

# Reentry News



CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

June 2016

## Meet Tiffany: Reentry Success Story



- Renewal: shaping new pattern of thinking
- GRIP: Getting Relationships into perspective
- Women's Group: establishing healthy boundaries
- Twelve Steps, Decision Making and Kingdom Values

Tiffany said that she has enjoyed the new family life and is going through the normal bumps and challenges associated with it. Tiffany sees a new purpose with her life, and when asked what she sees in her future, she confidently admits to wanting to become a case worker with Open House and has a plan to reach her goal. We look forward to Tiffany continuing her journey and finding ways to support and encourage her. We want to thank Tiffany and Open House Ministries for sharing with us her progress and growth.

In her own words, Tiffany's story was the past ten years spent homeless on the street. During that time she struggled with addiction and the crimes surrounding her life choices. Tiffany has been in and out of Clark County Jail since 2001; a lifestyle which cost her among other things, custody of her children. During her last incarceration she participated in the Reentry Program, and by her own admission saw it as a way to get away from her cell and the drama in her housing area. As she continued to participate she felt a new feeling of hope and began to take action. Deputies in the Reentry program noticed a change in her attitude and participation as she found new hope. Upon her release Tiffany pursued a referral to Open House Ministry for housing and was accepted into that program.

Renee' Stevens, a case manager at Open House Ministries, describes their program as a holistic approach; they work to address all aspects of their clients' lives with programs such as:



Program schedules are structured and all participants are held accountable for their participation. If they miss a class or meeting they are counseled and coached and supported to return. Tiffany has been in the Open House Ministries program for six months and during that time she has progressed within the program. Tiffany states she is one of the lucky ones. With the help of Open House Ministries she was able to work with the courts to develop a parenting plan to restore visitation. Tiffany says she has been working to build back trust with her family, has recently been granted custody of her son, and has moved out of a four person room to a single room that she now shares with her son.

**Open House Ministries**  
900 West 12th Street  
P.O. Box 242  
Vancouver, WA 098666-0242  
360.737.0300





# Substance Abuse Treatment in Clark County Jail

In partnership with Community Services Northwest, Reentry has provided over **450 free substance abuse assessments** to inmates since October 2013.

Additionally, there are two Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) substance abuse treatment groups in the Main Jail and one at the Jail Work Center.

These programs are completely voluntary, and available to inmates releasing to Clark County.



## ***Congratulations Angela McCalip!***

The Jail Reentry Program, with the help of the Clark County Department of Community Services and Community Services Northwest, has seen our first inmate fully complete *Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)*.

MRT is a step-based chemical dependency program designed specifically for incarcerated/justice involved people, and has been offered in the Clark County Jail for the last twelve months. Participation in this program is voluntary, and provides no legal benefit to individuals.

Participants in the MRT program attend one two-hour session a week for the duration of their incarceration, and progress through the steps is determined by their peers and the attending clinician.

Full completion of the MRT program is rare in the Clark County Jail due to the time and effort required to complete each module. Displaying strength and perseverance, Angela has completed MRT, despite the challenging environment. The clinician noted she never skipped a group, never came unprepared, never complained about the program, and never became resentful if she failed to pass a step. With this attitude and determination she met all of the requirements and was the first to receive her MRT

completion certificate in the Clark County Jail. In recognition of Angela's achievement, Chief Corrections Deputy Bishop presented a completion certificate during an MRT meeting, congratulating her in the presence of her peers.

The impact this completion has is most deeply felt with other inmates. They have seen someone in their same situation succeed in a difficult program, and they have watched a peer make healthy choices in a challenging environment. As this program continues to grow and evolve, this first graduation demonstrates that inmates can and do make positive changes while in custody. The Reentry staff congratulates Angela on her hard work and for blazing the trail for others in the program to follow.





# Inside the Reentry Program:

## Fort Vancouver Regional Library



### About Us

Fort Vancouver Regional Library District, headquartered in Vancouver in Southwest Washington state, was established in 1950 as the first inter-county rural library district in the state. The district has grown since 1950 to include Clark County (with the exception of the city of Camas), Skamania and Klickitat Counties, and the city of Woodland in Cowlitz County. FVRL also provides library services by contract with the independent [Yale Valley Library District](#) in Cowlitz County.

By virtue of being part of a major regional library district, citizens in even the smallest communities have access to professional information services staff, internet access, world-class electronic resources, and a library collection that includes more than 730,000 books, magazines, DVDs, audiobook CDs, and audiobook and video PlayAways®, not to mention downloadable and streaming music, videos, eBooks and audiobooks.

### 2014 Quick Facts

- Population served: 464,240
- Square miles: 4,200
- Collection size: 751,470 volumes
- Active cardholders: 273,130
- Annual library visits: more than 2 million
- Annual circulation: more than 4.3 million
- Total square footage: 182,112
- Number of employees (FTE): 219.3
- Annual volunteer hours: 32,781
- Total operating budget: \$22,762,857
- Annual public service hours: 33,442
- Total annual programs: 5,698
- Total annual program attendance: 147,187

**Reentry's History with the Fort Vancouver Regional Library:** Back in 2013, the library was one of the first contacts when reentry began and has been an active partner ever since. The library staff comes in to provide library cards and to answer questions about access and information available. Their staff also facilitate literary events where works are read and discussed with reentry participants. The reading program has been one of the most popular classes among participants, earning comments such as: "it was the first time I felt like my opinion mattered," and "It's like I am back in school in a class I liked."



**The mission of the Clark County Corrections Branch is to promote and maintain public safety through effective correctional and reentry practices.**

# YouthFirst Mentoring Event

## Partners in Careers YouthFirst Program

Clark County Sheriff's Office  
Jail Reentry Unit  
707 W 13th St  
PO Box 410  
Vancouver, WA 98666

Phone: 360-397-2211 x5872  
Fax: 360-397-2077  
E-mail: [sheriff.reentry@clark.wa.gov](mailto:sheriff.reentry@clark.wa.gov)

Clark County Jail  
Reentry Organization:

Chief Jail Deputy: Ric Bishop  
Operations Commander: Randy Tangen  
Reentry Sergeant: Ken Clark  
Reentry Deputy: Barbara Schubach  
Reentry Deputy: Alva Songer  
Reentry Deputy: Cris Dumitrescu  
Discharge Planner: Anna Lookingbill  
Discharge Planner Kelly Anderson



Corrections Deputies volunteered at the YouthFirst Mentoring Event at Partners in Careers in December 2015 . The event connects teens from YouthFirst with professional mentors in the community. Youth request specific careers based on future interests. Mentors and youth meet one on one for an hour.

Per Morgan Parker, YouthFirst Program Coordinator, "YouthFirst seeks to improve high school and GED completion rates through employment training, community service and connecting students with caring community leaders working in the students' career fields of choice."

**Special thanks to Deputy James Morrow, and Deputy Alva Songer for volunteering!**



## Reentry Service Provider Meeting



The Reentry Program has a **bi-monthly service provider meeting**. The meeting highlights community programs and problem-solves challenges around service connections for inmates in jail and post-release.

The next meeting is **Tuesday, July 12, 10:30-11:30 am** at the Clark County Public Service Center, 6th Floor, Board of County Councilors Training Room, 1300 Franklin St, Vancouver WA 98660

To attend, please sign up with Sgt Clark: [kenneth.clark@clark.wa.gov](mailto:kenneth.clark@clark.wa.gov)