

# 2016 Annual Report

June 2017

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## President's Message

Dear Friends,

2016 was a challenging year for JPC. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Susan K. Porter our Executive Director, key board members, Suzanne Schnittman, and our longtime grantwriter, we carried out a sustainability project, partially funded by the Rochester Area Community Foundation. JPC representatives met with numerous individuals, agencies and elected officials to identify resources, funding and collaborative opportunities. Of particular note is our strengthened relationships with our NYS elected officials and the promise of funding in 2017. We hope that all four programs will receive on going state funding. These 4 programs are: Legal Action Project/Women's Legal Action Project, Faith Community Adult Mentoring Program, New Journey and JPC's Housing for the Homeless. We continue to plan for a New Journey program for fathers exiting the county jail with children who would like to reunite with their children. The Sustainability Project continues into 2017.

I am particularly proud of an evidence based training spearheaded by JPC. Susan K. Porter who 1) identified a high quality professional development training: Cognitive Based Intervention, CBI-Substance Abuse provided by University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI), 2) secured the involvement of key service partners (Spiritus Christi, Huther Doyle and JPC staff/mentors participation in the training; and, 3) won a competitive grant from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation to carry out the project. The 24 hour, 3-day onsite training was received by all participants (and the trainers) with high satisfaction in April of this year. Huther Doyle graciously offered their facility for the training. This training will be followed up by videotaped practice sessions for each participant, written evaluation of the video practice sessions by UCCI trainers; and, an additional one day training in the fall of 2017. Cognitive-behavioral intervention (CBI) is among the more promising rehabilitative strategies for criminal justice involved women and men. Reviews of the comparative effectiveness of different treatment approaches have generally ranked it in the top tier with regard to effects on recidivism.

We may be small, but we are mighty. JPC's successes are the result of the work of capable, dedicated staff, and many in-kind resources and people. I thank them all and would like to particularly mention five of our in-kind "staff".

Community volunteers have remained steadfast in their involvement with JPC: Shadeed Mulazim and Denise Williams prepare and serve meals at our weekly Monday Night Support Group for up to 20 exoffenders seeking education and employment resources, linkages and encouragement; Tricia Carey acts as our Finance Coordinator with support from Ed Johnson who has provided (since 2010) flawless, weekly financial assistance; and additional help from Harry Williams, for which we are grateful.

In order to serve returning citizens, we rely on you, our community. There are a number of ways you can make a difference. You can become a mentor, join our advocacy effort - Ban the Box Committee, help with our quarterly electronic newsletter, consider joining our Board and/or put JPC in your will or estate plan. For more information, please contact our Executive Director, Susan K. Porter at info@rocjpc.org.

With much appreciation,

H. Gregory Down

H. Gregory Bouie, Board Chairperson

#### **Executive Director's Message**

Dear Friends,

JPC would not be able to accomplish what it does without the help of four **Essential Community Partners**: *Monroe County Sheriff's Office* (MCSO), *Monroe Correctional Facility* (MCF) Rehabilitation Program, *LawNY Rochester Office* and *Rochester Housing Authority* (RHA). *MCSO* has been a partner for 21 years and provides us with updated jail statistics and other information for grantwriting. *MCF* identifies inmates for our services and gives us access to inmates in the jail for our pre and post release services. *LawNY* Rochester Office has worked with us since 2006 and provides reentry clients with legal advice, advocacy, and representation with housing, public assistance and employment discrimination issues. *RHA* has provided a total of 30 housing vouchers for our homeless ex-offender clients.

**Funding**. JPC staff and board members met with numerous organizational and funding leaders throughout 2016 to identify financial and in-kind resources to help stabilize JPC revenue in 2016 and into the future. The Rochester Area Community Foundation, Marie C. & Joseph C. Wilson Foundation and Fred & Floy Willmott Foundation along with key individual givers helped us through a difficult 2016, with grants and loans. *Thank you!* does not begin to express our appreciation.

As part of this sustainability effort, we actively pursued funding in 2016 from our NYS elected representatives through group and individual meetings followed by formal proposals for state funding in 2017. We requested State funding from Senators Funke, Ranzenhofer, Robach, Assembly Majority Leader Morelle, and Assemblymember Bronson. We found each representative to be genuinely interested in our services and willing to help. We have been notified that three of our requests were successful and await updates on the remaining requests.

I am grateful for fundraising help from: Suzanne Schnittman, Liz Brown, Diana Green and Margaret Corbin for their leadership. The Bridge Gift Campaign brought in over \$35,000. Words cannot express the significance of the impact of our staff: Kamilah Wallace, Sr. Service Coordinator; Valerie White Whittick Mentor Coordinator; and our New Journey therapeutic staff: Cynthia Consaul, LCSW-R, LPN, and Jeanette Gartland Creighton, LMSW, CASAC, for their long term dedication to effectively serving hundreds of former offenders and involving the community as much needed allies. MacClurg Vivian, our long time and meticulous grantwriter, continues to help us secure funding from previous and new funding sources. Gregory Bouie, JPC Board President has worked hard to bring in much needed expertise to our Board, and has passionately advocated for JPC wherever he goes.

Sincerely Susan K. Porter,

Svou K. Porter

**Executive Director** 

**Testimonial.** Sharice is a 29 year old African American female, pregnant and with four children. She has experienced multiple arrests for petit larceny. Sharice struggles with substance abuse, has learning disabilities and has experienced repeated domestic violence. She has been homeless on and off for years. She enrolled in the NJ program a year ago and was released in February to a temporary living situation with her 4 children, drug dealer boyfriend. JPC helped her locate housing, helped her with back rent, emergency food and used furniture. She was referred to our legal partner LawNY for advocacy to keep her welfare case open.

#### **JPC Vision**

The Judicial Process Commission envisions a society with true justice and equality for all. We understand that in a just society, all institutions will be based on reconciliation and restoration, instead of retribution and violence.

#### JPC Mission

The Judicial Process Commission is a grass roots non-profit organization that works to create a just, nonviolent community. We support the rights of all people affected by the criminal justice system and promote changes to that system that help them achieve their fullest potential. We do this by providing support services, educating the public and advocating for systemic change.

**Testimonial**. Joseph is a 50 year old African American male who has struggled most of his life with addiction. He attended treatment program after treatment program but was not successful. He acquired a lengthy criminal history as a result of his use. He came to JPC to get a background check to know what his history actually was. He applied for the Certificate of Relief for his convictions and received them all. He is now employed with the city and volunteers at various organizations.

#### JPC PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

JPC has reorganized the way we provide services. Our focus now is providing more intensive/comprehensive, evidence based services in order to bring greater impact for our low income clients. JPC clients are enrolled in at least one of our four programs: Legal Action Project/Women's LAP, New Journey, Faith community Adult Mentoring and Housing for the Homeless. We no longer provide walk-in services for single purpose requests such as obtaining identifications or securing RAP sheets.

JPC's reentry services include: service coordination, wrap around services, legal services, employment preparation including rap sheet reviews, certificate of relief from disabilities/of good conduct, therapeutic support groups & counseling (New Journey) and mentoring. Over the past seven years, JPC has developed a specialty serving high to moderate risk mothers and children, which we plan to extend to fathers as well. New Journey and Faith Community Adult Mentoring programs serve women and men, pre and post release, referred from the Monroe Correctional Facility staff, ages 16 and older. The Legal Action Project serves any woman or man with a criminal record seeking employment/education. In 2016 year, the Women's Legal Action Project, supported by the Rochester Women's Giving Circle, added unique supports to meet the special needs of women.

**Legal Action Project** (**LAP**) - This first of its kind collaborative effort in NYS began in 2006 with LawNY Rochester Office and is designed to reduce and/or eliminate legal and illegal barriers that make it much more difficult for ex-offenders to rejoin the community and succeed in almost every important aspect of life.

#### Major LAP services include:

RAP Sheets – JPC requested 515 New York State/Federal Rap Sheets from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services and FBI in 2016. Certificates of Rehabilitation: Certificates of rehabilitation are an essential resource for returning citizens. They are offered in just a few states to assist in the re-entry and employment process. Certificates enhance public safety because they lift statutory bars to jobs and licensure in New York State that result from a conviction history. Certificates may be used to demonstrate rehabilitation or a commitment to rehabilitation. Only six states

Currently have laws authorizing a certificate process. In NYS they are referred to as Certificate of Relief from Disabilities or a Certificate of Good Conduct. During 2016, JPC Service Coordinators and clients worked together to submit 164 applications. In New York, they are approved by a judge or the parole board and serve as legal evidence of rehabilitation. In some instances they are required by an employer or by New York law for employment in over 100 licensed professions.

**Job Discrimination Education and Litigation** – This service ensures that the employment rights of ex-offenders are understood and enforced in New York. JPC staff obtain and correct RAP sheets, write letters to employers and refer cases to LawNY Rochester Office for further advocacy and/or litigation.

#### Other Services.

**Service Coordination** – Staff and volunteers provide one on one support, coordinated referrals, access to employment/training services and advocacy for individuals coming out of the criminal justice system.

**Wrap Around Services** – JPC provides Wrap Around Services to low income ex-offenders and may include: bus transportation, used clothing and furniture, bedding, work clothing, baby items, emergency food, identifications, and 1st month's rent/security deposit. These services are limited by our budget.

**Faith Community Adult Mentoring Project (FCAMP)** – FCAMP assists individuals returning from the Monroe Correctional Facility. Trained volunteer mentors are matched with a mentee prerelease. Mentors serve as a guide and coach to support the participant's successful return to our community. Mentor Champions include: Dr. David Kotok, M.D., former Rochester Mayor William Johnson, Ervin Vereen, Joellen Kuhl, Timothy Hinton and Pamela Bollar who continue opening doors to recruit new mentors. Most have served or currently serve as mentors.

45 new mentors were trained in 2016. A total of 49 mentors worked with 92 ex-offenders. Mentors assist the mentees by identifying employment resources, housing, and job training opportunities that empower them to become productive citizens. Mentees have successfully been reconnected to their families, obtained employment and/or got enrolled in job training programs or MCC. We continued our bi-weekly Team Mentoring Group for male inmates at Monroe Correctional Facility with our new mentor-facilitators Pastor Stephen Williams and Pastor Will Butts who lead jail groups on topics such as Communication Skills, Healthy Relationships and successful transitional plans.

**Testimonial.** Lawrence is a 30 year old African American male addicted to the street life and dealing. He had never been arrested - so he continued. Then he sold to an under cover police officer and was arrested. He was released on bail, and decided to enroll in security guard training as something positive for the judge to see. He discovered that he could not get his license until he received a Certificate of Relief. His certificate application was in process and when he came in to review his criminal history, he shared the good news. His Judge granted him the Certificate when he was sentenced. He has his Security Guard License and is gainfully employed by a local Security firm.

**New Journey** continues the effort of the 2010-12 federally-funded Women's Re-entry Project for women pregnant or with children. The program works in collaboration with the Monroe Correctional Facility (MCF) to serve 55 women prerelease and 45 high to moderate risk women post release each year.

Women receive pre/post release services that may include: mentors, therapeutic support groups, 1-on-1 counseling with Case Managers (MSW's), Service Coordination, legal services including preparation for employment, safe and affordable housing including Shelter Plus housing (HUD/RHA), wrap around services when funding is available such as: identifications, used household items/baby items/furniture and security deposits/first month's rent. Referrals for additional services such as: medical, housing, mental health, substance abuse treatment, welfare benefits, legal services are also provided.

New Journey 2016 Outcomes: (For 58 women served prerelease and 38-47 women served post release in 2016.)

- 61% were African American, 32% White and 7% Latino.
- 48% were high to high moderate risk and 42% were low moderate risk.
- 82% (31 of 38) of moms were reunified with their children.
- 89% (34 of 38) of women received help with finding stable housing.
- 37% (14) received substance abuse and/or mental health treatment.
- 63% (24) of women stabilized their income.
- 28% (12 of 43) of women recidivated (i.e., committed a new crime and returned to jail.)

**Testimonial**. Kathy is a 50 year old war refugee. She has a 13 year old daughter, two grown daughters, and a son in state prison. Kathy struggles with chronic domestic violence and alcohol and substance abuse and has a history of prostitution. JPC paid her back rent while in jail; when she returned home after release from jail, her home was broken into and she was assaulted by a local gang. With JPC's help she has a new apartment and lives with her 13 year old, is currently in substance abuse and mental health treatment and benefits from a JPC mentor.

#### **IPC Housing for the Homeless**

Rochester Housing Authority Shelter Plus program initiated a contract with JPC beginning in 2010 for 10 housing vouchers that provides safe, affordable and permanent housing to homeless women and men with past criminal justice system involvement that face numerous housing barriers. As of January 2017 JPC was awarded a total of 30 housing vouchers. Clients in this program have access to most of JPC's programs and services and receive ongoing monthly home visits.

**Testimonial**. Traci is a 50 year old white female with a history of prostitution, petit larceny, 24 arrests and time in state prison and the County jail. She has 7 children. Traci has been sexually abused from a young age and is a survivor of domestic violence. She struggles with substance abuse and mental health issues. JPC helped get her off the streets by paying a small portion of her monthly rent- this allowed her to stabilize her life. She completed substance abuse and mental health treatments; has completed 3 semesters at college and is a client in JPC's HUD Shelter Plus program.

JPC Client Service Statistics	2014	2015	2016
<b>Note</b> : These numbers are underreported. We simply cannot track all th continues to decline in response to our best practices approach of provid We lost and could not replace our Mennonite Volunteer in August 2016	ding more intensive ser	vices to fewer	people.
Unique Individuals Served (# Individuals/Total Visits or Calls)	1132/2784	895/3043	702/2271
# Clients by age: 15-29 (Individuals/Total Visits or Calls)	202/431	141/442	106/345
# Clients by age: 30-49 (Individuals/Total Visits or Calls)	545/1277	418/1273	325/1012
# Clients by age: 50+ (Individuals/Total Visits or Calls)	302/878	275/1151	213/780
# Clients by age: Unknown (Individuals/Total Visits or Calls)	83/198	61/177	58/134
# Clients by gender/# of contacts: Female	281	306	306/1081
# Clients by gender/# of contacts: Male	454	465	316/1059
# Clients by gender: Transgender	_	3	N/A
# Clients with gender not recorded/# of contacts	397	121	80/131
# Clients who registered at reception each day	2010	1038	949
# State & Federal Rap Sheets Applied for/Received (Some clients have multiple RAP sheets.)	521	342	515
# State RAPS Applied for/Received	438/413	283/281	253/193
# Federal RAPS Applied for/Received	83/52	59/70	52/57
# Rap sheets: Reviewed	464/192	351/191	250/147
# State RAPS Reviewed	167	169	122
# Federal RAPS Reviewed	24	22	25
# Certificates Applied for/Approved	130/75	157/69	164/57
# Certificate of Relief		148/63	154/56
# Certificate of Good Conduct		9/6	10/1
# Mentors trained/mentors active	47/58	35/49	45/49
# Ex-offenders receiving mentors	125	67	92
# Identifications obtained	251	86	107
# Working	69	32	55
# Volunteering	39	9	24

# In Permanent Housing (JPC'S HUD Shelter + program & community housing)

# In Recovery Program: Drugs, 12 Step, Support Groups

## A lot of people make IPC's work happen!

#### <u>4 Essential Community Partners - 2016</u>

LawNY Rochester Office Monroe County Sheriff's Office Monroe Correctional Facility, Rehabilitation Program Rochester Housing Authority, Shelter Plus Program

### 28 Community Collaborators - 2016

Action for a Better Community

Angels of Mercy

Bethany House

Catholic Family Center: Restart, Freedom House, Healthy Sisters Soup & Bean Works, Liberty Manor

City of Rochester, Operation Transformation

DePaul PROS (Personalized Recovery Oriented Services)

Foodlink

Health Homes, Unity Health System

Hope House-Volunteers of America

Hope Initiatives

Jennifer House, Spiritus Christi Church

Monroe County Prob. & Community Corrections Dept.

Monroe County Office of the Public Defenders

Monroe County Reentry Task Force

New York State Division of Parole

NYS Senator Joseph Robach

Out of Darkness/Christian Fellowship

Pathways House of Syracuse Behavioral Healthcare

Rochester Correctional Facility (NYS Work Release Facility)

Rochester Educational Opportunity Center (REOC)

RochesterWorks!

Safer Monroe Area Reentry Team (SMART)

Sojourner House at Pathstone

Step by Step, Volunteers of America

Strong Ties, University of Rochester

United States Probation and Pre-trial Services

Barbara Wolk Schwarz Women's Community Residence,

Unity Hospital campus

Women's Coffee Connection

Women's Initiative Supporting Health (WISH) – Transitions

Clinic, U of R/Strong Memorial Hospital

Working Women's Wardrobe, Volunteers of America

# 2016 - Organization Funders/ In-kind Support

#### **Religious Organizations (12)**

Church of the Assumption Downtown United Presby. Church

First Presby. Society of Pittsford

First Unitarian Church

Lake Avenue Memorial Baptist

Church and Society

Mountain Rise United Church of

Christ

Presbytery of Genesee Valley

Rochester Monthly Meeting

Religious Society of Friends

St Peter's Episcopal Church Spiritus Christi Church

Waring Baptist Church

#### Other Organizations (19)

Adult Career and Continuing Educ. Services-Vocational Rehab

(ACCES-VR)

Anonymous Family Foundation

Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation

**Driver Awareness Training** 

Feminists Choosing Life

Feminists for Nonviolent Choices

of New York

Greater Rochester Health Fdtn

McGowan, William G., Charitable

Trust

Monroe Community College

Monroe County Dept. of Human Services-Work Exp. Prog. (WEP) NYS Division of C. J. Services,

Assemblyman Harry Bronson Rochester Area Community

Foundation (3): Generic Fund;

African American Fund; Women & Girls Fund;

Rochester Female Charitable

Society Society

Rochester Police Department St. Joseph's House of Hospitality

Willmott, Fred & Floy Foundation Wilson Foundation, Marie C. &

Joseph C.

### Current Board & Advisory Board Members – June 2017

Gregory Bouie Willow Group, LTD Inside Sales Specialist Board Chairperson

Helen Cheves, Adjunct Faculty SUNY Brockport II Steps Ahead, President, Chair Communications Committee LaShana Boose, Rochester City School Dist., Sr. School Secretary, Joseph C. Wilson Magnet High School Communications Committee

Linda Harrell-Davis NYS
Licensed Massage Therapist &
Owner, Me Time Massage &
Wellness, Chairperson
Governance

Eric Hillsman U/R Strong Memorial Hospital

Karen A. Jones Iberdrola USA, IT Contracts Manager, Board Secretary

Betty Brewer Johnson, Executive Assistant, Board Vice Chairperson **Advisory Board** 

John M. Klofas, Ph.D. Dir., Center for Public Safety Initiatives , Professor, Dept. of Criminal Justice, RIT

Fred Schaefer Retired Manager, Kodak President Emeritus

Suzanne Schnittman, PhD President Emeritus Fundraising

# Current Staff, June, 2017

JPC staff are paid and volunteer and come to us through a variety of avenues.

<u>STAFF</u>

**Susan K. Porter,** Executive Director

**Kamilah Wallace,** Sr. Service Coordinator

Valerie White-Whittick, Mentor Coordinator

**Cynthia Consaul**, LCSW-R, LPN, Counselor

Jeanette Gartland Creighton, LMSW CASAC, Counselor

<u>Contract Consultant</u>

**MacClurg Vivian,**Freelance Grantwriter

**VOLUNTEER STAFF** 

**Tricia Carey,** Finance Director

Ed Johnson, Harry Williams, Financial Assistants

**Tate DeCaro**, Newsletter Editor

Yolanda Hickman Shadeed Mulazim Denise Williams

Monday Night Support Group Leaders

**Liz Brown,**Development

Consultant

Pastor Stephen

Williams, Pastor Will Butts MC Jail Support Groups

**IN-KIND STAFF** 

LawNY Rochester, Robin Marable, Esq., Legal Staff Monroe Cnty Work Experience Prog (WEP). Reginald Butler, LAP Asst.

Alan Tatelman, Admin. MCC, Michelle Esquijo, LAP Asst.

NYS DOCS, Donnell Mays, Admin.

# **Current Mentors**

Beth Amodio Pamela Chung **Dorothy Hall** Kathy Neeley Robert Ashford Eric Hillsman Wayne Cleveland Robert Picco Sharon Barber Paul Clocksin Tim Hinton John Potter Don Bartalo **Doug Connoway David Johnson** Dawn Pozzi Pamela Bollar Cynthia Consaul Mayor William Johnson Kamilah Wallace Rose Bonnick Jeanette G. Creighton Riva Jones Suzanne Schnittman Maurice Bradley Linda Draeger-Kunz **David Kotok** Michael Schnittman Felecia Brown Jane Duda Joellen Kuhl **Donna Simmons** Felicia Bryant Gloria Edmonds Hector Lozada **George Torres** Earl Buggs Michelle Esquijo Donna Maier Ervin Vereen Bill Camp Sharon Fryer Carl Malady Bill Washington Brenda Campbell Marva Gibson David Markham Don Webster Ronald Gibson Niki Williams Maria Casapini Stephen Metildi Stephen Williams **Dorothy Chung** Peggy Hale Annie Murphy

# Judicial Process Commission

1921 Norton Street, Rochester, New York 14609 (585)325-7727 \* FAX (585) 325-2165 \* jpc6@rocjpc.org

# Help Our Community One Person at a Time!

Are you interested in learning how to effectively assist men and women who are struggling to turn their life around?





# If so, volunteer to become a JPC mentor Attend JPC's Faith Community Adult Mentor Training

Monday and Tuesday September 18th and 19th - 2017, 5:00 to 9:00 PM

Friends Meeting House, 84 Scio Street. One block south of E. Main Street by the Eastman Theatre. Parking behind the building. **Call**: 325-7727. Valerie White-Whittick **Email**: jpc6@rocjpc.org

Monday September 18, 2017				
5:00	Dinner			
5:00 - 5:30	What is Mentoring			
5:30 - 6:00	Mentor & Mentee Roundtable			
6:00 - 6:15	Policy and Procedures for Mentors			
6:15 - 6:30	Break			
6:30 - 7:30	Certificates of Relief and Rap Sheets			
7:30 – 9:00	Understanding Addictions, Staff, & Processes at the Monroe Correctional			
	Facility			

Tuesday September 19, 2017				
5:00	Dinner			
5:00 - 5:30	Health Issues - HIV, TB, and Diabetes			
5:30 - 6:45	Temporary Assistance - LawNY Rochester Office			
6:45 - 7:00	Break			
7:00 – 8:00	Monroe County, State, & Federal Probation & Parole Processes/Procedures			
8:00 - 8:50	Building a Trusting Relationship, Listening and Feedback			
8:50 - 9:00	Questions, Next Steps and Evaluations			

Endorsing organizations: Aenon Baptist Church, Bibleway Healing Temple, Calvary St. Andrew's Presbyterian Parish, Catholic Family Center, Christian Baptist Friendship Church, Crossroads to Basik Ministries, Downtown United Presbyterian Church, Elim Christian Fellowship of Rochester/Jail and Prison Ministries, Faith, Healing and Delivery Clinic, Faith, Hope and Charity Worship Center, First Church of God - Clarrisa Street, Judicial Process Commission, Light of the World Church, Monroe County Correctional Facility, Monroe County Probation, Mt. Sinai Ministries, NYS Parole, US Probation and Pre-Trial Services, Rochester Friends Meeting, Sisters of St. Joseph, St. Mary's Downtown, Women's Coffee Connection.