



CJM Connection

The newsletter of Criminal Justice Ministry St. Louis

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Recognition Dinner a Success

June 1st was a wonderful evening as over 200 friends and supporters of Criminal Justice Ministry gathered to recognize those who have made extraordinary contributions to our mission. Through the generosity of our sponsors and guests, we exceeded our goal and raised over \$125,000 to support our work.

Thank you to all who contributed and joined us in the celebration.

You can see more pictures and information about the event on our website at: <https://www.cjmstlouis.org/recognition-dinner-2023>



Church, Verhulst & Walsh Wealth Partners



Welcome New Staff

We are excited to welcome several new members to our team this spring and summer.

Eric, a graduate of the Release to Rent reentry housing program, joined CJM in late April as the Housing Assistant for NPO Properties. In this role, Eric helps to prepare apartments for clients and assists with maintenance issues. As a past participant, he understands how important a clean apartment, in good repair, is for our clients.

Carl and Mary became the newest Release to Rent Case Managers in early May. They both had prior experience with CJM, having completed practicum programs as students. They also have lived experience with the justice system that will inform how they approach their R2R clients, providing intensive case management to support them in their reentry, and journey to independent living.

Tina joined our team in June as the Property and Leasing Manager for NPO Properties. Using her experience in property management, she will oversee NPO's 68 rental units and will find and lease over 40 additional units for R2R clients.

Opening

We have immediate openings for a **Director of Reentry Programs**,

The Director is responsible for CJM's reentry programs. The Director identifies needs, establishes goals, designs program services, oversees implementation, and monitors outcomes of all reentry programs including Release to Rent Reentry Housing and FIRST Services.

CJM encourages those with lived experience in the criminal justice system to apply. We provide a competitive salary and benefits.

See the postings on our website at:
<https://www.cjmstlouis.org/jobs>.

Improving Health Outcomes



Starting in July, CJM will host a nurse through a partnership with Deaconess Nurse Ministry. The nurse will improve healthcare services for clients in our Release to Rent Reentry Housing (R2R) program.

Most clients entering R2R do not have a primary care physician or insurance. The risk of death for individuals returning from incarceration is significantly higher than for the general population. Hypertension, heart disease, and diabetes are common ailments, in addition to a high incidence of prescriptions to treat mental health conditions. Roughly 30% of clients are over 55 when they enter the program, and another 30% will not be able to work due to disability.

The nurse will assess all clients at admission. They will ensure CJM is aware of and assisting to manage any chronic or life-threatening conditions, check that clients have needed medications, and help navigate the processes for obtaining insurance and primary care. The nurse will also assess the needs of aging and disabled clients to ensure CJM connects them to the services they need to continue to live independently when they complete the R2R program.

Save the Date

August 8: Volunteer and Client BBQ

August 26: Trivia Night

August 29: Reentry Resource Fair, 6-8 pm, St. Louis County Library Florissant Valley Branch

September 13: Pen pal meet up

STAR Networking Event: Connecting Reentry Providers to Create a Seamless System of Care



Tuesday July 18

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

IL Monastero, 3050 Olive St, St. Louis, MO 63103 (free parking)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- Felicia Spratt, Director of 911 Diversion, Behavioral Health Response
- Chase Shiflet, MSW, Justice Initiative Program Manager, St. Louis Integrated Health Network
- Meredith Rataj, Program Director, SU Transformative Workforce Academy

Light refreshments. We encourage everyone to bring their flyer and/or business card to share and network at the event.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE MINISTRY'S 12TH ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Round Sponsor \$300
 Tables of 8 \$200
 Single Tickets \$25
 Complimentary soda and beer
 Outside food and drinks welcome
 Silent Auction, Door Prizes, and More!
 Trivia by Trivia Riot

Register now!

Saturday, August 26th

St. James the Greater School Gym
 1360 Tamm Ave
 St. Louis, MO 63139

Doors Open **6:00 PM**
 Question Rounds Begin **7:00 PM**

Register at

<https://CJMTrivia.givesmart.com>

Presented by: **AGAPE Reentry Program**
Successful Second Chances Employer Panel
 Friday, July 21, 2023 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 Clark-Fox Forum in Hillman Hall Washington University in St. Louis Intersection of Forgyth Blvd @ Wrighton Way
 Please register at: <https://www.thesouofisherministries.com/employer-panel>



The Souffisher Ministries is excited to host a panel discussion on the importance of mental health and second-chance employment, featuring a keynote by Behavioral Health Response COO, Tiffany Lacy Clark. This event will bring together employers and formerly incarcerated people for a meaningful conversation about the intersection of mental health and employment opportunities for those who have been incarcerated. Our panelists will share their experiences and insights into the challenges and opportunities of second-chance employment, and how mental health plays a critical role in this process. We invite you to join us for a hot breakfast and engaging conversation on this important topic.

Employers: **BHR** Behavioral Health Response, **STL** SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY, **VR** Missouri VR

Funded by: **Regions** Bank

Please register at: <https://www.thesouofisherministries.com/employer-panel>
 For more information, please contact DeNyne Carter at 314-381-0401, ext. 101.

SUMMER 23
THE VOLUNTEER VOICE
 CRIMINAL JUSTICE MINISTRY NEWS FOR VOLUNTEERS



VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Current Institutional Volunteer Needs
Transition Center (TCSTL), Missouri Eastern Correctional (MECC) and City Justice Center

If you are interested in volunteering either in ministry or programs, please get in touch with us. We have lots of programs that fit different skills from art to computer literacy, bible study, and even yoga!

Opportunities with CJM Client Mission Welcome Home- Dinners and Cleaning Prayer meetings and Bible studies for clients post-release.

If you are interested in any of these Contact Lylan@cjmstlouis.org 314-887-1071

HERE WE GROW A GARDEN



The Transition Center (TCSTL) education courtyard now features a stunning garden, thanks to the collaboration between TCSTL and OLP Justice Seekers. By planting marigolds, the growth of peppers and tomatoes has been protected. The project was made possible through TCSTL's donation of supplies and the skills provided by OLP Justice Seekers, with CJM overseeing the process. The residents have actively participated in taking care of the garden and have expressed great joy and satisfaction in being a part of it. One

Volunteer Opportunities

Check out the latest edition of CJM's Volunteer Voice for information on volunteer opportunities and how to sign up.

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