

# FULCRUM INSTITUTE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CLINIC

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015

Issue #7



Contact us: 211 W. Augusta Spokane, WA (509) 838-2799

Visit us online at: fulcrumdispute.com

"Give me a lever that is long enough and a fulcrum on which to place it and I shall move the world" -Archimedes

### INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHTS:

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## ASH STREET STATION

Ash Street Station is a newly granted project that has been ongoing for almost a year. Ash Street Station will be a space for retailers, apartment owners, and work skills training. The progress on getting this project up and running has been astounding with the participation of retailers like Ammonite Ink Screenprinting and an upcoming Juice Bar.



Ammonite Ink: This small, locally owned business has been involved in the Spokane community for years. They pride themselves on creating custom works of screen printed art to provide to schools, businesses, and individuals.

Juice Bar: The idea to put a Juice Bar in Ash Street Station comes from a desire to bring locals together in a fun, friendly hangout. The Juice Bar will sell several Coca-Cola products and delicious treats provided by New Leaf Bakery. When the Juice Bar is completed, all are welcome to eat, drink, and be merry!





### ADARTMENTS AND WORKFORCE TRAINING

### Apartments:

Three, one-bedroom apartments will be soon available above the retail and work training space. Remodeling is in full effect and soon the apartments will be ready to be leased. The opening date will be July 15, 2015.

#### Workforce Training:

Part of the space at Ash Street will be dedicated to teaching skills. Fulcrum is working towards holding some of its own skills and training classes here, but is also working towards becoming a neighborhood spot where members of the community can teach the skills that are of value to them.



# BASIC FOOD EDUCATION TRAINING (BFET)

Fulcrum's BFET program works to help find individuals who receive food stamp benefits employment. When an individual contacts the program for help seeking employment, they are immediately entered into a two day class. The first day teaches our clients about basic assisted by receiving iob skills such as effective communication. flexibility, negotiation and other interpersonal skills. The second day is spent teaching clients how to build a resume and how to apply for jobs online. These skills are

important and unique because unlike other BFET programs in Spokane, Fulcrum continues to help clients even after they complete their classes; giving them the tools they need to find employment and keep it. After the two day class, clients are still job leads and help with setting up interviews. The goal is to have clients find employment within 2-3 weeks after they step through Fulcrum's doors.

The BFET Coordinator, Tammy Nicks, continues to expand the program by going into the community to complete Outreach. She travels to shelters and resource centers in Spokane County and distributes brochures with programs and contact information to anyone who may need BFET services. She also participates in Resource Fairs, such as the Fatherhood Resource Fair in June, to spread the word of Fulcrum and what they do. She has recently added CPS and Native Project to the Outreach activities.

Contact BFET/BRT Education: 222 W. Mission Spokane, WA (509) 795-8955



# BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE (BRT)



Karl Schichtel, the BRT Outreach Specialist, works tirelessly to keep connecting with companies in Spokane to maintain their involvement in the BRT program. He meets with clients on a weekly basis to go over new job leads and helps with submitting applications. The biggest part of the BRT program is successfully pairing clients with a job position that creates stable employment.

Karl currently works with 357 companies around Spokane.

146 of Fulcrum's clients have been able to find employment with BRT's help in just 2015, and the numbers continue to grow.

The Business Round Table program was able to connect with the companies that have signed on and leaders in the community with a very successful Luncheon this past May. The Luncheon took place at Ash Street Station and various

Spokane companies gathered to collect awards and listen to our noted speaker, Dave Dahl, tell his story about second chances.

The BFET and BRT programs at Fulcrum wouldn't be as productive as they are without the help of everyone in the office. Fulcrum thanks you!

With the help of staff, Fulcrum fully expects to reach its goal of finding 190 clients employment by September 2015.

#### Meet the Instructors:

Steven Walker has been teaching classes since April. He was originally part of the Interchange program but now teaches BFET/BRT clients the Job Skills classes, along with Anger Management and Theft Awareness. (pictured on the right)

Anthony Foster teaches classes out at Geiger and also an MRT class Wednesdays at Fulcrum. He has utilized his degree in communications to help the disadvantaged community of Spokane.

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Fulcrum offers a variety of classes:

- Anger Management
- Theft Awareness
- Sharing the Children
- ❖ MRT

The head of the Education Department, Justin Van Elsberg,

along with the help of the instructors, have been working to update the curriculum for these classes, with the interest of keeping lessons modern and relevant.

The Education Department is also adding Stress Management to the list of classes. This is a two hour class that helps individuals understand what stress means physically and emotionally, and will give them tools to manage and cope with stress levels. The first class will take place July 9th.



The Education Department also works exclusively with Geiger Corrections and exoffenders.

The instructors go out to Geiger to teach the inmates classes and skills including Fatherhood Skills, Relationships, etc.

Fulcrum has helped 37 former Geiger inmates find employment in Spokane with the help of the BRT program.



# FULCRUM INTERCHANGE

"After the first month, the experience became a much more positive one. Distress turned into comfort and excitement, for both Sharon and her children."

> Interchange Success Story (see below)

Fulcrum's Interchange provides parents visitation with their children. Fulcrum works with both DSHS and private cases. The Interchange facility provides a safe, clean and fun environment for parents to visit with their children.

In June 2015, the Interchange staff averaged over 80 hours of visitation on a daily basis and drove almost 25,000 miles providing children with transportation to and from supervised visitations.

With the help of FIN (Family Impact Network), the Interchange will be receiving a set of 15 new computers to ease our visiting supervisors with their reports and to cut down on paper supplies. These computers will be in operation at the end of June 2015.

# SUCCESS AT THE INTERCHANGE

Sharon Whitehurst (pictured right) is a single mother of 6 living here in Spokane. She moved here from Philadelphia, PA to help out relatives some time ago. A little over 2 years ago, Sharon experienced some unfortunate struggles in her life and had to utilize Fulcrum's Interchange program to visit with her children. She was referred to Fulcrum through CPS and set up visitation with her children three times a week. For Sharon, the experience at first was uncomfortable and distressing. There was a lot to get used to and some adjustments had to

be made. But after the first month, the experience became a much more positive one. Distress turned into comfort and excitement, for both Sharon and her children.

Sharon was able to create a progressive experience and relationship with the program. In May, Sharon started to complete visits with her children in her own home, where her relationship with the Interchange program became even more optimistic. As of June 24, 2015, Sharon's children are back home with her and she couldn't be happier.



Now that Sharon has successfully gone through the Interchange and has her children back with her at home, she would like to share her story and offer encouragement to any other parents who find themselves in the situation she was in. Sharon recommends this program to anyone who finds themselves struggling with these issues. She wants to thank Fulcrum and the Interchange program for helping her through a difficult time in her life and says to the Interchange staff, "You deserve a raise!" We here at Fulcrum would also like to thank Sharon for her willingness to share her story.

# A SAFE HAVEN FOR CHILDREN

Operating Hours from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Seven days a week Transportation of children always available Contact: (509) 838-2799