MCA FORUM

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In This Issue
• President’s Corner
• Legislative News
• Technology
• Training & Education
• Fall Institute
• Awards
… AND MORE!!!!

@JoinMnCA

MCA’s Annual Fall Institute
Past Reflections and Future Bridges

DULUTH
OCTOBER 24-26th
Hi, everyone. It is my pleasure and honor to serve as president of MCA. I began my career in the chemical dependency profession in 1977. Since that time, I’ve had the pleasure to meet countless dedicated corrections and community corrections professionals. It is my hope that as criminal justice professionals, we continue to diversify MCA. Our membership includes individuals that serve adults and juveniles in the areas of custody and care of offenders; reentry; probation and parole; offender treatment programming, etc. Our membership also includes a wide variety of extraordinary merchants, vendors, and sponsors, who not only offer a variety of goods and services, but support MCA’s mission.

We are a multi-faceted association that encourages growth. Together, we can continue to spread MCA’s message to gain new membership. Our Board’s focus is to deepen our relationships with our current members and seek new ways to provide benefits of membership. Our monthly education and training workshops is one such method. We are hopeful you are taking advantage of this feature. We encourage you to let us know what topics you’d like to see us present in the future.

As MCA embarks on our 85th year, it is a time to reflect and honor the past, while at the same time, looking towards the future. MCA was founded with a vision of advancing correctional practices and for the purpose of promoting our profession. Corrections continues to transform and evolve. I believe it is our duty to continue to push and define that evolution. I envision an association that not only continues to grow, but also thrives by encouraging and supporting intellectual curiosity by its members.

To ignite members’ desire for learning, our Annual Training Institute Committee (led by Dan Raden, Amy Moeckel and Shannon Fette) are as busy as can be working out the details. Our theme this year is: Past Reflections and Future Bridges. We are excited to return to Duluth on October 24-26, 2018 to celebrate who we are.

Steve King’s Super Fun 85th Anniversary Committee has been revving up to put together a delightful slate of goings-on. They’ve developed a special 85th Logo and trinket; picking and choosing door prizes; and developing other creative and fun ideas to make this event extra special. We especially want you to attend our special Tuesday night kick-off and MCA awards presentation event.

Lastly, to keep MCA at the forefront of the corrections profession, to continue to provide new and innovative training opportunities, and to evolve as an association, member participation is vital. I challenge you to take ownership of MCA and get more involved. We provide multiple opportunities for participation, which I think you will find are especially beneficial to your professional growth. One of the most important ways you can participate is by bringing in new members and spreading the word of the benefits of MCA. http://www.mn-ca.org/.

I am humbled to serve as your 2018 MCA president and I want to let you know that I’m always available for questions, comments, feedback or whatever you may need.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me, mark.groves@state.mn.us. I look forward to seeing you at one of our MCA events.
COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Student Services – Looking for members who are in the Duluth area and north. Interested MCA members should e-mail Melissa McCann at melissa.mccann@state.mn.us

Sponsorship - The Committee and its members are sponsor coordinators. Interested MCA members should e-mail JoAnn Brown at joann.brown@state.mn.us

Communications Committee— The committee is looking for someone with writing skills, and someone who is familiar with social media, website design/maintenance and has access to editing or publishing software. If you are an MCA member, have any of these skills, and are interested in joining us, contact Tara Rathman at Tara.Rathman@state.mn.us.

CHECK US OUT!

Have you been to our webpage lately?

We've got a fresh new look.
Go check us out!

www.mn-ca.org
WINDOW Victim Services will provide advocacy services for crime victims, strive to provide a safe community through education and work to change attitudes and values that tolerate and accept abuse.

Services Include:
- Legal Advocacy - Orders for Protection (OFP), Harassment Restraining Orders (HRO), family court information & referral.
- Court Escort
- Safety planning for adults and children.
- One-to-One support and support groups.
- Safe homes and shelter referral.
- Assistance in accessing financial resources following a crime or assault.
- Assistance in navigating the criminal justice system (victim rights, victim impact statement preparation, court attendance and notification).
- Post-conviction victim services (collecting restitution, assistance filing civil judgments).
- Support for family & friends of victims/survivors.
- Education programs for schools and community groups.

WINDOW also provides supervised visitation & safe exchange services for a fee. Please call 320-384-6638 for more information. Also, more information at [window4victims.com](http://window4victims.com) or call the Crisis Line, answered 24/7/365 at 1-800-644-0003

Carlton – 230 Chestnut Avenue – (218) 499-8088        Hinckley – 204 Fire Monument Road – (320) 384-7113

Mora – 214 Railroad Avenue NW – (320) 364-1133        Parenting Time/Exchange Services (320) 384-6638

**Safety Alert:** Your abuser can monitor your use of your computer and the internet. If you are in danger, please use a safer computer, call 911 or the Minnesota Domestic Violence Crisis Line at 1-866-223-1111 if you are in Minnesota or call National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).
With summer upon us and the corresponding increase in road travel, I thought I would pass on three I-phone applications I use. I just returned from a 5000 mile road trip and these applications were helpful finding our way to hotels, avoiding weather and the possibility of tornados. If you do not have these Phone Apps, I would recommend downloading and installing them on your mobile device. They are all free.

The first application which many of you may already be using is Google Maps-GPS Navigation. This app will show you a Blue Dot as you move down the highway. We were looking for a hotel tucked away behind some trees off the highway one night. The application told us we were 440 feet away at one point, and we still couldn’t see it. Suddenly, it appeared from behind some trees. A great thing to have in a town you’re not familiar with. It also shows you nearby buildings, eateries, construction, traffic re-routes and more on the maps. It is perfect if you have a navigator in the passenger seat. If you don’t, it will talk you into your location hands free with directions. We took a couple of wrong turns on the trip and we could see right away we were going the wrong way with the moving Blue Dot. This APP is a **must** while on the road in my opinion, and much better than fumbling with a compact book road atlas that doesn’t even show the smaller roads.


The 2\(^{nd}\) application I used a lot was MY Radar. This application will give you a Doppler radar on your screen as you are driving into a storm and you can see where to go to avoid it. Pretty handy if you happen to be driving right at red severe thunderstorms with hail potential. It is also just nice for finding out what the afternoon weather looks like from the beach or pool too. [http://www.myradar.com/](http://www.myradar.com/)

The 3\(^{rd}\) application is Tornado by the American Red Cross. They have a number of different applications for various disasters. With this APP you will get an alert if you are monitoring your current location and driving towards a tornado. I set mine for alerts 99 miles from my current location. You can also monitor other places like your home or cabin for instance, or anywhere you have loved ones living.

http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/mobile-apps
This 3-hour workshop will help participants become exposed and familiar with ethical theory and boundary issues pertaining to their profession. Participants will also be provided with an introduction to understanding and recognizing the origins, potential dangers and implications of behaving in a manner that crosses over the boundaries of ethical guidelines. All professionals have a violation potential, which is the product of the risks we take compounded by our unseen internal vulnerabilities. This course covers these issues to help develop a plan to minimize the potential for a boundary and ethical transgression, thereby protecting the professional, the client and the professions.

Objectives

- Be introduced to the concept of ethics, a beginning discussion of the moral underpinnings found within one's own ethical theory and principles, and the possible “source” of one's moral authority.
- Review the relationship between professional ethics & law.
- Explore their own awareness of professional ethics through vignettes of clinical dilemmas.
- Be able to define and differentiate between boundary crossings and boundary violations.
- Gain insight into professional risks and personal vulnerabilities in order to protect one's self, the client and the profession from possible boundary transgressions.

Learn the warning signs of potential and actual ethical and boundary issues for the purpose of early detection, processing and, where necessary, effective intervention

Presenter: Mark Groves, M.S. Ed., LADC. MN Department of Employment & Economic Development

When: Friday, August 17, 2018 from 9 a.m. until 12 noon

Location: DOC Central Office Afton Training Room – 1450 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul (West Entrance, First Floor)

This training is being offered FREE for the first 30 MCA Members to register. You must be a current, paid, MCA member to attend at no cost. Please send an email to www.mn-ca.org.

If you are not currently an MCA member, please refer to the MCA website at www.mn-ca.org to join.
I begin to prepare this article for the upcoming edition of the FORUM today, Memorial Day, and my thoughts are deeply into the meaning of this early summer season holiday. This holiday is the day we HONOR those who have so valiantly served our Country and our Freedom. President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, all 272 words of it, sums it up best by reminding all of us that we have an obligation to continue this honor so that those who perished, shall not have died in vain. Thank You to everyone of you who have served our Country in time of need.

Now to get on with a report on Legislative affairs. Well, the 2018 Session of the Minnesota Legislature has adjourned, and as a result of Governor Dayton's veto of the Tax Bill and the Supplemental budget bill, it assured us that this was truly "DO NOTHING LEGISLATURE". After more than 8,000 bill introductions this biennium, the Governor has signed a grand total of 89 bills into law. This is honestly the result of Minnesota's divided government, which we should have learned years ago, has not worked in Minnesota. Political party philosophy has made non-partisan decision-making impossible. Who to blame for this non-productive legislative session depends on where your political leanings fall, but let's just say, there's lots of blame to be passed around.

Never before in Minnesota politics have we seen so many violations of the state Constitution in the legislative process! A primary example was the enormous number of policy provisions (from bills introduced this Session) attached to the Budget bill, which simply is a violation of the Constitution, and yet the State Legislature has been getting by with it for many years. The result is simple: the Governor objects to the supplemental budget proposal and the entire 990 page bill and all the policy changes goes down with it.

There are so many needs in our state as you all know, but our divided government is unable to get their work done and do what's in the best interest of the people. So Legislators have returned home, the state Representatives all seeking election again, a new Governor to be elected, and the results of those elections to determine which party will control the Legislature beginning in 2019.

Not a lot there for 201 elected officials representing us for the past two years! Now is Campaign 2018 and another busy summer and Fall. Let's hope that the Minnesota electorate realizes divided government is not effective, and let's all support candidates who sincerely want to do the people's work and put a stop to such flagrant partisanship.
There were a few new laws related to public Safety/Corrections which were enacted and signed by the Governor:

SF 3154 Approves State Employee contracts - signed by the Governor on 3/27/18

SF 2554 A requirement for information on the connection between pornography and sex trafficking; authorized penalty assessment expansion - signed 5/17/18

HF 2945 Intensive residential treatment and adult crisis response service - signed 5/19/18

SF 2863 Sexual assault examination kit handling procedure established and victim notice required - signed 5/19/18

HF 3833 Financial exploitation protections proved for older and vulnerable adults - signed 5/19/18

SF 2683 Human services background study requirements; national criminal record check - signed 5/19/18

SF 3367 Sex trafficking prevention training for all employees of hotels and motels required - signed 5/20/18

And finally, the last bill passed by the Senate before adjournment,

SF 2626 the Public Employees Retirement Bill - assigned Chapter 211, but I have yet to see confirmation of the Governor’s signature.
MCA PICNIC
for BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Thank you for all that you do!

JUNE 14, 2018
MCF-STILLWATER—WARDEN’S HOUSE
The Minnesota Correctional system faced a critical problem that peaked in 2017. The prison population was at its maximum. There was not enough political will to build new beds or re-open the Appleton prison. The drug offender population in prison more than doubled in the last 20 years and comprised almost 1/5 of the prison population. 48% of these offenders were incarcerated due to possession cases. DOC projected an immediate need for 500 additional prison beds and that need was projected to grow to 1100 beds by 2024. DOC was contracting for an additional 500 county jail beds. At that time, the overwhelming majority of inmates who needed treatment were not receiving it before discharge. Short-term offenders and probation violators together made up the majority of the prison population.

The revolving door of returning prison releases was being called “the churn” by Minnesota legislators. Policy makers considered the return of probationers and parolees to prison for non-violent and non-serious offenses, or for technical violations of probation, to be an ineffective strategy to increase public safety in the long term. Furthermore, the what works research informs us that this churn in and out of prison was likely increasing inmates’ risk of recidivism.

This is shown by example through Mn Adult & Teen Challenge graduate, Eric Kvamme, “During numerous stints in jail and the workhouse, I was involved in different short term out-patient programs that didn’t truly give me the help that I needed. I landed back in Prison after I violated my probation, but still never received the long term treatment that I needed. I was told my priority level was too low and that my length of stay wouldn’t be long enough. I was approved to finish my sentence on supervised release and Inn Town Suites became my place of living being I was coming out homeless. So here I was, fresh out of prison living out of a hotel. I was soon back into addiction and once again ended up back in prison on a parole violation. Jails and prisons had become a revolving door for me. Until April 17, 2017; when the biggest defining moment of life would take place. I got federally indicted. Against the prosecutors wishes the judge conditionally released me on a signature bond. First thing I did was call (612) FREEDOM. I got myself set up to enter into the MN Adult and Teen Challenge Recovery Program. The prosecutor appealed my release and once again I was standing in front of a new judge. This judge finally allowed me the long term help I needed. I believe the judges exact words were. “Mr. Kvamme I believe you are a meth addict and by the look of things you will be going to prison. But let’s get you sober and healthy before you go.”

Since 90 percent of the offenders entering Minnesota state prisons were determined to be chemically abusive or dependent” (DOC, 2017), community-based treatment alternatives were one obvious option to address this primary criminogenic factor. A consensus was that more non-violent drug-crime offenders had to be diverted from the prison system. Furthermore, only 10% of inmates with substance abuse problems enter chemical dependency treatment within six months of their release therefore it became clear that inmates needed to be actively connected to community resources before release (OLA). From DOC’s own research, it can be predicted that without effective treatment and other community alternatives to incarceration, inmates would recidivate at a 23% higher rate (DOC, 2017). The churn is a vicious cycle.
Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge, along with other Minnesota Corrections Association members, were appreciative to be included by legislators and state agency policy makers in forwarding a renewed emphasis on community alternatives to incarceration and advance solutions to address this critical problem in our corrections system. Teen Challenge and RS Eden were selected to pilot evidence-based practices in treatment for correctional clients as a part of the Minnesota State Initiative to Reduce Recidivism (MnSIRR). In addition, we worked together along with other professional associations and advocacy groups to support legislators and DOC and DHS leaders on numerous legislative and policy reforms:

- Increase diversion of lower-level, non-violent drug offenders out of the prison system and into community based alternatives to incarceration;
- Increase the use of evidence based practices that decrease recidivism and relapse rates of offenders released to the community;
- Enhance sentencing for the most dangerous drug dealers who are threat to public safety; reserve the limited capacity of the prison system for high level offenders who are threat to public safety;
- Expand the option of Conditional Release for non-violent drug offenders;
- Increase treatment beds and resources in the prison system;
- Require that probation and parole consider community based alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders who have committed a technical violation of probation/parole whose crime was driven by their addiction;
- Consider instead probation/parole restructuring that allows for community based treatments and interventions rather than incarceration;
- Support Counties to provide post-arrest community-based service coordination for arrestees who have mental illness or substance use disorders;
- Fund two new High-Risk Revocation Reduction Reentry Program “hubs” in the metro area;
- Reform the Chemical Dependency Treatment system to allow direct access to chemical dependency assessment and treatment, based on their assessed needs, with a provider of their choice;
- Pilot financial workers assisting prisoners pre-release to apply for and obtain benefits.

New policies set a direction but do not magically create community alternatives and resources where few exist in parts of Minnesota. This presents an opportunity for MCA members to point out to policymakers, the gaps between a new direction and the reality of community resources. Nevertheless, these reforms express the strategic goal of reserving prison bed space for chronic, serious, violent offenders, doing what works to reduce recidivism and relapse, and decrease the “churn”. Treatment providers look forward to working with you on transforming this vicious cycle into a virtuous cycle of life changes for the people and communities we all serve.

“I finally found myself receiving the care I needed all along. My first long term treatment program. The first treatment program where there finally was enough time to go way back and discover all the defining moments in my life and how they affected my life. Except we didn’t stop there; my care team and I also discovered 5 core beliefs I have and looked at which one’s may be distorted or false. Then we went even further and took a look at 3 critical people in my life. After I discovered these things and processed through them. MNTC has helped me find the courage to take my story and share it with thousands of students in the high schools and middle schools. I’ve finally discovered that there can be new life after addiction; that I do have talents and can use those talents towards fulfilling a purpose. Upon graduating MNTC I have even received an internship working for “Know the Truth” a drug and alcohol prevention program. I am just one example there are solutions to addiction and the solution is not jails and prisons. The solutions are long term recovery programs like Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge,” Kvamme states.
The Minnesota Department of Corrections launched a podcast in March of 2018, called Sally Port. It is accessible through PodBean, at the following link:

http://sallyport.podbean.com/

It is described as follows: “Sally Port: a secure, controlled entryway to a fortification or prison.” The Sally Port podcast highlights the many fascinating careers available in the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC). Each episode includes an in-depth interview and explores the many unique and interesting facets of what it is like to work for the Minnesota Department of Corrections. Visit us online today at mn.gov/doc.
Don’t miss out on the 2018 MCA Fall Conference as MCA celebrates 85 years!

This year we’re again loaded with fantastic presentations to engage you, motivate you, and enhance your skills, knowledge, & perspective!

MCA Annual Training Institute
October 24 – 26, 2018
DECC, Duluth, MN

Charles Marshall – “Real Heroes Don’t Wear Spandex” In real life, heroes aren’t rock stars, movie stars, or sports figures. Real-life heroes are people who make a difference by believing in, and investing in, the lives of those around them. In this thoroughly inspiring and uplifting program, Charles publicly honors people for their contributions and recognizes them as examples of what real heroes are.

Gary Noesner – “Moving from Conflict to Cooperation” Retired from the FBI in 2003 following a thirty-year career as an investigator, instructor, and negotiator. A significant focus of his career was directed toward investigating Middle East hijackings in which American citizens were victimized. In addition, he was an FBI hostage negotiator for 23 years of his career, retiring as the Chief of the FBI’s Crisis Negotiation Unit, Critical Incident Response Group, the first person to hold that position. In that capacity he was heavily involved in numerous crisis incidents covering prison riots, right-wing militia standoffs, religious zealot sieges, terrorist embassy takeovers, airplane hijackings, and over 120 overseas kidnapping cases involving American citizens.

Joe Schmit – “Silent Impact: Influence Through Purpose, Persistence and Passion” In this high energy, high impact presentation loaded with humor Joe Schmit inspires and teaches you how to ramp up the profound power of your influence. Through research, Joe has discovered that we make our biggest impressions when we are not trying to be impressive. You can become an "Impact Player" who makes everyone around you better just by being there.

The opportunities for networking are endless at the conference – via the presentations, the resource fair, and the evening networking events planned for conference attendees.
A SAMPLING OF THE MANY OTHER TRAINING SESSIONS INCLUDE...

- Active Shooter
- American Indian Community Reentry
- Changing the Narrative & Developing a Positive Rapport with Youth
- Domestic Violence: Victimization From Behind Bars
- Evidence-Based Practices for Youth with Co-Occurring Disorders
- How a Fugitive Cult Leader was Brought to Justice
- How Corrections Professionals can Join the Anti-Trafficking Movement in Minnesota
- Identifying & Responding to Elder Abuse
- Improving Communication Between Probation & the Court
- MNDOC Challenge Incarceration Program
- QPR Suicide Prevention Training
- Residency Restrictions: A Solution in Search of a Problem
- Targeted Violence Threat Assessment & Management
- Technology & Supervision – How to Supervise & Investigate Offenders on the Internet
- Understanding Radicalization & Terrorism for Probation & Pretrial Services
- We Are All Criminals
- We Do Recover- Stories of Success
- What's in Your Man Box?
- Working Effectively with Offenders with Mental Illness
There are individuals and groups across the state of Minnesota who are making outstanding contributions in the field of corrections every day and now is the opportunity to nominate them!

MCA is looking for your 2018 Award nominations for the following categories:

**Corrections Person of the Year**
This award is given for outstanding contribution in the field of corrections in Minnesota by an individual in any employment. It could be clergy, judge, legislator, group home parent, etc., as well as a correctional professional.

**Professional Achievement Awards**
This award is given to two correctional staff persons (field services and correctional facilities) who have demonstrated achievement over a period of time, but shall not exclude professionals new to the field who have displayed outstanding achievement.

**President’s Award**
This award is given to programs, resources or facilities working in the broad field of corrections and criminal justice, which demonstrate creativity, resourcefulness, effectiveness and innovation.

**Technology Award**
This award is given to individuals, programs, resources or facilities working with technology in the broad field of corrections and criminal justice, which demonstrate creativity, resourcefulness, effectiveness and innovation.

Submit your nominations to Award Committee Chair, Sarah Eischens, MCA President 2017

Awards will be presented at the Annual Training Institute Tuesday evening, October 23rd
MCA wishes to acknowledge the dedication of all professional in our filed! We salute and celebrate the success of all probation/parole employees. These individuals help change lives of boys and girls; men and women and enhance the quality of life in our communities. These community corrections/supervision professionals make our cities, state, and country safer. They perform work that is emotionally demanding and sometimes dangerous; yet, necessary. Public safety is personal to all of us and these employees are the face of public safety.

Thank you to each and every one of you. Each of you are an important piece to the puzzle in community corrections/supervision!
Executive Board

President: Mark Groves
President-Elect: Connie Hartwig
Vice President: Mary Oberstar
Secretary: Gina Evans
Treasurer: Jennifer Guse
Past President/Awards: Sarah Eischens
Administrative Manager: Debbie Beltz

Committee Chair

Who is MCA?

Lloyd Grachek recently retired from the MCA Board. We’d like to thank him for his service and welcome Melissa McCann to the board!!!
MCA WAS REPRESENTED AT THE 61st ANNUAL MACPO SPRING CONFERENCE

Wednesday May 23rd—25th

L: Tammy Wherley
R: Laura Anderson

L: Laura Anderson
R: Mark Groves
About the MCA FORUM

FORUM is published six times a year by the Minnesota Corrections Association, a nonprofit professional association incorporated in Minnesota. Articles submitted by our membership do not express the views of MCA or the board of directors.

Articles may be submitted to the 2017 FORUM editor Tara Rathman at tara.rathman@state.mn.us. Articles should not be of the nature of a commercial solicitation of products or services; rather, they should be informative on topics of interest to MCA membership at large.