

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 resident said that the garden helped them regain their sense of dignity, while another missed the feel of soil in their hands. By simply planting seeds, the volunteers and those being served are inspired to see this garden grow. If you have any project ideas to share, Lyla at Lylan@cjmstlouis.org would love to hear them.

STAY CONNECTED

As we're continuing to evolve our volunteer programming, stay connected and check out the latest opportunities with CJM. The blurb above further details program statuses, but a full listing and sign-up form for current positions can be found by emailing Lyla

PROGRAM, EVENT, AND VOLUNTEER

SPOTLIGHTS



THE EXPECTATION THAT WE CAN BE IMMERSSED IN SUFFERING AND LOSS DAILY, AND NOT BE TOUCHED BY IT, IS AS UNREALISTIC AS EXPECTING TO BE ABLE TO WALK THROUGH WATER WITHOUT GETTING WET”

– DR. RACHEL REMEN

Volunteer Continued Education June 26th @4:30

We cordially invite you to be a part of our upcoming discussion on de-escalation techniques and ways to enhance our volunteer experiences. Your presence, either in-person at our CJM office or virtually, will be highly appreciated in this crucial conversation. Our ultimate objective is to serve justice-involved individuals with the utmost care and dedication, and your participation will undoubtedly contribute to achieving this goal. Kindly send an email to Lylan@cjmstlouis.org indicating your preference for attendance, and we look forward to your presence at the event.



Volunteer and Client End of Summer Appreciation Event

August 8th at Saint Vincent De Paul

1408 S 10th St. @ 4:30

To RSVP click [here](#)



JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth can be extremely complicated for volunteers who serve justice-involved citizens. Please consider the following for your reflection of this special day of celebrating freedom.

Podcast: [Juneteenth the History and Meaning](#) for today

Virtual Web Event: [National Museum of African History](#)

In Person Events [Celebrations and educational events Across Saint Louis](#)

Events

June 26 Volunteer Continued Education
August 8th Volunteer and Client Appreciation
[August 26th Trivia Night Click here for a ticket](#)
September 13th Pen Pal Meet Up

Let's write together

Join us on September 13th at 4:30 at the CJM Office for a unique Pen Pal meet up. You can share your joy and seek advice from experienced writers. Let's celebrate those exceptional relationships. Although this event is in person, a virtual gathering is also available upon request. **COPYRIGHT 2023**

REFLECTION OF GRATITUDE FROM A GRADUATED CLIENT



I'm thankful I have been given permission to share this. Marlon served 20 years inside Farmington Correctional. Three months before his release he discovered CJM after being denied housing countless of times. He had such a hard time he thought there was no way, until your gracious support let him in. The man who was once surrounded by trauma is not the man of today. He aspires to become a mentor and dreams of a day when he can have a bible study where he is welcomed. He told me every day he is thankful for his new life and humbled by the support he has received. Below is what he shared at the Recognition Dinner.

Life is more than second chances. I'm a living testimony of it. I never thought that I would be given an opportunity to better myself, considering my condition. The opportunity came by being introduced to a phenomenal organization CJM, Criminal Justice Ministry. They genuinely care and concern for those in desperate need of shelter. I can't deny where I come from but can learn from it. As well, I can build up on it towards success. me. I want to tell those out there to be determined, even more so to invest in you - despite delays, setbacks, and detours. Remember that someone has personally went through similar circumstances or someone close to them. Being allowed through CJM to make this speech, it's time for me to show gratitude by showing what life looks like from someone who learned from past mistakes and chose to change. The man that I am today has established proper structure in my life. A man that has more compassion, respect, and understanding for others. I am a person who wants to openly share his experiences of bad choices with others in hopes that they won't travel down the wrong path I choose. Today I see myself as a better Civilized Citizen, Father, Son, Brother, Uncle, Friend, Nephew, Cousin and Grandfather. I see myself helping people instead of harming them. I've seen how dark my past was. Now I'm moving forward to the light, which I want to make shine. Who am I today, many may ask? A person that's willing, ready, and able to make positive steps forward in rebuilding back my life. This person I am today seeks positive advice from others in hopes that the choices I would make will help me obtain a healthy and safe lifestyle. Lastly, I would like to give the highest honor that any son could give, and that is to my mother, I really appreciate everything that she has done for me, she has encouraged me, and stood by me during the darkest times. I want to give special thanks to Terryl and thanks to all the other staff and volunteers that work at CJM. It was complete bodywork, with people carrying a true concern; if I ever needed to talk with anyone, if I had any problems, they could connect me with the right resources. Thank you to everybody for your support and for helping me become the man you see today.

Click here to listen to the KMOX story by [Debbie Monterrey featuring our client speakers](#)

To all our volunteers have a blessed and wonderful Father's Day!

Have a story you want to share? Questions? Concerns? Please email us! Lylan@cjmstlouis.org