



Shreveport DRC Update

JANUARY 2021

WELCOME



Justin Jones
Program Manager

This past quarter, the Shreveport Day Reporting Center has worked diligently to continue providing participants with in-person and remote treatment services with minimal interruption. Our staff are running some classes, groups and sessions in-person, some by phone and others are taught via Microsoft Teams. This hybrid model has helped the DRC keep our participants and staff safe and the virus under control. At the same time, we also try to make sure our participants feel supported during their treatment here. For example, we hosted a pizza party for participants the day before Thanksgiving to show them we appreciate their efforts. As we did last issue, I would also like to recognize the parole officers who referred the most participants to our program for the quarter. October's highest referring officer was Officer Hoskey, and Officer Byrd had the most referrals for November. December was a three-way tie between Officer Bryant, Officer Sledge and Officer Henderson. Thank you for reading our January update. Please stay safe!

SPOTLIGHT ON... MICHAEL C.



When he first arrived at the Shreveport DRC in October, participant Michael C. said he was "ready to do what [I] was supposed to do and to clean myself up." After months of hard work, accountability and treatment, Michael is currently in program Phase 3 and taking four in-person classes. He said the most important thing he learned at the program was the importance of being honest. The DRC program also helped him get a job at the local Margaritaville restaurant, as DRC staff worked with him to create a resume and guided him during the application process. Michael C. said he would like to thank his Case Manager Mr. Brian for his dedication and support in helping him address his issues and achieve his goals. "He kept us going and answered any questions we had," said Michael.

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

