

Education & Health Centers of America, Inc. (EHCA) has served as a leading provider in reentry services for over 30 years. EHCA also offers an array of veteran services in the community. EHCA's mission is to provide a healthy, drug free, safe, and secure environment within which we provide evidence-based treatment and education services that focus on changing addictive and criminal behaviors. We provide our participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to lead a productive lifestyle prior to reintegration into their communities.

Resident BBQ Hosted at Tully House

On May 25, 2024, Tully House hosted a fun-filled Resident BBQ in the facility's recreation yard, providing a meaningful and enjoyable way to build upon the Tully House community and to foster positive relationships between clients and staff. Tully House staff organized and facilitated the Resident BBQ, including fresh grilled meals, games, and prosocial leisure activities.

Events, such as a Resident BBQ, offer relaxed environments where clients can engage in reintegration-based social interactions and connect with each other as a group, with the support of Tully House staff and volunteers. The success of the Resident BBQ highlights the importance of community involvement in the reintegration process, demonstrating to our residents that their journey is supported by a broad base of caring individuals.

Education & Health Centers of America, Inc. is committed to holistic rehabilitation, where interpersonal well-being is as important as vocational and educational training.

Tully House Employment & Education Statistics

- **52** Residents Employed Full-Time
- **9** Residents Actively Job Searching
- **10** Residents Enrolled in Post-Secondary Education
- **<u>11</u>** Residents Enrolled in Adult Basic Education
- **100%** RV-TAPP Resident Participation Rate

Incarcerated Veterans Initiative Highlights

In addition to residential reentry services, Education & Health Centers of America, Inc. has proudly overseen the development and implementation of the Incarcerated Veterans Initiative (IVI) in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Corrections (NJDOC), serving incarcerated veterans and recently incarcerated veterans throughout the state of New Jersey since 2019. The mission of IVI is to provide a transition process for New Jersey's incarcerated veteran population, upon intake and throughout their custodial sentence, including discharge planning, case management, reintegration assistance, and continued mentorship opportunities upon return to the community. Over the past five years, IVI has enrolled over 700+ unique currently and recently incarcerated veteran clients and delivered a combined total of 4,417 services to those clients, both in the community and in-prison settings throughout New Jersey, including state prisons, Residential Community Reintegration Programs, county jails, and upon transition to community supervision.

IVI team members also collaborate with NJDOC's Military Service Liaison Committee (MSLC). IVI staff participated in NJDOC Annual Veterans Day Ceremonies and has aided the NJDOC MSLC in facilitating in-person veteran benefit sessions for NJDOC staff at all of the state prison locations throughout New Jersey, as well as, the introduction of veteran suicide awareness and prevention brochures and materials. IVI staff has also collaborated with NJDOC to successfully facilitate NJDOC dedicated Career Fairs at local veteran organizations, including American Legion and VFW Post locations, throughout the state. In May, EHCA joined forces with the NJDOC MSLC to collect care package donations for deployed U.S. military troops.

- **93** Assessment Reports Completed
- **81** Residents Classified by the NJDOC Classification Committee
- **93** Substance Use Disorder Screenings Conducted
- **189** Assessment Testing Instruments Administered to Residents

Correctional Treatment Staff Appreciation Event

The first week of May is recognized as National Correctional Officers Week. Tully House and The Harbor staff enjoyed a Correctional Treatment Professionals Staff Appreciation Event on May 17, 2024, in the Tully House Courtyard, in honor of National Corrections Week. Ample food and beverages were provided to the staff. Residential Community Reintegration Programs offer a unique opportunity to acknowledge and honor the essential work of corrections officers in collaboration with correctional treatment professionals within a community-release framework. This week of celebration serves not only as a tribute to correctional officers but also as an affirmation of the collective commitment to rehabilitation, reintegration, and community safety.

Family Services Statistics

- **28** Residents Participated in Family Services Counseling
- **30** Residents Participated in InsideOut Dads[®] (IOD) Groups
- **24** Family Night Event Participants

Upcoming Events

Family Night Event Every Tuesday at Tully House

Alumni Meetings Scheduled

Want to Stay Up to Date on EHCA?

Check out the latest news and events on our website and social media using the QR Codes below!

Edited By: Shannon Bilder, EHCA Quality Assurance Director



Editorial Column

An excerpt from our President & Chief Executive Officer, Richard McCourt,

"May is a particularly poignant month for us, as it features National Correctional Officers Week, a time when we recognize the tireless efforts and unwavering dedication of correctional officers, as well as our Residential Community Reintegration Program correctional treatment staff. These individuals play a critical role in the rehabilitative journeys of our residents, working diligently to create safe and supportive environments. Their commitment to fostering a culture of respect, accountability, and hope within our facilities is commendable. We celebrate their contributions and reaffirm our gratitude for their indispensable service.

In the month of May, on Memorial Day, we also honor and remember the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. Their courage and dedication ensure our freedom and safety, and we are forever grateful for their selflessness. We extend our heartfelt support to the families and loved ones of our fallen heroes, as well as our active-duty military personnel, whose strength and resilience continue to inspire us all."

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