NJAC

Administrative Office

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NJAC PROGRAMS

Camden County

Camden County Women's Center Camden Scattered Sites Project

Essex County

Hemm House

Jennie's Place

Mercer County

Clinton House

Egality Community Resource Center

Egality Mercer Resource Center

Egality Staffing Solutions

Middlesex

Middlesex Reentry and Resource Center

Sanford Bates House/PATH Program

Monmouth

Correctional AIDS Project (CAP)

Monmouth Batterers Intervention Program

Winifred Canright House

Ocean County

Ocean Batterers Intervention Program

Passaic County

Millicent Fenwick House
Passaic County Women's Center



New Jersey Association on Corrections



Futures

Better

Building



Annual Report 2019

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NJAC Mission

To enable social justice and human dignity to be manifested in the policies and institutions governing victims of crime and offenders, as well as individuals in need of social services, through rehabilitative, educational, and legislative programs.

NJAC Senior Staff

Angel M. Perez

Executive Director

Diane A. Hobbs

Fiscal Director

Sonjii West

Director of Human Resources

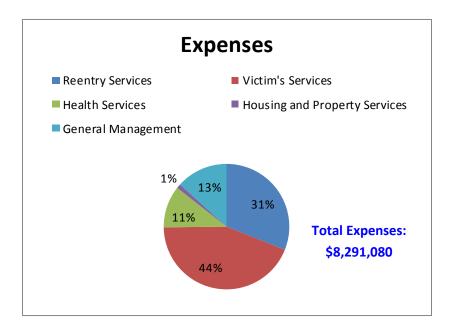
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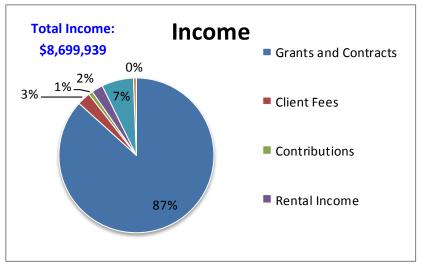
Director of Victims Services

Helena Tomè

Director of Reentry Services

Fiscal Year 2019 July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019





Thank You to Our Contributors!

\$5000 or more

Anonymous

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Camden County

IOLTA Fund, Bar of New Jersey

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> Thank you to all other donors, volunteers, and event supporters!!

HOW NJAC BUILDS FUTURES

A message from our Board President and Executive Director

What you see on the news are examples of futures cut short. The woman killed by her estranged husband... the young, black man arrested (again)... the homeless person struggling to stay warm on the streets... the opioid epidemic tearing families apart.

What is missing are the success stories. The woman that, **for the first time**, feels safe in her own home. The individual who finally gets itit's <u>not</u> OK to instill fear and perpetrate violence in order to gain control in a relationship. The young man that grew up bounced around between family members and in and out of correctional facilities and that has been in recovery for almost a year and just got his first real job.

These are the stories <u>we</u> want to share. These are the people you will never see on the news but we see *every day* within the eighteen program locations and seven counties NJAC currently serves...a total of over 5000 individuals in 2019.



Kathy Ahearn-O'Brien, President



Angel M. Perez Executive Director

This year we have expanded our reach. The Community Resource Center (CRC) in Hamilton NJ provides support and resources to men and women on parole. We have strengthened our sexual assault program in Passaic to better support survivors and increased outreach to underserved victims of domestic abuse in both Camden and Passaic Counties. NJAC is also returning to Newark, where we have a long history of successful programming, to help men on work release reintegrate back into the community.

We thank our generous donors of time and financial support, our committed staff and board, and every other caring individual that has contributed to our mission of social justice.

NJAC in Camden County

Camden County is home to Camden County Women's Center (CCWC) and the Camden Scattered Sites Program. CCWC provides shelter and outreach services to survivors of domestic abuse and their children. This year we have embarked on a renovation of the neighboring storefront at the Outreach Center to make the space larger, safer, accommodating and friendlier to children, thanks to grants from Subaru and the City of Camden!

In 2019, 215 women and children received safe shelter and 2631 received services in the community through the Outreach Support Center, community legal advocacy and/or crisis response. 8364 callers sought support on the hotline.

The Camden Scattered Sites program, 10 HUD funded permanent housing units for households dealing with chronic illness, continues to provide stability to families in need throughout Camden County.

Dolores and her son recently graduated from the PA.LS program. PALS uses Creative Arts Therapies to help survivors and their children learn healthy ways of coping with their trauma. Early in her treatment, Dolores created this art piece in response to her pain and inner struggles with navigating the court system.



"In the picture I am the little bird. If I were to make the picture again, this little bird would be more badass now and probably a lot bigger."

Dolores came to the realization that she felt traumatized by the abuse she suffered, but also by the legal system and how she was treated throughout the process of filing a restraining order and making efforts to keep herself and her son safe. This artwork was a representation of her pain throughout this process and on her "day in court." After completing the PALS program and reflecting on her early artwork, Dolores says she still feels sad for that person, the artist who made the picture, but she know she is in a different place now. "Now I have a different picture; a picture of me getting through it, with all the support I have received..."

Special Events 2019



Annual PCWC 5K in April 2019

Passaic County Women's Center (PCWC) grew awareness about Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Learning about **Intersectionality and Domestic Violence** with expert Karma
Cottman, pictured with Angel Perez and
Quarticha Perkins





Camden County Women's Center (CCWC) cruises towards eliminating domestic abuse.





Supporters having fun at the Monte Carlo Dinner Cruise on the Spirit of Philadelphia.

NJAC in Passaic County

Passaic is home to the **Passaic County Women's Center (PCWC)** and Millicent Fenwick House. PCWC provides shelter, transitional housing, and Outreach Support Services to victims of domestic abuse and survivors of sexual assault.

Millicent Fenwick House has continued to provide residential treatment services to women being released from prison. This year saw 47 women successfully complete the program and move out into the community.

KEIRA was a victim of ongoing



an escalating physical and emotional abuse at the hands of her husband. Mother of 5 and 7 year old daughters, she landed in the hospital with a broken jaw. At the

hospital, Keira met an Advocate from the Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT). Keira decided that it 408- The number of children was not safe to go home with her husband. Keira arranged to move into the shelter where she stayed for 45 days. She obtained a restraining order, accessed rental assistance as well as Victims of Crime Compensation to help pay her medical expenses, and found an affordable apartment. Keira enrolled in the PALS creative arts therapy program- Peace-A Learned Solution. After six months in PALS, the girls were sleeping better and crying less. Keira also reported that she and her kids feel safe for the first time in years. She has obtained employment and feels more empowered to support her family. She and her girls continue to be safe and stable.

In 2019, 107 women and children received safe shelter in Passaic County; 1220 individuals received services in the community through the Outreach Support Center; and 5656 callers sought support on the hotline.

THE CHILDREN

401– The number of children the clients at our DOC and Parole programs had collectively in 2019.

directly served through and/our domestic violence programs.



Children learn MORE from what you ARE than what you TEACH.

~W.E.B. DuBois

NJAC in Ocean and Monmouth Counties

The Batterers Intervention Program (BIP) in Ocean County completed

its first year of operation and joins our Monmouth County program in ending domestic violence at its source- the abuser. This systems-wide approach to holding perpetrators accountable has provided intervention to 129 individuals this year.

Asbury Park is also home to Winifred Canright House, serving chronically ill and homeless men for over twenty years. This year, thank you to funding from the Department of Community Affairs Shelter Support program and additional funds through the NJ Department of Health, Canright House had a major renovation that took almost the full year. Despite the physical disruption, 19 residents were able to access healthcare and 10 moved onto stable permanent housing thanks to the support received from this program.

The Correctional AIDS Project

(CAP) a unique systems coordination between the NJ Department of Corrections and the NJ Department of Health, also operates out of Canright House, but program staff visit inmates in three correctional facilities in the state to educate about HIV, reaching 1172 inmates in 2019, encouraging testing, and help those that are positive navigate medical and other systems upon release.



JOHN was born HIV positive in 1995 to an AIDSinfected mom who soon died. John grew up

poor with little supervision or support and sporadic medical care. He was six months from release at one of NJ's state prisons when he became part of the CAP program. He did not know what medications he had been on or what he was taking at the prison. He had jumbled memories of a childhood and young adulthood of sporadically taking medicine, seeing various doctors, and enduring numerous bouts of illness.

The CAP program worked with John to understand his diagnosis, his current health condition, and methods of preventing transmission. On the day he left prison, he had a safe and supportive place to stay at Canright House and had a medical provider that had all his updated records.

John is currently on his way to having an undetectable viral load. is working a part-time job that he hopes to make full-time soon, and has surrounded himself with positive people supportive of a healthier lifestyle.

NJAC in Mercer County

The NJAC administrative office has operated out of Trenton for years, since our founding. It was originally co-located at nearby Clinton House, our longest running residential community release



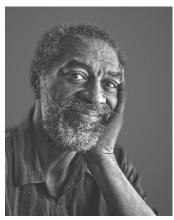
program and the first federally funded halfway house in New Jersey in 1966.



Mercer County is also home to the fledgling Egality Staffing Solutions social enterprise program and the Mercer **Resource Center.** These programs work in partnership to reduce employment barriers, provide job readiness and warehouse employment skills, and place unemployed individuals into temporary and permanent jobs. This past year 122 former offenders received job readiness, forklift training and found employment. NJAC also assumed management of a Community Resource Center (CRC) in Hamilton in the fall of 2019, serving 51 in the first few months of operation. The Egality CRC provides daily structured support for men and women on parole.

Abdul... went to prison on a drug charge in 2017. Once released in 2019, he enrolled in the Staffing Solutions training program. Through his hard work, he received his forklift certification as well as a plumbing certification. Shortly thereafter, Abdul received a job offer from Ingersol Rand's Trane operation in Trenton with a starting salary of \$12 per hour. He is optimistic about his future!

NJAC in Middlesex and Essex Counties



Positive and constructive community reentry following incarceration is the focus of all programs in Middlesex County. These include transitional housing provided at the Bates House/PATH Program for homeless parolees and the Middlesex Reentry and Resource Center that offers a mailing address, phone use, case management, and other supports for those living in the community, as well as discharge planning conducted at the Middlesex County

Correctional Facility . Over 800 former offenders were served at these programs, including 149 that received discharge planning while still incarcerated at the Middlesex County Correctional Facility.

Jennies Place in Newark provides permanent housing to eight

women who have exited the criminal justice system, are homeless and have a disability.

Our newest program, **Hemm House**, is a 60 -bed Residential Community Release Program in Newark.

Hemm House is named after a one-of-a-kind individual **JAMES HEMM**. Jim worked with NJAC for more than forty years and was the Executive Director for 26 of them. A self-proclaimed former hippie, Jim endears himself to many through his witty sarcasm and deep



Mr. James A. Hemm

passion for social justice and effective community reentry following incarceration. Jim has been a force in the community corrections field for half a century and continues his advocacy for causes that matter through his involvement in many organizations and as a consultant for NJAC. Jim helped to shape the direction of NJAC and his namesake program will help many men shape positive futures!