Pillars of Excellence Awards

ACC’s Community Organization and Volunteer Service Awards 2018
Pillars of Excellence Awards

The following pages feature photographs of the recipients of each award along with a description of the requirements of each award and the paragraph about each award winner’s nomination, as was read at the banquet.

A special thank you to Richard Perry of ACC’s Reentry Team for providing all of the photographs featured in this edition of Community Spirit.

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The Union County Alcohol Chemical Treatment Program

(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.)

The Union County Alcohol Chemical Treatment Program has provided outpatient substance abuse treatment for offenders free of charge. They are diligent at maintaining attendance records and are an invaluable asset. They also offer Anger Management classes as well. Nominated by Bryce Boroughs, Area 13 Parole/Probation Area Manager, the recipient of the Treatment Volunteer Award is Union County Alcohol Chemical Treatment Program. Accepting the award is Vanessa Smith.
Faith Based Volunteer of the Year

Southwest Church of Christ
Jonesboro

(An 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.)

This faith-based organization pays for residents with DUI convictions to take a Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Class.

The church also:
- Donates food, provide journals to document their stay, provides Bibles, provides toiletry bags and provides spiritual counseling at an offender’s request.

Nominated by Christa Glover – Area 4, the recipient of the Faith Based Volunteer Award is Southwest Church of Christ.

Accepting the award on behalf of Pastor Jimmy Adcox and the church is Dana Moore.
Brianna Manning is a student intern who works with Correct Care Solutions’ Mental Health Department. Manning, a student at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, is friendly, caring and has a very professional manner.

As a volunteer, her interactions with the residents have all been very positive.

Nominated by Gary Tabor of the Northwest Arkansas Community Correction Center in Fayetteville, the recipient of the Student Intern Award is Brianna Manning.
Mentor of the Year

Maurice Brooks - Little Rock

(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.)

Maurice Brooks holds many titles - Assistant Prison Ministry Director and Outreach Ministry Minister at Saint Mark Baptist Church as well as founder and counselor of “Bring Down the Walls Outreach Ministry.” He also is involved in street ministry, stress counseling and in family support.

Brooks received his ACC mentor training in 2016 and has been a serving force ever since.

Instead of waiting on the Mentor Coordinator to contact him, Maurice Brooks contacts the ACC mentor coordinator seeking and providing information, which shows how enthusiastic this man is. This has not happened just once; it has happened on several occasions. Brooks is involved in group mentoring and also continues to mentor on the outside. He has yet to tell the program ‘no.’

Nominated by Ardella Bearden, of ACC’s Reentry Team, the recipient of the Mentor Award is Maurice Brooks. Accepting the award is Luverda Clay for Brooks.
Educator Volunteer of the Year

Margo Bridger - Jonesboro

(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.)

Margo Bridger puts in a minimum of 20 hours per week volunteering at Reclamation House Reentry Facility in Jonesboro. Residents at the facility learn how to take inventory of the food in the house, make grocery lists and budget for groceries under Bridger’s instructions.

Researching healthy recipes, correct serving sizes, and food preparation is also a part of her class.

Nominated by Christa Glover, a Jonesboro reentry officer, the recipient of the Educator Award is Margo Bridger.
Returning Volunteer of the Year

Sarah Pine - Fayetteville

Sarah Pine meets with the treatment staff to discuss ways the Narcotics Anonymous (NA) group can better serve the needs of residents at the Northwest Community Correction Center in Fayetteville.

Pine, a former resident of the center, participates in the NA meetings and shares her story of struggle and success. It is an example to the residents of how they too can succeed.

Pine earned her GED after leaving the center and she works through Goodwill’s TEO program and is in charge of one of the organization’s stores.

Nominated by Gary Tabor – Northwest Arkansas Community Correctional Center, the recipient of the Returning Volunteer Award is Sarah Pine of Fayetteville.
Volunteer Project of the Year

Saint Mark Baptist Church
Little Rock

(Any volunteer project, event or activity that has been coordinated through various groups that aid in assisting residents and offenders become successful members of the community.

It was a special project for Saint Mark Baptist Church - a group of seven women from the church chose to mentor residents at the Phoenix House Transitional Facility for the Christmas Holidays.

This is the time of year that most people spend with their own families, but this group of women answered the call and ended the project by taking the residents to the movies. They gave the residents their time and showed compassion.

Nominated by Ardella Bearden of ACC’s Reentry Team, the recipient of the Volunteer Project of the Year Award is St. Mark Church. Accepting the award is Luverda Clay.
Outstanding Criminal Justice Partner

Educational Opportunity Center of Henderson State University

This organization has been a partner with ACC for more than four years. They have designed a parenting class to accommodate the needs seen among residents at the Southwest Arkansas Community Correction Center in Texarkana. And when most teachers are taking off for the summer, this organization will continue to teach parenting classes throughout the summer to residents. They also teach money management skills, budgeting skills and how to fill out college admission applications.

Nominated by Shaunda Scoggins of the Southwest Arkansas Community Correctional Center, the recipient of the Criminal Justice Partner Award is the Educational Opportunity Center at Henderson State University. Accepting the award is Lou May.
Community Provider of the Year

Arkansas Department of Workforce Services - Texarkana Office

(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.)

The Texarkana office of the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services has, for more than five years, done an outstanding job of promoting positive transformation in ACC residents. The organization holds workshops once a month to eliminate the barrier of employment. Resume writing and job interviewing techniques are also taught. Their mobile unit is at the facility every quarter to give Career Readiness Certificates.

Nominated by Shaunda Scoggins of ACC’s Southwest Arkansas Community Correction Center, the recipient of the Community Provider Award is the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services. Accepting the award is Monica Macon.
Dana Moore starts working with residents on the first day they enter the reentry facility in Jonesboro. Assisting the residents in making connections in the community that enable them to participate in community service projects is just one of the many things that Moore does. Transportation to and from church every Sunday, assisting the residents as they work to obtain a driver’s license, calling courts, and writing letters to judges are a few more things this volunteer does. Nominated by Christa Glover, a Jonesboro reentry officer, the recipient of the Shining Light Award is Dana Moore.
Kevin Sweeney began the first Narcotics Anonymous (NA) group in ACC’s Omega Center in Malvern.

Sweeney participates in group and recruits NA members for placement.

Sweeney, a former offender, was given rave reviews by his parole officer who supervised him and the assistant area manager for the area in which he was supervised, and with those recommendations, he was approved to conduct meetings inside the ACC Omega Center.

Nominated by Curtis Wiggins of the Omega Center, the recipient of the Newcomer of the Year is Kevin Sweeney – Accepting on behalf of Sweeney is Omega Chaplain Wiggins.
Long-Standing Gold

Tommy Gaither - Texarkana

(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.)

Tommy Gaither has been volunteering at ACC’s Southwest Community Correction Center in Texarkana for more than 20 years.

During Reentry Awareness Week as proclaimed by the governor, ACC’s Southwest Center reached out to Gaither for much needed items.

Gaither and his church responded by donating 150 reentry packets items for the residents in ACC’s Texarkana Center.

Nominated by Bradley Warbritton of the Southwest Arkansas Community Correctional Center, the recipient of the Long-standing Gold Volunteer Award is Tommy Gaither.
Corporate Humanitarian

Dock Leveler Manufacturing Malvern

(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.)

Dock Leveler, a manufacturing company in Malvern, implemented an entry level welding program that drew in offenders. The company’s program included offenders in reentry programs and in residential facilities. After completion of the program some offenders are hired by the company, giving them a purposeful reentry into their community.

Nominated by Curtis Wiggins of ACC’s Omega Center in Malvern, the recipient of the Corporate Humanitarian Award is Dock Leveler Manufacturing / Malvern. Accepting the award is the VP of Operations Mark Lobel.
(Awarded to an individual or organization that has gone above and beyond the expectations of a volunteer. The individual or organization continuously provides exceptional service to not only residents and/or offenders, but also for the mission of ACC as a whole.)

Fayetteville Adult Education promotes positive transformation in ACC residents through all the programs they offer. They started with a Workforce Alliance for Growth in the Economy class. They also provided a night class when asked. When the facility needed a job readiness program, they responded to the call. This agency provides laptops to the residents at no cost so the residents can meet the computer requirements for their certifications.

Nominated by Gary Tabor of the Northwest Arkansas Community Correctional Center, the recipient of the Pillar of Excellence Award is Fayetteville Adult Education. Accepting the award is the Director of Adult Education Robbie Cornelius.
THE SPEAKERS

From left, counterclockwise - Mentor Kelly McKinney, Arkansas Community Correction Assistant Director for Reentry Carrie Williams praying with ACC Chaplain David Austen, ACC Mentor Coordinator Ardella Bearden, Lindsey Gant speaking of her successful reentry and Parole Board Chairman John Felts.
Guests enjoying the Pillars of Excellence Banquet
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