

# 2010-2011 Annual Report



## CENTER FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE

### From the desk of our Executive Director

Restorative Justice programs give victims a voice in the criminal justice system, provide offenders with the opportunity to be actively accountable for their actions, and address the resulting damage to the community. The Center for Community Justice (CCJ) successfully carries out restorative justice programs, but it takes the work of a community to move towards restoration from harms that have resulted from crime. We are dependent on and grateful to our donors, volunteers and interns. With your help and support, our community is working together to address crime.

We have had the opportunity to share our work with a variety of people. We provided training to practitioners from nearby Fulton County Juvenile Probation and far away Kenya, Africa, as well as to future practitioners in our local colleges and universities.

Embarking on new opportunities, while continuing to provide quality programming remains our focus. 4,243 people were served this year through our seven programs. We also began teaching Thinking for a Change (T4C) classes. T4C is an evidence based program designed for people who repeat criminal acts, providing lessons for the development of social skills, problem solving skills, and cognitive restructuring. Overall, referrals have been stable in all programs through times of staffing transitions.

CCJ is grateful to Randy Yohn for his dedication to our agency for over thirty years. Although the agency has experienced a loss with Randy's retirement as Executive Director, we are thankful for his continued support. Thank you to everyone who supported our work over the last year, and we look forward to another year of strengthening existing relationships and forging new ones.

Connie Caiceros, Executive Director

### Mission Statement

The Center for Community Justice serves Elkhart County by providing programs, based on the principles of Restorative Justice, which strengthen community safety, provide support and compensation for victims, aid in the restoration of offenders, and promote reconciliation among victims, offenders and the community.

#### Administration

*Connie Caiceros* Executive Director

*Tim Boenne* Finance Director

*Laura Fater* Administrative Assistant

#### CMP

*Kelly Neff* Coordinator

#### CSRP/SSR

*Fred Koepfel* Coordinator

*Tim Peterson* Crew Supervisor

#### FMP

*Kristin Brandon MSW, LCSW*

Coordinator

#### VIP/SVIP/AVIP

*Antonette Reese* Coordinator

#### VORP

*Connie Caiceros* Coordinator

*Dawit Kebede* Caseworker

*Kandice Kirkwood* Caseworker

*Anne Lehman* Caseworker

*Kelly Neff* Caseworker

# 2010-2011 Annual Report

## Program Volunteers

Tom, Lorrie & Amy  
 Bjornastad  
 Jeff Boyd  
 Amy Braun  
 Kristin Brandon  
 David Caiceros  
 Teresa Cataldo  
 Virgil Claassen  
 Glenn Cobane  
 Anne Cabbage  
 Rodney Dale  
 Jaleh Dashti-Gibson  
 Larissa Fast  
 Tonda Hines  
 KaRena Hochstetler  
 Joyce Hoffman  
 Marlane Huber  
 Jana Humphreys  
 Tony & Glenda Hurst  
 Alyssa Jarvis  
 Michelle Johnson  
 Jennifer Kalb  
 Roey Marcon  
 Mary Mishler  
 Marla Mitchell  
 Freda Nolen  
 Michael O'Neal  
 Cherri Peate  
 Bob Peters  
 Tim Peterson  
 Antonette A. Reese  
 Eber Dean Rice-Smucker  
 Norma Riegsecker  
 Michael Stellingwerf  
 Andrew Straw  
 Michael Swallow  
 Matthew Tschetter  
 Jolene VonGunten  
 Sueann VonGunten  
 Herman Washington  
 Eileen Yoder  
 Megan Yoder  
 Alisa Zornig

## Community Mediation Program (CMP)

Since 1999, CMP has provided mediation services to members of the community who are involved in small claims litigation referred by the courts as well as private referrals directly made to mediators, parties work through their dispute to find a mutually satisfactory solution without/avoiding the need for trial.

	09/10	10/11
Total persons served:	246	207
# of mediations:	92	84
% reaching agreement:	68.5%	57.14%
# of trials avoided:	63	48

## Community Service Restitution Program (CSRP)

Since 1979, CSRP has provided an opportunity for judges in Elkhart County to give offenders community service instead of idle jail time. Staff interview clients, place them in government or non-profit worksites, and monitor their progress as they make real and symbolic restitution to the community.

	9/10	10/11
Total persons served:	1,153	972
# of worksites:	198	184
# of service hours worked:	40,659	38,847
Successful completion rate:	73%	68%

## School Suspension Project (SSP)

In September, 2005 CCJ started SSP. As a consequence to being suspended or expelled from school, a probation officer can send the juvenile to CCJ to perform 6 to 8 hours of

	9/10	10/11
Total persons served:	79	65
Total worksites served:	5	9
Total hours:	2,573	800

## Family Mediation Program (FMP)

The Family Mediation Program (FMP) began as a pilot program in cooperation with Superior Court Judge David Bonfiglio in June, 2008. Mediation is provided for families who are working through issues of divorce and custody based on a cooperative parenting model. Mediation provides the opportunity for parents to devise a framework to resolve logistical and emotional issues that adversely impact their children.

	9/10	10/11
Total mediations:	65	120
# of successful cases:	58	107
# referred back to court/other:	7	13
% success rate	89%	89%

## Volunteer Services

	9/10	10/11
# of volunteers:	112	75
# of volunteer hours:	2,126	1,474

# Over 4,200 Clients Served

## Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP)

Since 1978, VORP has worked to empower victims of crime and to hold offenders accountable for the harm they caused. The VORP process assists the parties in identifying that harm and creating a contract through which reparation can be made. This process may involve a face-to-face meeting between the victim and offender facilitated by staff and volunteer mediators. Staff then monitors the fulfillment of all contracts.

	<u>9/10</u>	<u>10/11</u>
Total persons served:	1,332	1,415
# of negotiated contracts:	253	245
# of mediated contracts:	43	55
% of meetings resulting in contract:	98%	100%
# of contracts fulfilled:	200	202
Successful contract completion rate:	75%	74%
CSRP hours worked at victims' request:	242	269
Restitution paid to victims:	\$138,783	\$129,963

## 2011-12 Budget

<b>Revenues</b>	
IN Dept. of Corrections	\$ 170,176
Client Fees	\$ 74,725
Foundations & Private Contributions	\$ 24,639
Courts	\$ 22,560
Elkhart City Bldgs & Grounds	\$ 12,750
Office Space Lease Income	\$ 10,962
Drug Free Community Funds	\$ 6,000
Economic Development Fund	\$ 5,000
Misc. Funding Sources	\$ 2,900
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 329,712</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Salaries, Wages & Benefits	\$ 265,787
General Operating Expenses	\$ 63,925
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 329,712</b>

## Victim Impact Panel - English, Spanish & Adolescent (VIP)

Since 1993, VIP volunteers, consisting of victims, family members or offenders who have caused driving accidents while impaired, speak of the consequences of impaired driving to people who have been charged with driving impaired offenses. The goal of this program is to help make our community's roads safer and to change

participants' thinking about driving while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. The Adolescent Victim Impact Panel (AVIP) gives volunteers a chance to present their stories to young people who have committed an alcohol or drug-related offense. AVIP also presents panels to schools, and other organizations as requested.

	<u>9/10</u>	<u>10/11</u>		<u>9/10</u>	<u>10/11</u>
<b>Adults</b>			<b>Adolescent</b>		
Total persons served:	980	912	Total persons served:	386	414
# of presentations:	17	20	# of presentations:	6	8
# of offenders:	855	780	# of adolescents served:	198	207
# of guest attendees:	125	132	# of parents served:	188	207

## Guided Family Intervention Project (GFIP)

Since 2002, GFIP has been providing both the framework for families to identify underlying family issues and the necessary structure required to empower lasting change with juvenile status offenders and their families. As an alternative or diversionary opportunity, families engage

in affordable and accessible counseling services utilizing a brief, solution-focused family therapy model implemented by a Master's level clinician. This effort has been effective in reducing or eliminating the client's further involvement in the juvenile justice system.

	<u>9/10</u>	<u>10/11</u>
Total persons served:	197	138
% of cases closed successfully:	70%	76%
% of cases closed unsuccessfully:	18%	24%

## STUDENT INTERNS

Connie Cruz	VORP
Jan Dohnal	VORP
Kessa Frantz	VORP
Jana Humphreys	VORP
Nathan Stoess	VORP

	<u>9/10</u>	<u>10/11</u>
# of interns:	7	5
# of intern hrs:	273	351

## Thinking for a Change (T4C)

New to CCJ this year, Thinking For A Change is a cognitive behavioral change program for offenders. CCJ's trained facilitators work with a small group of participants for approximately three months in intense sessions that include sharing real life problems and role-playing their responses. The initial class started in May, 2011 with 9 participants and 5 successful completions.

Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.



## CENTER FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE

121 South 3rd Street  
Elkhart, IN 46516

Phone: (574) 295-6149  
Fax: (574) 522-6685  
centerforcommunityjustice.org

### VOLUNTEER SERVICES

THE CENTER VALUES THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO GIVE THEIR TIME & TALENTS TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION. THEIR EFFORTS ARE INDISPENSABLE. SPECIFIC PROGRAMS AND THE AGENCY AS A WHOLE SIMPLY COULD NOT FUNCTION WITHOUT THEM. THEY PROVIDE AN ESSENTIAL LINK BETWEEN THE VISION OF THE CENTER AND THE COMMUNITY WE SERVE.

#### Board of Directors

**President – Merritt Lehman**, President, Lehman Financial Group

**Vice-President – Tonda Hines**, Title I-Parent Support & Elkhart City Councilwoman

**Secretary - Jolene VonGunten**, Former VORP staff, Volunteer

**Treasurer – Virgil Claassen**, Retired Director of Business & Finance

**Teresa Cataldo**, Attorney

**Rodney Dale**, Division Chief, Elkhart Fire Department

**Jennifer Kalb**, Teacher, Goshen Community Schools

**Michael O'Neal**, Business Service Representative, Goodwill Industries of Michiana, Inc.

**Bob Peters**, Retired

**Norma Riegsecker**, Retired

**Tom Shoff**, President, Shoff Security Service, Inc.

**Michael L. Swallow**, Marshal, Bristol Police Department

**Herman Washington**, Pastor, Full Gospel Fellowship

### Contributors

#### Individuals

James & Darlene Ashcraft  
Tim & Joyce Boenne  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Booth II  
Jon & Janey Brookmyer  
Connie Caiceros  
Virgil & Louise Claassen  
Terry Cochran  
Tim & Sandra Davis  
Dr. Don Findlay  
Thomas & Joyce Hartman  
Tonda Hines  
Gordon & Phyllis Hostetler  
Theodore J. Koontz  
Don L. Krabill  
Anne Lehman  
Merritt & Dierra Lehman  
Mennonite Foundation FBO/Earl & Margaret Sutter

Mennonite Foundation FBO/Steve & Ann Herendeen

Kelly Sauder Neff

Diana Nye

Robert & Geraldine Peters

James W. Reickhoff

Norma Riegsecker

Jonathan Schrag

Charles & Jumpar Sheneman

Judy Sparr

Willard & Janet Swartzendruber

Keith & Janet Swihart

Doug & Jolene VonGunten

Randall & Elizabeth Yohn

#### Churches

Assembly Mennonite Church

Hively Avenue Mennonite Church

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Waterford Mennonite Church

#### Businesses

Calico Garden

Einstein Bros. Bagels

Elkhart Co. Community Foundation

Elkhart Kiwanis Club

Everence Federal Credit Union

Goshen College

Holmes Insurance Agency, Inc.

Just Help Ayuda Justa

Martin's Supermarket

Meijer

Olive Garden

Panera Bread

Refinery Café

Stutsman & Mulvaney, Attorneys

Stewart Title

T-Productions

Teall Tax Service