“Mental Health Training Initiatives – Continuing the Mission”

by: Superintendent Steve Glunt and Superintendent Mike Wenerowicz
Pennsylvania Dept of Corrections

Mentally ill offenders are increasingly a fact-of-life in prison today and we need to know how to interact with them in a professional manner. Training initiatives in the form of Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) and Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) improve daily interactions with offenders experiencing either short or long term mental health concerns.

MHFA is a one day training course of instruction that is provided to all DOC staff members. For every employee, it reiterates the human element regarding those in our care. During the training, employees may share personal observations and experiences in handling mentally ill offenders. This course reinforces the importance of positive support, improved listening, and patience; it also helps explain the modified thinking patterns of those facing mental health issues. It allows employees opportunities to ask questions about mental health treatment, behavior modification, suicide prevention and intervention, and reinforce ways to work more effectively with mentally ill offenders.

CIT is a one week program offered by the PADOC. It focuses on how to engage, assess, and respond to those in crisis due to a mental illness, as well as ways to de-escalate situations when offenders are agitated and/or in distress. CIT is designed to provide DOC staff with relevant information about the various types of mental illnesses, personality disorders and medication side effects that can affect custody. Also included in the course is information about the various specialized mental health units within the DOC, which offenders should be referred to them, and how the referral and treatment process works. Interactive skills provided during the training can be applied beyond the workplace. They can be used to help themselves, co-workers, and family members get through mental health challenges. The course is partly “experiential” with participants being given the opportunity to wear headphones that simulate auditory hallucinations or “voices”. While hearing the “voices” or other auditory hallucinations they are asked perform rudimentary tasks such as basic math and word problems. This personal experience further enhances their understanding of the difficulty facing the mentally ill. Employees who work in the various specialized mental health units are particularly encouraged to attend since they routinely implement these interpersonal skills in their work areas. The mental health peer support program is also discussed along with ways offenders can be encouraged to help each other with mental health issues, dementia, and other special needs. The information better prepares staff to effectively mitigate or resolve crises presented by mentally ill offenders. Staff have described it as a fun course and some of the best training they have received in the DOC.

As managers of facilities maintaining large mental health populations, we have directly observed benefits of staff participation in MHFA and CIT training. Corrections Officers assigned to specialty units are no longer viewed solely by offenders as “rules enforcers”. Officers are part of a true multidisciplinary team, directly impacting and changing the way the offenders react to all staff members. They better understand that these offenders are not typically refusing orders as much as they simply may not understand what is asked of them. If offenders display acting out behavior, staff tend to focus more on the true underlying issues, and not the symptom displayed in the form of negative activity. Changing the way the behavior is addressed changes the way the offenders interact with the unit team. Those completing the CIT training course generally communicate better, are more patient, tolerant, and routinely mitigate issues instead of escalating them. This way of thinking and interacting seems to improve facility safety, and better prepare those under our charge for their eventual release to the community.
December is a time of joy and celebration for most. It's a time of homecoming and a time for revisiting memories of times past. It's a season known for giving and receiving gifts large and small, material and spiritual.

It is also a time of despair and regret for those we have under our custody and care. It's a sorrowful time for victims and survivors we serve. It's a time we ask our staff to serve as the commitment to public safety never takes holiday leave.

It is hopefully a time of penitence and redemption and a season where forgiveness and mercy are made possible in environments conducive for moral rehabilitation. Breaking the cycle of violence is a big part of protecting the public and less victimization in our communities is possible in today's Corrections because of our professionalism and sheer desire to do all we can and more.

At this time I'd like to send words of thanks, encouragement and hope to all of you who are working non stop for peace. The people we serve are safer, more secure and better because of your efforts. I appreciate and recognize, along with the entire NAAWS family, the tremendous impact you and your peers are making to improving the lives of all you touch. We also appreciate sincerely the sacrifice your family and friends make in sharing you with us to accomplish the greater good.

We hope you all have safe, peaceful and redemptive prisons at this special time as well as throughout the rest of the year and into our brand new year. We look forward to seeing all of you soon at the annual NAAWS conference. We've been working diligently to make it the best training and networking opportunity to date.

My best to all,

Cathy Fontenot, CCE
President NAAWS

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**NAAWS Conference Golf Outing**

**Monday, March 23, 2015**

**1:00 PM**

**GREENS GOLF CLUB**

5900 NW Tiffany Springs Pkwy.

Kansas City, MO 64154

816-880-9600 ext. 206

(1 MILE FROM HOST HOTEL)

Vendors Needed!
Sponsor holes for $1000 per hole.

**$40.00 PER GOLFER**

INCLUDES CART, PRACTICE RANGE, GPS GOLF SYSTEM, AND BOX LUNCH.

BEGINNS AT 1:00 PM

(THE DAY BEFORE OUR NAAWS CONFERENCE STARTS ON TUESDAY, MARCH 24TH, 2015.)

**Reservations for Golf contact:**

Patrick Keohane (417)459-9494 or Mark Saunders (240) 315-8459.

Send checks to

Pat Keohane

714 Meramec Lane, Nixa, MO 65714.

Bus leaves Hotel at 12:00 Noon.
Ellen Mahoney Leonard

Wife, Mother, Grandmother, and Great Lady

Ellen was born into a traditional Irish-American family. Her parents immigrated from Longford (mother) and Kerry (father) and were loving and hardworking. Her mother, Mary, was always in the company of her sister Celia. Her father, Tim, was an accomplished musician who played traditional Irish music with Celia’s husband Denny Leonard. Their home was full of laughter, love, and music. Ellen’s sisters – Catherine, Patricia, Mary, and Joan - loved each other growing up and remain the best of friends for life. Childhood was closely connected to their cousins (the Leonard’s), the Hibernian Hall, and the Irish community in the Capital District. The Mahoney girls attended St. Patrick’s Grammar School. Ellen went on to high school at St. Joseph’s Academy where she was a good student, cheerleader, and talented singer in the school’s annual musical.

In the summer of 1957, Ellen met Art Leonardo who was walking with his friend, Frank Callahan, near the First Street CYO. Ellen was with her friend, Diane. The two couples are still together. Ellen’s first job was as a secretary at St. Thomas of Delmar. She later took a position with the New York State Department of Social Services until she married Art on December 26, 1966. They moved to Northern Virginia and she worked in the United States Senate for Senator Pearson of Kansas. The United States Marine Corps transferred them to Charleston, South Carolina where she gave birth to her first daughter, Gabrielle. Over the next two years, she worked part time and had two more daughters, Christine and Shannon. When the girls started grade school, she started a busy household and raised three wonderful daughters. She was rightfully proud of the girls who all have degrees and meaningful careers.

Ellen was an avid swimmer, walker, and naturalist. She even got her non-swimmer husband into kayaking. With all of this activity, she still found time to volunteer with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, helping the poor. She was also a caregiver. She helped care for not only her father and mother, but also her mother in law and Art’s Aunt Millie. Her example was not missed by her daughters who gave her loving care in her final days.

Ellen enjoyed nights out and dining at the best restaurants but was also a beautiful and lively hostess who enjoyed throwing dinner parties and having family visit. When she became a fulltime Floridian, she was always planning for visits from her daughters, their husbands and the little people - Tim and Colin Maloney and Olivia and Seamus Armenia. Ellen loved her grandchildren and spent hours teaching them how to play board games and puzzles. Marathon Scrabble games were a nightly highlight and Bingo was always a favorite.

Ellen was very private in her struggle with melanoma. In November of 2012, she was diagnosed with metastatic melanoma on her cheek and in her parotid gland. She had a fourteen hour surgery at the University of Miami Sylvester Cancer Center. Her two surgeons were both otolaryngologists and plastic surgeons. They removed the cancer from her face, neck, and shoulder. For a solid year, her scans showed that the cancer had not spread. Ellen and Art had a remarkable year in Florida and Albany. They redecorated their place in Halfmoon and installed a pool in their Florida home. It’s called “Gema’s pool”. They enjoyed many parties and concerts and viewed every day as a gift from God. Some of you visited Ellen and Art in Florida. Art plans to return after the first of the year to enjoy the home Ellen created for them. The memories of her will sustain him. We hope you will call and visit.

Ellen left very detailed instructions about her care. She did not want any extraordinary measures to be taken, and she wanted her care to be given by her husband and daughters. When her cancer spread in the spring, Ellen was treated with great compassion at St. Peter’s Cancer Care Center. She also went for a consultation with a world renowned melanoma specialist at Memorial Sloan Kettering in New York City. She endured two courses of radiation and four infusions of a drug to stimulate her immune system. A degree of success was achieved in that the cancer subsided, but the side effects were overwhelming. A true cure was not meant to be. They received great support and service from the Community Hospice of Saratoga County and the Hospice Inn at St. Peter’s. Through it all, Ellen never complained and maintained a loving attitude. She went to her eternal reward willingly and showed us all great patience and never feared death. She did not want a wake and wanted to be remembered with smiles and positive feelings. We hope all can celebrate a life that was well lived.

Live, Laugh, and Love.

A Tribute to Ellen Leonardo

Ellen, dear friend, lived her life with such flair. An accomplished woman beyond compare. Married so young, she showed bright ambition.

Business, research, reality -- her spheres

Raising three girls, earned her nursing degree

Partner to Arthur, in corrections he’d be Close to her siblings, loved her Irish clan

Joy in music through her family ran Showcases of her decorator’s skill,

In later years, her stunning silver bob She tossed when witty remarks she would lob

Gabrielle, Christine, Shannon, daughters three, Ellen adored, promoted harmony;

Tim, Collin, Olivia, Seamus too "Gema" was involved in all sports they’d do

Arthur, her husband of forty-eight years Treasures memories to shine through his tears

Recalling her caring ways, her good heart, From her friends’ thoughts, she will never depart “Live, laugh, love,” she painted on her porch wall:

Ellen’s philosophy - this says it all.

-Gail Gilroy Holpp
From the desk of...

The Executive Director

Gloria Hultz

Just wanted to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!! We will be very busy in Long Beach (ACA Conference). Our NAAWS suite will be at the Westin and as soon as I have our confirmation and room number, I will have an e-blast done and get everyone that information. Don't forget that we will open on Saturday evening around 6 pm until midnight. We will be open Sunday, and Monday. On Sunday morning we will hold our Warden of the Year candidate meeting and the Medal of Valor winner meeting. It will be chaired by Todd Thomas and don't forget all board of directors and officers are welcome to be part of this great event. As soon as the time can be confirmed we will let you all know. Patrick Keohane is doing an outstanding job with getting everything ready for our March conference in Missouri.

Also, as soon as I know the date and time of our Business Meeting, we will e-blast that to everyone too. Remember Christmas is a time for family, friends and the reason for the season!!!!

Staff Safety Behind the Walls;
A Warden’s Responsibility

Sunday, February 8th
2:30pm - 4:00pm

Moderator: Mel Williams, Consultant
(Retired Superintendent NYDOCCS) East Concord, New York

Presenter: Todd Thomas, Warden CCA
Saguaro Correctional Center, Saguaro, Arizona

Presenter: Michael Graziano, Superintendent NYDOCCS
Ulster Correctional Facility, Ulster, New York

Description: Correctional Facilities can be a dangerous environment to work in. One of the primary responsibilities of the Facility Warden or Administrator is to insure that employees are provided a safe work place. It takes many things to help in staff safety including; training, staffing, communication, planning, facility structure, appropriate gear, policy/procedures, etc. An important factor is a Warden who is aware of staff concerns and addresses them. Presenters will discuss how their agencies address this issue.

Wardens Walking the Streets

Tuesday, February 10th
8:30am - 10:00am

Moderator: Chery Lindamood, Warden CCA
Whiteville Correctional Facility Whiteville, Tennessee

Presenter: Cathy Fontenot, Asst. Warden
Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola, Louisiana

Presenter: Chuck Albino, Consultant
(retired Warden NJDOC) Collingswood, New Jersey

Description: Correctional Facilities are often located in small rural communities and as such are often the biggest employer. As part of that community Correctional Facilities can be a valuable resource. Correctional Administrators often work with the local community to support local projects. The interaction that occurs promotes better understanding between the community and the facility. This workshop will discuss examples of how facilities and communities interact in a positive manner.
WHY JOIN?

Does it seem like institution heads have little voice in the policies shaping their operations?

Would you like to see wardens accorded the respect and influence they once received?

Do you think that the American Correctional Association needs to respond more aggressively to the needs of jail and prison administrators?

If your answers are yes, this is your opportunity to join the only warden's organization that has members from coast to coast and throughout Canada and the United States.

Numbers do talk, and we can help wardens, superintendents, and jail administrators have their rightful voice in corrections if our membership increases.

Collectively, we can set goals and achieve results that make a difference when it comes to jail and prison operations and the status of wardens in our field.

NAAWS ACTIVITIES ADDRESS:

COMMUNICATION — our web site and regular newsletters share insights gained by wardens with years of institutional experience as well as information relevant to prisons and jails. Flash e-mails on important issues.

NETWORKING — hospitality suites and meetings at the ACA conferences provide opportunities to meet and exchange information.

TRAINING — in conjunction with NIC, Sam Houston University and other professional organizations, NAAWS offers Annual Training Conferences and workshops on many current issues.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE — NAAWS awards scholarships to promising students in the corrections field.

RECOGNITION — the annual Warden of the Year banquet permits peers to salute outstanding wardens.

Visit us today at www.naaws.corrections.com to join today.
Silent Victims of Crime

“Children of Incarcerated Parents”

MAKING CONNECTIONS AND CULTIVATING AWARENESS

by: B. Daniels, National Programs Coordinator

For the second year in a row now Silent Victims of Crime (SVC) continues to move forward with our Teen Leadership Miami Community Service program. This program consists of 9 months of community service driven activities planned by teenagers (LEADERS) from the Service Network for Children of Inmates, with the assistance of SVC staff and volunteers.

Initiating with a planning session in August we host a round table discussion about their goals for the year and take a poll of what skill building activities they would like to participate in, while keeping in mind the theme of community service. These activities are implemented on a monthly to bi-monthly basis from September to May.

This year we kicked off Teen Leadership Miami’s Community Service Program with Miami Children’s Initiative (MCI) annual Over the Edge charity event. This two day event brought out a countless number of community leaders, businesses such as Ford Motor Company, sponsors’ from The Children’s Trust and even actor Joe Morton from ABC’s hit television show Scandal, to rappel 19 stories down the JW Marriott Marquis in support of MCI’s mission to transform Liberty City into a prosperous community.

Our LEADERS arrived dressed to impress and ready to volunteer! They were given a quick training and details about the days’ event and everyone took their stations. The Leaders were responsible for taking helmets and Go Pro camera’s back upstairs after each participant completed their 19 story jump, disinfecting rappelling gear, cheering along participants as they came down, and even rounding up supporters still waiting to rappel to keep everyone on schedule.

MCI was impressed at the maturity of these LEADERS and so were we to see those that were in this program last year step to show our new LEADERS how to be professional at ALL times and the importance of showing your best self even when the day gets long.

I, myself was especially grateful to MCI for having us and used that opportunity to explain what we do for these innocent children of incarcerated parents and why there is such a need to empower them. With over 2 million children in the United States affected by parental incarceration that is a HUGE chunk of our future we cannot afford to ignore.

Until next time, THANK YOU for giving SVC this platform to share what we do!

Silent Victims of Crime is an organization devoted to empowering children of incarcerated parents through positive mentoring and educational enrichment while cultivating a national awareness.

Visit them at: www.silentvictimsofcrime.org
NAAWS Conference Agenda 2015 Kansas City, MO

Embassy Suites Hotel
7640 NW Tiffany Springs Parkway, Kansas City, MO 64153.
Reservations 1-816-891-7788
Use Code “NAW” for making reservations early as the hotel will fill up fast!

**TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2015**

6:00 AM-8:30 AM  BREAKFAST
(for registered Hotel guest) others will need a ticket, see NAAWS Officials.

8:00 AM VENDER HALL OPENS

8:30 AM-9:00 AM  OPENING CERAMONIES

9:15 AM-10:30 AM  BREAKOUT SESSION
TOP BOSSES ROUND TABLE  Q&A SESSION
Those invited are:
Directors George Lombardi, MO; Gary C. Mohr, OH;
Ray Hobbs, AR; Paul M. Laird, Regional Director BOP.
Commissioners Colette S. Peters, OR; Derrick D. Schofield, TN;
LaDonna Thompson, KY; Secretaries of Corrections,
Ray Roberts, KS; James M LeBlanc, LA.

10:45 AM-11:45 AM  BREAKOUT SESSION
JUVENILE JUSTICE
Ret Judge Betty Adams Green , Juvenile Judge Nashville, TN.

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM LUNCHEON AND GUEST SPEAKER
(TBA).
Sponsored by Wexford Health Sources

1:45 PM-3: 15 PM  BREAKOUT SESSION
CORRECTIONS AS A CAREER
Cathy Linaweaver, Recently Ret Federal Bureau of Prisons SES
Warden, Amber Nelson, Deputy Regional Director, BOP and
David Donahue, VP GEO group.

3:30 PM -5:00 PM  BREAKOUT SESSION
PREA DISCUSSIONS AND UPDATES.
Dave Haasenritter and Chuck Kehoe, Certified (Experience
PREA Auditors)

5:30 PM  EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL HOSPITALITY
(Registered hotel guest) and afterward NAAWS hospitality room
till 11:30 PM.

7:00 PM DINNER AT THE EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL
Sponsored by Keefe Group, Buford Satellite Systems,
Correctional Cable, MTC, CCA and Geo.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2015**

6:00 AM-8:30 AM  BREAKFAST
(for registered Hotel guest) others will need a ticket, see NAAWS officials.

8:30 AM – 12:00 NOON VENDER HALL OPENS

10: 00 AM-11:45 AM  BREAKOUT SESSION
CELL PHONE ISSUES. REPORT ON LATEST TECHNOLOGY ABOUT CELL PHONE ISSUES IN PRISONS
Shawn Smith; Mississippi DOC; Mike Hynes, Cellsense;
John Synder, Shawntech and Keegan Virtue, Tecore.

12:00 NOON – 1:15 PM LUNCHEON
Special Guest. Surprise recognition of a special Career in Corrections.
Luncheon by the Trinity Service Group.

1:30 PM -3:00 PM BREAKOUT SESSION
TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND WARDEN EXCHANGE.
Pedro C. Moreno, Cathy Fontenot, Doug Dretke, Bob Hood and
Burl Cain. Organized by Prison Fellowship.

3:15 PM-4:45 PM BREAKOUT SESSION
WHY DO WARDENS AND SUPERINTENDENTS USE RESTRICTIVE HOUSING?
Mel Williams, (Ret) New York, DOC Superintendent and Chuck Albino, (Ret) New Jersey DOC Warden.

5:00 PM TRIP TO ARGOSY CASINO BUS LEAVES

5:30 PM  EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL HOSPITALITY
(Registered hotel guest) and afterward NAAWS hospitality room
till 11:30 PM.
THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015

6:00 AM-7:00 AM BREAKFAST
(for registered Hotel guest) others will need a ticket, see NAAWS Officials.

7:15 AM Buses leave for Leavenworth, Kansas (20 miles)

8:30 AM- 11:30 AM TRIP ON BUSES TO THE UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS FOR TOUR OF THE FACILITY, MEETING THE SES WARDEN (Claude Maye) AND HIS STAFF.

11:45 AM-4:00 PM LUNCHEON
U.S. ARMY POST AT FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
Tour of U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks; Peter Grande, Chief of Staff and U.S. Army Support Staff
BREAKOUT SESSION
Video Presentation about U.S. Army Corrections
Q&A Session; Peter Grande and U.S. Army Support Staff

4:00 PM RETURN TO HOTEL
(DINNER ON YOUR OWN)

5:30 PM EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL HOSPITALITY
(Registered hotel guest) and afterward NAAWS hospitality room till 11:30 PM.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2015

Breakfast 6:00 am-9:00 am & Checkout for Registered guest. END OF CONFERENCE AND TRAVEL DAY FOR THOSE ATTENDING CONFERENCE

Happy Holidays
-from all of us with NAAWS
After the tremendous tragedy of Hurricane Katrina people in Corrections acted quickly to try to help others in need. Hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and supplies were raised and sent to those who were in disparate need in storm ravished areas. Many NAAWS members drove trucks to and volunteered in storm areas. Even after helping, many of our members and others felt the need to do more. Most areas were being addressed but one area that was identified as being in need was the children. But how could we help?

On a Sunday morning in the NAAWS suite at an ACA conference a few NAAWS members and 2 representatives from the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation hatched the idea of restoring parks and building playgrounds in communities where a natural disaster had struck. From this meeting Make A Smile was born. A bunch of volunteers who would dedicate themselves to putting smiles on children’s faces where so much sadness had occurred. Supported by NAAWS, CPOF, ACA, AWEC, a host of state associations, vendors, hundreds of volunteers, and thousands of caring Americans Make A Smile has restored parks and built playgrounds in New Orleans, Moss Point Mississippi, Bogalusa Louisiana, Cedar Rapids Iowa, and Nashville Tennessee.

We are now working on Sandy relief. Hurricane Sandy smashed into the Northeastern United States leaving a path of destruction two years ago. Last year Make A Smile was all set to restore a park in Coney Island, New York when the city found funding and did the work themselves. The Make A Smile Board has now identified that the community of Toms River New Jersey needs our help. Toms River is a small city on the New Jersey coast that took the worst pounding of any community during the Sandy hurricane. Two years after the storm there are still many areas that need attention and they have asked for our help. Two parks have been identified that are still closed and the children have nowhere to play but the streets. One mother told us that we could surely use some good news, “something for us to lift our heads and spirits up”.

As we sat in a meeting with Toms River’s officials and community representatives which was held in a food pantry we watched hundreds of people who were once proud hard working Americans pick up food so their families would not go hungry. We heard stories of people who were given FEMA loans to try to rebuild their homes having to give money back because someone behind a desk far away said they got too much. These are not millionaire beach people; these are everyday Americans trying to do the best they can to get back to some sense of normalcy after many losing everything. With your help we can give them some good news and a safe and fun place for their children to play.

Won’t you help? We need your cash and your sweat. Please do what you can to help other Americans in need! With your help, Make A smile will be going to Toms River in May of 2015. Please send donations to Make-A-Smile PO Box 503 Collingswood, NJ 08108. For more information or to volunteer please write to melnaaws@aol.com. Like us on Facebook or see us on www.youtube.com/makeasmileproject
This will take a great effort in fundraising, and work on the ground, but what is more important than helping others in need?

Thank you!
Mel Williams
Membership Application

Name: ___________________________ Title: ___________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip: ___________________________________________________________________

Phone: __________________ Fax: __________________ Email: _______________________

I am a:

☐ New Member  ☐ Renewing Member

Please remit check or money order, payable to NAAWS in the amount of:

☐ 1 year ($25 US)

☐ 2 years ($45 US)  ☐ 3 years ($65 US)

send to:

NAAWS
P.O. Box 3573
Dublin, OH 43016