

Haley Stocker

July 20th, 2012

Lilly Summer Discernment Institute

Executive Summary

Franklin County Community Reentry Program

My internship involved working with the Franklin County Community Reentry Program in Winchester, TN. Since its beginning in 2007, FCCR has aimed to reduce criminal recidivism in Franklin County and the surrounding areas. It is the first rural reentry program in the nation and is currently working with surrounding counties to institute similar programming. FCCR works with inmates to develop stable lives post release in order to prevent further criminal activity. Some of the services offered by FCCR are job placement assistance, job readiness, counseling, GED courses, basic computer classes, parenting classes, anger management, and HVAC-R courses.

For my first week at FCCR, I conducted a series of file auditing. For every client serviced, there is a file including date of entrance into the program, courses taken, copies of personal identification, and a record of job placement. Part of my job was to make sure all files were in order and to keep a record of any needed documents.

The other element involved in my first week was working with the men in the HVAC-R course. This course offered through the Tennessee Technology Center teaches students how to install and work on heating/air units. I worked with these individuals to create working resumes. In creating resumes, I was able to create a modern resume template for all of FCCR's clients. I also assisted the HVAC-R group in filling out job applications and conducted mock interviews.

Upon the end of the first week, I began teaching the program's basic computer course. The purpose of this 40 hour course was to inmates how to maneuver the Microsoft Office Suite. This involved use of Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft PowerPoint. Inmates were also taught how to effectively use the Internet as a search tool. While learning how to use a computer, job readiness elements were incorporated into the course. This included tasks such as using Microsoft Excel to compile a monthly budget, using the Internet to conduct job searches, using Microsoft Word to create a resume, and so on.

This internship really just confirmed my life's calling for me, which is working with criminal populations. This internship allowed me to see the diverse groups that make up this country's inmates. The pattern I observed is that once a person is in the criminal system, it is extremely difficult to get out. This internship has made me realize that the criminal population is in dire need of assistance, but often gets overlooked. It is my hope to become a criminal profiler, which will allow me to make recommendations to groups such as FCCR on what services would be most useful to each individual client.