



January 15, 2013

New Juvenile Justice Project at ICI: *Making a Map, Finding My Way Back*

Youth with disabilities, in particular, youth with emotional and behavioral disabilities (EBD) and learning disabilities (LD), are overrepresented in correctional facilities across the U.S. They also have a high rate of recidivism. In response to the need to support these youth to make a lasting transition out of the corrections system, the Institute on Community Integration (ICI) is partnering with area organizations and agencies on the new project, *Making a Map: Finding My Way Back*. The project brings together ICI, Ramsey County Community Corrections, the non-profit organization Amicus, St. Paul Public Schools, Twin Cities postsecondary programs, and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development to carry out a comprehensive, evidence-based project supporting juvenile offenders with disabilities who are transitioning from Ramsey County juvenile justice facilities into secondary and postsecondary education, employment, and community programs. The four-year project, funded by a \$1.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education, began January 1, 2013 and is directed by David R. Johnson and Jean Ness.

Juvenile offenders have issues different from those of adult parolees that must be addressed if they are to become successful, contributing members of society. Those include the need for guidance and support that takes into account their stage of psychosocial development. In addition, youth with disabilities require individualized assistance tailored to their particular needs. *Making a Map* addresses these issues through utilizing research- and evidence-based interventions and practices, including the following:

- *Check and Connect*. A student engagement intervention developed at ICI that consists of: 1) mentoring; 2) regular checks on students' school adjustment, behavior, and educational progress; 3) timely, data-driven interventions; and 4) family engagement. Check & Connect mentors will be assigned to support the youth while they are incarcerated/in detention, support development of transition/reentry plans and the transition back to school, and support and monitor youth for two years after release to ensure that they continue to meet their academic and behavioral goals for integration.
- *Expanding the Circle*. A transition-planning curriculum developed at ICI to help at-risk youth explore interests, aptitudes, and values while gaining the skills necessary for transition from secondary to postsecondary education and employment. It includes four components that will be used in this project: 1) Exploration of interests, aptitudes, and values as they relate to decisions about the future; 2) skill development in decision-making, self-advocacy, problem-solving, goal setting, organization, and communication; 3) exploration of postsecondary and career options; and 4) development of a goal-focused personal profile for the future.
- *Reintegration Strategic Planning Toolkit*. A toolkit developed by ICI and the Minnesota Department of Education, and based on a prototype from ICI and the National Alliance for Secondary Education and Transition that helps at-risk youth achieve positive school and postschool outcomes through strengthened interagency approaches and strategies. The toolkit will support reintegration planning by providing a specific process to enhance interagency collaboration and system effectiveness.

"We have wonderful collaborators on this project from Ramsey County who are as enthusiastic as we are to make a difference in the transition of youth with disabilities back into their schools and communities. This is a wonderful opportunity to expand the implementation of Check & Connect!" says Jean Ness. FFI contact Jean at nessx008@umn.edu or 612-625-5322.

Staff Update

- **Staff Hires:** **Anne Scharenbroich**, Principal Office and Administrative Specialist, NCRRC; **Lauren Dominguez**, GRA, NCEO; and **James Mahoney**, GRA, Adult Services. **Staff Departures:** **Ann Bailey**, Education Specialist, NCRRC.
- **Maureen Hawes** has been appointed Director of the Institute's North Central Regional Resource Center (NCRRC). She is a Senior Research Fellow and was formerly the Regional Resource Center Program Coordinator, managing the day-to-day program work of six regional centers. **Mike Sharpe** stepped down as Director, but he remains NCRRC's Principal Investigator.
- A dozen ICI staff members participated in the 26th American Evaluation Association annual conference in Minneapolis in October. ICI staff presenting and chairing sessions were: **Angela Amado**, **Hanife Cakici**, **Laurene Christensen**, **Linda Goldstone**, **Jim Hatten**, **David R. Johnson**, **Sheryl Lazarus**, **Kristi Liu**, **Ann Mavis**, **Mary McEathron**, **Derek Nord**, and **Martha Thurlow**. **Hanife** was also profiled as the October "Face of AEA" in the association's e-newsletter.
- Congratulations go out to **Elizabeth Christian** and her husband Nathaniel on the December 27 birth of their son, Jonah Michael Christian.

Dates to Remember...

- January 17: Pizza Forum, 12-1, 118 Pattee
- January 21: University closed
- February 12: ICI Council Meeting, 10:30-12, 118 Pattee

From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **P&A Performance Reviews.** By the end of January, information will be disseminated about performance reviews for Professional and Administrative (P&A) staff. Please watch your e-mail.
- **Mileage Rate Change.** On January 1, the standard business mileage reimbursement rate for personal vehicle use on approved University business increased from 55.5 cents to 56.5 cents per mile. See the "Rates" section of the Administrative Policy: Traveling on University Business Web page (<http://www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Finance/Travel/TRAVEL.html>). Business mileage incurred in 2012 but reimbursed in 2013 should be reimbursed using the 2012 mileage rates.
- **Nominees Sought for CEHD Awards.** Nominations are being accepted for various College-sponsored awards. FFI, visit <http://intranet.cehd.umn.edu/awards/Awards.html>. The intent to submit deadline is January 31. You may also refer to the e-mail sent on December 17 by Jean Ness, ICI Personnel Committee Chair.
- **2013-14 MN LEND Fellows Sought.** Minnesota Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Other Related Disabilities (MN LEND) is currently seeking pre- and post-doctoral graduate students and community members who are interested in becoming MN LEND Fellows. Pre- and Post-Doctoral Fellows come from many disciplines and have an academic and/or personal interest in disability. Community Fellows are self-advocates, family members, caregivers, or

community providers who have an interest and connection to neurodevelopmental disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorders, or related conditions. FFI, visit the MN LEND Web site at <http://lend.umn.edu> and apply online. The application deadline for early admission is January 30 and February 28 for regular admission. Questions? Contact Beth Fondell at fond0030@umn.edu or 612-624-6830.

- **Kitchen Reminder.** Please remember to clean up after yourself in the kitchen. Leaving dirty dishes or spilled food is unsanitary, disrespectful to colleagues, and may attract unwanted pests. Other than the tending to the garbage/recycling/composting bins, janitors are not responsible for cleaning the kitchen.
- **Composting Reminder.** Pattee Hall has a composting program and many kitchen supplies are procured with this in mind. Thus, in addition to food waste, ICI-provided supplies such as forks, knives, spoons, napkins, paper towels, wooden stir sticks, large and small plates, hot and cold (clear) cups, and coffee filters and grounds are all compostable. There are several different bins, so please be mindful of where you throw your waste. Trash items, including rubber gloves exposed to biohazards, are mistakenly being thrown in the composting bins and these items contaminate the compost. Plastic soda bottles, which are also being found in the composting, should be recycled in the bins labeled for this purpose. Please look before you throw.

Miscellaneous

- **Upcoming PACER Benefits.** Jay Leno, the Emmy Award-winning host of the NBC "Tonight Show with Jay Leno" since 1992, will headline PACER's 31st Annual Benefit on Saturday, May 11, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. On Saturday, February 2, another benefit, PACER Rocks, an evening of 1980s music and dancing, will be held at the Fine Line Music Café in downtown Minneapolis. Proceeds from the benefits support

PACER Center programs for children with disabilities and their families. FFI, visit www.PACER.org or call 952-838-9000.

- **Birthdays.** **Annie Johnson Sirek** (1/17), **Derek Nord** (1/20), **Yi-Chen Wu** (1/27), **Kate Welshons** (1/27), **Susan O'Neill** (1/30), **Kristin Dean** (1/31), **Mark Olson** (2/2), **Lynda Anderson** (2/11), **Joe Demers** (2/12), **Deb Albus** (2/13), **Jenny Pearson** (2/16), and **Rebekah Rieke** (2/17). Did we miss your birthday? Let us know! Call 4-2380 or e-mail kuro0008@umn.edu.

Bits & Pieces

Information on New Publications and Web Sites

- **New Publications.** The following new ICI publications are available:
 - *ICI Publications Catalog* (Winter 2013). Available from the Publications Office, beginning January 18.
 - *2008-2009 APR Snapshot #3: AA-AAS Participation and Performance* (December 2012). Published by the Institute's National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) and available on the Web at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/nceo/APRsnapshot/AAAAS/default.html>.
 - *Forum on Evaluating Educator Effectiveness: Critical Considerations for Including Students with Disabilities* (November 2012). Published by NCEO and available on the Web in PDF format at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/NCEO/OnlinePubs/EdEvalForumReportDecember2012.pdf>.
- **Journal Article on Choice Among Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.** Renáta Tichá, Sherri Larson, and Roger Stancliffe were among the co-authors of "Correlates of Everyday Choice and Support-Related Choice for 8,892 Randomly Sampled Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in 19 States," which was published in December 2012 in *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities* 50(6) and can be viewed on the Web at <http://www.aaidjournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1352/1934-9556-50.06.486>.
- **Journal Article on the Accessible Congregations Campaign.** Angela Amado co-authored "Accessible Congregations Campaign: Follow-Up Survey of Impact on Individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities," which was published in November 2012 in *Journal of Religion, Disability, and Health* 16(4) and can be viewed on the Web at <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15228967.2012.731909>.
- **FYI Deadline.** Items for the next FYI should be submitted to Tom (donag003@umn.edu) by February 11.