

CJM Connection

The newsletter of Criminal Justice Ministry St. Louis

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SHARING GRATITUDE FROM OUR CLIENTS

"I AM NOT OVERSTATING THIS SAYING CRIMINAL JUSTICE MINISTRY IS CONSIDERED THE GOLD STANDARD IN SUPPORTING MEN GETTING OUT OF PRISON. CONGRATULATIONS - I HOPE YOU AND EVERYONE INVOLVED, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS, KNOW HOW MUCH YOU ARE APPRECIATED."

"Before I was referred here, many nights I was relieved to get arrested, because it meant at least for a night I would be dry and get fed. Now, I am grateful that I have an apartment, a job, am in recovery, and am back in my grandkids life."

Release to Rent Client

"Through years of addiction, after the death of my husband, not only did my kids lose their dad, they lost me in a big way. Thanks to the Release to Rent Veterans program, today I am sober, and active in my kid's life. I am grateful for the support, and the chance to think about going back to school."

Release to Rent Veteran Client

"My experience with CJM was fantastic, I felt supported throughout. It has been a year since my release, and I am working in a fine dining restaurant and just signed a lease and paid 6 months rent for a house."

Release to Rent Graduate

Support CJM ON Giving Tuesday

GIWING TUESDAY

Tuesday November 28, 2023

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement that unleashes the power of radical generosity around the world.

GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the past nine years, this idea has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

Please join the movement and support CJM on giving Tuesday.



TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE

CJM has Neighborhood Assistance Program tax credits available. Eligible contributions receive a 50% credit against Missouri taxes on business income (including rental income). A \$5,000 donation results in a credit on state business taxes of \$2,500, in addition to other deductions.

To learn more contact us at: info@cjmstlouis.org.

Upcoming Events



Regular and diabetic (sugar-free) cookies wanted!



Baked goods must be delivered in Tupperware or similar containers. No aluminum foil/metal containers can be accepted.

Contact us at info@cjmstlouis or 314-652-8062



please Join us for

CIM'S ANNUAL CLIENT HOLIDAY



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Start Here Resource Directory

We are working on the 2024 edition of the Start Here St. Louis Area Resource Directory. The 2023 edition of Start Here is available in PDF format on our website.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to print the PDF, or search the online version at <u>www.startherestl.org</u>.

Join Our Team

CJM has openings for Case Managers to work with our Release to Rent Reentry Housing programs. for a Mental Health Specialist, and the new position of Development Associate.

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

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

Our Heroes

In honor of Veteran's Day, we want to thank our veterans. We also want to raise awareness of how they are involved in the justice system.

CJM is proud to participate in the Department of Veterans Affairs Grant and Per Diem Program. CJM is also grateful to Boeing Global Engagement for a grant under their "Our Heroes" priority to support CJM's work with formerly incarcerated veterans.

A 2019 report by Wortzel, stated "Justice-involved Veterans...are a special population ... (they) have extensive medical, mental health and substance use disorder treatment needs...The mortality risk among Veterans exiting prison is...12 times higher than that of the general population, with overdose as the leading cause of death."

According a 2021 brief from the Bureau of Justice:

- An estimated 107,400 veterans (98% of whom were male) were serving time in state or federal prison in 2016.
- About 1 in 4 male veterans in state (28%) and 1 in 5 in federal (21%) prison were combat veterans.
- An estimated 74% of male veterans in state prison and 77% of those in federal prison received an honorable discharge or a general discharge under honorable conditions.

CJM's Release to Rent program for veterans provides the support our formerly incarcerated veteran's need to avoid future incarceration and live productive, independent lives.

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