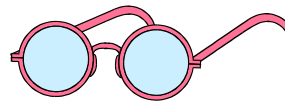


The View



F R O M T H E C H U

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CHU EXPANSION TO A-SIDE COMPLETE

November 13 marked the beginning of the CHU program on A-side, and coordinators, residents, and staff have all noticed great strides and improvement.

The first phase of orienting residents and having everyone sign the social contract has been done, and by January, programs will be fully implemented. At present, the following programs are being offered by resident facilitators: *Life Skills, Character, Bible Study, Education, Peaceful Solutions, AA/NA, Beekeeping, Anger Management, Self-Worth, History (Events That Changed the World, The Joy of Science, Yoga, and Conflict Resolution*

In addition, residents have all pitched in to clean the rooms, common areas, and showers. Volunteers donated chemicals and paint specifically for this purpose. The administration has also provided paint and supplies to bring the A-side on par with B-side.

Wording for the social contract and character traits will soon be written in calligraphy on the chase doors, as is already in place on B-side. All work is being done by residents.

Volunteer-led classes are in the works, too. Classes similar to the ones on B-side are planned.

New classes are always considered, and any resident interested in offering a course may be considered by bringing your ideas to the attention of a coordinator.

Leadership opportunities will be developed over the next 6 months including the 10-men for 10-days program and a Permanent Mentor program. Watch the newsletter and bulletin boards for more information.

WELCOME RESIDENTS



We welcome all new A-side members. There is not enough space to mention all 150 residents, but we are pleased to have you in the program and wish you every success.

Additions since **Nov. 13** were: *Richard Wray, Marcus Sanders, David Bradley, Terry Guthrie, Robert Foster, William Kenyon, Johnny Mitchell, Derrick Parris, Chris Latham, Harold Morgan, Lindon Bailey, Stacy Gardner, John Hall, Ted Hawkins, Terry Beylotte, Jeffrey Byers, Willie Brown, Corperral Stallings, David Drawdy, Markiea Dillard, Andre DeCosta, Charles Martin, Curtis Harbour, Jason Pitts, Leonard Leuck, Cory Jordan, Dennis*

Styles, Phillip Pendergrass, Darnel Brown, Chris Sims, Phinx Lewis, Lucas Valez, Hubert Bone, Sherick Halsey, Cary Robinson, Jeffrey Rogers, Tyler Howell, Randy Beatty, Chris Williams, Julius Smiley, John Dorman, James Lawrence, Anthony Anderson, and Natale Colittle.

JUMPSTART HONORS NEW GRADUATES

The JumpStart class of 2012 graduated 28 new members at a ceremony in the Visitation room on Dec. 4.



Tim Terry, president and founder, spoke to the group and challenged them to “make a difference with the spiritual gifts God has given us,” and to always seek His purpose in our lives.

“The ball is now in your court. Take that character you have developed with you when you leave,” Terry challenged.

Guest speaker was Aaron Robinson, a former resident of ACI who has benefited from working with JumpStart since his release in 2011.

“You brothers have just jumped over a hurdle to finish a race,” Robinson said. “When that train of adversity comes down your road, are you going to turn it into an opportunity?”

“Stay the course. Do what God calls you to do. Do what’s right, and work with integrity,” Robinson added.

Les Knight, the ACI JumpStart volunteer coordinator, joined resident leaders *Brian “B-Rock” Howard, Geoffrey Payne, Samuel Carter, Natale Perez, John Wojcik, and Zachary Helms* in congratulating and encouraging the new members.

Graduates included: *Ronald Albright, Michael Brewer, Kevin Brown, Samuel Brown, Tavares Browning, Gene Bryant, Allen DeRoin, Clastimile Dixon, Darrell Felder, Jerry Fields, Chris Gaskins, Robert Green, Paul Hamilton, Wake Hunt, Paul Long, Stan Miller, Thomas Mize, John Munn, Jr., Joseph Neal, Fred Sheppard, Jr., Gary Slezak, Please Smith, Elijah Strickland, Charles Sullivan, Juan Vasquez, Adam Welch, Edgar White, and Darnell Wigfall.*

JumpStart is a 40-week program based on the bestselling book *The Purpose Driven Life*, by Pastor Rick Warren. During the program, residents explore their life’s purpose, unique skills, talents, and practical life skills to help them be more successful when

released back into their communities. Everyone who successfully completes the program is offered a place to live and work in a structured program, to ensure success once released. Program officials evaluate and rate candidates to determine if they qualify for the post release program based on their participation and other assessments.

KAIROS #12 A SUCCESS

The Kairos community at ACI recently completed its 12th Walk



Nov. 1-4 **God’s Special Time**

with 42 new candidates. CHU coordinator Samuel Carter was the inside leader for the weekend with Ed Harlin as observing inside leader for ACI#13 in the spring. Volunteer Mike Coyne will be the Kairos team leader with Gary Janelle as his observing leader.

New candidates included: *Ricardo Acevedo, Allen Baker, Charlie Brown, Gregory Brown, Kevin Brown, Timothy Clark, Dexter Cobb, Harold Cox, Daniel Dewey, William Doar III, Everette Dowling, Wallace Greene, John Hall, Daniel Jackson, Virgil Jacobs, Brandon James, Jonathan James, Christopher Mahaffey, Ty Nathan, Kadeem Ocean, Johnny Ray Page, Deretries Patterson, Raymond Lewis Pinson, Jr., Michael Poole, Alonzo Richardson, Joseph Robinson, Jeffrey Rogers, Michael Roscoe, Christopher Sims, William Sosebee, Grady Taylor, John Trevino, Brandon Walk, Walter Lee Wallace, and Michael Wells.*

Kairos volunteers also donated 100 turkeys, sweet potatoes, and regular potatoes to the institution for a holiday meal. We are grateful to them for their continued love and support!

AUTHENTIC MANHOOD INITIATIVE BEGINNING

A program based on established curriculum for an *Authentic Manhood* program has been donated by volunteer Kent James, and new volunteer Joey Espinosa has volunteered to help facilitate the class along with CHU Coordinators. Time and place will be announced.

The program is designed to help residents define what it is to be a man and understand what responsibilities this entails.



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SCORES 100% ON GEDs

All 13 students who travelled to Lieber Correctional Institution for GED testing in November were successful, giving the Department a **100% completion rate**.

Students earning their GEDs were: *CHU Members, Richard Chastain, Lindon Bailey, Adam Stone, Milton Mauger, and Brian Bronson; along with: James Jenkins, DeMaric Ordone, James Gore, James Butler, Randall Grimes, Theodore Wright, Louis Rogers, and Charles McKenzie.*

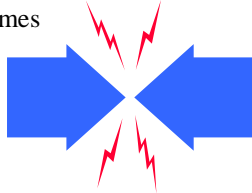


Congratulations to staff, students and TA's who made this possible!

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Conflict is bound to occur among men, particularly in this environment. However, one of the positive things about the CHU program is that we all agree to a social contract and set of rules that allow us to resolve issues and help each other accomplish our goals to change.

The problem comes when we send mixed messages. We say we want to be held accountable and are willing to receive correction, but when are called on a certain behavior, we tend to become aggressively defensive.



Surely, some residents may not have the communications skills to know how best to deliver a corrective message to you. We cannot expect someone to give what he doesn't have. Rather than immediately becoming defensive we should ask ourselves is the correction something we need to hear—even if we disagree?

Sometimes being defensive causes us to take actions out of *anger* rather than the true spirit of wanting to *offer correction and encouragement* in accordance with the contract we agreed to. We agreed to it because we decided we wanted to change our lives.

Maybe we get disillusioned because we see inconsistencies in the way others handle things. Rather than promoting the way we know is correct, we take an attitude that because we think nobody else is doing it, we won't either. If we do nothing or do it the wrong way, we won't accomplish our goals as a community. We will allow the wrong example to lead us rather than lead by positive example, promoting the right way.

We say that the engagement procedure is not supposed to be a negative thing. It is intended to bring attention to a behavior that is not in keeping with the social contract we all agreed to. However, when we feel unjustly corrected, we lash back as if we are going to retaliate simply because they angered us. We start to look for faults

as reasons to engage those who engaged us; we are angry because we feel they engaged us in the wrong way.

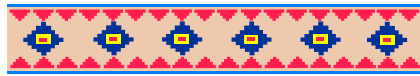
We've heard the saying that two wrongs don't make a right. The best way to right a *wrong* is to teach others by example how to do it *right*. If we focus on promoting the positive things about our program and focus less on the perceived attitudes and behaviors of others, the program will work best.

The core of the CHU program is respect. Every clause of the social contract begins with the word **Respect**. If we **want respect** we must **give respect**. We must give respect to others, and we must respect ourselves and our commitment by taking responsibility for change in our lives.

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

"When were the good and the brave ever in a majority?"

Henry Thoreau



"If you hear that someone is speaking ill of you, instead of trying to defend yourself you should say, 'He obviously does not know me very well, since there are so many other faults he could have noticed.'"

Epictetus (Greek Philosopher 55-135 A.D.)

CHARACTER TRAIT OF THE MONTH

Truthfulness vs. Deception

Earning future trust by accurately reporting past facts.

MENTORS PROMOTE PROGRAM

All residents are challenged with the responsibility of promoting program ideals through peer-to-peer accountability. By signing the social contract, we agree to help hold each other accountable to it as well as the rules established by the program. We also agree to allow others to hold us accountable.

Part of the CHU program is a Permanent Mentor Program. B-side has had such a program established since August of 2012, and plans are to implement one on A-side within the next 6 months. B-side mentors are Russell Cain, Stephen Hamrick, Ron Overton, Daniel Jackson, Patrick Matteson, David Bruce, and Roy Harris.



The objective of mentoring is described as developing the whole person, according to CHU Coordinator Brian (B-Rock) Howard.

"Mentors should look for teachable moments," he noted from established protocols.

When these moments are found, there are four elements that can be used: *Instruction, Demonstration, Experience, and Assessment.*

Mentor can offer instruction to the mentee in areas he wants to develop. Also, the mentor should not only instruct, but also demonstrate what needs to be learned. He should also allow the mentee to gain his own experience. Finally a mentor should create an assessment guide in order to measure the mentee's progress. "It's the old adage that if you can't measure it, you can't manage it," Howard added. "We need to be sure we create realistic expectations for success and set something we can measure that by."

Mentors are key in helping other residents understand accountability since this is the core of the CHU and *lack* of it can undermine the program. They lead by example. Rather than directing the blame towards someone else or circumstances, they seek to understand their contribution and learn to grow in response to challenges.

Whether or not you are a Permanent mentor, we all should act as mentors and promote the positive aspects of the CHU program. Leadership classes to help inform residents about the issue of mentoring are being offered on B-side by Coordinator Darrell Felder. From this group, permanent mentors will be chosen. When the time comes, we hope you will step up.

FROM THE LT.'S DESK:

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

The CHU is no longer a wing, it's a program within the whole housing unit. Residents are coming together as one to clean up their community. They're excited about the starting of new classes to better prepare themselves for re-entry into society.

The Mission of the CHU has spread throughout the whole institution. I receive numerous Requests to Staff from the general population wanting to enter the CHU, and I'm starting to hear staff speak about how the residents exemplify good character on the yard and in the cafeteria.

If someone would have stated to me that Bamberg will be a Character Housing Unit, I would have replied "no way!" This dorm has turned completely around. The Character Housing Unit has had a great impact on ACI.

Keep up the good work!

Lt. T. Ramsey