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Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

Correctional Education Yields High Return on Investment

The Washington State Institute for Public Policy was created by the 1983 Washington Legislature to carry out non-partisan research assignments. The 2009 Legislature directed the Institute to “calculate the return on investment to taxpayers from evidence-based prevention and intervention programs and policies.” The Institute was directed to produce “a comprehensive list of programs and policies that improve . . . outcomes for children and adults in Washington and result in more cost-efficient use of public resources.”

The Washington State Institute for Public Policy identified public policies that have been shown to improve the following outcomes:

- ✓ Child maltreatment
- ✓ Crime
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Labor earnings
- ✓ Mental health
- ✓ Public assistance
- ✓ Public health
- ✓ Substance abuse

The Institute’s approach to calculating the return on investment to taxpayers from evidence-based prevention and intervention programs included: systematically assessing the evidence, calculating cost and benefit, measuring the riskiness of conclusions, and, where possible, providing a portfolio of policy options.

The 2011 update identified correctional education programs as being among the top adult criminal justice programs with the greatest rate of return on investment. Two correctional education programs ranked among the top five best returns on money for adult criminal justice populations. “Correctional Education in Prison” and “Vocational Education in Prison” ranked third and fifth most effective when “Monetary Benefits minus Costs” per participant are calculated.

Background

In the mid-1990s, the legislature began to direct the Institute to undertake comprehensive reviews of “evidence-based” policy strategies. The initial efforts were in juvenile and adult criminal justice.

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Creative Contest Changes Timeline

Usually in the May/June issue of the CEA-Wisconsin newsletter, readers would find an announcement inviting incarcerated writers and artists to submit their works for the annual the CEA-W Creativity Contest. This year the Creativity Contest Committee has changed the timeline for the contest.

Because many county jail instructors are employed by the Wisconsin Technical College System, they may not hold classes during the summer and so their students would not be able to participate in the Creativity Contest.

To remedy this, the Creativity Contest Committee has decided to make the contest announcement in the September/October issue of this newsletter and move the submission deadline to December 1, 2012. The Creativity Contest booklets with the selected original prose, poetry, and ink drawings will be distributed in May 2013.

All other contest eligibility requirements and rules will remain the same.

CEA-W Creativity Contest booklet will contain original prose, poetry, and ink drawings from Wisconsin's jail, prison, and juvenile facility populations. All levels of writers and artists are encouraged to offer submissions. Authors and artists whose works are selected will each receive two free copies of the booklet when it is published in May 2013. Each CEA-W member gets a free copy of the booklet.

Students are encouraged to express themselves in drawings (black ink on 8½ by 11 white paper) and writings up to 1000 words including poems, letters, essays, and short stories. Winners are selected from all levels, so beginning writers are encouraged to give it a try.

The Creativity Contest reflects the professional commitment of CEA-Wisconsin to promote literacy. If you want to join the committee and help in judging the entries, contact Sharon Nesemann at the Wisconsin Resource Center, sharon.nesemann@wisconsin.gov.

To join CEA go to: www.ceanational.org

Executive Officers		<p>The CEA-W News Review is published by the members of the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin Chapter. The opinions herein are entirely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the executive officers, the Department of Corrections, or the body as a whole.</p> <p>It is our hope that this newsletter will be used to communicate information concerning activities, special events, new directions and policies of CEA-W and DOC.</p> <p>Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: W6443 Old Highway Road Menasha, WI 54952 920-734-5902 jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com</p>
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(continued from page 1)

Several juvenile justice and adult corrections' programs—not then operating in Washington—that had the potential to reduce crime and save Washington taxpayers money were identified. In subsequent sessions, the legislature used the information to begin a series of policy reforms.

Today, the results of these crime-focused efforts appear to be paying off. Relative to national rates, juvenile crime has dropped in Washington, adult criminal recidivism has declined, total crime is down, and taxpayer criminal justice costs are lower than alternative strategies would have required.

Benefits and Costs of Evidence-Based Public Policies

The report, "Return on Investment: Evidence-based options to improve statewide outcomes," shows the computations of benefits and costs for 70 programs in ten policy areas. Evaluations of dozens of other programs have been published previously or are in the review process. The entire report is available at: <http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/rptfiles/11-07-1201.pdf>. Here are the evaluations of the Adult Criminal Justice Topic Areas and Programs

Topic Area/Program	Total Benefits	Taxpayer Benefits	Non-Taxpayer Benefits	Costs	Benefits Minus Costs	Benefit to Cost Ratio	Risk (odds of positive value)
Dangerously Mentally Ill Offenders	\$103,596	\$24,391	\$79,205	(\$31,626)	\$71,969	\$3.28	100%
Drug Offender Sentencing Alternative: drug offenders	\$28,013	\$6,680	\$21,333	(\$1,511)	\$26,502	\$18.57	99%
Correctional Education in Prison	\$19,923	\$4,785	\$15,138	(\$1,102)	\$18,821	\$18.11	100%
Electronic Monitoring	\$17,068	\$4,068	\$13,000	\$1,044	\$18,112	n/e	100%
Vocational Education in Prison	\$19,083	\$4,634	\$14,449	(\$1,537)	\$17,547	\$12.43	100%
Drug Treatment in the Community	\$15,419	\$3,671	\$11,748	(\$2,102)	\$13,317	\$7.35	100%
Drug Offender Sentencing Alternative: prop. offenders	\$14,324	\$3,410	\$10,914	(\$1,513)	\$12,811	\$9.47	76%
Mental Health Court	\$14,230	\$3,424	\$10,806	(\$2,878)	\$11,352	\$4.95	100%
Cognitive-Based Treatment (in prison)	\$10,741	\$2,588	\$8,153	(\$217)	\$10,524	\$49.55	99%
Drug Treatment in Prison	\$14,351	\$3,467	\$10,883	(\$3,894)	\$10,456	\$3.69	100%
Intensive Supervision: with treatment	\$17,521	\$4,216	\$13,305	(\$7,712)	\$9,809	\$2.28	96%
Drug Court	\$11,750	\$2,644	\$9,106	(\$4,099)	\$7,651	\$2.87	100%
Cognitive-Based Treatment (in the community)	\$7,739	\$1,848	\$5,891	(\$217)	\$7,522	\$35.70	99%
Work Release	\$6,466	\$1,552	\$4,914	(\$649)	\$5,817	\$9.97	97%
Correctional Industries in Prison	\$6,398	\$1,546	\$4,851	(\$1,387)	\$5,011	\$4.63	100%
Community Employment Training/Job Assistance	\$4,641	\$1,104	\$3,537	(\$132)	\$4,509	\$35.13	100%
Intensive Supervision: surveillance only	(\$556)	(\$132)	(\$424)	(\$4,050)	(\$4,606)	(\$0.14)	10%
Domestic Violence Treatment Programs	(\$3,724)	(\$886)	(\$2,839)	(\$1,335)	(\$5,059)	(\$2.91)	20%

MUM Offers Innovative Programs

Madison-area Urban Ministry (MUM) was formed in 1971 and has evolved into an interfaith social justice organization that has spurred social change in and around Dane County. Based on their mission to be “a prophetic voice for justice, neighbors working together for social change,” MUM has served as an incubator for innovative ideas and new projects. Some of these projects provide services to incarcerated individuals and their families. For more information about the MUM programs visit their website:

www.emum.org.

Circle of Support

Developed in 2003, MUM's Circle of Support program utilizes groups of four to six community volunteers, recruited, screened and trained by MUM, to meet weekly with offenders newly released from prison. The person newly released, or “Core Circle Member” finds a new community, a support network to welcome him or her home. The Circle of Support offers a respectful, positive and supportive environment for the Core Team Member as they adjust to the demands and challenges of everyday life on the outside. The Circles of Support Program is effective because it provides a space for the Core Team Member to be heard, to be encouraged and to be respected.

The following is what one Core Member had to say about his experience in Circle of Support:

“I’ve enjoyed working with MUM because they’ve helped me to enroll in finance and employability classes which have been truly helpful being that I’ve never worked or had to pay my own bills. I work with MUM in a few other areas as well, such as advice in healthy relationships of any kind, any depressing thoughts and on how to deal with them... I meet with MUM every week and we go over whatever pressing thoughts or issues I have had that week which helps me to keep myself in check...I feel that they are extraordinary people for trying to help to give those of us that others call monsters a second chance at life and not just a life, but a meaningful life. There are some who don’t get that second chance. I wake up every morning and give praise to my Father that I have people in my corner that are willing to take the time to help and work with me on my day to day issues. So to MUM, thanks.”

Mentoring, Family Connections and Reading Connections

Madison-area Urban Ministry has three programs specifically designed to address the unique needs and concerns of children who have with a parent in jail, prison or awaiting sentencing. The programs are: Mentoring, Family Connections and Reading Connections. Children who have a parent in jail, prison or awaiting sentencing are often among the most vulnerable in our community. Not only have these children experienced the loss of a parent through incarceration, but they also experience disruption in their living situation and they worry about their parent. MUM's Mentoring Connections, Family Connections and Reading Connections are all designed to support children during a parent's incarceration.

Re-entry Simulations

MUM's Re-entry Simulations are conducted in various Wisconsin prisons, always with the goal of helping to prepare offenders for their release. In these simulations the participants have a dress rehearsal, achieving tasks they have identified for themselves as necessary for successful re-entry. The program also offers an opportunity for participants to meet MUM's re-entry staff and to learn more about resources in the community to which they will be released.

The Phoenix Initiative

The Phoenix Initiative is a structured support group for formerly incarcerated men and women. Consistent with evidence based practices that call for gender specific and responsive programming for women there

are two Phoenix Initiative groups, one for men and one for women. The groups are led by formerly incarcerated men and women and are structured to provide mentoring and leadership development. They follow a Restorative Justice model, by offering opportunities to help repair the harm done to the community by crime.

Ready to Rent

Ready to Rent is an educational workshop based on the Rent Smart curriculum developed by the University of Wisconsin-Extension. The curriculum focuses on budgeting, understanding your rights and responsibilities as a tenant, maintaining your home, landlord/tenant relationships, and other areas related to a successful renting experience. The program is an outgrowth of the Greater Isthmus Group with some financial support for the program coming from the Apartment Association of South Central Wisconsin.

Holly Audley Named Evidence-Based Program Manager

On October 28, 2011, Secretary Hamblin issued a memo to the DOC Executive Staff announcing departmental plans to restructure and centralize the oversight of our correctional treatment programs. A cross-divisional transition team has been meeting since this announcement to complete the tasks necessary to prepare for, and begin to implement, this organizational change. Creation of the Evidence-Based Program Manager position within the Reentry Unit in the Office of the Secretary has been central to transition team discussions. DOC conducted an open recruitment for this critical position and received many applications.

In March, DOC Re-Entry Director Mary Kay Sergo announced that Holly Audley had accepted the Evidence-Based Program Manager position. Holly brings more than twenty-five years of experience in developing, facilitating, and overseeing implementation of programs and practices. Holly's experiences include working with Rogers Memorial Hospital and Waukesha Memorial Hospital in their Adolescent Psychiatric Units; volunteering for the United States Peace Corps in rural Costa Rica; and devoting the past 17 years to the Wisconsin DOC serving as Education Director at Southern Oaks Girls School. Holly is experienced in developing and implementing innovative services and programs in consultation with key stakeholders and has demonstrated the ability to initiate and foster robust multi-disciplinary relationships for the effective delivery of programs and services to a diverse clientele.

Mary Kay Sergo said, "Ms. Audley embraces and embodies positive leadership qualities and her expertise comes at a key moment for the DOC, as we commit ourselves to implementing evidence-based programming. Holly brings a fresh perspective and a professionalism that will undoubtedly catapult us into further refinement of our correctional programs — allowing us to further the agency's mission of protecting the public through the constructive management of offenders placed in our charge."

Holly is bilingual, received her Master of Arts Degree in Education from Marian University, and her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has been a CEA-Wisconsin Board member since July 2006.

Trivia Question:

**What was the origin of CEA's striped apple logo?
Read the article on the next page for the answer.**

Laurie Crescio Chosen Region III Teacher of the Year

On April 23-24, 2012 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year Laurie Crescio represented Wisconsin at the Region III & IV CEA Conference at the Keller Convention Center in Effingham, Illinois. Laurie came away with the honor of being selected Region III Teacher of the Year.

To give her Wisconsin colleagues a chance to show their appreciation for Laurie's dedication, she will be honored at a luncheon on May 7 at the CEA-Wisconsin Training Day at the Concourse Hotel & Governor's Club in Madison. Laurie will then go on to represent Wisconsin and Region III at the 67th CEA Annual Conference & Training at the Crowne Plaza Hotel – Riverfront in St. Paul, Minnesota on July 29-August 1, 2012.



Region III Teacher of the Year Laurie Crescio is honored at the conference Awards Luncheon.

Pictured are: Region III Director Peggy Meyers, Region III Teacher of the Year Laurie Crescio, Region III Secretary Susan Nell and CEA President-Elect David Webb

Laurie has been a teacher at the Waupun Correctional Institution (WCI) for the past 30 years. Laurie teaches Intermediate and HSED Communications and Moraine Park Technical College Occupational Communication classes. These courses prepare men to pass the reading and writing portions of the HSED exam and set a foundation for passing other components by strengthening the students' reading, reasoning, and background information.

Laurie has also made noteworthy contributions to the education program at WCI and throughout the correctional system through her participation in Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council, coordination of WCI's education computer lab, modification of Moraine Park Technical College's Occupational Communication course materials, and WCI's public service knitting and crochet project.

And now the answer to the Trivia Question: In 1984, Ken Sondalle, then Treatment Director at Waupun Correctional Institution and involved in the establishment of the Wisconsin chapter of CEA, asked Laurie to design a CEA logo. Since Laurie created the logo in 1984, it has been used on thousands of letters, documents, publications and merchandise. It is another example of Laurie's creativity and contributions to CEA. She has literally put her stamp on correctional education.

CEA-Wisconsin wishes to congratulate Laurie on her well-deserved award!

CEA-Wisconsin Publishes Handbooks to Help Families Stay Connected

CEA-Wisconsin and the CEA Parenting Special Interest Group are pleased to announce the publishing and distribution of two handbooks for incarcerated parents and their families. To help incarcerated parents, the caregivers, and their children cope with incarceration, CEA-W has created *Reaching Out: A Handbook for Parents Incarcerated in Wisconsin* and its companion, *Reaching In: A Handbook for Families of Parents Incarcerated in Wisconsin*.

These handbooks are designed to help strengthen the bonds between incarcerated parents and their children. By using the advice and information in these handbooks, incarcerated parents will find ways to “Reach Out” to their children; caregivers will find ways to help the children to “Reach In” to their separated parent.

CEA-W wishes to thank these agencies and people for the inspiration to create these handbooks and permission to use their materials:

- The Council on Crime and Justice and the Minnesota Department of Corrections, Pamela G. Alexander, President, and Mark Haase, Vice President of Operations
- The Family and Corrections Network
- Jan Walker, author of *Parenting from a Distance: Your Rights and Responsibilities*

CEA-W also wishes to thank Community Circles of Support, a Program of Goodwill Industries of North Central Wisconsin and Regional Leader Anne Strauch for generously funding the printing of 500 copies of each of the handbooks to be distributed to correctional institutions and community agencies.

CEA-W is partnering with the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, county jails, public libraries, and community organizations to make the handbooks available to parents and caregivers.

In the coming weeks, CEA-W will be distributing copies of the handbooks to institutions, libraries and community agencies. For details of the distribution plan check the May/June 2012 issue of the Parenting Connection newsletter on the www.ceawisconsin.org website.

If you have any questions about the handbooks or ideas for others who should receive copies, contact Jerry Bednarowski at jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com.

Mark Your Calendar

July 29-August 1, 2012
67th CEA Annual Conference & Training
Crowne Plaza Hotel – Riverfront
St. Paul, MN

For past issues of the CEA-W newsletter
go to : www.ceawisconsin.org

2012 Friends of Correctional Education Award

**Do you know someone who has been noteworthy
in their support of correctional education?**

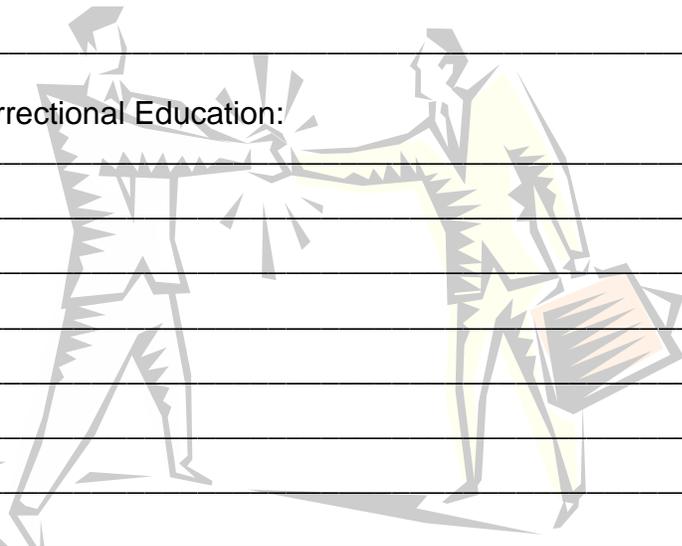
This person may be a volunteer who contributes time and effort to an education program, a community agency employee who has presented special workshops, a business person who has donated funds or materials to make programs more effective, or an advocate of correctional education in some way. If such person has contributed to your facility's education program, submit his/her name to the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin for the "Friends of Correctional Education Award."

Nominees cannot be employed by the Department of Corrections, Department of Health and Family Services, or a county jail.

Friends of Correctional Education Entry Form

Name: _____

Contribution to Correctional Education: _____



Nominator's Name: _____

Institution: _____

Deadline: July 1, 2012

Submit your entry to:

Margaret Done
CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Committee
Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center
21425A Spring Street,, Union Grove, WI 53182
Phone: 262-878-6000 x5017
Email: margaret.done@wisconsin.gov

CEA-Wisconsin 2012 Scholarship Program

Again this year CEA-Wisconsin is sponsoring two \$500 scholarships. One scholarship will go to a CEA-W member and the other will go to a family member of a CEA-W member.

Purpose: The CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Award Program is designed to assist CEA-W members or their spouses/dependents that are pursuing a degree at an accredited university or technical college.

Scholarships Details: Each year, CEA-Wisconsin endows two scholarships of \$500 each. One scholarship will be awarded to a CEA-W member who is furthering his/her education in the education or library services field. The other scholarship will go to a family member of a CEA-W member who is pursuing a university or technical college degree in any field. The recipients must provide verification of enrollment in an accredited university or technical college.

Eligibility:

- Applicant must be a current CEA-W member, member's spouse, or member's dependent.
- Applicant must be pursuing (full or part time) a graduate, undergraduate, or technical degree at an accredited university or technical college.
- Applicant must be entering his/her freshman, sophomore, junior, senior year, or graduate school. First year students must have been officially accepted by the college/university they plan to attend.
- Past winners are not eligible.

Application: Applicants must complete the application form that can be found on the www.ceawisconsin.org website, provide all required attachments, and submit the entire package to the address below no later than July 1, 2012. Incomplete application packages will not be accepted for consideration.

Selection: The scholarship recipients will be selected by the CEA-Wisconsin Board. Criteria for selection will include academic record, financial need, and school, community, or association activities. Recipients will be notified in writing.

For more information contact:



Holly Audley
CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Committee
Office of the Secretary/Reentry Unit
Wisconsin Department of Corrections
3099 East Washington Avenue
Madison WI 53704
608-240-5022
holly.audley@wisconsin.gov

President's Message

I have just returned from the regional conference in Effingham, IL. The Illinois chapter of CEA has not been very active the last few years and their chapter had very few members. In January, when I heard that their chapter wanted to host the regional conference, I was doubtful that they could pull it off. They did pull it off, and they did a great job. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to be there and see how enthusiastic people were. I wish the Illinois chapter the best of luck as they continue to move forward.

Watching the Illinois members work together to accomplish their goal made me reflect on the great group of individuals we have on the Wisconsin CEA board. Without these dedicated individuals the work of CEA-W would not get done. For that I say, "Thank You, it has been my honor to work with you." I also want to thank all of our members. Thank you for all your dedication to correctional education, thank you for what you do each and every day.

This is my final message; Mary Stierna will be beginning her term as president. I have enjoyed my time as president and look forward to see where we are going to as an organization.

Margaret

margaret.done@wisconsin.gov

Learn All About CEA-Wisconsin at:
www.ceawisconsin.org

CEA-Wisconsin News Review
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