



Alvis House News

Fall/Winter 2006

Community Corrections Programs serving Columbus, Chillicothe, Dayton and Toledo

Founded 1967

From the President's Desk

I don't know about any of you, but I am so relieved that the election season is over. It seems like so many of the campaigns were negative and divisive. As a corrections professional, I was also saddened to see the return of the "Willie Horton" type of ads that paint all offenders with a broad, scary brush and seem to imply that if we do anything other than lock offenders up for a long time, we open up our society to all sorts of dangers.

Now that the election is over, could we please have a rational discussion about what will truly make the community safer?

In corrections, we are always balancing punishment and delivering appropriate sanctions for a crime with the need to reduce the likelihood that those under our supervision will commit a new crime once they are released.

Our criminal justice system is currently weighted toward punishment. The number of people incarcerated in the United States has grown more than fourfold since 1973 and continues to increase. Projections from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction show Ohio's prison population growing from about 45,000 at the start of 2006 to more than 55,000 by 2015. **That is a 18.2% increase in the prison population during the same period that census projections show Ohio's total population growing by just 1.4%.**

When offenders are released - and 95% will be - they face enormous challenges in the community. In Ohio, 26,677 offenders were released during 2005 but only 52% were released to any type of post incarceration supervision, such as post-release control, parole, and/or transitional control (ODRC, 2006). The remainder of released offenders were simply released directly to the street without any supervision or mandated services (Hanley and Allen, 2006). A larger number of newly released offenders do not have housing, jobs, or support systems, and many remain affected by substance abuse, health and mental health problems. These are all enormous risk factors when you look at the likelihood that they will commit a new crime. The Bureau of Justice Statistics found that two-thirds of former offenders will be re-arrested within three



Denise M. Robinson

years of being released from prison, and more than half were reincarcerated.

Incarceration is also tearing at the fragile fabric of families. It often means the loss of the primary wage earner in a household and all too often, it means the loss of a parent. **More than 3.2 million children have a parent in prison, on parole or who has recently been released from prison.** Regardless of the circumstances, children always experience the loss of a parent as a traumatic event. And incarceration of a parent leads to a vicious cycle - children of offenders are five times more likely than their peers to end up in prison themselves.

Ohio is locking up more people, supervising just over 50% upon their return to the community, and contributing to the creation of a new generation of offenders. Do you feel safer yet? How about poorer? Even at the current average cost of incarceration per day in Ohio, it will take another \$245 million a year to incarcerate 10,000 more people.

There is another way. Community corrections programs, such as Alvis House, carefully monitor offenders and hold them accountable, but also provide them with the opportunity to work, participate in treatment and maintain family connections. **At Alvis House, our purpose is to provide the research-based programs and treatment services that have been proven to help to curb the staggering recidivism rate and to reduce the impact of incarceration on families and children.**

But Alvis House, and programs like it, are still only part of the solution. For true reintegration to take place, it requires effort on the part of the individuals coming out of prison, their families, human service agencies, churches, government, employers and the larger community as a whole. In a reflection of what common sense tells us, criminal justice researchers have found that the more people are invested in their community - having a job, having a family, belonging to a church, having health care, having safe and adequate housing - the less likely they are to commit crimes.

And that makes us all safer.

Learn more about Alvis House and hear some of our clients' stories by visiting our website, www.alvishouse.org, and clicking on the "Informational Video" button.

Board of Trustees**Officers**

Chair

Hon. John A. Connor

First Vice Chair

Gayle Dittmer

Second Vice Chair

Scott Weisman

Secretary

James P. Estes, Sr.

Treasurer

Luke W. Brown

President and CEO

Denise M. Robinson

Trustees

Jenny Camper

James V. Canepa

Kameron deVente

Dennis Eshbaugh, Ph.D.

Dee Dexter Hively

Rev. Josephus Foster

Hon. Judith French

Rev. Vincent Frosh

Sally Fulkert

Margarette Ghee

Jane Gray, Ph.D.

Gail Hogan

Kasey Ingram

Steven Larson

Kathy A. Levering

Hon. Stephen McIntosh

Sally Murphy

Michael Raven

Brian J. Rigg

Steven Spergel

Tom Vadakin

Stephanie A. Walker

Caroline Worley

Life Member

Dennis R. Newman

Trustees Emeriti

Thomas Barnes

John C. Durst, Ph.D.

Layden Hale

Barbara Temple

Bob Gloeckner Honored with Scholarship

Denise M. Robinson, president and CEO of Alvis House, announced the creation of the Robert Gloeckner Scholarship Fund at the retirement celebration held to honor Gloeckner for more than two decades of service to the agency. Gloeckner retired as the president and CEO of Alvis House in 2005. During his tenure, the agency's residential capacity more than tripled and annual revenues grew from \$1.2 million to \$7.3 million.

More than 100 people attended Bob Gloeckner's retirement dinner. In addition to a host of family, colleagues and friends, attendees at the retirement dinner included Hon. Dewey Stokes, Franklin County Commissioner, Dr. Reginald A. Wilkinson, retired director of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Geno Natalucci-



Bob Gloeckner and Denise M. Robinson with the dedication check. Alvis House honored Bob with the establishment of the Robert Gloeckner Scholarship Fund, which will be set up through the Columbus Foundation. (imaging by GAB3)

Persichetti, former director of the Ohio Department of Youth Services, and Terry Marshall, president of the International Community Corrections Association.

Gloeckner is well known for saying the agency's staff is its single most important asset. "We could not think of a more fitting tribute to a man who has invested so much

in Alvis House and encouraged so many staff to reach their potential in the more than 20 years he worked here," said Robinson.

The scholarship will be awarded annually so that an Alvis House staff member can pursue a graduate level degree program or higher in a field related to the mission of Alvis House. If you would like to make a contribution to The Robert Gloeckner Scholarship Fund, please contact Gloria Iannucci or Heather Hines at (614)252-8402.

6th Alvis House Golf Classic

Postponed for the second year in a row due to rain, the Sixth Annual Alvis House Golf Classic took place October 3 and raised nearly \$25,000 to support agency programs and services. It was a great day for golf at the Worthington Hills Country Club and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Alvis House would like to thank the members of the Golf Classic Planning Committee: Ron Stokes, honorary chair,



Gail Hogan, trustee, and Ronnie Stokes, honorary chair, clown around at the auction held after the Golf Classic

Patrick Kelley, co-chair, Frank Cannon, Sr., co-chair; Chris Davey, Dee Dexter Hively, Tom Donaghy, James Estes, Sr., Heather Hines, Gail Hogan, Bob Longberry, Sally Murphy and Caroline Worley; as well as special guest golfers Andy Groom, Brandon Joe, and Jack Turner; and to all the board members, volunteers and contributors who helped to make this event a success.

See you next year!

Agency Highlights

The need for effective reentry programs like those provided by Alvis House cannot be overstated. In Ohio, more than three times the number of individuals are being released from prison this year than were released in 1982. In addition to the growing number of people affected by incarceration, more individuals in transition have specialized treatment needs.

Offenders are at the highest risk immediately following their release from prison. The Bureau of Justice Statistics found that almost 30% of offenders were rearrested within six months.

Alvis House has some exciting, innovative things going on at the agency, such as the new Young Adult Reentry Program, new and expanded programming for fe-

male offenders and a clinical pilot project for offenders with cooccurring disorders. Alvis House looks to research and best practices models to make modifications and improvements in our programs. You can also find personal examples of success in the client stories on page 5.

Alvis House programs are proven to be effective in helping people to change their lives and patterns of behavior. In turn, the success of our clients has a long-term, positive impact on them, their families and the community.

Halfway houses in Ohio provide a wealth of services and can provide the offender with the structure needed to transition during the critical six month post release period (Hanley and Allen, 2006).

Meeting New Challenges

Programs for Women

Since 1990, the number of female defendants convicted of felonies in state courts has grown at more than two times the rate of increase in male defendants. In Ohio, the percentage of female offenders increased by 23% from 1985 to 2002. In response, Alvis House opened another all-female facility this year.

Female offenders reenter society with unique needs and challenges:

- 57% reported both physical and sexual abuse experiences,
- 38% of female offenders in Ohio have a history of mental illness.
- 37% of female inmates had incomes of less than \$600 per month prior to arrest.
- 70% have children under the age of 18.

Women's most common pathways to crime are based on survival (from abuse and poverty) and substance abuse. Their greatest needs are for comprehensive treatment for substance abuse and trauma recovery, education and training in job and parenting skills, and safe and sober housing (Chesney-Lind, 2000).

Alvis House's programs for women combine supervision with proven therapeutic approaches that deal with women's issues, such as domestic violence, sexual abuse, pregnancy and parenting, relationships, and gender bias. These services are provided in structured, safe environments and stress accountability.

Programs for Individuals with Cooccurring Disorders

The incidence of serious mental illnesses, such as schizophrenia, major depression, bipolar disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder, is two to four times higher among offenders than in the general population. More than 70% also have a substance abuse problem. Untreated mental illness or mental illness and a cooccurring substance abuse disorder are strong predictors of recidivism (Report of the Reentry Policy Council, 2004).

Alvis House's Reflections Program for individuals with cooccurring mental health and substance abuse disorders recently completed six months of programming under a new integrated treatment model.

The results thus far have been promising, with more than a three-fold increase in the number of successful discharges.

The Reflections Program's services are not just directed at substance abuse and mental health issues, but also target employment, housing, family relationships, problem solving and other life issues. An additional component, the family support program, addresses communication, parenting, effects of drug and alcohol use on the family, rebuilding trust, mental health concerns, and financial matters.



Clients in the Reflections Program participating in a cognitive therapy group, which helps to identify and change patterns of thinking that may lead to criminal behavior.

The Alvis House Mission is to reduce the repetition of criminal behavior in our community by working within the criminal justice system to provide services and programs which offer alternatives to incarceration and facilitate the reintegration of the offender into the community.

Thank you to the Individuals and organizations that contributed to Alvis House In 2005-2006!

A Cannon Group	Jim Deagle	Hon. Judith French	Michael Jeter
Abbott Sysco Food Services	Teresa Decker	Rosemarie Gearhart	John of Holland, Inc.
Jo Anna Adams	Deloitte & Touche	Joe Geary	Michele Johnson
Terrance Addison	Dee Dexter and Michael Hively	Janice B. George	Jones Day
Aretha Anderson	Dr. Simon Dinitz	George Gevas	Joan Alison Jones
Archer-Meek-Weiler	Donald W. Kelley & Assoc.	Gary Gilson	John Jones
Thom Barnes and Connie Argus	The Downey Company	Michelle Girand	Douglas and Adella Jones
Jacquelyn Barnett	David Downey	Bob and Avis Gloeckner	Junior Achievement
Gary and Melanie Bast	Wandra Draper	Diana Godfrey	Kagay & Schellhaas
Michael Baumann	Kathleen Ebersbach	Lisa Gordish	Chip Kane
Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP	Economy Linen & Towel Service	Monica Gordon	Steve Kaser
Rick Bersnack	EMH & T	Grubers Columbus Agency, Inc.	Pat Kelley
Dee Dee Blume	Falco, Smith & Kelley, Ltd.	Laura Stanley Gunnels and Lee Gunnels	Angel Kent
William Bone	Bruce Feldman	Luther and Marie Gunsett	Mary Jo Kilroy
Joseph Bonvillain	Theresa Fidler-Zborovsky	Albert and Deloris Harrington	Randall Kinzel
Steven Boone	Fifth Third Bank	Joseph Harris	The Kroger Company
Christopher Boso	Henry and Goldie Fisher	H. Hauser, Jr.	Steven A. Larson
Sherry Boyd	Jane F. Fisher	Tonya Hawkes	Darrell Lauderback
Luke and Diane Brown	Martha Fisher	Anthony Haynes	John Lee
Rowland and Heather Brown	Byron and Barbara Ford	Paul and Joyce Heiman	Linda Lee
Debra Buccilla	Frank Gillespie Company	Marcia Herrold	Reginald Lee
Burton Metal Finishing, Inc.		The Estate of John Holden	Kathy and Robert Levering
Sean Byrne		Suzanne Huck	Jeffrey M. Lewis
Jenny and Steven Camper		Karen Huey	Kenneth and Daisy Lewis
Candlelite Builders, Inc.		Clyde C. Huffman	Bret Longberry
Frank Cannon		Heidi A. Hughes	Bob Longberry
Doug Capehart		Huntington National Bank	Thomas Mann
Carpenters & Joiners Local #200		Gloria and John Iannucci	John and Carol Marty
Herman Carter		Kasey Ingram	The Mattlin Foundation
CCI Benefit Solutions		Allen and Anne Isenberg	Robert Mecum
Central Beverage Group			
Michael Cohill			
Paul Collinsworth			
Congregation Tifereth Israel			
Hon. John A. Connor			
Phyllis Crider			
C.S. Pek Co.			
Cultural Awareness Club			
Mike Cummins			
Elizabeth Cuniberti			
William Curlis			
Ed and Joanne Dahlman			
Christopher Davey			
Dr. Matthew and Mrs. Nancy Davies			
Peter Davis			

*A special thank you
to Jeff Frank, president,
Drexel Theatres Group,
and the staff of the Arena
Grand Theatre for
hosting Alvis House's
39th Annual Meeting.*

Save the Date

Alvis House 40th Anniversary Celebration

Ohio Statehouse Atrium

April 18, 2007

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Thank you to the Individuals and organizations that contributed to Alvis House In 2005-2006!

Merrill Lynch	Barbara Olmstead	John K Sauter	Troy Taylor
Steven Metzler	James and Mary Pantalos	Dixie Sayre Miller	Thompson Hine
MFP Insurance Agency	PDI/Saneck	Jeff Schellhaas	Rev. Harold Turner
Cheryl Miller	Brian Pence	David M. Schilder	Twin Vending, Inc.
Ian Miller	Anne Powell Riley	Nancy and Rick Schucker	Thomas Vadakin
Scott Miller	Donald and Tamara Ransburgh	Mindy Schuler	Doug Ward
Henry and Ruth Montgomery	Charles and Carol Remley	Jeffrey Smith	C.D. Watkins
Gilbert and Irene Morris	Reward Technologies	Julie Smith	Hon. Michael Watson
Dean Moshier	Louise Richardson and Cheryl Hargrove	Larry Sowers	Alan Weiler
Donna Mosley	Richland Correctional Institution	The Lawrence & Sarah Stanley Fund	Robert Weiler
Sofia Mosley	RLJ Management	Alfred and Mary Ann Stockton	J. Scott Weisman
MT Business Technologies	Denise and Milton Robinson	Jennifer Stohr	Lisa M. Westwater
Wanda Mullins	Jeff Robinson	Jeff Strung	Tony White
Napoleon/Lynx	Toni Robinson	Janice and Stanley Swart	Dana Wilkie
National City Bank	Martin Rosensteel	Ramona Swayne	Hertha Williams
Dennis and Diana Newman	Barth Royer	Swedlow, Butler, Lewis	Caroline Worley
Larry A. Newman	Timothy Ryan	Martha J. Sweterlitsch	Damon Wright
Dick and Dottie Norris	Judith Sanders	Diane Szafranski	John Wymer
Oakwood Management Co.	Sanese Services	Rufus Thomas	Bob Yoakum
Carol Ocvirk			Gary Young
			David Zwyer

Your generosity contributes to our proven record of success

Finding Success at Work

“Roger,” 48, was referred to Alvis House Employment services by his parole officer. He had been looking for employment and was homeless. He enrolled in the Alvis House program and took to heart the suggestions and skills provided to him.

As a result of the program, Roger successfully gained employment at Allied Fabrication and was able to find housing. At present, he is applying to colleges and completing financial aid applications in order to pursue his dream of entering the medical field in the areas of radiology and/or surgical technology.

Alvis House provides specialized job readiness training and job placement assistance to individuals who had been involved in the criminal justice system. From 2000-2006, more than 3,600 individuals completed the Alvis House employment program and 67% were placed into full time positions in less than one month. This compares to studies that have found that one year after release, as many as 60% of former inmates are not employed in the regular labor market.

Finding Success over Addiction

“Aaron” is in the Wellness Program, a specialized, six-month substance abuse treatment program. He was suicidal when he came to Alvis House and didn’t know how to overcome his addiction. He found the Equip cognitive therapy program, which focuses on modifying destructive patterns of thinking, to be very helpful and learned better ways to react to situations.

He made a great deal of progress in the program and was able to obtain a full time job at the Holiday Inn. “My new, positive outlook is a direct result of how I was treated by the staff,” says Aaron.

Eight years of annual studies completed in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction demonstrate that 86.4% of the Alvis House clients who completed the program did not reenter the criminal justice system. This compares to national studies showing that up to two-thirds of former offenders reenter the criminal justice system within three years.



86.4% of Alvis House clients who completed the residential program did not reenter the criminal justice system.

Alvis House

P.O. Box 6868
Columbus, OH 43205
www.alvishouse.org



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 187
Columbus, OH

Reentry Program for Young Adults Begins

The Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) has awarded Alvis House a grant to provide services under the newly created “Project Reentry” pilot program.

In 2005, nearly 2,000 Ohio youth were released onto parole. Current statistics predict that within one year, 30% will come back to DYS or be committed to the adult correctional system. Young people returning to the community face the same challenges as adults leaving prison: they often do not have adequate housing, jobs, or basic living skills and many need counseling and treatment for substance abuse, health and mental health problems. In addition, they have an even greater need than adults for supportive families.



*Mark Jackson
Program Manager
Young Adult Reentry Program*

The goal of the Young Adult Reentry Program is to work with every participant to develop skills and access resources that will result in a successful transition to the community and provide the highest quality of life possible.

“We are so pleased to expand our partnership with the Ohio Department of Youth Services and to work with them to ease youthful offenders’ transition back home or to the community,” said Alvis House President Denise M. Robinson. “We are also pleased to begin another family-focused reentry program because research has found that family-based interventions are among the most effective in reducing recidivism.”

The Young Adult Reentry Program provides treatment, programming, assistance and support to incarcerated juveniles in the process of transitioning to the community, as well as to their families. Services are provided in three phases: in the institution, in the community, and post-supervision.