

Directions

Oriana House's Community Corrections

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Need a Speaker?

Oriana House can provide your group or organization a speaker to discuss community corrections and/or chemical dependency. Call 330-535-8116 for more information.

CBCF CLIENT DESCRIBES LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAM

In 2008 Oriana House:

- Had 12,545 client intakes in residential and nonresidential community corrections programs
- Provided chemical dependency assessments, treatment, and/or referrals in more than 17,000 cases
- Clients paid \$147,000 in restitution and court-ordered costs
- Clients performed more than 60,550 hours of community service

No community can avoid crime or chemical dependency, but community corrections programs can minimize their impact and increase public safety.

For many offenders, the criminal justice system becomes a way of life. It is not unusual for low level offenders to spend their lives in and out of prison, jail, and community control.

Karen (not her real name), a 41-year-old client in the Cliff Skeen Community Based Correctional Facility, knows the criminal justice system all too well. "I was introduced to drugs and alcohol at a young age and was in and out of institutions my whole life," she said.

Upon her latest conviction on drug-related charges, she hoped the judge would give her a sentence with some kind of help because she needed stability in her life. She was sentenced to the Cliff Skeen Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) in Summit County.

CBCFs provide a highly-structured living environment for adult felony offenders. These programs give the offender an opportunity to remain in their community while addressing issues such as education, substance abuse, cognitive skills, employment, anger management, and other life skills.

One aspect of Karen's programming that has been beneficial to her is the "Thinking for a Change" component. Thinking for a Change classes are part of the What Works initiative. What Works is evidence-based programming that teaches clients to change the way they think, so they can and will change their behavior and become more productive, prosocial members of the community. What Works provides services

that have been proven to have a positive impact on clients' behavior and lead to a reduction in recidivism.

"This program has taught me a lot about taking responsibility. I have done a 360," she stated.

During the CBCF program, Karen has become closer to her family which includes a teenage son that she was estranged from for several years. She is working on establishing housing for when she completes the program and is also making community contacts to help support her in her continued sobriety once she is released.

As long as Karen continues to do well in her programming, she is scheduled to be released in December.

"I've got a positive attitude. I want to go to school. I need to take care of myself and move forward because I was stuck before," she said.

Oriana House operates several CBCF programs: The Cliff Skeen CBCF for women and the Summit County CBCF for men are located in Akron. The CROSSWAHEH CBCF located in Seneca County serves a nine-county region. And Oriana House has been selected to operate the Cuyahoga County CBCF once it opens.

The CBCFs operated by Oriana House served 832 clients in 2008. Without the CBCFs, these clients most likely would have gone to prison where they would have received limited, if any, rehabilitation services.

CBCF PROGRAMS EARN PERFECT SCORES ON AUDITS FOR REACCREDITATION

Oriana House, Inc., is celebrating two perfect scores on recent audits by the American Correctional Association (ACA). The Summit County Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) and the CROSSWAEH CBCF located in Seneca County were both reaccruited as a result of their audits.

The Summit County CBCF includes a 164-bed male facility and a 60-bed female facility that are managed by Oriana House and governed by the Summit County Facility Governing Board.

CROSSWAEH is a 58-bed male facility and a 36-bed female facility also managed by Oriana House and serves the counties of Crawford, Richland, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Wyandot, Ashland, Erie, and Huron. The program is governed by the CROSSWAEH Facility Governing Board.

“Each program received a 100% on 34 mandatory standards and more than 200 non-mandatory standards. That is a significant achievement that demonstrates the professionalism and

quality of our staff and programs,” said Bernie Rochford, Oriana House executive vice president. “I am proud of our staff who are committed to delivering high quality programming that can effectively help offenders turn their lives around.”

The CBCF provides a highly-structured and secure community sanction for felony offenders and offers chemical dependency treatment, academic assessments and opportunities, community service, and employment training which are all imperative to the rehabilitation of offenders.

“Research shows that carefully screened offenders can be diverted from prison to controlled community supervision settings like CBCFs without compromising the safety of the community and with significantly higher success rates,” said Rochford.

All CBCF clients are confined to the facility for the first 30 days where they regularly meet with their caseworkers and undergo assessments. As clients progress through programming, they are given opportunities to leave the

facility to complete community service, job search, work, or attend approved appointments. Offenders sentenced to CBCFs usually complete the program in four to six months and are involved in a multi-tiered treatment plan.

The ACA accreditation process involved a professional peer review based on national standards that address services, programs, and operations essential to effective correctional management. Through accreditation, an agency is able to maintain a balance between protecting the public and providing an environment that safeguards the life, health, and safety of staff and offenders.

Other facilities/programs operated by Oriana House that are accredited by ACA include: Electronic Monitoring, Day Reporting, Residential Institutional Probation, Terrence Mann Residential Center, Residential Correctional Center, Special Housing Adjustment Residential Program (SHARP), and the Oriana House Community Corrections and Treatment Center in Cleveland.

Summit County CBCF for men



CROSSWAEH CBCF for men



Cliff Skeen CBCF for women



CROSSWAEH CBCF for women



FAMILY INVOLVEMENT CAN HELP REHABILITATION

Getting offenders' families involved in the rehabilitation process is the reason several of Oriana House's community corrections programs have begun hosting Family Orientation sessions. These events invite the offender's close relatives or individuals who are part of their support system to come into the facility and learn about the programming, expectations, and resources available.

The Summit County Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) held its first Family Orientation night in June and according to Ilya McGee, program manager, the monthly events have been beneficial for both clients and staff.

"We're putting a lot of focus on the families and support network of the clients," said McGee. "Research and our experience here shows that the family's involvement is integral to a client's success. We already know that the programming and environment of Oriana House is conducive to the clients' reentry, so now we're doing all we can to inform their families and positively impact their home and social environment."

The agenda for Family Orientation includes an explanation of Oriana House and details

about the specific programming, including client assessments, case management, visitation, employment/education, chemical dependency treatment, and cognitive skills. Oriana House staff along with a probation and/or parole officer present the information to the families.

The Cliff Skeen CBCF for Women and the male halfway house program in Akron have also started hosting Family Orientations. Nonresidential programs, such as Felony Drug Court, are also holding similar Family Education sessions.

While it is too soon to measure the effect the Family Orientations have on success rates, there already are other positive indicators. Often a client's desire to restore relationships with his or her parents or children is a great motivator.

"It's been excellent because clients get focused on their families right away," said McGee. "And the families get a better understanding of what is going on and what to look for in the way of progress or problems."

Judge Mary F. Spicer Joins OHI Board of Directors

Retired Summit County Common Pleas Judge Mary F. Spicer has joined the Board of Directors for Oriana House, Inc.

Judge Spicer retired in January from the Summit County Court of Common Pleas after serving four terms on the bench. Judge Spicer received her B.A. from Heidelberg College in 1958, her M.A. from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration in 1960 and her J.D. from The University of Akron School of Law in 1965. Judge Spicer was in private practice from 1965 to 1975, when she was appointed as referee in the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division. In Probate Court, she also served as director of human services. She was elected as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1984, and reelected in 1990, 1996 and 2002.

"Judge Spicer has the utmost integrity and a reputation for fairness. Her insight, expertise, and experience will enhance our Board," said James Lawrence, president and CEO of Oriana House, Inc.

Oriana House, Inc.'s Board of Directors consists of William Kea, chair; Harold Craig, retired Akron Police captain; Eric Czetli, district deputy director for the Ohio Department of Transportation and former clerk of Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court; Robert Fenner, retired supervisor from the Adult Parole Authority; James Wagner, attorney; and James Lawrence. The Agency's Board of Directors is the governing body of Oriana House, Inc.

SAFE SURRENDER A SUCCESS

Oriana House was proud to assist in Summit County's second successful Fugitive Safe Surrender Program. Hundreds of people with outstanding warrants showed up at a local church to turn themselves in to authorities who were on hand to continue the legal process in makeshift courtrooms.

The setting in an Akron church provided a non-confrontational environment where people who have been avoiding the law could address their criminal charges. Police, Judges, Sheriff deputies, prosecutors, attorneys, and staff from the Ohio Department of Motor Vehicles, Clerk of Courts, and Oriana House were all present to help resolve cases.

The Summit County event was part of a national program that has resulted in more than 20,000 people turning themselves in for outstanding charges.



DRUG-RELATED DEATHS INCREASE IN NUMBER; WHERE TO TURN FOR HELP

SUMMIT COUNTY
RESIDENTS CAN
CALL 330-996-7730
TO CONTACT
THE ADM CRISIS
CENTER FOR
HELP WITH
ADDICTION

Drug-related deaths have become the top cause of injury-related deaths in Ohio, overtaking traffic fatalities, according to a report released last month by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Sudden deaths from drug overdoses make up 90% of the fatalities, and according to the report there was a sharp increase in fatalities tied to cocaine and drugs such as methadone, sedatives, and prescription painkillers like Vicodin and OxyContin.

“Summit County has many places for a person to turn to for help with drug abuse,” said Oriana House Executive Vice President Anne Connell-Freund. “The Summit County ADM Crisis Center is open 24 hours a day so individuals can come into the facility on their own or be referred. Our staff is trained to get them connected with the care and treatment they need,” said Connell-Freund.

The ADM Crisis Center offers drop-off, detoxification, and assessment services for

Summit County residents who suffer from drug abuse or addiction. The facility is located at 15 Frederick Avenue in Akron and is part of the Summit County Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health (ADM) Services Board.

“Seeking professional help is a critical part of dealing with addiction,” explained Christopher Richardson, program manager of the ADM Crisis Center. “The physical and psychological issues of drug usage and withdrawal are complex. It’s important that the individual using drugs and his or her family have access to the resources and information they need to deal with the addiction.”

The CDC report shows that while drug-related deaths definitely increased, the number of traffic death rates also decreased.

For decades, traffic accidents have been the biggest cause of injury-related death in the U.S., and they are still number one. But drug overdoses are now more deadly than auto accidents in at least 16 states.

