



# Reentry Community News

## Member Feature Amanda Ailiff– Hopewell

Amanda Ailiff obtained her GED with the assistance of the ABLE program from Hocking County and graduated from Hocking college in 2011 with an Associate's degree in Social Services, Corrections, and Criminal Justice. She attended Franklin University shortly after and obtained a Bachelors of Criminal Justice Administration. Amanda interned as a chemical dependency counselor assistant, as well as for special needs at a local assisted living facility in Logan Ohio. She also participated in numerous field interviews with parole/probation officers with juveniles and adults. She has worked in the field with individuals with developmental disabilities, chemical dependency and now with Hopewell Health Centers.

Amanda has been employed with Hopewell Health Centers for over four years initially on the adult psychiatric team and now as a liaison at the SE Ohio Regional Jail. She helps individuals from Athens, Vinton, or Hocking counties in jail acting as their case manager with referrals for intakes, counseling, medication, prescreens and other needs. She also works with clients in the community until they are stable enough to be transferred to the adult psychiatric unit and are no longer involved in the criminal justice system. She has some cases that are reentry specific, with clients released from prison who need case management and psychiatric care.

Amanda became involved with the Reentry Task Force stating that their hospital liaison attended the reentry task force at one time, and suggested it as a good source of information/resources for working with people in the community who are entering from any aspect of the criminal justice system.

Her typical day starts out at the SE Ohio Regional Jail. She receives referrals from all levels of staff and inmates themselves. Amanda coordinates with the SEORJ nursing director for medication issues and refers clients to case management, counseling, and intake services. She also helps some clients in the community in Athens, Vinton, or Hocking county as well. Amanda often attends parole meetings, court hearings and assists clients in the community with a variety of needs such as housing, job and family services referrals, doctors' appointments, and other misc. services that link clients reentering the community with resources. "My success story is seeing a young woman in SEORJ on a weekly basis while she was on suicide precautions. This woman had lost all faith and was weak both physically and mentally. The client returned to prison and was released six months later. She followed up after release and now is Sober and Clean from all AOD, has a home of her own, a job, and has through a series of court processes received full custody of her young daughter back and continues to do positive things today." Amanda feels that the most beneficial services for the reentry population would include community linkage such as the reentry services provided by ACDJFS, she also utilizes The Salvation Army and other wrap around services that include all elements of mental and physical health such as PCP, counseling, AOD, and CPST services. I see the most effectiveness with clients reentering the community when they have these services set up before they exit the correctional facility.

Amanda shares "I am highly appreciative for the communication and coordination from all areas of helping professions here in Athens County. Often times I will see referrals from local law enforcement, transport officers, correctional officers, nurses, parole officers, and people in the community such as loved ones from the client, our local prosecutors office and victims advocates., to the extent of even having local community leaders contact me for referrals for services. The successes that we see in our reentry services could not be done without the communication and coordination of all these services. Thank you for all you do"

The Reentry Task Force Appreciates all that Amanda and Hopewell Health Center does for the community.





Bridget Tasker OU Campus Recreation, &amp; Katie Basalla (Pre Law)



### Phi Alpha Delta– Pre Law Fraternity

The Athens Reentry Program was fortunate to get a dual donation at the end of Ohio University's Spring Quarter . Amal Afyouni new Phi Alpha Delta president contacted the Reentry Program to do a partial donation now and another one later in the year. We were in need of certain hygiene and basic clothing items so the timing was wonderful. Later that same week another Phi Alpha Delta member , Katie Basalla, called and said that there were some extra bags of hygiene items at Ohio University that she was told to donate so she contacted The Reentry Program. We are so grateful for these generous donations . Most people

that return to our community are in great need of even the most basic items and they are so appreciative. This is the 3rd year that Ohio University's Phi Alpha Delta's Pre Law Fraternity has contributed to the Athens Reentry Program and they have been our largest and most consistent source of donated items . We are fortunate to have organizations like Phi Alpha Delta who make a difference by setting a good example for others in our community.

Amal Afyouni and Pre Law Members



## REENTRY RANTS & RAVES

Raves for the Noble Correctional Reentry Fair held on May 8th. Sarah Cornwell and I traveled to the event to share information about ACEnet and Athens Reentry as well as give encouragement to those returning to other counties. Charles Cohara from SEO legal services was also at the event. These events can be a bit overwhelming with the large number of inmates that are desperately reaching out for some kind of guidance but at the end of the day it is a good feeling to know that maybe they connected with the right person to be able to have a smoother transition upon release. I encourage anyone working with our returning citizens to attend at least one Reentry Fair a year to share resources and get a glimpse of life inside the fence. Thanks to Warden Tim Buchanan , Konny Pickenpau, and the staff at Noble Correctional for making this event possible. Reentry Coordinator—Shawn Stover

### NEXT MEETING INFORMATION

The next task force meeting will be on July 23, 2018 at 9:30AM at the Athens County Job and Family Services County Home Office (13183 St Rt. 13 Millfield, Ohio 45761) in the conference room. See you there!