

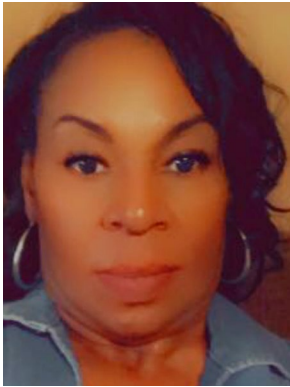


Covington DRC Update



APRIL 2021

WELCOME



Annette Ellis
Program Manager

Over the last quarter, the Covington DRC has continued to seamlessly provide evidence-based treatment services to our participants, equipping them with the knowledge, resources and skills they need to successfully reintegrate into the community. Engagement with the local community is also a key aspect of our program at Covington, and this quarter, we started working with a new community organization, YouthBuild in Bogalusa, Louisiana, providing their participants with clothing and toiletries if they cannot afford them. YouthBuild is a community-based alternative education program for youth ages 16 to 24 who have not completed high school. Participants construct or rehabilitate affordable housing for low-income or homeless families in their own neighborhoods, while earning their GED or high school diploma, learning to be community leaders, and preparing for college. At the Covington DRC, we pride ourselves in teaching our participants the value of giving back, a mindset that helps them succeed in returning to their community as productive citizens. Thanks for reading our April update, and please stay safe!

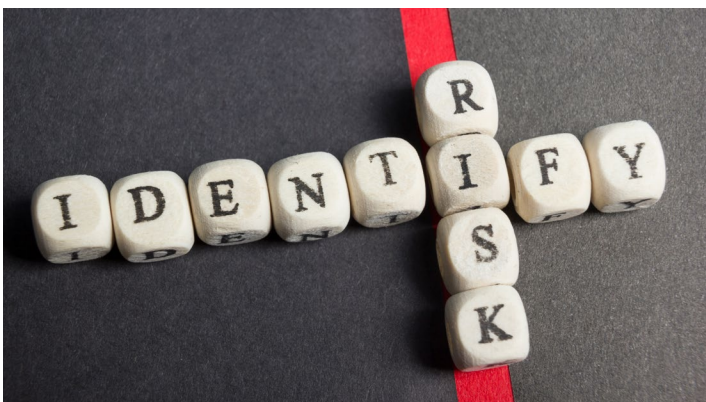


SPOTLIGHT ON... PARTICIPANT DAVE S.



Since he started the program several months ago, participant Dave S. said the Covington DRC has helped him continue his recovery from a three-year stint of homelessness initially triggered by the tragic loss of his mother. Today, in addition to receiving instruction in MRT and parenting skills, the center provides Dave with tutoring help for reading comprehension, assists him in maintaining his sobriety, and has helped him get on Medicaid and food stamps. But in truth, said Dave, the DRC has done so much more than that. "This program got me back on my feet and happy about life and looking forward today. The past is the past, the Lord is my savior, and my baby daughter is my love. Without them, there would be no smile," he said. Today, Dave has a job in mobile detailing and is living with a friend from church. "I was homeless for three years," he said. "I eventually got back, and the DRC helped me do that."

DID YOU KNOW?



Several **dynamic and static risk factors** can help determine whether a person has a high chance of recidivism. Of the eight criminogenic needs, the static risk factor that cannot be changed is the criminal history. The seven dynamic risk factors that can be affected through treatment and intervention are antisocial attitudes, antisocial peers, antisocial personality, family, education and employment, the pro-social activities, and substance abuse needs. GEO Reentry's programs target criminogenic needs using evidence-based practices aimed at changing negative thoughts and criminal behaviors. Upon entering our program, each participant's criminogenic needs are assessed, and based on the assessment individuals are placed in classes designed to address the identified needs. Some of those classes

include substance abuse prevention and/or treatment, life skills, employment readiness, and anger management or parenting, among others. Participants are encouraged to obtain employment or receive additional educational training to reduce their dynamic risk factors.

By Wendy Dressler, GEO Care Research Analyst