



Pillars of Excellence Awards



*ACC's Community Organization and
Volunteer Service Awards 2016*

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

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TREATMENT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

ACTS PROGRAM: PENTECOSTALS OF EL DORADO



(An individual or group that willingly offers unique expertise and services in the areas of substance abuse and mental health to offenders that assist with recovery and reintegration, helping them become productive and fulfilled members of their families and local communities)

ACTS Program: Pentecostals of El Dorado is a group of volunteers who offers offenders on supervision treatment classes to assist them in their transition back to the community.

The classes provided include substance abuse treatment and anger management.

Many of the individuals on supervision need access to these types of classes and this group offers them free of charge.

They have provided these services since 2009. The programs are outpatient and consist of weekly group meetings.

This group definitely helps ACC in fulfilling its mission to increase public safety and provide services for offenders.

They are very deserving of this recognition.

(The ACTS Program: Pentecostals of El Dorado was nominated by Area 13 Parole/Probation staff.)



FAITH BASED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

BABY BOOMERS ~ LITTLE ROCK

(An individual or organization that serves as a key consultant on matters of faith, promotes participation in the activities of an ACC residential facility or field services area office that enhances quality of life for offenders)



The Baby Boomers volunteers have brought dedicated service to the Central Arkansas Center for approximately 15 years. During their tenure, they have enhanced the lives of the residents through countless church services by bringing the word of inspiration and love, including many musical programs.

Additionally, they have provided valuable charitable contributions to the center.

Each year, they provide the residents with a special Christmas program. It consists of a candlelight communion service and a catered Christmas dinner. They have also provided residents with gift bags and presents for their children helping to make it a special time for the residents and their families. In addition to their church services and Christmas programs, they help provide clothing for any residents being released who don't have any.

This group of volunteers has also worked to aid the residents in communicating with their families at home by donating pre-stamped envelopes, paper, and pens for writing letters home.

Their multiple services make them an excellent nominee for this award.

(The Baby Boomers were nominated by Central Arkansas Center staff.)

FAITH BASED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

NANCY SCOTT ~ MALVERN



(An individual or organization that serves as a key consultant on matters of faith, promotes participation in the activities of an ACC residential facility or field services area office that enhances quality of life for offenders)

Nancy Scott has been volunteering at our center for four years.

She is a favorite of the offenders and gains their respect through her positive devotion to help others.

She is always giving of her time and knowledge. She is dedicated to helping our center and our offenders, which was evidenced by her willingness to step in for two months while our Chaplain was out on medical leave. During that time, she held a Bible study class five days a week.

She continues to give of her time, in any way she can to help the offenders at our center.

We are lucky to have such a dedicated volunteer. She is beyond worthy of this award.

(Nancy Scott was nominated by Omega Center staff.)

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

THE EXODUS PROJECT ~ LITTLE ROCK



(An educational institution or individual educator who has shown notable efforts to technically train and educate offenders or residents by assisting with or providing a training program in an ACC residential facility or field services area office)

The Exodus Project selects eligible candidates to spend the last four months of their confinement completing education courses on a college campus. Students are enrolled in classes and receive instruction in four areas of study that are proven to be essential for successful reentry.

The four areas of study include ethics and character, career development, resource management, and recovery and restoration.

In these four areas they learn how to develop a code of moral conduct; how to develop skills for full time employment; how to use their time, money, talent and contacts to become successful; and finally how to live a healthy lifestyle through the 12 steps program.

Ultimately, the goal of this organization's program is for participants to return to the community with a plan for life, hope for the future, and the knowledge and tools to be successful.

(The Baby Boomers were nominated by Central Arkansas Center staff.)

MENTOR OF THE YEAR

ANTHONY CARTER ~ OSCEOLA



(An individual who has demonstrated exceptional personal mentoring for a resident or offender. This can be through an informal relationship with an offender or group of offenders, in an ACC residential facility or area office)

The fifth step of the 12-step program is “admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.”

According to AA, “few steps are harder to take than Five. But scarcely any step is more necessary to long-time sobriety and peace of mind than this one.”

Anthony Carter has been providing Fifth Step classes for several years at our center for the residents.

He is always flexible to work within the residents’ schedules to ensure accessibility to his classes.

He is very kind and gentle when communicating with the residents. The center and our community have benefitted from his presence and wisdom through his classes.

This mentor definitely deserves recognition for his devotion and compassion for others.

(Anthony Carter was nominated by Northeast Center staff.)

OUTSTANDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNER

U.S. MARSHALS ~ LITTLE ROCK



(Any universities, law enforcement agencies, and/or other criminal justice organization dedicated to supporting ACC and our mission of public safety while providing opportunity for individuals to change and become productive, law abiding citizens)

The U.S. Marshals Service has been an intricate part of the success of ACC's Special Response Team.

Without the knowledge, training, and all around support they have provided, the Special Response Team would not be as successful as it has been.

The knowledge that has been gained as it relates to the job ACC does is priceless. ACC has had a very special relationships with this partner dating back many years in assisting with compliance operations and roundups state-wide.

The members of this partner organization go above and beyond to assist ACC in accomplishing our ultimate goal of public safety.

As supervisor for the Special Response Team, I believe this partnership is like no other. I do not look at them as a partner, but as a member of the ACC family.

(The U.S. Marshalls were nominated by Special Response Team staff.)

COMMUNITY PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

ST. MARK BAPTIST CHURCH ~ LITTLE ROCK

(An organization which promotes positive transformation in residents or offenders serviced by ACC. The provider works tirelessly to create positive sustainable change in offenders in an ACC Residential facility or currently on probation or parole)



St. Mark Baptist Church has worked tirelessly to create an atmosphere of positive change in the lives of ACC residents. Their faith-based attitude has gone a long way in gaining the residents' admiration and trust.

The church and its volunteers promote transformation in the residents by holding monthly services and yearly classes. Their team of volunteers also helps with baptism services at the Central Arkansas Center.

In addition to each of the faith-based services this organization provides, they also award an annual housing assistance to a resident returning to the community. St. Mark has provided this assistance for the past two years.

The assistance helps the resident with the first three months of rent and gives him time to transition back to the community and his family.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

OPEN ARMS ASSEMBLY OF GOD ~ BEEBE



(An individual or group who began volunteering during the previous calendar year who has shown dedication and commitment to the mission of ACC)

Open Arms Assembly of God volunteers have been dedicated to volunteering at our center for the past year. They minister and bring a message of hope inspired by music and scripture for our residents. A year ago, this group contacted our center and asked if we had a need for a full gospel teaching. At that time, I had already been searching for an group within the same denomination after receiving multiple requests from residents at the center.

I explained the volunteer policy to the group and each person was present at our next Volunteer Orientation. Since that time, this group has returned each month to minister to the residents, donate items for indigent residents, and provide gift sacks, books, and special holiday parties. These volunteers were at our center on Christmas day for a worship service and brought gift sacks for each resident. Recently, when we had inclement weather, this group of volunteers waited for the road conditions to clear and still came to center for their monthly service. They felt the need to maintain their dedication and consistency for the residents.

Within this group, the volunteers have increased and others have stepped out to demonstrate they also have the ability to minister, lead a song, sign, or play music.

This group of volunteers truly has the heart of a servant and it is a wonderful thing to see.

(Open Arms Assembly of God was nominated by Southeast Center staff.)

TREATMENT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

LADIES OF GRACE ~ FAYETTEVILLE



(An individual who has significantly contributed to a project or a number of projects throughout their time at ACC as a volunteer. He/she has shown passion and dedication for their volunteer efforts)

The Ladies of Grace have led our center's volunteer program with passion and dedication.

They volunteered the year our center opened (8 years) and have made a commitment to serve the residents and our center. This organization is willing to do, provide, give, and minister to our residents. They provide informational material for our residents to prepare them for reentry. They also provide donations to the facility for the residents.

They always go above and beyond and the residents of our facility love them. Attendance at their services is always high and the volunteers communicate well with each resident.

Their long term commitment and dedication to our center make them very deserving of this award.

(The Ladies of Grace were nominated by Northwest Center staff.)

CORPORATE HUMANITARIAN

PROTECH SOLUTIONS ~ LITTLE ROCK



(A corporate entity who is actively engaged in promoting human welfare and the interests of others before their own through their volunteer efforts and/or support of ACC projects)

Over the course of two years, Protech Solutions has provided countless hours of staff time and financial resources toward a project for ACC.

The company's founders have been the catalyst behinds ACC's effort to improve access to service providers by creating a social network for individuals and organizations in Arkansas who are ready to make a difference.

Time and again, though, it is their passion and heart for social service and social justice that reminds me why they are an incredible company to be partnered with. They see how difficult the transition back to the community is for so many individuals and how difficult it is to navigate the various state systems and nonprofit agencies to gain access to services.

Many of the services are necessary for being successful in the community. Through their work on The Good Grid, they are striving to create a more simplistic way to gain access to these services. Their time, effort, and dedication does not go unappreciated.

At ACC, we hope this award serves as a small token of our appreciation for their unwavering support for, not only The Good Grid, but to the entire community of Arkansas.

(Protech Solutions was nominated by Reentry staff.)

Photo not available

Photo not available

RETURNING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

SARAH PINE ~ FAYETTEVILLE

(An individual who has completed a program at an ACC center and returned to mentor and/or assist residents or offenders with learning how to be successful in the community)

Sarah Pine was a resident at our center from December 2009 until October 2019. During that time, she worked tirelessly to successfully complete our treatment program while, at the same time, dealing with the sudden death of her mother as well as custody hearings for her children.

Upon release, she remained determined to stay sober and reunite with her children by asking for help, becoming involved in the programs at Goodwill, and walking to and from appointments until she obtained a car. With this hard work and determination, she has maintained sobriety for seven years, and she has gone above and beyond to give back to the recovery communities that helped her throughout the years. In fact, she is a regular volunteer with our center's AA group, and she was instrumental in starting the first NA group at our center.

She has become an inspiration to both residents and staff, and she is a perfect example of what a person can accomplish when they apply recovery concepts to their life.

(Sarah Pine was nominated by Northwest Center staff.)

SHINING LIGHT

PHILLIP WALTON ~ TEXARKANA

(An individual whose dedication and passion is an inspiration, to their peers or the residents/offenders for whom they volunteer)

Phillip Walton has been with our agency since January 6, 2010. He is very dedicated to volunteering with ACC at our Area 12 parole office.

If he is ever running late or sick, he calls in just as an employee would do. He goes above and beyond to help the employees and the offenders at our office.

He not only answers phones and completes other daily office activities, but he also is always willing to lend a listening ear to those in need.

He always has a positive attitude and is an inspiration to all those around him.

He not only volunteers with ACC, but also with other organizations in our community.

He is truly a Shining Light in our office and our community.

(Phillip Walton was nominated by Parole/Probation Area 12 staff.)

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2015 PILLAR OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

PAUL CHAPMAN - LITTLE ROCK

For the past few years, Paul Chapman has been a true catalyst in coordinating multiple programs to help with recovery and reintegration with the Arkansas Community Correction.

He is not only involved with programs at multiple centers but he has worked closely with the Governor's Office and ACC management to improve reentry systems statewide.

He has a vision for reentry and believes that fixing the inside must happen before we start trying to fix the outside. This vision is highlighted in every program and conversation of which he is a part. His most recent endeavor, Restore Hope, is a Governor's initiative to improve reentry and foster care across Arkansas.

We truly believe he is the right man for that job and that he will continue to help ACC fulfill its goal of reducing recidivism and improving reentry for all individuals returning to our communities. He is dedicated to not only ACC but also to the individuals we serve and to the communities he works with.

Our committee could not think of a more deserving individual for this inaugural honor, and we know that he will continue standing as a Pillar of Excellence in all of his future endeavors.

(Paul Chapman was nominated by Reentry staff.)

FROM THE ACC DIRECTOR



By all accounts, it was a night to remember. And that's saying a lot, especially considering this was our first effort at an awards ceremony for volunteers. We handed out 13 awards; each made of glass to symbolize the transformation in offenders that volunteers work to achieve. Volunteers work thousands of hours for ACC every year and they do every minute of it without pay.

ACC needs them. We depend on them to get the job done. Without their knowledge, abilities and compassion, our jobs would be so much more difficult. In fact, what they bring to the table is critical to the success of this agency and its oh-so-difficult work. But why would anybody volunteer to help criminals build a better life? We already know it's not for the money, because there isn't any. So what is it that makes them pour their heart into a job with no paycheck?

The answer is complicated and simple all at the same time. They do it because they care. Whatever the reason, every single one of them cares about this agency and the offenders we supervise. I have managed staff members for more decades than I want to talk about, and I know that caring is one of the, if not the, best motivator in the world.

Do you remember a famous writer named Aesop? He's the one who penned those very short stories you read as a child. You know them as Aesop's Fables. Each fable has a moral...a lesson for its readers. Here's one called "The Hare and the Hound," which was written some 2,500 years ago but is still relevant today.

"A hound scared and chased a hare from his nest. After running after the rabbit for miles, the hound finally gave up the chase. A goat herder saw the dog stop and taunted him about it by saying, "The little one is the best runner of you two."

The hound looked at him and slowly replied, "You don't see the difference between us. I was only running for a rabbit dinner. But he was running for his life."

And the moral of the story is....Incentive spurs effort."

Incentive spurs effort. That's what it's all about. Incentive. Something that sparks a fire of greater effort. Our volunteers have the incentive to be here with us. It's in their heart to help us and to help those who have wandered off the path and fallen into the weeds. Just as we are, they are invested in ACC and its mission.

So please, thank the volunteers who work at your office or in your center. Their work is needed, appreciated and critical. About 40 of them were nominated for an award this year. Next year, there needs to be at least three or four times that many. After all, our volunteers are worth the effort.

And a whole lot more.

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THE SPEAKERS



Arkansas Community Correction Assistant Director for Reentry Carrie Williams and Reentry Manager Patricia Sims served as Masters of Ceremony for the awards banquet.

David Austen, Chaplain of the Central Arkansas Community Correction Center, provided the prayer prior to the dinner.

Three CAC Residents - Cory Corneillie, Patrick Schoolcraft and Jason Biddle - provided their personal testimony.



THE GUEST SPEAKER

Noted former NFL player and motivational speaker Jeff Kemp served as the guest speaker.

Kemp's personal story includes a persevering journey in the face of long odds during an eleven-year career in the NFL. He was a successful back-up and starting quarterback for the Rams, Forty-Niners, Seahawks and Eagles. Jeff and his father, former vice-presidential candidate and H.U.D. Secretary Jack Kemp, were the first of only five father-son NFL quarterback combos.

Jeff is dedicated to strengthening families and strengthening teams. He is passionate about advancing collaboration to support marriages, families and children. In 2012 Jeff joined FamilyLife as Vice President and HomeBuilder Catalyst.

Jeff's most valued team is his wife Stacy and their four sons and daughter-in-law. Jeff and Stacy have been married since 1983. Intense personality differences and commitments to grow together have driven them to forge a personal, and entrepreneurial, mission to couples and marriages in need of strengthening.



GUESTS ENJOYING THE PILLARS OF EXCELLENCE BANQUET



Prior to the presentation of the Pillars of Excellence Awards, guests and ACC employees were given an opportunity to get to know each other, see old friends and meet new ones.



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