

inside & out

A Complete Team Effort

“Our audits were so clean that there just wasn’t much to talk about. I don’t think we spent more than 20 minutes with the Accreditation Board,” said Dick Crites, KPEP’s Accreditation Manager, about the review that the two Kalamazoo facilities underwent as the last step in the ACA Accreditation process.

Crites traveled to Nashville, along with Bill DeBoer and Program Managers Julie Werkema and Jim Edwards for the American Correctional Association’s 2006 Winter Conference in January, where KPEP was presented with its ACA Accreditation certificate.

According to the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections press release, “The accreditation program is a professional peer review process based on national standards that have evolved since the founding of the Association in 1870. The standards were developed by national leaders from the field of corrections, law, architecture, health care and other groups who are interested in sound correctional management.” Accredited facilities are required to meet over 250 standards set by the ACA, and are re-audited every three years.



KPEP gained a great deal in terms of organization through the process of becoming accredited, according to Crites. While KPEP had its own auditing process for each of its facilities, accreditation requirements allowed for the development of a much greater degree of consistency between facilities, which was a specific KPEP goal. One of the new organizational tools developed within KPEP is the ACA specific Policy and Procedures Manual which contains the rules and procedures for every conceivable situation, whether a daily occurrence or an emergency situation. A copy of this manual stays in the security office at each facility.

But continuous improvement is the goal for any accredited facility. “Once you meet the standards, you’ve got to continue to meet them and look at ways of being better. A huge thing in the accreditation process is staff training. ACA doubles the standard of 20 hours of training per year for all staff to 40 hours.”, Crites says. “We’ve incorporated update training during our monthly staff meetings so each meeting covers a different topic of training.” Mike Cole, Director of Psychological Services, acts as KPEP’s trainer and leads the effort to keep the staff well-prepared.

Crites commented that the auditors were very professional and fair. Their audit required visits to each facility during every shift and consisted of much more than simply reviewing paper documentation. “They interviewed most of the staff at one point or another. They also talked with a number of residents who were chosen randomly, and they ate a meal at each facility.”

INSIDE:

- *KPEP News Update*
- *Staff members “On the Move”*

New Program Manager for Olmstead Road Facility

On March 1, 2006 Andelin Goolsby was promoted from District Court Case Manager to Program Manager at the KPEP Olmstead facility. Andelin has been with KPEP since July 1, 2000. She began her KPEP career as a part time Resident Coordinator and has received regular promotions.

Andelin remarked that she has seen a great deal of change at KPEP and that things are “pretty exciting” right now at the Olmstead Road facility. She feels very confident in her position as Program Manager, adding “I was lucky to follow Julie (Werkema). She trained me very well.”



Berrien relocation

Our Berrien facility has moved to the former Corrections Center in Benton Harbor. The new space will provide a much better environment for daily operations. Julie Werkema, who is now the full-time Program Manager commented, “The new facility



provides the space and layout to expand our program in several aspects. Aside from more bed space for male clients, there is enough room to allow us to expand the program to include women. In this building, we can focus less on security issues and more on programming. It’s a bright and well-organized building, with great classrooms and dining facilities.”

Our new address is 497 Waukonda, Benton Harbor, MI 49022. The phone number will remain the same.

A Complete Team Effort, continued from page 1

The accreditation process will continue for KPEP as each facility prepares for its audit, with the Muskegon facility scheduled to be audited in April. Experience has helped make the preparation much easier than the first time, according to Crites, and has also allowed better methods and ideas to come to light. “Even through the audit process, we have continued to learn. We went back and tweaked some of the things that we were doing to make them more efficient or more effective.”

KPEP is now one of over 1500 correctional organizations across the nation involved in accreditation, but the only accredited adult community residential program in Michigan.

Crites observed that “Meeting the accreditation standards really forces you to take a critical look at how you’re doing business. Now the challenge will be to maintain that level of awareness and capability. Part of what accreditation means is paying attention to the details. It’s an ongoing process of improvement. Accreditation doesn’t end the day you become accredited—that’s only the beginning.”

On the Move

January 1, 2006 through March 31, 2006

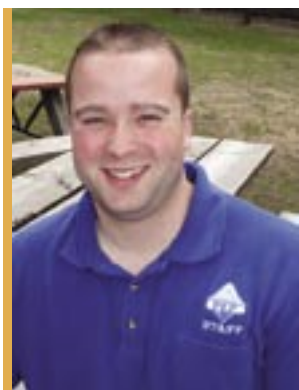
Hired:

Heather Anderson	Resident Coordinator	Kalamazoo Olmstead Rd.
Montrell Baker	Resident Coordinator	Kalamazoo Park St.
Shawn Garcia	Resident Coordinator	Calhoun
Eric Johnson	Resident Coordinator	Calhoun
Matthew Koon	Resident Coordinator	Kalamazoo Park St.
Jason Kruzona	Resident Coordinator	Muskegon
Ursula Schaefer	Resident Coordinator	Kalamazoo Olmstead Rd.

Promoted:



Heather Anderson
*Full-Time Resident Coordinator
Kalamazoo Olmstead Rd. Facility*



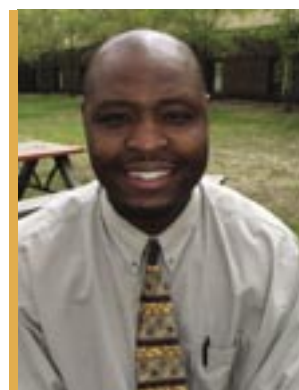
Brandon DeKuiper
*Full-Time Resident Coordinator
Muskegon County Facility*



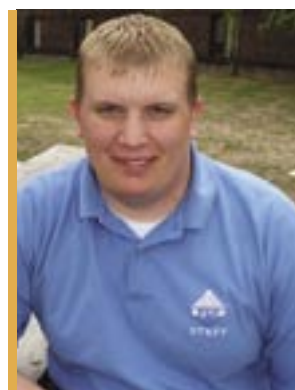
Jamie Earl
*Full-Time Resident Coordinator
Kalamazoo Park Street Facility*



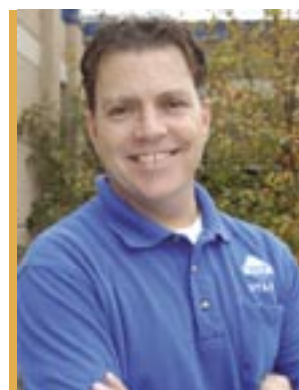
Andelin Goolsby
*Program Manager
Kalamazoo Olmstead Rd. Facility*



Edgar Hill
*Senior Case Manager
Muskegon County Facility*



Jeffrey Lucht
*Resident Coordinator Supervisor
Muskegon County Facility*



John Shorey
*Resident Case Manager
Berrien County Facility*

Need a hand? Just ask!

KPEP provides volunteer assistance to local nonprofits, senior citizens and handicapped persons. We can provide volunteers to perform a variety of community service tasks—whatever the need, just ask us.

In Kalamazoo County call: Jordan Becklin at 269-383-0444 or Cynthia Tall at 269-383-1386

In Berrien County call: Charles Adams at 269-926-1284

In Calhoun County call: Nicole Wagner at 269-963-2085

In Muskegon County call: Jeff Lucht or Lisa Romero at 231-726-2733



Results

2nd quarter:

January 1, 2006 through March 31, 2006

Average Daily Count	216.4
Admissions	458
Successful Graduates	274
Jobs Obtained	197
GED Tests	71
GED Certificates	5
Substance Abuse Graduates	
Residents	139
Weekend Intervention	40
Resident Income	\$273,402.54
Rent Paid	\$133,932.59
Court Costs/Child Support Paid	\$ 34,307.52

Lawn & Yard Care

- *spring and fall clean-up*
- *mowing*
- *light landscaping*
- *snow removal*

KPEP Lawn Service

Free Estimates - Call Jason McCune at 269-383-0444



KPEP

519 South Park St. • Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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KPEP operates residential and non-residential programs for adult offenders as a community based alternative to incarceration. We offer the opportunity and structure for men and women to take personal responsibility in their lives.