

TRANSITION TIMES

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 3

THIRD QUARTER 2009

GREAT FALLS PRE-RELEASE WINS STATE AWARDS



L to R: Keith Kelly, Commissioner, Department of Labor; Sheena Jarvey, GFPRC Community Assistance Counselor; Lt. Governor John Bohlinger; Jeff Barnhart, GFPRC Facilities Services Director

Great Falls Pre-Release Services, Inc., was presented the Governor's Finalist Safety and Health Award for a Small Private Company as well as WorkSafeMT's Most Innovative Occupational Safety and Health Solution Award at the Governor's Conference on Workers Compensation and Safety and Health. Lt. Governor John Bohlinger made the presentation to Jeff Barnhart and Sheena Jarvey, representatives of the Pre-Release, at the Awards Luncheon Thursday, October 1, 2009, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, MT.

The Governor's Safety and Health Awards Recognize commitment to excellence, promote greater awareness of workplace safety and health, and offer the opportunity for leaders to reach out to other companies. These awards are the highest honor given by the State of Montana in recognition of health and safety.

WorkSafeMT's MIOSH Solution Award was established in 2009 to encourage safety on the job by recognizing organizations that have provided a superior safety and health culture in their workplace. It is presented to an organization that has encouraged and implemented an effective innovation solution to an identified workplace challenge.

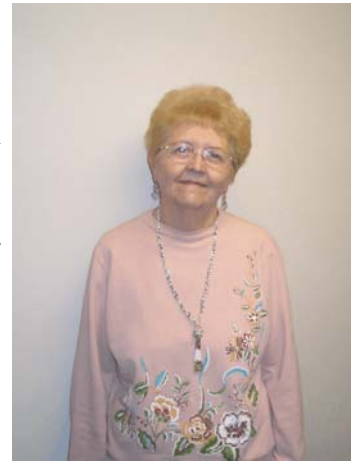
Great Falls Pre-Release created a "Foodhandlers' Training Booklet" with selected training courses including a "Foodhandlers' Test" and "Foodhandlers' Certificate" program for safe food and health practices to help staff and workers realize the importance of proper health and safety techniques in the work area.

MAXINE HERRON - VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Maxine Herron offers grief support to the residents of the Center one-on-one in an eight-week program.

Maxine and her husband had an extensive background in ministry and rescue mission work all over the country. For seven years she was the minister at Appollo Village Park in Arizona. She retired in 2001 to take care of her husband and they moved to Great Falls. Two years ago her husband died and she became involved in Hospice. She also offers faith-based grief counseling through her church. Volunteer Juanita Rosales introduced her to volunteer work here at the Center in January 2009.

Sheena Jarvey, Volunteer Coordinator, commented, "Maxine was introduced by Juanita (our support volunteer angel) into our awesome Pre-Release volunteer group at just the right time. We had a need for additional help with grief counseling. Enter Maxine. She brings in extraordinary skills in working with grief and loss. Maxine has had an extensive background in working with people, including the homeless. She is skillful in understanding people in crisis. She knows when to listen and when to push a bit so that the residents can make a much needed break in their thinking. Maxine has fit effortlessly into our volunteer family. Her patience, talents and understanding make her a true gem. Thank you, Maxine."



EFFICIENCY, SAFETY, AND PERFORMANCE AWARD

September inaugurated the Idea of the Month, a suggestion from staff members to better the Center. Jeff Barnhart, Facilities Services Director, reported there were nine suggestions submitted. The winners of the contest were Nicole Kojetin, Mark Howell, and Lisa Anderson. Their idea for a "Greener Pre-Release" included recycling paper, recycling plastic, using environmentally-friendly toilet paper, purchasing alternative eco-friendly products, conservation, and using alternative cleaning products among other things. Nicole was presented with a framed certificate and received \$50.00 to be split among the three co-winners.



MIKE BUCKLEY - BODYBUILDER COMPETITION

On Saturday, September 26, 2009, Mike Buckley, Booter Aftercare Counselor, took part in The Northwest Night of Champions Bodybuilding and Fitness Championship in Spokane, Washington. It turned out to be a very tough competition. Individually, Mike placed #7 out of 12 in the Middleweight Open Class. His partner and he placed 3rd in the male/female Mixed Pairs category and received a pair of very cool sculpture trophies.

Mike competed in Seattle in the Washington Ironman on Saturday October 3, 2009, where he placed 2nd out of ten in the lightweight class. He and his partner again placed 3rd in the male/female Mixed Pairs category. More cool trophies. Congratulations, Mike!



STAFF NOTES

Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following staff members who celebrated their anniversaries this quarter:

20-years: **Paul Cory**, Administrator

15-years: **Sheena Jarvey**, Community Assistance Counselor;

Al Recke, Community Service Director

10-years: **Jerry Kelley**, Support Specialist;
Robert Kemp, CD Counselor

5-years: **Michael Buckley**, Booter Aftercare Counselor

1-year: CO's **Nicole Kojetin**, **James McMullen**, **Stephen Sowell**

Pictured to the right:

Paul Cory

Sheena Jarvey **Al Recke**

Robert Kemp **Jerry Kelley**

Michael Buckley

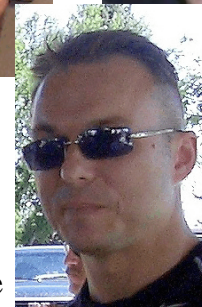
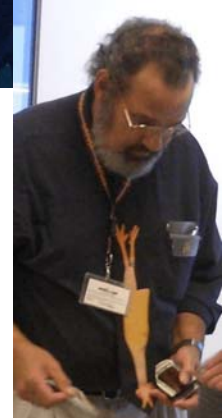
New employees

Welcome to our new employees this quarter: CO's **Jamie Hover**, **David Peterson**, **Luke Schlehr**, **Amanda Schmidt**, and **John Scott**.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS AND EMPLOYEE WORK ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENTS

To put a bit more excitement into staff meetings the administrative staff developed a plan for staff recognition. Each mandatory monthly staff meeting has its business portion, of course, and then a different method of recognition for employees each month.

The recognitions include the following: Movie rewards month (movie tickets to four employees); Take a co-worker to munch month (certificates to four employees to take a co-worker to lunch); Car wash month (car wash tickets to ten employees); Power Hour Month (six employees receive one hour off each week with pay for one month; Coffee to Go Month (coffee certificates to ten employees);



Perfect Attendance Month (no sick days

off for entire year - one additional day of annual leave); Ugly tie contest/Center trivia contest/

Unsung Hero Award; Cash award for Idea of the month for efficiency/safety/performance improvements within the Center; Gas vouchers; Commitment to Excellence Recognition Month (Three employees will be selected by their peers for exemplary job performance); Christmas Party for staff and board.

Transition Times
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Great Falls Pre-Release Services, Inc., provides a cost-effective alternative to incarceration for offenders through a variety of community-based correctional treatment programs. Great Falls Pre-Release Services, Inc., is dedicated to ensuring public safety and trust through professional, quality services which facilitate personal growth through positive change and individual responsibility of assigned offenders.