



## IN THE CENTER

### News from Community Corrections

#### The Numbers:

- **65,066:** number of specimens collected for ISL III/IV drug screens in FY 13
- **86.2%:** percentage of those specimens that returned a negative result

## COLLABORATION CORNER: THANKSGIVING TURKEY AT THE PITTSFIELD CCC

The turkey was carved a day early at the **Pittsfield Community Corrections Center (CCC)**. On Wednesday, November 27th, staff surprised Intermediate Sanction Level (ISL) III/IV participants with the second annual Thanksgiving Celebration. The Celebration included a dinner for participants, and a reflection exercise in which participants produced turkeys out



of construction paper. On the feathers of each turkey, participants wrote something for which they were thankful. Then program staff led participant discussion

as they attached the feathers to the paper turkeys posted on the wall.

The entire CCC staff contributed to the meal. **Arrow Security Corp.** Program Monitors **Alan Gould**, **Christopher**



**Harris, Jennifer Rennaud, Michelle Salgado, and Brian Todd** provided pasta salad, cranberry sauce,

macaroni and cheese, Spanish rice, and stuffing. By dutifully discarding their redeemable beverage containers in the appropriate receptacle, participants unwittingly contributed when the cans were redeemed by staff to pay for the turkey.

**Phoenix Houses of New England Treatment Manager Kyle Schadler** explained that the Celebration is a way to provide positive rewards and encouragement to participants, "This celebration is a way for us to recognize the hard work that

participants have put in towards their recovery. The staff acknowledges and appreciates the work that participants have done and we hope to see it continue."

Contributors: Kevin Kearney, Kyle Schadler



*Pittsfield CCC staff and participants sit down to talk about what they are thankful for before Thanksgiving dinner.*

## COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKS: SHARED VISION AT LOWELL CCC

In September 2013 the **Lowell Community Corrections Center (CCC)** paired up with the **Lexington Lions Club** on a project to recycle eyeglasses for needy children in developing countries.

As part of their mission of service to the blind and visually impaired, Lions Clubs collect used eyeglasses through a network of recycling centers, including eighteen in the United States. The Lions collect more than 6 million pairs of eyeglasses every year. The glasses are distributed to children in about seventy-eight developing countries around the world.

In Lowell, Intermediate Sanction Level III/IV participants under enhanced supervision



*Kevin Roy of the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department works with an ISL III participant sizing eyeglasses at the Lowell Community Counseling Center.*

at the CCC receive packages of donated eyeglasses that are processed for shipping to a recycling center. Participants unpack

the glasses, clean them, and then measure them with a computerized Lensmeter CL-100 machine on loan from the Lexington Lions Club. The machine provides them with information about the prescription of each lens. The participants then label the eyeglasses and pack them individually for shipping to the recycling center.

According to **Bay State Community Services Treatment Manager Arlin Mejia** the project provides participants an opportunity to see themselves in a different way, "It's tangible and they can see themselves helping someone else. That is important for someone in recovery."

Submitted by Yardley Theolien

## MASSACHUSETTS TRIAL COURT OFFICE OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Pat Horne, Deputy Director  
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### IN THE CENTER

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**ABOUT:** Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 211F, the Massachusetts Trial Court, Office of Community Corrections (OCC), is charged with implementing intermediate sanctions through the development of community corrections programs. Among the programs developed by the OCC are the Trial Court Community Service Program and the state's 18 Community Corrections Centers. The Community Service Program administers community service as a sanction, or in lieu of fees, for probation departments across the state. Community Corrections Centers facilitate enhanced supervision by delivering integrated sanctions and services via Intermediate Sanction Level (ISL) III/IV. ISL III/IV combine services such as: substance abuse treatment, education, job development, life skills and vocational training with sanctions such as: drug testing, community service, electronic monitoring and day reporting. Community Corrections Centers provide an alternative to incarceration for offenders on probation, parole, or in the custody of the sheriff, Department of Correction or Department of Youth Services thereby reserving prison space for the most dangerous offenders.

## A THANK YOU NOTE

The following thank you note was submitted by an ISL III/IV participant after the Thanksgiving Celebration referenced in this edition's front page story "Collaboration Corner: Thanksgiving Turkey at the Pittsfield CCC". It has been edited for privacy.

*My name is Jennifer and I am a participant of the Community Corrections Center at the Phoenix House in Pittsfield, MA. I just wanted to write a little note to let you know how wonderful it was when the staff had a Thanksgiving lunch/dinner for all of the participants and staff on Wednesday the 27th. After one of our groups they told us to hold off on eating our own lunches that they had a surprise for us. We were all called up to the room where our groups are held and they had a long table set up with a Thanksgiving tablecloth and two tables full of food. One table had all of the fixings for a Thanksgiving dinner and the other table had desserts. Every staff member including security made and brought something in to contribute to the meal. It was such a wonderful feeling to have them do this for us. I personally have a great relationship with all of the staff they are a great group of people. They really care about every person they encounter through this program and taking the time to do this just proves this. The group of people we have right now have been together for at least 3 months and it's almost like we're family, so all of us sitting around a table together with the staff that helps us every day was such a warm happy feeling. I just want to say how much this meant to me and I hope it continues throughout the years so other participants can experience the same loving feelings.*

Thank You

Submitted by Kyle Schadler

## OPEN HOUSES: COMING TOGETHER AT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

This autumn several community corrections centers opened their doors to criminal justice professionals and community-based service providers for a chance to network and speak about enhanced supervision at a CCC.

On November 6, **Essex County Sheriff Frank G. Cousins Jr.** and **Honorable Mary F. McCabe, Associate Justice of the District Court**, were among the guests that heard presentations from CCC staff including Essex County Sheriff's Department Manager **Bob Leverone**, Probation Officer In-charge **Kerrin Costello**,

OCC Regional Program Manager **Yardley Theolien** and **Adcare Criminal Justice Services Treatment Manager Jim Higgins**.



*Attendees network at the Brockton CCC open house on October 25, 2013.*

"The turnout for the open house was an embodiment of the collaborative efforts that go on at the Brockton CCC everyday," said **Old Colony Y Program Manager Tara Canavan**.

The Boston CCC open house was visited by new probation officers from the West Roxbury and Central Divisions of the Boston Municipal Court as well as various community-based organization representatives and **Charles Yetman** of the **Boston Public Health Commission's Homeless Services Bureau**.

The Taunton CCC hosted an open house on November 15. ACJS program staff networked with probation officers from the **Attleboro and Taunton Divisions of the District Court**.



*Probation officers speak with ACJS staff at the Taunton CCC.*



*On November 6, 2013, about twenty-three criminal justice professionals including judges, probation officers, police chiefs and the county sheriff spoke about enhanced supervision via ISL III/IV at the Salisbury Community Corrections Center.*

At the Brockton CCC, on October 25, representatives from the **Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, South Bay Mental Health, Health Imperatives, and Clinical Science Laboratory** networked with attorneys and social service advocates from the **Committee for Public Counsel Services**, probation officers from the **Brockton District and Plymouth Superior Courts** and parole officers from **Region 7 Parole Office**.