

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



Issue: #1, Volume 1

November 2010

IN THIS ISSUE

[OUR MISSION!](#)

[FORUM ON CATHOLIC FAMILY CENTER SERVICES](#)

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

[CLOTHING & TOILETRIES NEEDED](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Welcome to the first edition of the e-newsletter of the Prison Ministry Advisory Board of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester!

We will be offering this newsletter to readers monthly on an "as requested" basis to highlight recent developments among the various ministries and agencies working with and through our members.

OUR MISSION: PRISON MINISTRY - EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, NY

Our mission is to promote within parishes of the dioceses as well as those of other area denominations an understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by the incarcerated and re-entering men and women and their families, and to encourage and support ministries within our parishes to assist this community.

We will make a point of offering opportunities for those wishing to volunteer in these programs, or to initiate new programs. We also encourage our readers to log onto our website, www.prisonministry-edr.org for more comprehensive information about our many activities and related agencies.

FORUM ON CATHOLIC FAMILY CENTER SERVICES

In this issue we report on a forum held by one of our cooperating agencies - Prison Re-entry and Aftercare Ministries (PRAM). PRAM is an ecumenical ministry for re-entry comprised of collaborating churches within the diocese of Rochester, and was founded by a member of our board. It is headquartered at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Rochester. Representatives from the Catholic Family Center (CFC) were invited to speak in this forum because CFC is performing re-entry services with the help of some volunteers from PRAM.

PRAM held a forum on Catholic Family Center Services for clients in re-entry and drug and alcohol addiction rehabilitation. Staff members from the Catholic Family Center (CFC), Kathy Saresky - Service Coordinator for Project Restart, Donald Hardaway - Case Manager for Youth Services, and Craig Waleed - Case Manager for Monroe County reentry services at CFC spoke at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Rochester on September 16th about re-entry services provided by the Monroe County Re-entry Services at the Catholic Family Center.

Services provided by Monroe County Reentry Services include:

- Assistance in obtaining public assistance, Medicaid, food stamps, and SSI benefits
- Employment assessment and job placement
- GED, Educational and Training opportunities
- Housing
- Family Counseling
- Substance abuse assessment and placement in treatment
- Mental health services
- Mentoring services
- Support groups
- Family recreation activities

They accept referrals from the Department of Correctional Services, Federal Probation, the Monroe County Jail / Correctional Facility, the NYS Division of Parole, the Monroe County Office of Probation, community

agencies, family members, and incarcerated men and women. Some of the agencies for which they partner include, the Judicial Process Commission, Career Start, Partners in Restorative Initiative, and the Children's Institute.

Outcome statistics for clients of Catholic Family Center programs were discussed. It was mentioned that recidivism from the County Jails for people who are not in aftercare with CFC are around 30%, while only 10% those involved with CFC re-offend. Statistics for recovering drug and alcohol abusers in the center's Project Restart program show approximately 45% of the clients stay with the program even when experiencing relapses. While no one's track record is 100%, the speakers were clear that Catholic Family Center makes a significant difference for many of the clients, and even among those who opt out of the program, they are confident that "good seeds" are sown.

People needing services offered by the Catholic Family Center can enter the programs either through referrals or by coming into the various offices in Rochester and making a request. For those about to be released from local jails, the case managers prefer to begin talking with the client while still incarcerated so that the process of making necessary arrangements can begin prior to being released to the streets. They also believe that establishing a trust relationship with the client prior to release greatly enhances their effectiveness in helping the client to reestablish back into the community.

Discussions revolved around CFC and its role as an agent of change in reentry:

- The recent NYS probation conference featured John Klofas who is a distinguished professor of criminal justice at RIT. John began his presentation with RIT's role with Habitat for humanity and how this piece together with social change could change the slippery slope we are headed to with target neighborhoods and economic development in the greater Rochester area. It was determined at our PRAM meeting that CFC could be the lead agency that focuses on social change together with the resources from RIT and Habitat.
- Another discussion focused on current in reach activities involving the ACOA group and Literacy volunteer activities currently in place at MCF. CFC through Greg Waleed could provide the in reach linkages to help transition individuals to CFC for extended care and support.



WANT MORE INFORMATION?

For **reentry services**, contact the Catholic Family Center at 1645 St. Paul Street, Rochester, NY, 14621 at (585) 546-7220.

For **rehabilitation from drug and alcohol abuse**, contact the Center's Project Restart Program at 55 Troup Street, Rochester, NY, 14608 at (585) 546-1271.

For **volunteer opportunities** in the many programs offered by the **Catholic Family Center** should contact the main offices for CFC at 87 North Clinton

Avenue in Rochester, NY, 14604, call (585) 546-7220, or e-mail: volunteer@cfcrochester.org.

For **Prison Re-entry and Aftercare Ministries (PRAM)**, go to the PRAM page on our website at www.prisonministry-edr.org.

NEEDED! HYGIENE AND CLOTHING DONATIONS

Many of the male clients returning to the community from jail are in need of basic hygiene products such as soap, shaving cream, deodorant, razors, under garments, etc. Those wishing to donate these items should contact Craig Waleed, Monroe County Reentry Services, Catholic Family Services, 1645 St. Paul Street, Rochester, NY 14621.

Prison Ministry - Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, NY

Email: info@prisonministry-edr.org

Website: www.prisonministry-edr.org

[Forward email](#)

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to lpetrie@trusmart.com by info@prisonministry-edr.org.

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Prison Ministry - Episcopal Diocese of Rochester | 3760 Culver Road. | Rochester | NY | 14622