Northern Regional Center for Independent Living

Peers Working Within Lewis County Jail

Provided by:

Karen Boliver
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LEWIS COUNTY

Facts:

Population: 27,149 (2013 census)
Forth – Least populous county in New York

1,290 square miles

Unemployment Rate 7.5% (April 2015)

We are one of four counties in NYS that have more cows than people

126 Wind Turbines 2006
Lewis County Jail

42 Individual cells within the jail
2- 16 man pods
4- 2 person pods (female, juvenile, suicide watch)
1- 2 person pod (usually medical)
In The News

- Three Arrested After Meth Bust in Lowville
- Two-year investigation results in Lewis County drug bust
- Nine arrested in Lewis County drug sweep involving mostly prescriptions
- Lewis County, Cuomo Crack Down On Synthetic Drugs
- Lewis County considers synthetic drug ban
Scott’s Lived Experiences

- The Beginning
- The Progression
- The Denial
- The Reality
- The Arrest
- The NEW Beginning
- The New Progression
- The New Reality
- The New Scott
Making a Plan at NRCIL Began

• **A conversation**- Identifying the needs within our community
• **Solutions** and Possible services and programs
• **The idea** for Peers in the County Jail was discussed and a plan was executed
• **The Meeting** held at LC Jail with the Sherriff, Undersheriff, and Jail Warden was held to share our idea
• **Staff** were hired and the peer program was implemented within the county jail with our first day of services beginning **June 9, 2014**
The Program Data to Date

50 Unique individuals served
27 Referrals to Drug and Alcohol Treatment Centers
(St. Lawrence Addiction Treatment Center- Hamilton Hall, Conifer Park, Willard Drug Treatment Center, CREDO Farm, Bradford PA Treatment Center, St. Joe’s Treatment Center, Syracuse Behavioral Health Center, Canton Potsdam Treatment Center, Clifton Springs Treatment Center, McPike Treatment Center)

Weekly Support Groups in jail and in the community
(Double Trouble, SMART Recovery, Anger Management, Parenting classes)

Referrals and collaboration with community agencies:
housing, medical care, mental health outpatient, primary physicians, drug court, family support services, domestic violence, employment, outpatient addiction treatment, DSS services, probation, parole, transportation, etc...

MOU signed with the Public Defenders office for 1 day per week with a peer in their office began 7-2015
Questions

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