



Minnesota Justice Monthly

Volunteer of the Month: Paul Puttlitz

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Within days of attending a Council outreach program designed to encourage local employers to hire former offenders, Paul Puttlitz contacted us to get involved. For the past several months, Paul has graciously volunteered his time in both the Advocacy and Offender/Family Services Departments. Perhaps the greatest undertaking has been in updating our Resource Guide – a list of local agencies and organizations that provide assistance to individuals returning from prison.



Pauls' work on the Resource Guide has been tremendously helpful as reentry from prison can be stressful and challenging. Many individuals are unaware of the resources that are available to support them in their transition. Through Paul's work, the Council on Crime and Justice is able to compile many community resources and services to meet the needs of former offenders and their families. Related to his work with the Resource Guide, Paul also volunteers at our biweekly support group for former offenders called, Know Your True Empowerment (KYTE).

Paul says the best part of volunteering is “ knowing that he makes a difference in the lives of others.” Paul is currently reading a book by William Kunstler, a criminal justice attorney who defended members of the Black Panther Party, Attica Prison Rioters, and the American Indian Movement. Kunstler believed that working in the criminal justice system was his calling. Paul stated that he feels very much the same way about his work at the Council on Crime and Justice and in criminal justice reform.

You can see Paul's work with the Resource Guide on the Council on Crime and Justice's website:
www.crimeandjustice.org

Thanks for all of your hard work, Paul!