve Harity is a volunteer who coordinates city events with community partners. He expressed his appreciation, giving praise to the participants for their professional attitude and thorough work at the site. The participants felt a sense of accomplishment and maintained a positive attitude throughout.

ADAPPT completed 400 hours of community service for the month of May, with over 100 hours dedicated to the City of Reading. The facility sustains a substantial record of community service; continuing to help with city cleanups, construction at public buildings, snow cleanup, and church events. "The participants take pride in the work and worked very hard at the cleanup," said Clinical Supervisor Dawn Martin. "These events are a win-win; it helps our City and it helps the participants." ADAPPT provides residential reentry programming at its inpatient unit. It has four buildings and an outpatient treatment facility also located in Reading. The programming follows a cognitive-behavioral treatment approach aimed at assisting participants with a successful transition to society.

Pictured left to right: Benjamin Carney, Donald Gipe, Frederick Clark, Scott Kunkle, Tylor Kendall, Kyle Whitsel, and Kyle Moon.





Habitat for Humanity Build in Bago, Myanmar

Written By **Pam Bennett, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

Suzanne Pelletier, Human Resources Divisional Director at BI Incorporated, recently added to her growing list of volunteer experiences for the Habitat for Humanity. The latest build was located in the Kan Kone village at Thanetpin Township in Myanmar. Formerly known as Burma, Myanmar is one of the poorest countries in Asia with one in four Myanmar residents living in poverty.

The team of sixteen volunteers along with local skilled labor had a mission to assist in the construction of bamboo houses for two families. Together they built two homes in five days – all entirely made of bamboo including the floors, walls, and even the nails. This was the first time Suzanne was involved in a build for a house made entirely of bamboo.

Why does Suzanne continue to volunteer? “The work we do is so rewarding. People go from living under tarps and chicken wire to having actual shelter and a door they can lock. They are so grateful, and it makes such an impact on the families and on the community as a whole.”

After the build, volunteers enjoyed a tour of Bago, the former capital of Southern Myanmar, known for an abundance of Buddhist temples and stupas and the remains of a former palace. During the build, they were also able to explore the village and get to know the culture and daily life of the people in the village. Suzanne enjoys meeting and working with the locals. She has also made lifelong friends with volunteers from all over the world including Japan, Canada, Germany, Australia, and New Zealand.

Suzanne isn't stopping anytime soon. “I'm already up for the next one. I'm going to Romania in September and I have to admit I'm looking forward to a build that isn't in the sweltering heat!” For more information about volunteering, visit www.habitat.org.

Pictured left to right: Suzanne Pelletier with a Myanmar family. A few of the team members pose in front of a completed home.



Kern Valley State Prison Holds Graduation Ceremony for 76

Written By **Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

The Kern Valley State Prison (KVSP) in Delano, California, held a graduation ceremony in April 2018, acknowledging seventy-six graduates who completed a curriculum of cognitive-based treatment (CBT) programming. GEO Reentry provides CBT programming to inmates at this California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation facility.

“The evidence-based programming we provide aims to change criminal thinking,” said Program Director Leanne Escamilla. The GEO Reentry Services program offered at KVSP focuses on changing behavior and learning coping skills. It is completed after the inmate fulfills 325 hours of programming, often taking seven months to a year to complete.

A major component of the program is substance use disorder treatment, based on the University of Cincinnati curriculum. Additional services include treatment plans, one-on-one counselor sessions, anger management, and corrective thinking.



Kyle Kingrey Honored with Award from Northern Colorado Manufacturing Association (NOCO)

Written By **Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

Congratulations to Kyle Kingrey, Manager of Manufacturing at BI Incorporated (BI)! In July 2018, Kyle was recognized with the "Outstanding Committee Chair for Manufacturing Rocks!" award for his commitment to working with youth in the Northern Colorado area and providing a career pathway through bridging the gap between technology skills and manufacturing.

Kyle Kingrey serves as Chairman of Manufacturing Rocks!, a program conducted by the Northern Colorado Manufacturing Association (NOCO) that promotes young adults' career interests with an introduction to the manufacturing field. "I am very honored to receive this award, and proud of the work we do at BI," said Kyle Kingrey. "I am grateful for the support of BI and GEO leadership, which assures the continuance of BI as a leader in the community and our support of workforce education and manufacturing opportunities for youth."

As Chairman of Manufacturing Rocks!, Mr. Kingrey devotes his time to visiting local middle and high schools and job fairs to bring awareness to the career opportunities in manufacturing. This past summer, two students from Manufacturing Rocks! interned at BI. BI welcomes students to tour the manufacturing floor, and last summer BI hosted "Teen Week," where staff had an opportunity to bring their children to work for a week to observe and learn about manufacturing.

In addition to Kyle's work with Manufacturing Rocks!, he is a speaker at the Rural Pathways Summit to promote manufacturing careers to youth in rural areas that may not have access to college or specialized work training. Most recently, BI has decided to partner with a new Manufacturing Academy established by a local high school. BI is on the advisory board and will assist in determining curriculum at this training center for manufacturing-related careers. This important community outreach holds the promise of employment for many youths going forward.

Lancaster RSC Enjoys Well-Attended Open House

Written By **Karen Collins, GEO Care Strategic Marketing**

The Lancaster Reentry Service Center (RSC) in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, welcomed visitors to an open house on June 22, 2018. The Center holds an open house semi-annually that allows attendees an opportunity to see the positive work the center provides for individuals from the county that are preparing to reenter society.

GEO Reentry Services provides a full program of reentry services on a non-residential basis at the Center, with the goal of having the many graduates who complete the programming better prepared for a positive, new beginning.

Guests included representatives from the Court, Parole Board, and the Bureau of Community Corrections (BCC), a division of the Pennsylvania Board of Corrections. Former graduates of the program attended to willingly share how their lives have changed for the better as a result of the non-residential reentry programming they received at the Center.

"We are proud to host this event that highlights the success of our program, demonstrating change is possible," said Program Manager Kimberly Reichenbach. "Our focus is recidivism-risk reduction. It is rewarding to see former graduates living successful lives without reoffending."

An alumna of the Center shared how the GEO Reentry Services' program has given her willingness to change while offering bridges to community partners who helped her establish a positive lifestyle. Through the program she was able to get a driver's license, access basic needs, and remain substance free to date. She was connected with a community agency that arranged for a sober living house where she is now residing.

The many attendees at the June 22, 2018 event make this the most successful open house to date at Lancaster RSC. The Center hopes to continue serving participants from the county with services to support a new start as they reenter their community.

Community Connections

Building Relationships in the Community

Mid Valley House Attends Lone Star Health Fair

Mid Valley House staff recently took residents to the 2018 Annual Operation Lone Star Health Fair, which is sponsored every year by the Texas Department of State Health Services. Not only did attending the fair give residents access to free healthcare services, it allowed the Center's staff to network with state and local community providers who can serve as resources in the future.

Robeson CRV Develops Innovative Homework Assignment

The Robeson CRV's Behavior Change Manager created an innovative assignment for participants. He asked participants to write motivational letters to themselves, so that when they return home, their letters can serve as reminders of all the hard work they've put in so far. These letters are also a great piece to showcase to partners and customers as they highlight the success of the programs.

Chicago Heights RSC Attends Reentry Summit

Chicago Heights Reentry Service Center (RSC) staff recently attended a summit organized by the Adult Redeploy Illinois and Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils. The summit was a good opportunity to share more information about GEO Reentry Services' programming and network with the local law enforcement in attendance, including officials from the Illinois Department of Corrections, Judges, Probation Officers, Professors, and other community members.

Shreveport Hosts DRC Day

The Shreveport (Day Reporting Center) DRC hosted a DRC day to train new officers and better inform veteran officers of their duties as well as to celebrate National Reentry Week and Second Chance Month. During the training, Shreveport DRC staff educated local law enforcement on the principles behind the DRC programming and shared information about what the Shreveport DRC can do for them as well as their community. This was a great way to build connections, help new officers understand what GEO Reentry does and remind veteran officers about the services the DRC has to offer.

Chatham RSC Attends Community Council Meeting

Chatham's Reentry Service Center (RSC) Program Manager has been regularly attending monthly Community Support Advisory Council meetings. These meetings bring together representatives from legal organizations, mentoring programs, and healthcare providers, all of which are vital to a successful reentry.

East St. Louis RSC Hosts Interagency Cookout

Staff at the East St. Louis Reentry Service Center (RSC) hosted a cookout and potluck for GEO Reentry Services' customers. Officials from the Illinois Department of Corrections and the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice attended and enjoyed building relationships with the East St. Louis RSC team.

Rockford RSC Supports its Community

Two staff members from the Rockford Reentry Service Center (RSC) attended a community event, Love Rockford, designed to support the needs of residents with services, food, clothing, and personal counseling. Staff from the Rockford RSC also attended the Second Chance Summit, which helped individuals with non-violent records determine whether their cases could be sealed and expunged. GEO Reentry Services is a firm believer in second chances, and we are proud of all our staff for leading the charge on this important issue.

Solano DRC Hosts Open House

The Solano (Day Reporting Center) DRC, located in Fairfield, California, hosted a successful open house in August 2018 and invited local law enforcement, corrections officials, members of the judiciary, and local service providers to attend. Open houses serve as an opportunity for customers and partners to tour the centers and learn more about GEO Reentry Services.

Merced DRC Hosts Annual Soberfest Event

The Merced (Day Reporting Center) DRC, in partnership with the Merced County Sheriff's Department, Merced County Probation Department, and the Tsunami Collaboration, hosted their annual Soberfest event in September. The event is held in honor of National Recovery Month, which celebrates life and second chances for individuals who have dealt with or overcome addictions. Many local non-profits and support organizations were present at the event to share information on the services they provide.

GEO WORLD MAGAZINE
4TH QUARTER 2018
Volume 24
Issue 4
