



# MACPOST

Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers

Winter 2014

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## From the President

Greetings MACPO Members!

It is hard to believe it is now 2015! It has been a pleasure serving as your President and I look forward to all that the New Year brings!



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There are some new faces serving on the MACPO Executive Board. The Board welcomes Peter Monson, Chisago County, as the Chair of the Communications Committee.

In addition, Debbie Wiome, Isanti County, is the new Chair of the Membership Committee and Samantha Ahrens, Steele County, serves as Vice-Chair. Be sure to explore changes made on the MACPO website!

The Legislative Committee is working hard in preparation for the 2015 legislative session. Capitol Day is scheduled for Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Kelly Inn in St. Paul, beginning with breakfast. MACPO will again collaborate with several organizations at this event. The program was nicely done last year as legislators and Commissioner Roy presented the current issues facing corrections. I strongly encourage MACPO members to attend this event. A strong presence speaks volumes of the commitment held by professionals in this field.

Also, as a reminder, nomination forms may be completed at any time throughout the year to recognize excellent work in corrections. We all know individuals who go “above and beyond” in the work they do. Please take a few minutes to recognize them for their efforts and dedication. The awards will continue to be awarded at the spring conference in May. The nomination forms are also located on the website and may be completed and submitted easily.

As we exit the holiday season, we need to continue to be mindful of the struggles of some of the people we encounter. I recently read an article by one of our local city administrators who shared a personal story of an encounter he had with a woman at the grocery store. She bought a full grocery cart of items to help her son and daughter-in-law who had recently been laid off. He commented to her they are lucky to have someone like her to help them. She replied, "I am lucky to have someone to help." These words stayed with him from that brief encounter and they stayed with me as I read the story and afterwards. "I am lucky to have someone to help." This is a powerful statement. We are fortunate to have opportunities to assist others each day in what we do. Sure there are the times that challenge us, but the moments when we truly have been a part of change are moments to be grateful for. Again, we do not know how our words and actions inspire and motivate others. It is meaningful for us as well to be kind, generous, and fair to those around us.

As always, thank you for the work you do to be "Agents of Change" and know the work you do matters more than you know.

Deanna Ruffing  
MACPO President



## County Highlight: Brown County

*Les Schultz, Brown County Probation Director*

Hello to everyone from the fine County of Brown, located in historic New Ulm, MN. Did you know that New Ulm has the third largest copper statue in the United States (Herman the German), with the largest being the Statue of Liberty? How about the fact that we have the oldest bar (Turner Halle) in Minnesota or the 2nd largest family-owned brewery in America (Schells)!

With that being said, we also have one of the finest probation departments in Brown County. We are very fortunate to have a wide variety of programming for adults, which include Drug Court, ISP DWI, STS, Domestic-Specific, Group, DWI Impact Panel, Unsupervised, and, of course, Traditional Supervision. In the adolescent world, we have Teen Court, Juvenile Intensive, Juvenile Work Crew, and Traditional Supervision. I was asked to talk about one adult and juvenile program. In the adult world, I will just mention that we are one of the drug courts in Minnesota that accepts gross misdemeanor cases. With our specialized Intensive DWI program, we usually have some felony cases that, by plea, are reduced to a gross misdemeanor and are then referred to drug court. We normally only have a handful of offenders in this program. Mary Portner supervises these offenders, along with other caseload responsibilities, but works closely with our adult felony agent and the drug court's surveillance officer. We have had a lot of success with these offenders in this program.

In the juvenile world, our juvenile drug court was suspended in October, for a good reason - not enough offenders! So we met as a team and took the best of what drug court offered, and what we liked about our Intensive Supervision program, and created a new Juvenile ISP program. Offenders have levels similar to drug court and appear in court once a month individually to report on their progress. Our team

is still in place, comprised of professionals from areas, including school, mental health, chemical dependency, probation, Judge, prosecutor, etc. All provide valuable input into case management and goal setting. Our probation officer, Jane Schmid, has worked with this program for many years. She enjoys the support of the professionals in working with some of our most difficult population. It certainly has reduced out-of-home placement costs for the County and provides valuable community supervision and accountability.

Once again, this department works hard because of the staff that do the work:



**Back Row:** Bernie Epper-Crime Victim Specialist, Jill Hady-Agent, Evonn Westcott-Asst. Director, Randy Baker-Agent, Jon Schiro-Agent, Joe Becker-Intern

**Front row:** Jane Schmid-Agent, Terese Gruber-Support Staff, Mary Ann Wonn-Teen Court/Mediation, Jill Ferretti-Agent, Lynette Wellmann-Agent, Jamie Dalle-Support Staff, Les Schultz-Director

**Not Pictured:** Dave Munson-Agent, Mary Portner-Agent, Stacey Pribyl-Office Manager, Luann Macho CD assessor, Tammy-Johnson Juv Crew

## Legislative Committee

*Margaret Munson, Wright County Court Services*



THINK SPRING!!!

As you all know the legislature is not in session right now, but legislators are back to work at the Capital. Our committee has been extremely busy. The funding topic has been the main discussion over the last six months. Commissioner Tom Roy, Directors Group, and Lisa Frenette have been instrumental in keeping the discussion open, honest, and moving forward. I would like to especially thank Commissioner Roy for his continued dedication to corrections and the respect for the individual delivery systems.

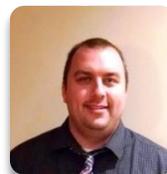
The Directors Group has been instrumental in the funding discussion. All three delivery systems were invited to testify in front of Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Senator Latz, on November 14th. Senator Latz invited the three delivery systems as follow-up to the Spring 2014 hearing. All three delivery systems gave a brief overview of our organizations, authority, and system of funding. It was a great opportunity to talk about CPO's delivery system and the great things we do in our counties. Mike MacMillan and John Klavins presented with the invaluable assistance of Terry Arrola. They all did an excellent job.

Following that presentation, on November 18th, Terry, Mike, Lisa, and I met with Joanna Dornfeld with the Governor's office to give them a brief overview of CPO, our funding stream, and funding needs. Joanna thought it was a very informative meeting. It gave her a better glimpse into how CPO probationary funding works and the differences between CPO, CCA and DOC delivery systems. We were clear that the service CPOs deliver has expanded greatly over the past decade and we in CPO have done a great job providing services to the Court and community.

Lobbyist, Lisa Frenette, then set up an individual meeting with Senator Latz in December to follow up on CPO's testimony. That meeting went well, too. The Senator was receptive and informed about our position.

As we head into 2015 legislative session, we look forward to the Governor's budget forecast and we will closely watch the funding issue.

# Communications Committee



*Peter Monson, Chisago County Court Services*

MACPO's Communication Committee has seen a lot of changes in the past couple months. Former Committee Chair, Christopher Maas, and Committee Vice Chair, Tammy Thompson, served on the committee for many years. They were instrumental in maintaining the MACPO website and the publishing of the quarterly MACPOST Newsletter. A special thanks is also in order for Erikka Weires, Meeker County, who spent countless hours compiling information and creating the MACPOST newsletter.

The Communication Committee has taken on entirely new members, including: Peter Monson (Chisago County), Michelle Pramann (Wright County), Patrick LaVine (Wright County), and Joe Backes (Wright County).

This MACPOST is the first issue with a new design and includes new information. MACPO thanks Michelle Pramann for her hard work in developing the new MACPOST. Also, MACPO is enhancing their use of social networks, such as Facebook and Twitter. Please "like" MACPO on Facebook and follow MACPO on Twitter for the latest job postings, upcoming trainings, and much more.

The Communication Committee is moving forward with upgrades and added features to the website. Please check out the website at [www.macpo.net](http://www.macpo.net).

Feel free to contact the Communication Committee at [communication@MACPO.net](mailto:communication@MACPO.net) with any questions.

# Membership Committee



*Debbie Wiome, Isanti County Probation*  
*Samantha Ahrens, Steele County Probation*

The membership committee has gone through many changes over the recent months. In August 2014, Samantha Ahrens, Steele County Probation, was nominated as the committee co-chair and accepted the position. Samantha has been a wonderful contribution to the membership committee and will serve very well as the co-chair. Additionally, in October 2014, Rachel Miller resigned as the membership committee chair to take a position with the DOC in Albert Lea. She will continue to participate as a member of the Membership Committee. Debbie Wiome, Isanti County Probation, was nominated and accepted as the committee chair. In 2014, the Membership Committee also gained a few new members: including Ryan Jaehnert - Carver County Probation; Nicole Kalow - Waseca County Probation; and Brad Schroeder - Isanti County Probation. We welcome all our new committee members and are very excited about what each of them will bring to the committee.

The Membership Committee has made many strides over the years to increase MACPO memberships. The latest count of MACPO members is 256. We continue to reach out to professionals and students through regional trainings, conferences, and career fairs to increase members to continue to grow our organization.

# Training and Education Committee



*Jason Vande Kamp, Isanti County Probation*

*Debbie Lawrence, Isanti County Probation*

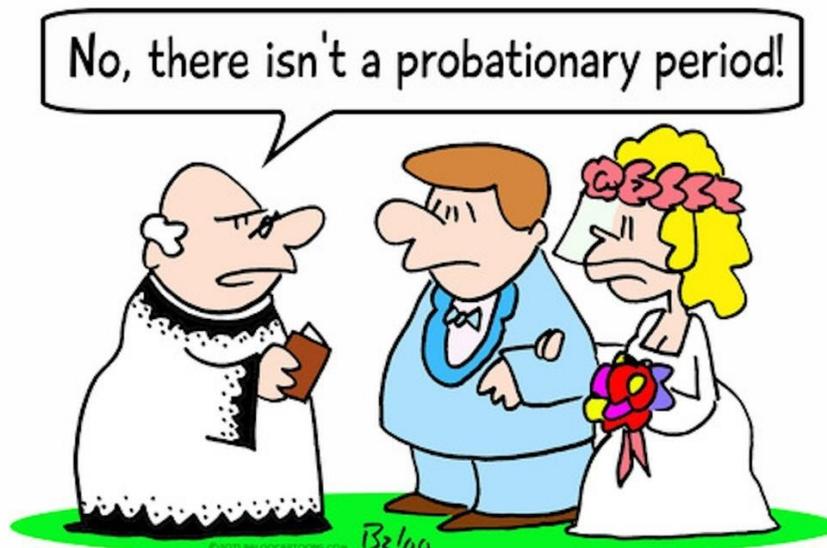
Our committee would like to formally thank Katie Zarns, Sherburne County, for her many years of dedication on the Training and Education Committee, specifically all of her hard work with the many vendors who help support MACPO. She will be missed on our committee. We would like to thank Becky Freden, Mower County, and Jenny Tonjum, Steele County, for stepping up and volunteering to be the new vendor contacts for our committee. We also would like to thank Lesa Radtke, Woodland Hills, for her many years of dedication to MACPO and welcome Eric Hattenberger who will be filling in as Lesa's replacement on our committee. We also welcome Nate Boyer, Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge, as another new member to our committee.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Support Staff Conference was held on October 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Holiday Inn, St. Cloud. We had 66 people register for the conference. Carl Thelen and Carrie Stumne, from STI, presented in the morning on CSTS updates and tricks of the trade. Jackie Moen, Training Connections, spoke in the afternoon on organization and managing your time. A survey was completed afterwards and we received some good feedback and suggestions for further conference ideas and topics.

The next regional training, Working with Veterans, has been re-scheduled to Thursday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015, in St. Cloud, MN. Registration is open now. Please watch for emails or check the MACPO website for further details on this training.

Our committee is busy planning the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Conference. The conference will be once again held at the beautiful Breezy Point Resort, on May 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. Registration will be starting in March. If you have any speaker or topic ideas, please email them to [TrainingandEducation@MACPO.net](mailto:TrainingandEducation@MACPO.net), or contact any member of the Training and Education Committee. There will once again be a vendor hospitality night on Tuesday evening for those that are able to attend. You should receive an email and can always check the MACPO website for additional information.

Hope to see you all at the Spring Conference!



# CPO Director's Committee Updates

*John Klavins, Carver County Court Services Director*

The County Probation Officer (CPO) Director's Committee continues to meet every month. They review a number of topics that impact probation services and staff, particularly within the CPO delivery system. At each monthly meeting, CPO directors and supervisors from around the state provide regular updates and discuss important topics such as: the MACPO President's Report, various legislative initiatives and proposals, evidence-based practices implementation and training opportunities, CSTS and other CJIS software improvements and changes, correctional programs and interventions, grants and funding matters, special committees and task forces, officer safety incidents and training, and many other topics.

This past year, the CPO Director's Committee has also held additional meetings specifically focused on the topic of improving and increasing funding for all three probation delivery systems (CPO, CCA, and DOC-Field Services). Currently, there are at least half a dozen different state probation funding mechanisms, along with some special grants from the MN Department of Corrections (DOC). In 2013, the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) placed the topic of probation funding in its "Top 5" legislative initiatives. The Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act Counties (MACCAC) put forth a proposal in early 2014 that probation funding for all counties, regardless of delivery system, be calculated and distributed through the current Community Corrections Act (CCA) funding formula as outlined in MN Statute 401.10. After considerable evaluation, this proposal was ultimately carried over for further deliberation in 2015. Additional meetings were held this past fall with various state legislators. This topic will certainly continue to be discussed and debated by probation administrators, county commissioners, state legislators, and others in 2015 and beyond.

Despite some recent reductions in the overall numbers of offenders on supervision, managing higher risk and chronic offenders continues to be a top priority for many probation agencies. Over the last several decades, probation officers have been assigned many additional responsibilities and duties through state mandates, judicial direction, and an expansion of local services through county or community need. Probation services have also increased in quality and intensity, particularly through the implementation of evidence-based practices (EBP), focused on reducing offender risk and enhancing public safety. The utilization of more effective supervision services and programs requires adequate and ongoing funding support, particularly for probation officer and support staff resources, including training, research and evaluation, and outcome measurement.

In the case of the County Probation Officer system, our primary subsidy (CPO Annual Salary Reimbursement funds) has now fallen well below the 50% reimbursement required by state statute (MS 244.19). Our state reimbursements have not kept up with ongoing increases in the costs of conducting the "business of probation," including maintaining staff salaries, rising benefit costs, service and program related expenses, training, safety and security expenses, etc. Essentially, for all counties in Minnesota, the costs of probation services have continued to fall more heavily onto local tax levies, along with other revenue sources such as fees and grants.

In summary, the CPO directors will continue to seek a joint partnership with our DOC and CCA partnering agencies in working toward the development of a more equitable and hopefully stable funding system for probation services. After all, it's our system of effective community-based supervision which saves tax payers millions of dollars each year in Minnesota by helping to maintain one of the lowest incarceration rates in the nation!

# MACPO Clerical Conference

*Michelle Pramann, Wright County*

The 2014 MACPO Clerical Conference was held on Thursday, October 16th, at the Holiday Inn, St. Cloud. It was the 13th year for this conference. The MACPO Clerical Conference was created for clerical staff around the state to get together for training designed specifically for them and their job responsibilities.

This year's conference was no different. It was very well-attended, with clerical staff coming from as far as Martin County, Wabasha County, and Clay County (to name a few) and as close as Stearns County. During the first half of the conference, clerical staff received tips and tricks on CSTS, as well as pertinent information regarding the upcoming release of CSTS. After lunch, Jackie Moen gave a presentation on "How Do I Get It All Done?"



Both pieces of training were well received by those that attended. Jackie Moen always does a great job with her presentations. These are a couple pictures from the conference.



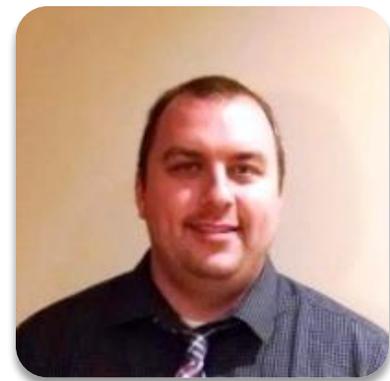
## Thank You!!!!

The committee would like to thank Christopher Maas, Tammy Thompson, Katie Zarns, Karen Evans, Peter Monson, Erikka Weires, and Rachel Miller for all of their contributions with MACPO over the last several years and any future help they provide.



### *Tammy Thompson*

Previous vice-chair of Communication Committee and coordinator of MACPOST. Tammy has been a big asset to MACPO and we appreciate all that she does.



### *Peter Monson*

He has been appointed the new communication chair and will maintain and develop the website. Peter is off to a great start and we are excited to see all he does.



***Christopher Maas***

Previous chair of communication committee and developed and maintained website. It will be hard to fill the big shoes of Chris not only with his work on the website but also his great overall attitude.



***Karen Evans***

She represented MACPO at the Restitution Working Group. Karen has always been a great resource for MACPO and we always appreciate her willingness to help us out.

***Katie Zarns***

She has been with MACPO for 10 years and was instrumental in coordinating vendors. Katie was an incredible asset to the training and education committee along with being the contact for vendors. Katie has an awesome attitude and will be missed.



***Erikka Weires***

Erikka was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for the many hours of hard work over the last several years for the design, compilation, and publication of MACPOST. Erikka put a lot of time and effort into creating a great product in the MACPOST.



***Rachel Miller***

Thank you for all of your hard work as Chair of the Membership Committee. Even though we were unable to get a picture of you for the MACPOST, your presence in MACPO wearing all of your different hats will be sorely missed. We wish you the best in the future endeavors.

# Minnesota Restitution Working Group (RWG)

*Karen Evans, Wright County Court Services*

I want to thank MACPO for the opportunity to represent the organization at Minnesota Restitution Working Group (RWG). So, what is RWG? The 2013 legislative session enacted the RWG, and ordered the “Department of Public Safety to convene a working group to study how restitution is currently being requested, ordered, and collected in Minnesota.” The directive required representation from Department of Corrections, prosecuting and defense attorneys, MCCA counties, county probation departments, Court Administrators' offices, courts, and any other interested parties participate in the working group. Duties of the group were to review, assess, and make recommendations to the legislature about reforms to restitution statutes and procedures. The group was directed to focus on: the determination of restitution process, the ordering process, the supervision of offenders who owe restitution, and the mechanisms for collection.

The group consisted of 44 members. We met four times with the entire group. We also broke into smaller affinity groups, and were divided by probation, prosecution, advocates, defense attorneys, Court Administration, and judges. From there, we were broken down even further to specialized “drill down meetings.” Drill down groups included processing, ordering, creative strategies, supervision, civil judgment, forms, payment plans, and collections. We met from January 2014 to August 2014. The purpose of the meetings was to educate ourselves on the restitution process in general, the restitution process in other jurisdictions, and the parts of the process outside our own area of expertise. We then started to identify themes regarding concerns and issues, and from there developed recommendations. After reviewing all the recommendations it was narrowed down to 75 final recommendations, either statutory or practice in nature. Those 75 were further reviewed to eliminate repetition, provide clarification, and to leave open an opportunity to remove a recommendation. During the final meeting, we identified any recommendation that was opposed, and if more than 1/3 of the group opposed that recommendation it was eliminated.

Volunteers on the RWG Drafting Committee are now working on a report and compiling a list of recommended statutory changes. The final report is to be completed by January 15, 2015.



## Featured Adult Service

Brown County is the featured County Highlight. To learn more about Brown County and services offered in their community, it was requested that they name a facility of their choice as a featured adult service for adult offenders. Brown County refers their adult offenders who need a chemical dependency provider to the New Ulm Medical Center. The New Ulm Medical Center is Brown County's only in-patient and out-patient facility for their offenders. The address for the New Ulm Medical Center is 1324 Fifth Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073. The phone number is (507) 217-5000.

## Featured Juvenile Service

Since Brown County was the featured MACPOST County, they were asked to provide information about a juvenile service they utilize. They have chosen Prairie Lakes Youth Program. They use Prairie Lakes Youth Program for a variety of juvenile services, including detention, secure residential, and a variety of non-secure services. For more information, please contact them at 1808 Civic Center Drive NE, Willmar, MN 56201 or by telephone at number (320) 231-1729.

## Quick Facts

### Overdose Deaths vs. Traffic-Related Deaths

*(Information obtained from KARE 11 News)*

The Minnesota Department of Health says the number of people who have died from heroin and prescription painkiller overdoses in 2013 is greater than the number of people killed in traffic accidents.

The health department's figures show 507 people died of drug overdoses last year, while 374 people died in motor vehicle accidents.

The Health Department says, since 2000, nearly 5,000 people statewide have died from overdoses.

## Upcoming Events and Training

### MACPO Regional Training Opportunity - Working with Veterans

Please come listen to Mike Mathies and Mary Jo Pine on Thursday, February 26, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A discussion will be held with a panel of professionals working with veterans from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. This training will be held in the downstairs training room at the St. Cloud DOC Office (300 E. Germain St., St. Cloud, MN 56304). This training is FREE to MACPO members. Otherwise cost is \$40 for non-members (which will include the MACPO membership). Register at [www.macpo.net](http://www.macpo.net) by February 20, 2015.

Mike Mathies, MSW, LICSW is a Veteran's Justice Outreach Specialist for the St. Cloud VA Health Care System. During the morning session, from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m., he will discuss common readjustment issues for veterans as well as mental health and substance abuse issues. He will discuss how the VA is increasing its efforts to collaborate with the justice system and specific examples on how to connect justice involving veterans with VA and community resources.

### Capitol Day

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Monday, February 9, 2015, for Capitol Day. MACPO will be partnering with MCA, MACCAC, MCCA, and VOA to offer a legislative breakfast at the Kelly Inn, St. Paul, and Legislators will be invited to join us. More information to come.

### **YLS/CMI 2.0 Initial Training**

This training will held from January 28, 2015, at 9:00a.m. to January 29, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in Hennepin County (2600 E 25th Street, Minneapolis, MN). Please contact Jennifer Albrecht at [Jennifer.Albrecht@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:Jennifer.Albrecht@co.dakota.mn.us) for registration.

### **OR**

It will also be held from March 5, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. to March 6, 2015, at 4:30 p.m. at the DOC Central Office. Please contact Mary Evers at [Mary.Evers@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:Mary.Evers@co.anoka.mn.us) for registration.

For the risk and need YLS/CMI 2.0 training, for staff conducting juvenile assessments, they also need to complete phase one LS/CMI and YLS/CMI 2.0 online training before the class. The online training is located on the DOC Training Management Site (TMS). If you do not have an existing password for the site, please contact your local administrator or send an email to [CO-Training.DOC@state.mn.us](mailto:CO-Training.DOC@state.mn.us). If sending an email for access to TMS, please provide the following: first and last name, agency, job title, address, email and phone information.

### **LS/CMI Initial Training**

This will be held, on February 9, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. to February 11, 2015, at 4:30 p.m., at Isanti County Government Center (555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN - Room #31 Lower Level). Please contact Debbie Wiome at [Debbie.Wiome@co.isanti.mn.us](mailto:Debbie.Wiome@co.isanti.mn.us) for registration.

For staff assessing adult offenders with the LS/CMI, attendees will be required to complete phase one LS/CMI and YLS/CMI 2.0 online training prior to the class. The online training is located on the DOC Training Management Site (TMS). If you do not have an existing password for the site, please contact your local administrator or send an email to [CO-Training.DOC@state.mn.us](mailto:CO-Training.DOC@state.mn.us). If sending an email for access to TMS, please provide the following: first and last name, agency, job title, address, email and phone information.

### **Carey Guides: Training-For-Trainers**

If you are interested in this training, it will be held at the DOC Central Office, on March 24, 2015, at 8:00 a.m to 4:30 p.m. and on May 12, 2015, at 8:00 a.m. to May 13, 2015, at 4:30 p.m.

The Carey Guide Training-For-Trainers (T4T), provided by Mark Carey, is intended to be provided to a group of selected corrections practitioners who have experience working with offenders AND who have the knowledge and skills to deliver effective training. The individuals who attend the training should have the proper platform skills, understand adult learning, and have hands-on corrections experience to be credible to class participants. The curriculum does NOT include instructions on how to be an effective trainer. Rather, it focuses on the content that is to be delivered by trainers. In addition, the trainers should have had exposure to the Carey Guides and been using them prior to attending the T4T class. To allow for exposure to the guides, each agency that has staff selected as Carey Guide trainers will receive a free copy of the guides and their selected trainer will receive training on their use with offenders before the T4T class.

Course Description: Corrections professionals who work with offenders can have a profound impact on recidivism rates but only if they purposefully address the criminogenic needs. Staff trained in evidence based practices soon realize that they need a structured method to focus on the major factors that influence crime. Each Carey Guide (33 guides in total) provides corrections professionals with 2-4 tools that address criminogenic needs, risk factors, and effective case management. The guides contain

worksheets that are completed by offenders. Corrections professionals then use these worksheets to help offenders realize that change is needed to make alternative choices, and practice the kind of skills that can make a difference. The training is designed to help trainers learn how to teach corrections professionals the most effective ways to use the Carey Guides.

## Bits & Pieces

If you have news articles or personal/professional information regarding MACPO and/or its members, please send them to Patrick LaVine, Wright County Court Services, 10 2nd St NW, Room 402, Buffalo, MN 55313 or at [patrick.lavine@co.wright.mn.us](mailto:patrick.lavine@co.wright.mn.us).

### 2014 Legislative Changes

Please visit the MACPO website to view current information regarding corrections, such as the new legislative changes, Juvenile Justice 21, and ISP contact information.

### Final Report Release - A Roadmap for Minnesota Juvenile Justice in the 21st Century

The Minnesota Corrections Association (MCA) has released the final report on *A Roadmap for Minnesota Juvenile Justice in the 21st Century*. Please visit [www.mapco.net](http://www.mapco.net) for a link to the final report.

### Rare Look Inside St. Cloud Prison to Mark 125 Years - By Rob Olson (FOX 9 News)

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (KMSP) - (Information obtained from FOX 9 News Website)

You've more than likely driven by the granite walls and guard towers on Highway 10 and wondered what lies beyond. The Minnesota Department of Corrections allowed a rare look inside the prison in St. Cloud, marking its 125th birthday.

During the tour, the prison was on lockdown status and prisoners got meals in their cells rather than in the dining room. It's historic, gothic, and seductively secretive. None other than Warden Collin Gau was the tour guide, and he has worked there for more than 40 of those 125 years. Gau agrees the prison is "shrouded in mystery."

Originally built as a reformatory, it was built by the inmates using granite they quarried themselves -- the profit-driven reason the legislature chose this site.

St. Cloud now serves as the state's intake facility, meaning everyone comes there first to be assessed and reassigned to another prison. Most only stay a few months. One reason to stay longer is to enroll in St. Cloud's two-year masonry program which ties nicely into its quarrying past -- many students actually leave and a lot of them get hired with the bricklayers union.



All our old raised-letter license plates used to come from this prison. Every motorcycle, trailer and vehicle plate manufactured within the same walls. Here's another fun fact: 75 percent of the prison's offenders are out in three years without a new felony conviction. That's a pretty good rate of success.

## 20 Ways to Improve Your Attitude

(Information from Matt Booth and Joie Booth - Mattitude, LLC.)



“What can I do to *IMPROVE* my **attitude**?” This is one of the most asked questions Matt Booth gets. Being positive *most* of the time allows you to enjoy life more. Here are 20 practical ideas to help you get a positive attitude and keep it.

1. *Be Yourself*– Do more of the things you love. It is the only way to be happy.
2. *Improve Yourself*– If you’re improving, even a little bit, you’ll be more positive.
3. *Help Others* – Nothing makes a person feel better than helping others in need. When you help others, you can’t help but be more positive.
4. *Take an Attitude Inventory*– Your attitude and those around you.
5. *Birds of a Feather*– You will eventually become like the people you hang around. Keep yourself in the company of positive thinking people. Distance yourself from the doom and gloomers. Find more positive people to spend time with.
6. *Be Selective*– Of information you get. Garbage in, Garbage out.
7. *Be a Doer*– Rather than a watcher. Take a walk rather than watching The Biggest Loser.
8. *Be an Attitude Warrior*– If you don’t defend your attitude, who will?
9. *Don’t Be Perfect*– Bad crap happens to good people. Don’t expect to be positive 100% of the time, just try to be positive as often as possible.
10. *One of Those Days*– It’s OK to have one of those days, just not five years in a row.
11. *Choose*– You’re responsible for our own attitude; others do not control how you think. Decide to be positive and make it happen.
12. *Relax*– Don’t fight a challenging situation, it only makes it worse. Relax, breathe and accept it.
13. *Affirmations* – Think positive thoughts and say positive things to yourself. It might seem goofy but it works!
14. *Be Grateful*– For what you have. There is always something to be grateful for.
15. *Laugh*– Bring more laughter into your life. It is a powerful way to improve your attitude.
16. *Pray or Meditate*– For a couple of minutes every day. You’ll be surprised how positive this can be.
17. *Celebrate*– Your own successes and the successes of those around you as often as you can.
18. *Have a Plan*– It lets you stay focused on where you are going instead of getting bogged down in the day-to-day drama.
19. *Control Your Environment* – You make choices everyday about where you live, the work you do, and where you go. If your environment isn’t supporting your positive attitude, change it.
20. *Be Selfish* – Take care of *YOU* first. Give yourself permission to make *YOU* a priority.

Book Matt to help make a difference in someone’s attitude and in someone’s life. Joie Booth 563.451.7868 joie@mattbooth.com or Matt Booth 563.590.9693 matt@mattbooth.com

## **Mission**

Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers is dedicated to promoting quality correctional practices through professional growth, leadership, education, communication, and support.

## **Vision**

Providing a voice for the probation profession and leading the promotion of sound correctional policy toward the principles of evidence based practices, restorative justice, community involvement, public protection, victim restoration, offender accountability, and competency development.

## Executive Board

### President

*Deanna Ruffing*  
Nicollet County Probation  
2070 Howard Drive  
North Mankato, MN 56003  
(507) 386-4503  
druffing@co.nicollet.mn.us

### President - Elect

*Neal Huemoeller*  
Wright County Court Services  
10 - 2nd Street NW, Room 402  
Buffalo, MN 55313  
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neal.huemoeller@co.wright.mn.us

### Treasurer

*Carter Diers*  
Wright County Court Services  
10 - 2nd Street NW, Room 402  
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### Secretary

*Jill Ferretti*  
Brown County Probation  
1 S State Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
(507) 233-6693  
jill.ferretti@co.brown.mn.us

### Legislative Committee Chair

*Margaret Munson*  
Wright County Court Services

### Communications Committee Chair

*Peter Monson*  
Chisago County Court Services

### Membership Committee Chair

*Debbie Wiome*  
Isanti County Probation  
*Samantha Ahrens*  
Steele County Probation

### Training & Education Committee Chair

*Jason Vande Kamp*  
Isanti County Probation  
*Debbie Lawrence*  
Isanti County Probation

## MACPO 2014-2015 Elected Officers

Contact MACPO Secretary, Jill Ferretti - Brown County Probation, for the location and time of MACPO Board meetings.

### Executive Board Goals:

- Review the vision statement on an annual basis at the Steering Committee meeting.
- Use MACPO's APPA Affiliate Membership to send our President (or assigned representative) to the national conference to maintain/promote our presence on a national level, to be reviewed annually.
- Continue to solicit input from MACPO membership regarding nominations for awards: Al Reker, Excellence in Corrections, Outstanding Performance, and Memorial Scholarship, as well as officer-elect positions.

Election of all officers shall be held at the annual meeting. Officers shall be elected by a simple majority at such meeting when a quorum of the voting members in good standing is present at the time of balloting.

Absentee ballots will be accepted or counted in any election and will be distributed by the Secretary at least 21 days in advance of election. Ballots to be returned three (3) days before annual meeting to the Nominating Committee Chair.

The Nominations/Awards Committee shall meet at least 60 days in advance of the annual meeting. The Nominations/Awards Committee shall contact candidates and potential candidates from among the voting membership of the association and shall prepare a list of such candidates and the offices for which they are candidates.



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