



WAC WORKS



Western Alternative Corrections. Inc.

April 2017

Is everyone ready for Spring? Staff and residents at Bristol Station are gearing up to plant the annual WAC garden. Last year residents planted vegetables and harvested a bountiful crop. Residents are excited about planing the seeds and pre-started plants! Residents and staff will maintain the garden and enjoy the fruits and vegetables of their labors.

In January Western Alternative Corrections, Inc. hosted Leadership Hastings for a tour of Bristol Station. They were provided information on residential reentry and a few residents shared parts of their story with the group. WAC also hosted a tour for a group of students from University of Nebraska Kearney in March.



Bristol Station residents volunteering at Kiwani's pancake day.



Western Alternative Corrections, Inc. team enjoys pancakes at the annual Kiwani's pancake day.

Bristol Station residents volunteered their time at the annual Kiwani's Pancake Day on March 30th. Bristol Station residents assisted in setting up tables and chairs, as well as transporting the heavy grills to the fairgrounds so everyone could enjoy some delicious pancakes. Bristol Station residents also helped clean up the event. As a reward for volunteering Bristol Station residents enjoyed endless pancakes!

PARTICIPANT HIGHLIGHTS

Bristol Station participants were given an anonymous survey about their experiences in the program. Below are a list of questions and respective responses.



Bristol Station residents enjoy pancakes at Kiwani's pancake day.

Q: "Has Bristol Station been helpful for you? If so, please describe in detail how."

A: "Yes it has. It has gotten me away from my old stomping grounds, my old friends and my old environment. It has provided me a way out of my old lifestyle"

A: "Yes, it has given me a life I haven't held in 17 years and I'm thankful for that."

A: "Yes, Bristol Station is giving me a chance to get my life together in a positive environment and is helping me get on track so I can leave here and be a positive member of the community."

A: "Bristol Station has been helpful by granting me a positive environment to release into. It has given me





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great leads to employment, also has helped me with clothing. By doing these above things I have gained a better perspective/outlook on life, feeling good about myself and where I am headed."

Q: "If you had to explain what Bristol Station is and does to someone who doesn't know anything about Bristol Station, what would you say?"

A: "Transitional living facility with beneficial aids while following a strict policy of compliance."

A: "It's a second chance to a new life that's what it has done for me so I thank you for that."

A: "To me Bristol Station is a place where a man like me can come and learn to change his old ways. Bristol Station not only has free food and rent, but they have staff that really do want to help you!"

A: "Bristol Station is a positive living environment who helps build a life worth living."



Case Managers, Tara Shafer and Rob Bourg, assist residents in completing O-Net Interest Profiler as part of Offender Workforce Development programming.

He attends group two nights a week, meets with his Bristol Station case manager, Rob, weekly, as well as with his probation officer. Dellun reported that he is thankful for his case manager and probation officer as they "call me on my stuff and hold me accountable." Dellun indicated his biggest success at Bristol Station has been "taking my classes seriously and reanalyzing how I see what my classes can do for my future and life." Finding a job that was rewarding was difficult for Dellun when he arrived at Bristol. He reported his biggest challenge was "landing a job that will help me accomplish and prepare me for life after Bristol and with my financial obligations." Dellun was quite motivated when he arrived he participated in the ResCare program for a few weeks before securing part-time employment at Long John Silvers. It was there where he was presented with a great opportunity. According to Dellun, a short conversation with the owner of Krueger Contracting led to an offer of employment for a full-time position with the company. Dellun reported "I started talking to him and let him know who I was and where I was at, and he told me he was coming back to get me. And he actually did!"

Dellun recently began his new job with Krueger Contracting and reported that he is really enjoying the work. Dellun continues to participate in the Bristol Station program and continues to make positive progress with his transition back into the community!



Case Manager, Tara Shafer, facilitates a weekly Moral Reconnection Therapy (MRT) group.

DELLUN

Dellun entered Bristol Station in December 2016 and truth be told he was reluctant to participate in the program. Dellun wanted to return to Lincoln but had to come to Bristol Station due to a court order from probation. According to Dellun "...hindsight I don't regret coming to Bristol." Dellun is on post-release supervision and has several requirements to maintain compliance with the terms of his probation.

