

July 27, 2010

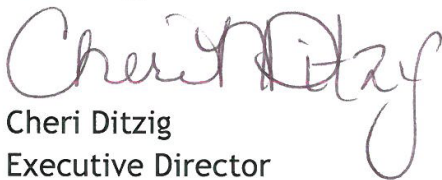
CREW and Nicasa are very excited to announce that we are collaborating to strengthen the services delivered to the citizens of Zion and Benton Townships as well as Lake County community at large.

As of 7/12/10, CREW will be operating as always, offering quality substance abuse counseling and DUI services valued by the communities it serves. The only exception in this service delivery is that Nicasa will be providing management oversight to CREW's treatment services. This collaboration promises to be a "win-win" situation for both agencies and for CREW clients.

Rebecca Craig of Nicasa is providing on-site management at the CREW office. In the coming months you should see very little change in your dealings with CREW.

Please do not hesitate to call either of us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Cheri Ditzig
Executive Director
847-872-2811



Linda Snelten
Chief Operating Officer
847-201-7007

CREW and Nicasa are partnering to offer anger management evaluations and counseling! For an evaluation, call CREW at 847-872-2830. For information about counseling, call Nicasa at 847-244-4434.

2010 Board of Directors

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Resources for Change, Ltd.

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Lake Villa Township
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Rich Walker
Zion Park District

Christine Wertman
Lake County News-Sun

Save the Date!

Red Ribbon Week
Open House
October 20 12:00 p.m.
CREW, Inc.

Full Moon 5K Run/Walk
October 20, 8:00 p.m.
Zion Park District
Sports Arena

**5th Annual Corporate
Community Spelling Bee**
November 4, 7:00 p.m.
North Point
Christian Church

2009-2010 Annual Report

CREW Staff

Cheri N. Ditzig,
Executive Director

Rebecca Craig, MC,
CDC, Clinical Manager

Grace Gamboa,
Office Manager

Dan Juliana, M. Ed., MS
Psy., CADC, CAMT
Certified Alcohol and
Drug Counselor

Brian Monroe,
Group Counselor

Martha Palmer,
Group Counselor

Maggie Morales,
Community
Development Manager

2009 was a year of evaluation and strategic planning. Funds were utilized to hire Executive Service Corps (ESC) to assist CREW's Board of Directors in undergoing the most efficient board development process. The end result was a much more productive and involved board.



Cheri and Sylvia host staff from Senator Durbin's office.

Thanks to The Lake County Community Foundation (LCCF), CREW's one-stop service concept which is implemented through Pearce Community Resource Center is beginning to gain momentum. Pearce was chosen for the Foundation's annual bus tour site visit. Though a miserably

rainy day, visitors assisted at the Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry and took tours of the Resource Center, visiting each of the agencies located inside. The LCCF also brought staff from Senator Dick Durbin's office and the Barrington Village President to see the collaborative space.

•CREW's Substance Abuse Counseling Division served over 450 clients in both anger management assessments and counseling. Partnerships with area schools and Zion Township Summer Work Program to intervene when substance abuse is suspected has been of significant benefit to all involved.

Additionally, in the Community Development Division:

•The pilot program to implement MPOWR, a collaborative case management tool designed by Community Collaboration Inc. out of Rock-

ford was completed. Evaluations were done and CREW made the decision to work with the Lake County Community Development Division in implementing Service Point, a collaborative case management tool that can be used county-wide.

•Partners for an Enriched Community has continued to work as a catalyst for front-line workers to build closer relationships and network to better assist clients. Recognizing the importance of being able to be reached during a crisis, members collectively chose to share cell phone numbers to support one another to better assist residents in need. Membership has increased from 20 to 30 agencies even though fees doubled from \$100 to \$200 to cover the cost of meals. CREW is excited to continue these efforts in 2010!

What's in store for 2010-2011?

"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." - Robert Frost

CREW has been paving the way for agencies to begin to work differently together. In an effort to make sure that the work that was being done did not lose ground, Zion Township Supervisor, Cheri Ditzig made a personal decision to step down as a CREW Board member and stepped up as the Volunteer Executive Director of CREW.

Cheri is determined to work with area leaders to build relationships whereby

collaborations can be established. By addressing gaps



Staff From Upper Left: Grace Gamboa, Dan Juliana, Rebecca Craig, Maggie Morales and Cheri Ditzig

and overlaps in services, locating key agencies in pockets of need, building networks of front-line workers and working with Lake County Community Development Division and The Lake

County Community Foundation to implement a county-wide case management collaborative data-base tool, we will shift how the work is done in social services. Residents who are in desperate need of direction on best next steps will be able to enter the "system" anywhere and be networked in to help them specifically with what they need to remain productive members of the community.

"This is no small feat," states Cheri, but working with executive directors across the county brings incredible hope that this work

"By coming together, we can maximize our strengths to truly assist clients in maximizing theirs."



Group Counselors Martha Palmer and Brian Monroe

can be done because area leaders are leaving their egos and logos at the door and finding ways to work differently together to effect change. "The collaboration between Nicasa and CREW is evidence of that. These two organizations were seen as competing agencies. But by coming together, we can maximize our strengths to

truly assist clients.

By May of 2011, CREW staff hope to...

...make the Substance Abuse Counseling and Anger Management Division the best it can be, finding ways to collaborate with Nicasa, as well as other area agencies.

...have at least five additional agencies at Pearce Community Resource Center to assist residents, through partnerships with key staff from Zion Benton Township High School.

...evolve Partners for an Enriched Community into a county-wide model through a

collaboration with RESPOND (Respecting Every Single Person through Outreach, Networking and Diversity).

...have agencies who were involved with the initial pilot of the case management data base tool fully up and operating with Lake County Service Point.

Stay tuned to learn about our progress in 2010-2011!



Collaboration: A Creative Funding Solution

As resources continue to become more and more scarce, now, more than ever, it is crucial for agencies to find creative ways to maximize all that is available. In 2008, The Lake County Community Foundation honored CREW with a \$40,000 Basic Human Needs award to fund the collaborative work taking place through PEC. This funding has enabled CREW to foster relationships amongst area social service agencies, implement a collaborative case management tool in this part of the county and cut down on inter-agency program and service duplication as a result.

In 2009, CREW was informed that it would receive a \$45,000 community development block grant from Lake County for 2010. This funding amount was a dramatic increase from the previous year's \$30,000 and was provided as a direct result of the



CREW Executive Committee members receive a Basic Human Needs Award from The Lake County Community Foundation

collaborative work the agency has been facilitating in this community.

To date, two additional collaborative grant applications have been submitted. CREW's Community Development Division partnered with Lake County's Community Development staff to apply for \$250,000 in federal funding to cover the cost of implementing Service Point, the collaborative case management tool, across Lake County. If this project is approved, we will be able to set up a comprehensive sys-

tem of care through uniform case management county-wide. Lastly, CREW recently submitted an application for The Collaboration Prize which provides winners with the opportunity to showcase their collaborative work and receive funding to further their efforts.

CREW looks forward to continuing to drive collaboration in this part of the county and staff are excited to see where this work goes! The most important component throughout all of this has been the relationship building and networking that has taken place through PEC and Pearce Community Resource Center. As agencies begin to think differently together and find creative ways to sustain programs and services, who knows what possibilities lie ahead!

"The most important component throughout all of this has been the relationship building and networking that has taken place."

Upcoming Events

Red Ribbon Week Open House



Please join us for CREW's Annual Red Ribbon Week
Open House on Wednesday, October 20th
from 12:00 — 2:00 p.m.

Full Moon 5K Run/Walk— October 20th

Come join in the first annual Full Moon 5K Run/Walk on Wednesday, October 20th at 8:00 p.m.

The race will start and finish at the Zion Park District Sports Arena. All proceeds from this event will support CREW, Inc.

Check-In: 6:45–7:45 p.m.

Entry Fee: Adults \$25 or \$20 before October 1st
Students \$20 or \$15 before October 1st

Tec T-Shirt & Goodie Bags:
Available to the first 200 entrants who pre-register!

Course: The course is flat and fast and will be illuminated!

Special trophies to overall male and female winners will be given. Medals will go to the first male and female in each age group.

Registration forms are available at CREW or online at www.crewinc.org.



5th Annual Corporate Community Spelling Bee

CREW will be hosting the 5th Annual Corporate Community Spelling Bee on Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at North Point Christian Church in Winthrop Harbor.

Participants can sign up by entering a three-person adult team for

a fee of \$300. If you are interested in participating but do not have a team, CREW will find one for you!

Last year's winners were returning champions, First Midwest Bank. For event details and to register, visit

www.crewinc.org or contact event coordinators Jan Suthard, Benton Township Supervisor at 847-746-2100, jsuthard@bentontownship.com or Christine Wertman, Lake County News-Sun at 847-599-2122, cwertman@scn1.com.



1632 23rd Street
Zion, IL 60099

<Merged Addresses>