Dan Thompson: A Fulcrum Success Story

My struggles began when I was 13 years old. That is when I began using drugs and getting into trouble. I became involved in criminal activity on and off all throughout my youth into adulthood. After my employment ended in 2012, I was charged with 2nd degree burglary, 2nd degree theft and possession of drugs. For those crimes, I spent time in Geiger Corrections Center.

After my release, I spent three months in inpatient drug treatment to get clean and sober. After completion of the drug treatment, I self-referred to the Fulcrum Institute because of the great experience I had taking job skills classes taught by Fulcrum during my time at Geiger Corrections Center.

Once I completed an intake at Fulcrum I had a job within four days. Fulcrum helped me create a polished resume and got me right into doing job search. They even provided me job leads to companies who would hire me with my criminal background. I am now gainfully employed working forty hours per week.

The Basic Food Employment Training (BFET) at Fulcrum was proficient and professional. I have actually referred several people to the program because it worked so well for me. “A lot of people just don’t know how to get a job; and the BFET program knows wastes no to in getting people the skills, resumes, and job leads they need to get a job fast. Thank you!”

Ash Street Training Station Project

Fulcrum is pleased to announce that its plans for the Ash Street Training Station project continue to move forward. The leadership behind the project are: CEO Jack Hebner, Judith Gilmore, and CFO John Drexel. We recently received great news that we have been awarded an additional $50,000 in CDBG funds towards renovation. We continue to work with community partners and interested parties about leasing or participating in the project. A pre-development planning conference has been scheduled with the City on January 29th. We are very excited about this project as it will contain retail space, apartments, and classroom/training space. Please follow our progress in upcoming issues of our newsletter.

Dan Thompson visiting the BFET Program Supervisor, Angela Foltz, at Fulcrum Institute.

CURRENT PROGRAM STATISTICS

BFET Program:
1st Quarter: 62 Intakes 16 Hires
2nd Quarter: 22 Intakes 14 Hires
(16 days into the 2nd quarter)

Business Roundtable:
4th Quarter: 12 Intakes 9 Hires
DSHS BFET PROGRAM

The mission of Washington State's BFET (Basic Food Employment & Training) program is to assist basic food recipients who are not already on TANF’s Work First program to find a job.

Fulcrum provides:

- Case management
- Job skills training
- Education classes
- Job search assistance with access to our business round table
- Application & resume building
- Support in addressing barriers to finding and maintaining a job.

2nd Annual BRT Appreciation Luncheon

Sometimes starting over takes more than one try!

Our elected officials, valued local businesses, and community leaders who work with Fulcrum Institute Dispute Resolution Clinic have the opportunity to join us for lunch and hear the amazing story of Dave Dahl, Founder of Dave’s Killer Bread!

Date: May 19th, 2015

Time: TBA

Location: Ash Street Training Station
1935 North Ash Street
Spokane, WA 99205

Business Roundtable Program (BRT)

The BRT program continues to grow, with new partnerships occurring daily with companies throughout the Spokane area. Several companies have agreed to work with Fulcrum to get our clients employed. They understand the barriers some of our clients face, and are willing to give them a chance. BRT currently has over 300 contacts. We appreciate their willingness to work with us and our clients.
Students Say:

~ “Thank you, Fulcrum, for giving me a leg up on my new journey”

~ “I really liked the 60 second commercial in job skills because it let me put all my skills and qualifications together in one spot.”

~ “The anger management log really helps me not get so angry with others.”

Education Department

This quarter Fulcrum offered Geiger inmates a variety of classes and not all classes were taught each Session. We did identify Fulcrum “core” classes as Job Skills and Partners in Parenting; and added a Culture & Diversity class and reformatted our Emotional Intelligence class.

We had two graduating Sessions (21 and 22) this quarter with 133 certificates of completion given to 36 inmates; 20 of which attended the two Breaking Barriers evening graduations.

Top completion honors go to Relationship Management with a graduation rate of 48% and Culture & Diversity at 42%. Job Skills had the highest number enrolled, 171 students, throughout both Sessions with Communications, at 62, coming in second. The high number of students enrolled in Job Skills is due to the class having open class format during Session 21 (82 enrolled) and a closed class format Session 22 (45 enrolled). Fulcrum and Geiger staff agree that while the enrollment numbers decreased, the closed class format is better for the students offering a focus on curriculum content and class discussion.

During this quarter DV-MRT received 11 referrals and 1 MRT referral. We split the DV-MRT into two categories: Veterans and non-Veterans and offered it during the day and evening.
The Fulcrum Professional Clothing Closet

Formerly known as the Re-Entry Closet, the Fulcrum Professional Clothing Closet is now part of the BRT & BFET programs located at Fulcrum Institute. We are very happy to announce a new partnership for the women’s side of the closet. The Northside dressbarn manager Heather Jaeger was ecstatic to come on board with Fulcrum after BFET Supervisor Angela Foltz explained the mission of the closet and what it means to many of her clients. We are currently seeking a corporate sponsor for the men’s closet, but also want to thank the Spokane County Bar Association for including a call to donate to our professional clothing closet in a newsletter last fall.

The closet exists to assist women and men build confidence, and achieve a professional appearance as they seek to enter today’s competitive job market. Interview and work clothing, accessories, and toiletries are available at no cost to participants. Clients may access the clothing closet by appointment. Your donation of new or gently used suits, jackets, pants, shirts, blouses, dresses. Coats, handbags, shoes, new undergarments or unused toiletries would be greatly appreciated tremendously.

Donations are tax deductible and accepted Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 222 West Mission Avenue, Suite 218, Spokane, Washington 99205. Please call with any questions or for additional information. 509-755-8955.

Contact Us

Write to us or give us a call for more information about any of our services or programs:

Fulcrum Institute DRC
211 West Augusta Ave.
Spokane, WA 99205
(509) 838-2799
or
Visit us on the web at www.fulcrumdispute.com