



THE BEACON

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES

SPRING 2011

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MESSAGE FROM JENNIE MARSH DIRECTOR OF VICTIM SERVICES

Crime Victims' Rights Week is April 10-16, 2011. This year's theme is "Reshaping the Future, Honoring the Past." Throughout the Department of Corrections, staff will be honoring crime victims by participating in fundraisers, preparing and viewing victim awareness displays, and utilizing materials provided by the Office of Victim Services to remind staff when to refer a victim/survivor to our office.

The DOC Mission Statement reads: *"The Department of Corrections, as part of the criminal justice system, contributes to the public safety and supports victims of crime by exercising safe and effective containment and supervision of inmates, by managing offenders in the community, and by actively encouraging and assisting offenders to become law-abiding citizens."* We are constantly striving to honor

the rights and voices of crime victims, and have come a long way in doing so over the last ten years. During Crime Victims' Rights Week, or anytime, you are encouraged to contact our office to let us know what we could improve upon in order to meet the needs of crime victims, as we work to "reshape the future" of Victim Services within corrections.

Our Mission

Kansas Department of Corrections Office of Victim Services serves as a liaison between victims and department staff, the Kansas Parole Board, and victim service providers. We are committed to providing crime victims the opportunity to express their ideas and opinions. We will approach our work from a victim-focused perspective.

HELPFUL TOLL-FREE NUMBERS

Nat'l Children's Alliance (800) 239-9950	Nat'l Sexual Violence Resource Center (877) 739-3895
Nat'l Center for Victims of Crime (800) 394-2255	Nat'l Organization for Victim Assistance (800) TRY-NOVA
Nat'l Domestic Violence Hotline (800) 799-7233	Office of Crime Victims Advocacy (800) 822-1067
Nat'l Mothers Against Drunk Driving (800) 438-6233	Rape, Abuse, and Incest Nat'l Network (RAINN) (800) 656-4673
DUI Victim Center of Kansas (800) 873-6957	Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (800) 638-8736
Nat'l Council on Aging (800) 424-9046	Nat'l Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (800) 729-6686
Nat'l Center for Missing & Exploited Children (800) 843-5678	Stalking Resource Center (800) 392-2255

CHAMPION OF JUSTICE FOR SPRING 2011 QUARTER

BY JANET GOOD AND CARLA WOZNAK

The Spring 2011 Champion of Justice Award goes to . . .

Holly Chavez

Community Corrections – Skills Developer

The Office of Victim Services has had a presence in correctional facilities and parole offices for almost 10 years. While services to assist victims with safety concerns have developed within these locations and have become part of policy and practice, victims with offenders under community corrections supervision may receive little to no support after sentencing. Due to Holly Chavez's advocacy, Victim Services now has a pilot project in community corrections probation.

After working with Victim Services on a Center for Sex Offender Management grant and being selected as a domestic violence trainer, Holly began to lay the groundwork for implementing a victim services liaison in community corrections. She identified the gap in victim services and advocated for the implementation of a community corrections victim services liaison. She recognized this was vital to the work done within this realm of the criminal justice system. In collaboration with the Office of Victim Services, grant funding was awarded and a pilot project to im-

plement a victim services liaison within the 8th Judicial District (JD) is underway. This position is based out of Junction City but covers all the counties within the 8th JD.

Holly has opened doors where they have not previously existed for crime victims of offenders supervised by community corrections. Her passion for this work is contagious and due to that, others are eager to work with her and believe in her ideas. Because Holly has positive relationships with the judicial districts and knows those in the field, Victim Services was able to find a team of Intensive Supervision Officers (ISO's) who would understand the importance of Victim Services and openly welcome this new area of service within their system.

Holly has also been a volunteer trainer for the Community Supervision and domestic violence curriculum, which is coordinated by the OVS, for the last two years. Holly has a deep interest and in the topic of domestic violence and not only does she understand how important the connection between offender accountability and victim safety is, she is able to communicate her knowledge and enthusiasm for the heavy subject of Domestic Violence with others in an engaging way. Holly is truly a Champion of Justice. Congratulations, Holly! The OVS Staff appreciate all your hard work and dedication!

RECOGNITION/AWARENESS CALENDAR

April

National Crime Victims' Rights Week
April 10-16, 2011
www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2011

Nat'l Child Abuse Prevention Month
Prevent Child Abuse America
www.preventchildabuse.org

National Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month
Nat'l Sexual Violence Resource Cntr

Alcohol Awareness Month
Nat'l Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence
www.ncadd.org

May

National Missing Children's Day
May 25, 2011
Nat'l Center for Missing & Exploited Children
www.missingkids.com

National Correctional Officers and Employees' Week
May 1-7, 2011
American Correctional Association
www.aca.org

National Police Week
May 15-21, 2011
Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc.
www.nationalcops.org

Nat'l Peace Officers Memorial Day
May 15, 2011

Older Americans Month
Administration on Aging
www.aoa.gov

June

Internet Safety Month
National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families
<http://www.nationalcoalition.org/internetsafetymonth.asp>

National Safety Month
National Safety Council
www.nsc.org

RESTITUTION PAYMENT/COLLECTION: HOW IT WORKS

BY CONNIE CLINE, SALINE CO ATTNYS OFC

If you have never been a victim of a crime or have never worked in the criminal justice system, you may not know or understand the meaning of restitution. Restitution is defined in three ways. One, giving back, as the return of something to the rightful owner; second, paying back, compensation for a loss, damage or injury; third, restoration, the return of something to the condition it was in before it was changed. Restitution is an important part of the criminal process not only to the victims but also as a way for the defendant to make amends for the wrongdoing.

The restitution process starts as soon as a victim has contact with law enforcement. K.S.A. 19-4808 states:

“Within seven days after the initial contact between the victim of a reported crime and the law enforcement agency investigating the crime, such agency shall notify the victim compensation coordinator of the report of the crime and the name and address of the victim or victims.”

At this time the prosecutor’s office will contact the victim or victims by either mail or telephone call about the information needed by the prosecutor’s office to investigate the victim’s loss and the steps the court action will be taking.

The purpose of the restitution investigation is to evaluate claims of victims to determine the amount of restitution, identify recipients, and to provide findings to the appropriate member of the court system. It is important for the restitution investigator to communicate effectively with the victim and all parties involved. It is also important and essential to keep proper documentation of all findings for future reference.

The final step is to file a notice of restitution with the court to notify defense counsel, the judge and court services office of the pending restitution request. The notice should include all pertinent information to substantiate the finding of the restitution amount. The restitution ordered is determined by the judge at the time of sentencing of the defendant. All attempts to resolve the restitution issue before sentencing is recommended. K.S.A. 22-3424 (d) provides:

“If the verdict or finding is guilty, upon request of the victim or the victim’s family and before imposing sentence,

the court shall hold a hearing to establish restitution.”

The Kansas Supreme Court has allowed sentencing court’s to reserve restitution issues for a later determination after sentence has been imposed. The victim or victims must be notified of the pending sentencing date.

The Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Fund provides victims of violent crimes with financial assistance. (For questions, call them at 800-828-9745.) The assistance may include counseling, medical expenses, wage loss, and funeral expenses. Not included is personal property damage. There are a few counties in Kansas that offer crime victim funds through their own counties. Saline County offers assistance to victims through the Saline County Crime Victim Fund. The fund offers assistance in crimes involving property damage or financial loss. Information about the crime victim fund can be obtained through the local prosecutor’s office. Restitution is then requested on behalf of the crime victim funds for repayment of their payment to the victims.

An order of restitution may become a condition of the defendant’s probation or post-release supervision. Failure to make the necessary payments toward the restitution amount ordered can be reason enough for the defendant to be brought back before the judge on a motion to revoke the probation. However, court ordered restitution is no guarantee that the restitution will be paid by the offender, but all attempts by the probation officer should be made to ensure the defendant is held accountable for the damage caused as a result of the crime.

The victim has another option available to collect the restitution. Restitution ordered in the criminal case, can be made a civil judgment by filing the order with the Clerk of the District Court. The victim can also try to collect the order through civil court. Kansas places an additional obligation on the victim, requiring the victim to pay court costs for entering such a judgment. The civil judgment may be collected as any other civil judgment, including garnishment.

If you have questions concerning your right to restitution or questions concerning the Kansas Crime Victims Fund, contact your local prosecuting attorney’s office.

One of the most valuable things we can do to heal one another is listen to each other's stories.

~Rebecca Falls

RELEASE PLANNING

BY SHANNON TULLIS-MEYER, ASST DIR REENTRY/RELEASE PLANNING

Releasing planning is a very important process for offenders being released back to the community. Nearly 5000 offenders are released from KDOC each year. It is imperative to provide those offenders with an opportunity for success so that they do not revictimize or create new victims.

Unit Team staff in the correctional facilities begin the release planning process 16 months prior to release (for offenders serving less than 16 months, the process begins immediately upon their admission to KDOC). Unit Team staff work closely with the team of reentry staff and Office of Victim Services (OVS) staff at each facility to connect inmates with the necessary services and resources and address victim safety concerns

The goal is to assist the inmate in developing the best release plan possible. A release plan is intended to prepare the inmate for release and provide him/her with all the necessary resources to enable success. The release plan includes many things, such as: A residence/housing plan, transportation plan in the community, employment opportunities, appointments with community agencies for mental health, and medical or substance abuse needs.

The residence/housing plan is a very important piece of this process. There are many things to consider when working on this piece. Some offenders are required to go to some sort of treatment (substance abuse, sex offender, etc...), it is important to make sure that the offender will have transportation to/from those treatment providers. Sometimes a residence plan in a rural area presents some challenges due to the lack of transportation and the distance to/from those places.

Victim needs and safety are very important things to consider. It is important to

include OVS staff when there are any questions or concerns about victims. There are circumstances when an offender's residence plan is to the victim's home. This might be an acceptable plan, depending on the circumstances. OVS staff need to be involved in this decision to ensure it is a safe plan for everyone involved. There may sometimes be opposition to an offender returning to a certain community/county. Victims have the opportunity to make "no return" requests through OVS staff. That request and necessary information is passed onto the Kansas Parole Board to determine if it will be approved. If approved, the offender will be notified of the "do not return to ___ county" special condition. Unit Team staff will then work with the offender on developing an alternate residence/housing plan.

There are many things that can make developing a residence/housing plan difficult. The team of release planning and reentry staff at each facility are available to assist Unit Team staff with difficult cases. Using a multi-discipline team approach (including Unit Team staff, releasing planning and reentry staff, housing specialists, job specialists, cognitive specialist, parole officer, family members, treatment providers, etc...) to work these difficult cases is necessary and often leads to new ideas and options.

Addressing offenders' needs is also a piece of the release planning process. Unit Team staff rely on the LSI-R (Level of Service Inventory – Revised) assessment to determine if an offender is at risk to reoffend and what factors need to be addressed to lower that risk. The LSI-R measures 10 criminogenic risk factors: Criminal History, Housing/Accommodations, Drug/Alcohol, Attitude/Thinking, Family/Marital, Emotional/Personal, Leisure Time/Recreation, Friends/Companions, Education/Employment and Money/Financial. Unit

Team staff determine which risk factors need to be addressed and refer them to reentry staff for the necessary services or assistance. These services may include: job preparedness classes, cognitive classes, money management classes, family services and classes, housing specialist, substance abuse assessment, discharge planning, and/or specialized case management. The reentry team provides any services and assistance they can while the offender is still incarcerated and then connects them with community resources for follow-up after release as necessary.

The release planning staff start working with the necessary Parole Officer when a residence plan is determined/submitted by Unit Team staff and the offender. The Parole Officer investigates the plan and determines if it is "approved" or "disapproved." They consider many things during this investigative process, such as: who is living at the residence, do they want the offender living there, if the residence is drug and weapon free, are they able to assist with transportation, are there safety concerns, does the victim live at the residence, what the offender will be required to do in the community (such as GPS monitoring, substance abuse treatment, or sex offender treatment), are they willing to support the conditions of parole, etc... If a Parole Officer has a concern or issue with a plan, they will contact facility staff and attempt to resolve those things. If the residence plan is ultimately denied, Unit Team staff will then work with the offender on developing an alternate residence/housing plan.

Everyone's goal is to provide each offender with a smooth transition back to the community and provide them with the necessary tools to be successful, while making sure that the victim's concerns are addressed to every extent possible.

WINFIELD CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

EMMALEE CONOVER, WARDEN

The Winfield Correctional Facility (WCF) is an all-male, minimum-security state prison located on the grounds of the former Winfield State Hospital. The facility was originally established in 1984 as a Pre-Release Center with an operating capacity of 141 beds. Currently, the facility has a capacity of 554 beds.

Budget

The FY 2011 budget for WCF is \$10,733,336 with about 73.6% (\$7,897,421) used for salaries and wages. The facility employs 159 classified employees, two unclassified Re-Entry employees and 32 contract employees.

Inmate Life

Inmates housed at WCF are involved in a variety of activities that include on-site work, off-site work in the community, educational and re-entry programs, self-help programs, and private industry employment.

Work Programs

Inmates at WCF may be assigned to work either on-site or off-site. On-site work assignments involve jobs such as facility maintenance, food service, custodial, laundry, grounds maintenance, etc. Off-site work assignments are completed under the supervision of either a KDOC staff member or a trained non-KDOC community supervisor. Off-site work assignments include the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks or the cities of Winfield, Arkansas City, Wichita and El Dorado among other locations. In FY 2010, inmates completed 334,130 man-hours for the various communities they served. This created a savings of \$2,436,740 to those communities.

Re-entry and Release Planning

Most reentry classes at WCF are offered during the eight week **Pre-Release (PR)** program. Inmates with an LSIR score of 32 or higher are screened for this program because they are considered high risk for re-offending. During the first four week session an instructor addresses areas such as money management, budgeting and landlord/tenant

responsibility. Participants also begin **Thinking for a Change (T4C)**. T4C is a 22 lesson cognitive behavior change program which includes cognitive restructuring, social skill interventions and problem solving techniques. During the second four-week session participants discuss stress management and begin the Inmate Workforce Development program (**OWD**), which prepares them for employment. They continue these portions of the program while still participating in T4C. During the OWD portion of the program inmates address internal/external barriers, complete an occupational network database (**ONET**) assessment, develop resumes, cover letters and thank you letters, complete sample job applications and do mock



interviews which are recorded and reviewed with the inmate. In addition to the morning classes some inmates are assigned to afternoon classes based on LSIR domain scores. Afternoon classes included family transitions, socialization and **FLIP** which is a mental health program.

Both high risk and low risk inmates have the opportunity to complete financial aid forms and register with Kansas Works in preparation for transfer to work release or release in to the community.

Strengthening Kids of Incarcerated Parents, (SKIP) is a parenting program offered at WCF. This 12 week classroom program is offered three-times per year and a Play and Learn session is offered annually. During the Play and Learn program, community caregivers are encouraged to bring the inmate's child/children to the facility to participate in structured, supervised activities with their father and the caregiver meets

with staff in an adjacent area. The Play and Learn program covers a 12-week period and is held one day a week for a two-hour period.

Substance Abuse Center of Kansas (SACK) staff provide substance abuse services at WCF two days a week. During this time a relapse prevention class is provided. Substance abuse assessments are completed on high risk inmates within six months of release and for parole violators which have been referred by their parole officers. SACK counselors make referrals to community treatment providers and assist with arranging interviews when necessary.

Veterans at WCF are given the opportunity to meet with a representative from the VA and vet center on a quarterly basis. Workforce also provides a representative to assist veterans returning to the Wichita area with job assistance. We have had several inmates take advantage of these services.

Aramark Food Services

Aramark Food Service is a prison-based private industry employer that provides six minimum-wage positions. The Aramark Food Services at Winfield provides services for both WCF and the Kansas Veteran's Home. Inmates employed by Aramark prepare meals for the veteran's residing at the Veteran's Home.

Pioneer Balloon

Pioneer Balloon is also a prison-based private industry employer that began at WCF in September 2010. There are five minimum-wage positions currently for this industry. Inmates employed by Pioneer Balloon are primarily responsible for folding and packaging Mylar balloons for distribution.

GED/Literacy/Special Education

Inmates at WCF are afforded the opportunity of participating in a GED program or participating in a literacy program. The computerized GED program has 15 full-time GED/literacy slots with one instructor. During FY 2010, 31 inmates earned their GED through this program.

OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES – HIGHLIGHT ON THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SPECIALIST

BY JANET GOOD AND KIMBERLY MAROTTA

Thanks to funds received from the Federal Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (GTEAP), the Kansas Department of Corrections Office of Victim Services (OVS) is working on several projects to increase the safety of victims of domestic violence. In March 2010, Janet Good moved from her position as a Victim Services Facility Liaison for TCF and LCF to become the Domestic Violence Specialist. Janet began working with OVS in July 2005 as a notification coordinator for special programs. She was responsible for developing the Interstate Compact and Sexually Violent Predator notification programs. The focus of Janet's current position is to develop and implement policy and training for corrections staff in the facilities and parole who are working with victims and offenders of domestic violence.

While some may consider prison confinement a "safe" time for the victim, that's not always the case. Victim advocates who work within correctional facilities have long seen inmates continue their manipulative and coercive tactics to keep the victim under their control until released. However, with little information available on this topic and no known policies or trainings to pattern after, many of these inmate behaviors are allowed to go unchecked or even unrecognized by staff, and victims continue to be harmed.

To study and address this issue, the Domestic Violence in Correctional Facilities Committee (DVICF) was formed with representatives from

each of the state's correctional facilities to look at inmate behavior, rules, policies and procedures within our own system to find out just how DV continues to be perpetrated from behind bars. This committee not only produced a comprehensive list of behaviors that inmates are utilizing to control their victims, but also a list of policy recommendations to decrease the occurrence of abusive and coercive behaviors as well as providing the foundation for a comprehensive staff training.

As a result of the DVICF committee's work, current policies are being reviewed and a curriculum is being created to educate correctional facility staff about how domestic violence is being perpetrated from the inside. Plans to implement this training are being set for later this year.

Also being developed is a model corrections policy for the management of domestic violence offenders on post-release and parole supervision. This policy, now in the final approval stages, incorporates new guidelines and best practices for both traditional DV situations, such as family reintegration or no-contact, as well as non-traditional domestic violence situations, where a supervised offender might also be a victim of domestic violence, or if a victim and a batterer are both on supervision. No matter what type of situation the parole officer is faced with, the model policy outlines procedures to help hold the offender accountable for their crimes while at the same time, supporting the victim in the safest manner possible.

Along with supervision guidelines, the model corrections policy also includes:

- Procedures for conducting an evidence-based investigation of a parole violation, including a fill-in-the-blank form and a list of resources a parole officer can draw from to move forward with a parole revocation, without having to rely solely on victim testimony.
- A list of special conditions of parole, with standardized language specific to domestic violence offenders that a parole officer can use on a case-by-case basis. These conditions include payment of court fines and fees, notifying the parole officer of any court involvement (including child support or family court), disclosure to a new partner their history of violence, geographic prohibitions and compliance with child or adult protective services.
- Stronger language in the No-Contact condition to include the stalking type behaviors of loitering near or driving past places of employment, residence or education for not only the victim, but also the victim's family and children.

For questions regarding with domestic violence offenders, contact Janet Good at 785-559-5139 or reach any of the OVS staff at our toll-free number at 1-866-404-6732.

We are on the Web!

www.doc.ks.gov/victim-services

OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES

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VICTIM INITIATED SERVICES

Public Comment Session
Advocacy Program

Facility Tours

Victim/Offender Dialogue

Parole Liaisons

Facility Liaisons

Apology Repository

Personalized Web Page

www.doc.ks.gov/victim-services/personalized-offender-information

NOTIFICATION SERVICES

Public Comment Session

Release Status—Parole, Conditional Release or Post-Release

Assignment to a Work Release Program

Eligibility for a Community Service Work Assignment

Application for Clemency

Supervision Revocation

Expiration of Sentence

Death of inmate

Escape

Application for Early Discharge

Interstate Compact

Absconders

Sexually Violent Predator

**“ GIVING KANSAS CRIME VICTIMS
A VOICE IN CORRECTIONS BY
PROVIDING INFORMATION,
SERVICES AND SUPPORT WITH
COMPASSION AND RESPECT ”**

VICTIM SERVICES LIAISONS

Facility Liaison Services

Visitation/Contact Screening

Release Plan Screening

Cease Correspondence

Facility Tours

Attend Public Comment Sessions

Assistance with Navigating the System

Parole Liaison Services

Safety Planning

Family Reintegration

Assistance with Investigations/Sanctions/
Revocations/Morrissey Hearings

Work Closely with Community Partners

Provide Referrals