

NEWS IN CORRECTIONS

The Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) recognized **International Restorative Justice Week** November 14-18 with a host of activities involving staff and offenders at the



state's prisons. Restorative justice is a response to crime aimed at repairing the harm caused by a criminal act and restoring balance in the community affected by the crime.

It requires offenders to take responsibility for their actions and focus on the harm done to their victims.

"Restorative Justice Week is an important time for offenders to recognize the tremendous impact their crimes have on others," said Corrections Commissioner Fabian. "The Department of Corrections encourages offenders to repair the damage done to their victims through a series of events and activities designed to give back to the community."

Restorative justice events are underway at DOC facilities year-round. For a list of facility activities or other information on restorative justice efforts in the DOC, visit www.doc.state.mn.us/rj/default.htm. ■

Jerry Wilhelmy, investigator with the DOC Office of Special Investigations, was recently honored by the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, Upper Sioux Community, for his work with the Federal Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative on Minnesota's Indian Reservations. In recognition of his efforts, Wilhelmy was presented with a plaque that read: "In appreciation of your dedication and commitment in protecting our reservations and saving our children from the growing violence related to gangs. Your insight and knowledge of Native gangs and their misuses of Indian traditions in their efforts is eye-opening and sobering. Thank you for your hard work and caring about our communities." ■

The **Whole Heart Program** at the Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF)-St. Cloud donated \$363 to community charities for holiday food baskets. The offender program sponsors events and activities

throughout the year to raise funds for and increase awareness of victim issues. The program also recently donated a quilt, made by offenders, to the Red Lake School District Principal. ■

David Johnson will retire from the DOC effective January 10, 2006. Johnson joined the corrections community in 1965 as a county probation officer in western Minnesota. After some time spent in the military and obtaining a master's degree, Johnson became an Aitkin County probation officer in 1970. He left Minnesota for Galesburg, Illinois, in 1971 to serve as superintendent of a juvenile facility and in 1973 became director of juvenile court services in Springfield. In 1977, Johnson returned to the Minnesota DOC as a detention facility inspector. He later served as state jail removal coordinator, director of juvenile licensing, assistant director of juvenile services, and was named to his current position as juvenile services director in 2003. A celebration in his honor will be held at the DOC central office in St. Paul on January 5 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. For additional information, contact Toni Spears at 651/603-0193 or tspears@co.doc.state.mn.us. ■

Adult offenders on **Sentencing to Service** crews in Winona County are busy this winter with many community projects, including shoveling snow at the Red Cross training and community center. Juvenile offenders on community work service are distributing ribbons on behalf of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) as part of a holiday fundraising and awareness effort. ■

Gino Anselmo has been named Project Functional Manager at Thistledeew, a DOC-operated facility for at-risk youth and the site of the Challenge Incarceration Program for adult women. Anselmo began his corrections career in 1994 as an intern at Thistledeew. He has served in a number of positions, including corrections officer, recreation therapist, and security caseworker at Thistledeew's three-month residential program. His appointment was effective November 2, 2005. ■

Bruce Clendenen has been appointed Center City District Supervisor in the DOC Community Services Division. Clendenen's corrections career spans nearly 30 years. He has served as director of a private corrections agency and supervised intensive supervision and Sentencing to Service programs. He was chemical dependency program director at the MCF-Lino Lakes, Employee Development project manager, and most recently corrections program & policy monitor in the health services unit. He is knowledgeable about evidence-based practices and is an LSI-R and effective case management trainer who has facilitated cognitive groups for offenders. His appointment is effective January 4, 2006. ■

On December 31, 2004, there were 128,382 adult and juvenile offenders under **probation supervision** in Minnesota. This number is 2.5 percent greater than one year earlier and a 33.5 percent increase over the last decade (1994-2004). Probation supervision across the state is provided by the DOC, Community Corrections Act agents, and county probation officers. The **2004 Probation Report** has additional information on this population and is available at www.doc.state.mn.us/publications/pdf/2004%20Probation%20Survey.pdf. ■

Tim Lanz has been appointed Institutional Reentry Coordinator for the DOC effective December 5. Statistically, 95 percent of all offenders will serve their prison sentence and return to the community. Lanz will coordinate reentry program elements and services for all offenders in DOC facilities. Focus areas include employment preparation, housing, family reunification, ID acquisition, and maintaining a crime-free lifestyle. Lanz has worked for the DOC for 24 years at several facilities and has been assigned transition responsibilities for the last four years. For more information on transitional programming, visit www.doc.state.mn.us/publications/publications.htm and select Reentry Publications. ■

Liz Evensen is the new executive director of the **Minnesota Correctional Education Foundation** (MCEF), succeeding Curt Peterson. MCEF is a state-wide charity founded in 2003 to provide post-secondary and vocational educational opportunities for inmates. Evensen formerly coordinated educational fundraising and scholarship programs within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and directed philanthropic efforts for other Twin Cities nonprofit organizations. She will work to build awareness of MCEF and its mission, establish partnerships with businesses and organizations, and provide opportunities for individuals and organizations to invest in safer communities through education.

MCEF will hold its second annual **Golf Open Fundraiser** in July 2006 at the Majestic Oaks Golf Course in Ham Lake. The event includes golf, meals, a silent auction, and a social. All proceeds directly support educational programming for inmates. For more information about serving on the MCEF Golf Committee, volunteering for the event, participating as a sponsor, or to make a reservation for golf, contact Evensen at liz.evensen@state.mn.us or 651/642-0285. For additional information about MCEF, visit www.mcef.info. ■

The DOC publishes a series of flyers, entitled **Backgrounders**, which provide statistical and other information on various topics. Some of the current Backgrounder topics are sex offenders in prison, methamphetamine offenders in prison, transitional programming, and Minnesota's Community Notification Act. Backgrounders are available online at www.doc.state.mn.us/publications/backgrounders/default.htm. ■

OPENINGS

Washington County position openings:

- **Probation Officer I/II** - two adult positions, one permanent (intensive supervision) and one special project
- **Probation Officer I/II** - .5 FTE (20 hours/week) juvenile intensive supervision

Anticipated hiring range: \$16.49 to \$21.58/hour. Bachelor's degree and one year of full-time related experience, paid or unpaid; or master's degree in behavioral science required. Closing date: January 17, 2006. For an application, call 651/430-6081 or visit www.co.washington.mn.us. ■

Probation Officer I, Arrowhead Regional Corrections (ARC); \$2,748/month. An eligible register is being established for future vacancies throughout the ARC system (Duluth, Carlton, Grand Marais, Hibbing, International Falls, Silver Bay, Two Harbors, and Virginia). Minimum qualifications: Master's degree in a behavioral science field, including completion of clinical field work training/internship; **or** BA/BS degree in behavioral science or in any other field, including or supplemented by 40 credits in behavioral science, and one year of professional experience (full-time equivalent) in social work, probation, parole, or social counseling. Contact: St. Louis County Civil Service/Personnel Department, 100 North 5th Avenue West, #1, Duluth, Minnesota 55802, 218/726-2422 (voice), 218/725-5198 (TTY), 218/725-5065 (job hotline) or www.co.st-louis.mn.us. Apply by Friday, January 6, 2006. ■