



SPOKANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE -DETENTION SERVICES

Community Corrections Programs

Spring 2011

Our Mission:

To provide services to adult offenders which enhance public safety through effective and innovative programs which support positive choices, constructive behavior and accountability, thereby reducing repeat criminal behavior.

Our Principals:

- We believe that change is possible, and it begins internally.
- We believe that all people are equal and diverse individuals who have intrinsic worth and deserve personal attention, support, humor, empowerment and recognition.
- We believe in creating a challenging environment that emphasizes individual growth, exploration and strength.
- We believe in being proactive participants in societal, environmental, political and individual change to promote a safer community.

Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich

Detention Services Commander John McGrath

Re-Entry Program - Changing lives

Many of the inmates in the Spokane County Jail system are repeat offenders, who are caught in a cycle of bad choices which traps them in the Criminal Justice system.

Geiger Corrections Re-entry program provides a number of valuable programs to help offenders change their lifestyle and get out of the jail cycle.

Rebecca Butterfield is the Educational professional at Geiger who guides inmates through the path of re-entry.

Some of these programs include:

Breaking Barriers - a 17 session video training series which gives students the opportunity to examine their principals and make changes to their thinking patterns which will better serve their needs over time. This program has been very successful. Geiger just celebrated our 5th Graduation in April from this series.

Creative Conflict Resolution - A series of exercises that allow participants to learn and practice non-violent solutions to conflict through the use of affirmation, cooperation, and creative conflict management.

Financial Peace University - Dave Ramsey's successful budgeting workshop.

GED Training - Inmates may participate by studying in their areas of need during the scheduled class time. Since the implementation of the GED program in November 2006, there have been 215 GED graduates.

Other Services Include:

- Job Search Training
- Career Aptitude testing
- Community resource information distribution
- Assistance in admission to Spokane Community Colleges

Work Crew - Improving our Community



Geiger Work Crews collect discarded clothing at Bloomsday

Bloomsday 2011

When runners started lining up for the 35th annual Bloomsday Race at 7:00 a.m. Sunday May 1st, it was a brisk and windy 39° in downtown Spokane. The last group crossed the starting line shortly after 10:20 a.m. and all the sweatshirts, jackets and flannels that kept the runners warm and dry were hurriedly discarded. Hanging from trees, poles, and street lights on Riverside Ave. from Browne Street to Domsday Hill, clothing of all types and colors decorated the race course.

Collecting the discarded clothing was the Sheriff's Labor Program from Geiger Corrections Center. Seventeen inmates, two Work Crew deputies and volunteers from the Arc of Spokane went to work! Geiger work crews

picked up two 26 Ft. trailers worth of clothing - approximately 8000 lbs.

The clothes were sorted, bagged and delivered to the ARC of Spokane who uses the donations to support their efforts to assist children with developmental disabilities.

Since 2006, approximately 310,000 minimum security Spokane County inmate man hours were used on off site work crews. These crews perform maintenance and other projects for non-profit and government agencies related to the public health, safety and welfare.

The Sheriff's Community Correction Programs staff, Work Crew Deputies, and participating offenders are proud of the opportunity to serve the community by participating in these events!

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Work Release - Making a Difference

Carlos stopped by the office of Work Release Case Managers Ron Cunningham and Cassie Lewis to thank them for taking a chance on him, and allowing him the opportunity to go to work before being released. He said it allowed him to provide for his family and have some things in place before getting out. He told us that he has been able to meet with his two sons at a park across the street from his place of work during his lunch break, and he has started the steps to rebuilding those relationships.

Additionally Carlos worked with Penny Penton from NEWTA to secure a grant to pay for substance abuse treatment, and was able to begin treatment while incarcerated. That

program will continue after his release. Ron and Cassie were able to secure his housing release plan. Together they communicated with his DOC officer to ensure a smooth transition back into the community. Carlos is reentering the community in a far better situation than if he had not been able to participate in the Work Release program.

We currently have five people on the newly reactivated Work Release program (4 men and 1 woman). Three more are scheduled to start later this month. These folks are traveling to and from work on either private or public transportation.

Great Work Ron, Cassie and Penny!

Do you know Penny Penton? - NEWTA

Penny Penton is one of Geiger Correction's "Hidden Treasures"! Penny is tucked away in a small office in the education building at Geiger. She is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor, and Chemical Dependency professional who receives dozens of requests per week from inmates who are seeking help for themselves while incarcerated, as well as after release. Referrals to Penny can also be made from Child Protective Services and Probation Officers. Penny is employed by NEWTA (North East Washington Treatment Alternatives). In-

mates with few resources receive chemical dependency assessments and referrals, and linkage to the Dept. of Social and Health Services. ADA-TSA and Disability Lifeline Grants provide funding for treatment as well as food stamps, medical support, and a small monthly stipend while participating in treatment and early recovery.

Since the program's inception in September 2005, 1429 inmates have been screened, 1315 inmates have been assessed, and 1060 inmates have entered alcohol/drug treatment program.

Thank You Penny! You're truly an asset to us!

Community Garden Project - Giving Back



Program Sergeant Jon Simbler has initiated contact with Pat Munts of WSU Extension Spokane County to start a Community Garden at Geiger Corrections Center this Spring.

The project is designed to create a raised bed garden with fresh produce being grown and cultivated by offenders participating in programs.

The garden project will teach offenders how to plan, prepare and cultivate a garden. Fresh produce will be utilized on-site, and donated to the community.

Sgt Simbler recently visited Bonner County Jail's Community Garden. We are excited about starting our own Community Garden at Geiger!

Urban Forestry Program - On the Job Training

The Spokane County Sheriff's Department / Detention Services are working in collaboration with the Spokane City Parks and Recreation Urban Forestry to plant bare root stock within the fence line of Geiger Corrections Center.

The plan is to bring in approximately 300 bare root trees and grow them over 2 to 3 seasons until they are ready to be placed in parks and developments. During the project process, inmates from Geiger Corrections Center will learn tangible skills and receive training. Urban Forestry will utilize Geiger classroom space to offer video training and "on the job" training on such topics as pruning, composting, and pest eradication.

This project has already started with the planning of above ground watering systems, the transport of mulch to Geiger, and ground preparation.

