



Monroe DRC Update



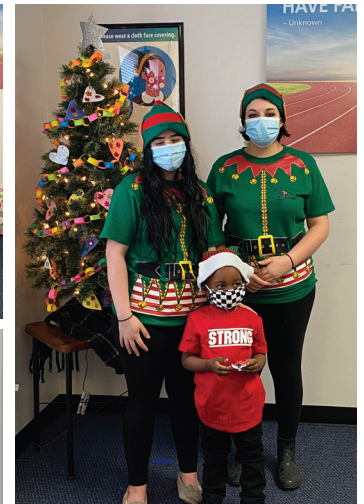
JANUARY 2021

WELCOME



Marc Reimer
Program Manager

Serving the local community is part of our core mission at the Monroe Day Reporting Center, and over the holiday season, our DRC and several other Louisiana DRC programs came together to help a local child in need. Ms. Annette Ellis, Program Manager for the Covington DRC, recently met a 93-year-old woman who was taking care of her 4-year-old great grandson, who informed her that he had lost all his other family members in the preceding months. When Ms. Ellis mentioned on our weekly Program Manager call that her office was planning to collect Christmas gifts for the boy, Jaiden, we all immediately wanted to help! While the Covington office donated a Christmas tree, toys and clothing, our office collected monetary contributions and clothing donations from friends and family. Thibodaux Program Manager Ms. Rebecca Prejeant donated toys, and our Area Manager, Ms. Timithia Hall, donated clothing and shoes. I'm so grateful to work with the caring group of people who work at and run our Louisiana DRCs. Thank you for reading our January update, and please stay safe!



SPOTLIGHT ON... THE MONROE DAY REPORTING CENTER STAFF



This quarter, the Monroe DRC staff has been extremely diligent in continuing our virtual and in-person evidence-based treatment services for program participants. Staff members continue to work hard to engage with our 25 participants, despite the restrictions of the pandemic. From our Monroe DRC case managers, to our security monitors, to our substance abuse counselor, to our employment coordinator and client services specialists, our staff members do their best every day to elicit high participation and interaction from participants. The Monroe DRC is dedicated to helping our participants reduce criminal thinking and change their behavior, and to gain the skills they need to succeed as they rejoin their communities.

DID YOU KNOW?

When given access to job resources and skills training, individuals who are released to community supervision gain the power to find stable work, make a steady income and develop a sense of purpose. To help program participants successfully reintegrate into the community, GEO Reentry Services' **Employment Assistance** program offers a continuum of job development, placement, and retention services that connect individuals with job providers and related resources. Our centers offer access to computer-based career skills programming, run on-site employment readiness group sessions and host regular job and resource fairs, while collaborating with local organizations to facilitate participant job searches and placement. Employment specialists on staff offer career recommendations and work with participants to create step-by-step employment plans. Participants may also be referred to a Workforce Development program, where they gain access to labor market information, learn new strategies for managing personal barriers to employment, and undergo vocational assessments to pinpoint their challenges and affinities. We also assist participants secure proper work identification, attire and transportation, while providing instruction for job searching, resume writing, on-the-job habits, general business etiquette, time management and more.

By Kasia Kijanczuk, M.S., Research Manager for GEO Continuum of Care