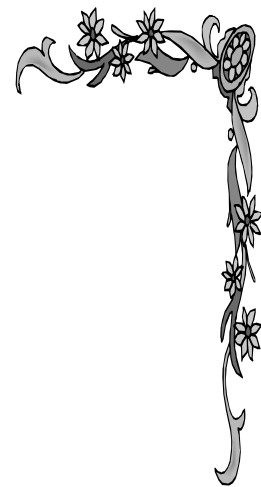
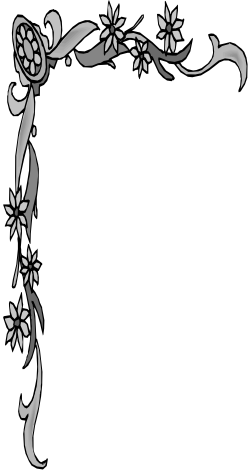


Thresholds in Delaware County
2010 Annual Report

GROWING IN DELAWARE COUNTY
FOR
36 YEARS





Cover Story

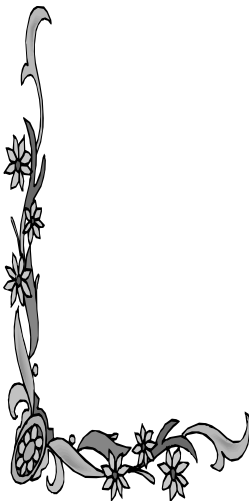
**Non-profit organizations like
Thresholds could not endure
for 36 long years without the time
and dedication
of countless volunteers.**

**Members of Boards of Directors
and Program Managers say
“Thanks” in many ways.**

**Tonight we say
“Thanks a Bunch” and give you,
our volunteers, the seeds to grow
a bouquet of thanks.**

**Aster, pink and marigold
With sun and water will unfold.**

Once again, “Thanks a bunch!”



Reflections on this evening

“Hey, thanks for my Thresholds stuff. I really needed it. But yes I use the material every day. Matter of fact I used it 2 days ago. I was talking to a psych doctor and I got really frustrated and wanted to curse him out. But instead I stopped, thought about my decision, asked for a sec to calm down and we started all over again.”

A recent letter from a former client presents a perfect way to see that the seeds we plant in the minds and hearts of our clients grow— if they are cultivated. The man who wrote these words is in a super max State prison. Most teachers never get feedback from past clients. So, here it is. You **do** make a difference in their lives.

“I also made a goal. Made sure it was S.A.M, and sticking to it.”

Yes, some of them even remember the fine points. The teaching takes root. I know that sometimes we wonder if they **really, really** get it. Well, some do. This man could teach the program.

“Oh, by the way me and my girlfriend broke up. I think she couldn’t handle me being in jail. At first I was mad but I got over it.”

Well, now you’ve even heard from a client who remembers Life in Transition. Good job, Mike! “Build a bridge and get over it.”

“I took Thresholds seriously. They (others) take it to look good at court.”

The client who wrote those words is representative of the men and women, and, as you will see later in this report, even juveniles who open themselves to the Thresholds program. We sow the seeds. Paraphrasing Matthew in the Bible: some fall by the wayside, some fall on stony places and among the thorns. But, oh, my fellow teachers, the beauty of the flowers planted in the good ground.




FROM OUR CLIENTS

THRESHOLDS IN DELAWARE COUNTY

THE HARDEST THING IN LIFE TO LEARN

IS



WHICH BRIDGE TO CROSS
AND
WHICH BRIDGE TO BURN.

DAVID RUSSELL, FROM CHICO



My Thresholds

First, We must define the situation we are faced with, And Explore the Characteristics of Events in our lives that we are placed with. We must dig deep—we call them Roots, and then locate the problem. I know its hard, but then we C.A.R.D. It's easier to solve them. Chance, Assumption, Reaction, now we have Decision. and when we find it - no longer blinded 'Cause now we have a vision. How we feel inside and out—(External-Internal) with Gifts and Limits we can find a life and "Objective Self-Awareness" is how we see ourselves in hindsight.

Second, We must "Set a Goal" and figure out how to achieve, and look at the Values, Needs, Wants and Consequences you see. "Think of where you're Going" short or long term with your Goals. "Knowing where you're Coming From" - it helps them to unfold. Specific, Achievable and Measurable — the acronym is S.A.M. And now that you have "Set the Goal", attack it with a plan.

Third, We must "Develop the Possibilities", Alternatives to Achieve our Goal. Just another part of the plan, but best to know you're A.B.C.s if Caught up in a J.A.M. Accumulate Information, Brainstorm, Consider Facts 'cause Jumping to Conclusions, Again & Again and Myths can lead to traps.

Fourth, Evaluate the Possibilities to Choose! Important to consider Factors, because you do not want to lose. If its Desirable, you may have to consider a Risk. Then... consider the Effects on Others, you may have to make a list.

Fifth, Select one Possibility from Alternatives. In-take a vision, It's the protocol of Process and Outcome in made Decisions.

Sixth, Implement the Decisions there are things that we can do. Take Action, Affirmation and Assessment. They will see you through. With Action comes Decision and the Strategy we used, Affirmations are Reminders, Symbols, Rituals we choose.

Finally, We must Assess the Outcome to New Results. must say these six steps of Decision-making of Thresholds will truly help!

John Farrell, GWHCF, Thornton
Writer/musician & hip-hop artist
a.k.a. Streets Prophet
Used with permission

Thresholds in Delaware County
Volunteer Teachers for 2010

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| ■ Bob Rieck* | Jerry Nowell* | Maggie Arbuckle |
| ■ Tina Stanton* | Richard Miller | Terry Reed |
| ■ Christina Annechino | Bill Murphy* | MaryLu Stephens* |
| ■ Anna Becker | Connie Roggio* | Doug Williamson |
| ■ Pat Cahill | Barbara Kosierowski | Andrea Damm |
| ■ Fran Cook | Joan Devine | Carmen Wilson |
| ■ Gale Rankowski | Fred Struckmeyer | Sr. M. George O'Reilly |
| ■ Gerry Young | Mike Prentice | Carol Colombo |
| ■ Tom Kane | Paige Morrison | Ron Burns |
| ■ Maureen Sullivan | David Wolovitz | Mary Ann Pezick |
| ■ Richard Guariglia | Gudrun Weinberg | Elek Fenyes |
| ■ Jeff Diksa | Alisha Moses | Anthony Scott |
| ■ Marty McCormack | Beth Kane | Carolyn Snape |
| ■ Terry Doyle | Robin Thomas | Richard Smyth |
| ■ Susan DiCerchio | Christina Crouse | Mary Ellen Goldfarb |
| ■ Lewis Gordon | Pat McKinney | Patricia Bakey |
| ■ Michael DelVacchio | Rose Harper | Barbara Hoegar |
| ■ James Drake | Zakiya Islam/Sayida | Adele Malloy |
| ■ Patricia Lewis | Ed McAndrews | Key Murray |
| ■ Stacy O'Leary | Gina Ruggieri | Shirley Salter |
| ■ Stephen Tumolo | | |

Eddie, Tee, Charles, Dan - lifers at SCI-Chester

Bunny McNamee, Office Support

*taught at more than one facility

***** ***** ***** ***** ***** *****

Hours taught in 2010

34 teachers taught at GWHCF	2,772.5 hours
26 teachers taught at SCI-Chester	1,960 hours
12 Teachers taught at JDC, Lima	560 hours

Total Teaching Hours for 2010 - 5,292 hours



SCI- Chester Summary

The Thresholds program at the State Correctional Institution in Chester continues to run effectively and relatively smoothly, given the ups and downs of individuals' lives and the PA Department of Corrections operations. What Thresholds has to offer is well appreciated by both our SCI clients as well as the prison staff. Funding from the City of Chester is very much appreciated and shows that others recognize the positive impact Thresholds has on the wider community.

Twenty-four Thresholds volunteers taught at SCI-Chester this past year, including two new volunteers: Stephen Tumolo and James Drake. Grace Han, a long-time Thresholds volunteer, former board member and funding committee member, moved back to the west coast and is sadly missed. In the 1990s Grace was a key person in getting Thresholds into SCI-Chester even as the new facility was being built.

For a short time in 2010, when men were being more quickly moved in and out of SCI-Chester, we had more teachers than clients, but not long after that our waiting list again became a long one. It is an unfortunate thing that quite a few men who request our program move on before they can be included in a Thresholds class. But this is as likely to be due to their own busy schedule as to Thresholds' limited number of volunteers. Still exit surveys continue to show that it is the one-on-one teaching, which limits our numbers, that our clients feel makes Thresholds particularly special. Many of our clients also say our group sessions are more meaningful and enjoyable than other groups they have attended. In just seven sessions we truly form a community.

In 2010 we received 100 new request from inmates, and these days almost as many of those are from seeing us listed in bulletins and on the prison TV as by word of mouth. It is good to know our publicity, thanks to Jack Booth in Program Services, is effective and that people are interested in the idea of improving their decision-making skills without knowing what our program is like. Surely we are filling a need, both real and perceived.

Tina Erickson Stanton
SCI-Chester Thresholds Coordinator

A letter from Matt H. before he went home to use his decision-making skills.

Dear Ms. Pat, Ms. Connie, Mr. Ron and Mr. Mike,

Thank you for this program called Thresholds. I've learned a lot about decision-making and how to break down a developing situation or a situation at hand. I hope that you will continue this program to help others evaluate their decisions and open their minds to the possibilities. I think this program should be in jails in Philadelphia as well because there is a lot of people who don't think about their decision before they react. I enjoy doing the steps in certain situations...I will write you again when I get home to let you know how these steps are effective for me. You really make a difference by coming to jail and caring about us making new decisions so that we don't continue to come to jail. ...Again thank you and I will write you soon and send you pictures of my son and daughter.

President's Report

Want return on investments? When a financial advisor talks about return on investment, the advisor is talking about monetary gain. Ask Thresholds volunteers about the return on investment, however, and you will hear about an even greater return--in human capital. Helping people who have been reactive become deciders is very rewarding. One of my clients, when we were nearing the end of the Thresholds course, said, "No one has ever talked to me about these kinds of things before."

Watching someone who has been excluded from society because of his/her actions work through the six-step process pays great dividends. We give people the tools to turn their lives around. We earn the appreciation of people who need to feel there is hope. This is a long-term investment, because every former inmate who successfully re-enters the community adds value. Each person who changes his or her approach to life and becomes a deciding person, instead of a reacting person, adds stability to the community. These people's very lives are the paybacks for our investment.

Thresholds had another successful "investment" year, as you can read in the reports of our program coordinators at George W. Hill, SCI Chester, and the Juvenile Detention Center. Connie, Tina, and Jerry make Thresholds work, and we are fortunate to have such a dedicated staff. We couldn't deliver the program without them or without the support of the administration in each facility.


We are also appreciative of the support of some wonderful foundations; corporations; churches; the City of Chester, through their Community Block Grant; and United Way of Southeast Delaware County.

One of our goals for the year was to reach out to other organizations to complement and extend the work of Thresholds. We have established relationships for planning/ programs/joint projects with the City of Chester Re-entry Initiative; the Education Resource Center, the alternative high school in the Rose Tree Media School District; the J. Lewis Crozer Library in Chester; and the Center Foundation for women in transition.

Another partnership, with Tom Sims of The Guild for Organizational Effectiveness, brought us another type of outreach--Constant Contact email software. Our volunteers are the heart and soul of Thresholds, and Constant Contact will allow us to keep everyone connected.

The driving force of our organization, and the reason we can bring hope and a new skill set to our incarcerated clients, comes from our volunteers. Thank you for another year of helping inmates across the Threshold. You, our volunteers, are unique, important, and irreplaceable

Mary Ellen Goldfarb
President, Thresholds in Delaware County

<p><i>"Taking Thresholds has changed the way I think and my decision making."</i></p>	
<p>LeRoy S.</p>	
<p><i>Probably, tomorrow, the same thing will happen as yesterday—if we don't change today.</i></p>	
<p>John F.</p>	

The Terrie McKay Award

The Terrie McKay Award is presented to a Thresholds volunteer who has: taught both micros and macros, uses the decisional model in his/her own life, is an inspiration to other teachers, and embodies the "spirit and attributes of Terrie McKay".

So who is Terrie McKay? Terrie was a member of Delaware County Thresholds in most of the 1990s. She taught both micro and macro classes at the Hill, and was an important part of our Volunteer Training Workshops. She re-organized the macro schedule and was President of the Board. She died of cancer 10 years ago: March 14, 2001.

As a young person Terrie lived a wild and eventful life. She then found her soul mate (her husband Matthew), raised three children, was a school bus driver, and operated the family's painting business.

Terrie was truly one of a kind. Her clothing was unique and her hair styles ranged from shoulder length to bald. She had strong opinions: despised the death penalty and believed fervently in the goodness of every person. She used the decisional model in her daily life and was devoted to meditation.

Terrie is remembered for her free spirit, her loving nature, originality and devotion to Thresholds. She often said, "Thresholds changed my life." She was unquestionably unique, important and irreplaceable.

Since 2002 the Terrie McKay award has been given to eight Thresholds volunteers. They are: Betty Green, Gerry Young, Jerry Nowell, Alan Stapleton, Fran Cook, Maggie Arbuckle, Terry Reed and Bill Murphy. This year we are proud to add the name of Chrissy Annechino to this list.



where do you want to
be tomorrow?

Jimmy O



Much thanks and appreciation
to the outgoing members of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors

Terry Reed
Carolyn Snape



From a teacher: I wanted to tell you what an opportunity you gave me with my current client. We know how it started and my bias against DUIs. But I have learned a lot from G.C. about myself...I took the opportunity to artform "The Road Not Taken" and we discussed that (poem) in terms of 60 year old men looking back on their lives and seeing the different paths we could have taken. It developed into a very sincere and interesting conversation about "It ain't over till it's over." and that there is still time to get fulfilled...So I wanted to say GOOD MATCH!

THRESHOLDS IN DELAWARE COUNTY

Awards for outstanding service to Thresholds in 2010:

2010 Volunteer of the Year: Paige Morrison

Volunteer of the Year, George W. Hill: Carol Colombo

Volunteer of the Year, SCI-Chester: Mike DelVacchio

Volunteer of the Year, Juv. Det. Ctr.: Doug Williamson

New Volunteers of the Year:

Stephen Tumolo: SCI Chester,

Anthony Scott: George W. Hill CF

Gina Ruggieri: Juv. Det. Ctr,

Service to Thresholds:

Emmanual Asante, GWHCF

Terrie McKay Award:

Chrissy Annechino



Thresholds Think Tank

During the 2010 Board year, a new sub-committee of the Board was formed. It calls itself the "Think Tank", and meets monthly to discuss thoughts, ideas and comments regarding the future direction of the organization. So far, the group has considered many ideas relating to organizational matters, outreach possibilities, and volunteer development and utilization. Results of the meeting are brought to the monthly Board Meetings. Send your ideas to Bob Rieck at: robert_rieck_2000@yahoo.com. You can also tell him you want to think with his group every month.

George W. Hill Correctional Facility Summary

By the numbers, it was another good year for Thresholds at the Hill. 128 clients interviewed and started the program. 84 men and women graduated. The graduation rate of 66%, I learned last year, is more than twice the State completion rate for GED. So the numbers could be modestly considered impressive.

But teaching decision-making at George Hill is a lot more than numbers. It is the time and devotion of the 34 teachers who came to plant seeds despite the weather and no matter if the knees and back were aching. It is the admission from a client who came for a certificate that "I'm glad I took the class. I got a lot out of it and I liked my teacher so much." It is walking into the DUI Building and getting a warm greeting from a Thresholds graduate. It is feeling like part of a community that makes things better.

Speaking of the DUI Building, the Thresholds program continues to be welcomed by the officers there, despite the limited teaching space. The staff at the Hill always encourages programs for the inmates, but the staff at DUI is most gracious to teachers. And the teachers are also willing to move to another space when it is required.

The numbers never tell how the administration and staff support Thresholds. Over time, the nice men at the gate smile at the teachers as they come in. The staff at the Ion Scan treats volunteers with respect. Sometimes, I am asked by Ms. Burton in the visitation room, "I haven't seen that nice lady who sits over there lately. Is she okay?"

But there is another number to consider. In 2010, an hour of volunteer time was valued at \$20.85. The value of 2,772.5 hours of Hill teaching in 2010 was \$57,807. Good job!!

Connie Roggio
GWHCF Program Manager

Thresholds in Delaware County Gifts from Foundations, Churches, Associations

City of Chester Economic Development Auth.	\$13,661
MABrunner Fund(Sisters of the Precious Blood)	\$5000
United Way of South Eastern Delaware County	\$8700
United Way Payroll Options	\$1856
The Douty Foundation	\$5000
The Lenfest Foundation	\$5000
The Patricia Kind Foundation	\$5000
The State of Pennsylvania	\$5000
The Thayer Corp.	\$1000
Delaware Co. Medical Society	\$ 500
George W. Hill Sunshine Fund	\$ 500
St. Christophers Episcopal Church	\$1832
Grove United Methodist Church	\$ 250
Unitarian Universalist Church of Del Co	\$ 298
Chester Monthly Meeting of Friends	\$ 500
The Elwyn Institute	\$250
Sun Federal Credit Union	\$150

We thank these groups for their support.
Their help makes Thresholds prosper.



FROM OUR TEACHERS

My experience with the Threshold volunteer training session and as a teacher

For me, the November 2010 volunteer training workshop was a review of the training manual that I acquired many years ago when I first taught Thresholds with Hugh Wallace in the Smyrna Correctional Institute in Smyrna, Delaware.

Needless to say the manual and material were reviewed and updated to relate and reflect the current trends in our society. Yet the original format and concept is still being imparted to those inmates that volunteer to learn the decision-making process. The rewarding part for me was the occasion to meet and interact with my current crew of new volunteers and to hear the numerous cases in point the seasoned teachers shared with us based on their experiences with the inmates in the micro and macro sessions.

My involvement as a teacher continues to be a positive one as I learn from the inmates while I facilitate the six steps of the decision-making model. Nonetheless, I am amazed at the inmates and individuals in our society who lack or do not understand the purpose of ,nor have acquired the ability to make a decision. At this juncture, the inmates I have assisted all subscribe to the school of thought that they are being victimized; as the facilitator this affords me the opportunity to launch the inception to help the inmate explore the concept of accepting accountability and the reason why they are incarcerated. This further validates why we are here, the need for more volunteers and why the Thresholds program is effective today and in the future.

Anthony Scott, GWHCF



An Interview with Barbara Kosierowski

What makes you keep teaching year after year? I continue to teach every year because I continue to feel like I am making a difference with the individuals that I meet. As I almost always share with my clients, I learn something from each of them and that is a very rewarding feeling.

Do you ever feel that clients are not being real with you? At times, not often though. A few have not shown any "true interest" in the program or the guide and say they are "just in it for the certificate". It is especially rewarding to see if I can motivate these clients to actually "enjoy" some of the program and take something positive with them.

What have you learned from your clients? I learn different things from each client. Like, how interesting the mind of a criminal is, and how clearly they can detail specifics in regards to their illegal activities. Also, I learn from them how their childhood has affected almost every aspect of their adult lives, both good and bad.

You usually come to one Macro class or graduation. What do you gain from going this extra step? I feel it is important to "support" my client in this way. They are usually very happy to hear that I will attend one night with them and I can see that it makes them feel maybe a little "special". I like to make my client feel that they are "important" and so is all aspects of the Thresholds program, especially as a Graduate.

A letter from Boot Camp

A letter came to the Thresholds office from a juvenile boot camp in Pennsylvania. Letters from juveniles are rare flowers, indeed. This young man was Bob Rieck's client at the Juvenile Detention Center almost two years ago.

"I have been locked up for over a year. My name is Omar. I just wanted to say thank you for teaching me the six-step model. I've been using it for over a year now and it is one of the best things I have used. A group of Thresholds came to my old Juvenile Detention Center in Lima, PA. It was the most heart warming experience I had with my fellow members. I would do it all over again if I could to get myself prepared for my release. I will use the six steps on my home pass on the 25th of this month...and thanks for everything."

This letter says all there is to say about the work done at Lima by Jerry Nowell's team. Keep planting and they will grow!



Juvenile Detention Center

In 2010 we graduated more young people at the Delaware County Juvenile Detention Center than in any previous year. The 75 boys and girls receiving certificates more than doubled the number in any year except 2008. This was made possible because Jim Swigget, the Program Director, was able to schedule one weekend each month. In addition, he often allowed the residents to volunteer for the program. As a result, cooperation has been exceptional and almost all graduated.

Over the nine years we have taught at the Juvenile Detention Center we have had 377 graduates (177 boys and 160 girls). This would have not been possible but for the loyal volunteers who return each month. As a group, these are the most outstanding teachers I have known: Chrissy Annechino, Maggie Arbuckle, Bill Murphy, Terry Reed, Bob Rieck, Mary Lu Stevens, and Doug Williamson.

Unfortunately, Terry taught for the last time in June because of ambulatory problems and his inability to drive. He was already greatly missed, especially by the young people whose lives he has touched. Unfortunately, Terry passed on April 19, 2001.

Mary Lu's brother had a horrific accident in October. Because of her need to care for him and to fight to get necessary treatment, she has had to leave us temporarily. We all have hope for Shawn's speedy recovery and Mary Lu's return.

It has been a joy for me to work with these teachers, and the staff at the Juvenile Detention Center, to help some hurting kids to find a better way.

Jerry Nowell
Juvenile Detention Center Coordinator

Mayor Butler's Prison Re-Entry Task Force

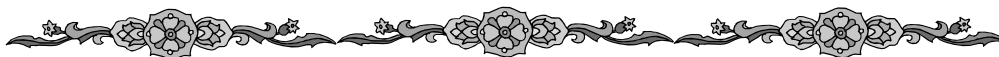
In the wake of the violence and subsequent state of emergency in Chester in June 2010, Mayor Wendell Butler vowed to make the neighborhoods of Chester safe. As part of the Anti-Violence Initiative, the Mayor's office formed the Chester Prison Re-Entry Collaborative. For the first time in the City of Chester, organizations, business owners, ex-offenders, the faith based community and local government came together to offer solutions to job training and placement, entrepreneurship and family support to ex-offenders. Thresholds in Delaware County was invited to join the collaborative.

For the past year, Board members Carmen Wilson and Carolyn Snape have attended meetings to assist with developing a program to assist formerly incarcerated citizens with the challenges they face coming home to Chester.

The program consists of the H.O.P.E. Commission, the Chester Re Entry Call Center, and Re-Entry Community Forums (the last Saturday of every month). Workshops and services are scheduled to begin in May 2011.

The Chester Prison Re-Entry Collaborative is the first step towards taking the Thresholds Decision Making Model outside of the prison setting.

Carolyn Snape
Board Representative



Funding Committee

After a not so successful 2009 the Funding results for 2010 surpassed any previous year in recent memory. The committee was led by LaVonda Rouse and was comprised of Carolyn Snape, Fran Cook, Tina Stanton, Connie Roggio, Mary Ellen Goldfarb and Bill Murphy.

One of the more significant accomplishments was a grant from the city of Chester Economic Development Authority to cover the expenses of the Thresholds program at SCI-Chester for up to \$15,000. We also received a State of PA grant of \$5000.

Once again The United Way of SEDC supported us with monthly support amounting to \$8700 and individual donor options of \$1856. Grants from foundations, churches and associations are listed separately in the Annual Report and totaled \$43,941.. And our volunteers and other supporters in response to appeal letters contributed \$7,656.

So, you could say that we had a good year, but the committee realizes that in order to meet the revenue needs of our Strategic Planning or "Think Tank" we have to increase our funding efforts.

Finally we would greatly appreciate additions to the committee. Therefore we are asking interested volunteers to contact the Thresholds office.

Bill Murphy
Funding Committee

2010-2011 Thresholds Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President—Mary Ellen Goldfarb
Vice President—Vanessa Bullock
Secretary—Chrissy Annechino
Treasurer—Tony Peterman

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Ron Burns Fran Cook
Mary Anne McAleavy Ed McAndrews
Bill Murphy Terry Reed
Robert Rieck Carolyn Snape
Carmen Wilson



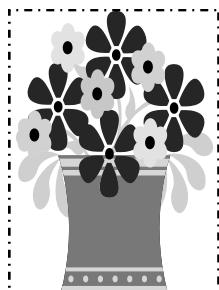
Volunteer Training Workshop

In 2010, Thresholds held two Volunteer Training Workshops at Neumann University. Maggie Arbuckle worked with the administration to set up the time and space and led the sessions, Connie Roggio put the material together, Tina Stanton provided the breakfast, lunch and snacks that fueled everyone and an experienced and enthusiastic cadre of teachers trained seventeen new teachers.

In October, Thresholds added a two hour orientation component to the required training. At this session, prospective teachers are introduced to teachers, Board members and staff. The trainees are given the opportunity to ask questions about going to and teaching in a prison. The differences between teaching at Thorton and Chester are explained. In effect, those “interested” have a chance to make a decision about joining the volunteer teaching team before the actual Workshop date. It was decided to continue the orientation sessions in 2011.

Connie Roggio

Thresholds in Delaware County
2010 In-Kind Contributions



The County of Delaware — Office space
CEC—Technology and Supplies
Neumann University — Training facilities
Media Fellowship— Meeting space
Middletown Friends—Meeting Space
Tom Sims—Communication Development
Phil Damiani—Directory Assistance
David DeKnight—Technology Assistance

Thresholds Re-Entry at GWHCF

In Thresholds we teach decision making, including setting goals and creating action plans. For the incarcerated, some will be reached on the “inside”, but long term goals extend beyond the prison walls. “Thresholds Reentry” provides a thread to that outside world by assisting men to begin now to set goals, make plans, and take action. We hope that a lack of information and planning will not be the stumbling blocks to achieving their life goals.

The Reentry session is held after the completion of Macro cycle. The men are given a Directory, goal setting worksheets, and DOC modules that help them work through the goal setting process in 10 life areas. Also, in response to the individual questions we receive, we assembled a binder of handouts related to specific topics. Examples include applications for birth certificates, information for renewing one’s driver’s license, and self-help worksheets for credit repair, to name a few. As a result of the men’s questions, we improve our overall ability to provide information that others may request in the future. I am heartened by the fact that we have been receiving fewer questions. Maybe we are already addressing them in the reentry session.

My research is often frustrating and always humbling. While attempting to find answers to our clients’ questions, I have an opportunity to walk, if only for a few hours, in their shoes. I share with them what I learn about the process, by reminding them to be prepared for frustration, and remembering that “you get more bees with honey than you do with vinegar!”

Reentry is a learning experience on both side of the fence. For example, thanks to one of our clients’ suggestion, we learned about the Federal Bonding Program. As a result, we have incorporated into the reentry session a discussion about how, in a job interview, one might balance the potential “limit” of being an ex-offender with the “gift” that one is eligible for federal bonding. In this way, men consider how to discuss their record in a way that is both honest and positive. After each Reentry session there are, invariably, a number of men who tell us that never before in their many years of incarceration have they received so much useful and necessary information.

Thresholds staff and volunteers, are in a unique and fortunate position, due to of our existing relationship with clients, to help affect their future outcomes by “connecting the dots” between incarceration and various anticipated “situations”. Through Reentry, Thresholds embraces the opportunity to provide men the tools with which to make well-informed decisions and the resources with which to put them into action!

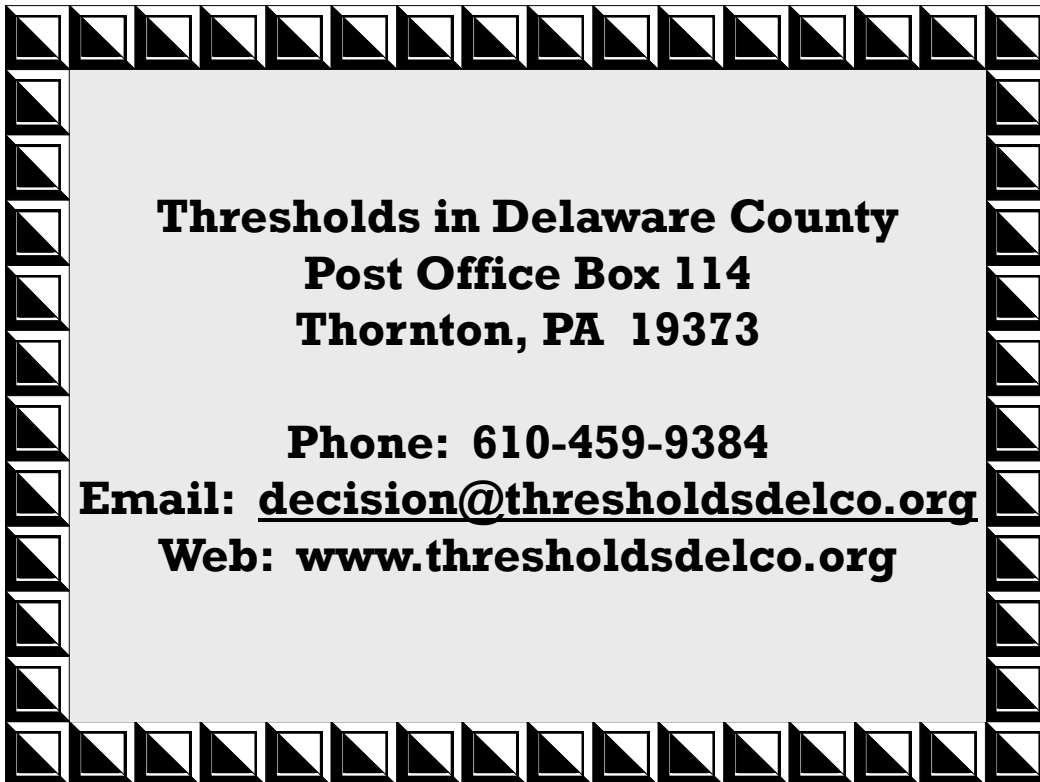
Paige Morrison

Re-Entry Coordinator, GWHCF

From the Deputy Warden of George W. Hill CF

Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the Annual Recognition Dinner due to a prior commitment. I just want to thank you and the volunteers for the services you provide the inmates at the facility on a daily basis. Thank you and keep up the great work.

David Byrne, Deputy Warden



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