The Center assists women in the criminal justice system in making a successful transition to their families and communities through practicing and promoting restorative justice.

The Center provides restorative wrap-around reentry services for women so they can become employed, self-directed and productive citizens, through apartment-style independent living with close support from staff and volunteer mentors.
A year into leading the Center for Women in Transition, I am happy to report that the Center had a successful and eventful fiscal year 2014!

The Center served 111 women between all programs last year. The Center ensured that all of these women had safe and affordable housing, food, and transportation, as they made the difficult transition from incarceration to their communities. All of them received the treatment services they needed. 64 remained sober the entire time they were with the Center, 60 obtained employment, and 100% of women who successfully completed the program moved into safe and affordable housing! The percentage of women in the Center’s program who returned to prison was just 8%, continuing the Center’s long tradition of achieving significantly lower recidivism rates than state-wide averages, which are approximately 25% on year after release.

Mentors continue to be a critical part of our success. I extend my personal thanks to the 17 women who gave of their time, energy, and hearts last year to provide emotional support and guidance to Center clients. Mentors provide that extra touch that makes the Center’s program a space for personal transformation, as opposed to a mere provider of basic services.

On the staffing front, the Center hired a new Development Director and a Case Manager last year. Our new Development Director, Carrie Coats, led the Center to our best-attended and highest-grossing Beautiful Transformations event yet! Our new case manager, Stefanie Moore, was a long-time mentor before joining the staff. Stefanie was hired for a new service initiative to monitor and provide case management to women for a further year after leaving the Center’s core programming. These services have proven to be needed and effective, and the Center is continuing to provide these post-program services thanks to generous support from the Lutheran Foundation.

The Center has launched an Advocacy Advisory Board, led by Barbara Baker and made up of program graduates, mentors, and community supporters, which meets to consider areas for legislative advocacy. The Center has also started a Young Friends Board to provide opportunities for young people to become involved with the Center’s outreach and development efforts. We would love for you to become involved in either of these new initiatives, so please reach out to us if you are interested!

Going into Fiscal Year 2015, the Center is excited to again be a part of Project ReConnect, which is a collaborative effort to provide reentry services to men and women leaving prison without any supervision of probation or parole. The Center is the administering agency for the project, and will also serve the female ex-offenders that are served under the program.

The Center is also excited to announce that it has been awarded Neighborhood Assistance (NAP) tax credits! These tax credits provide a 50% tax credit on Missouri business income tax liability for qualifying donations. I hope that you will consider making a donation of $1,000 or more to take advantage of these credits. For more information, please read page 8 of this report, or contact Carrie Coats at 314-771-5207.

Thank you very much for your interest in and support of the Center for Women in Transition!

Sincerely,
Laura Toledo
Sharon says her claim to fame is being from Texas. Even though she’s lived in St. Louis since she was two she still thinks of herself as a Texan. She’s retired now, but worked for twenty years at Christian Brothers College High School teaching Spanish. Although the topic of her instruction was important, her favorite part of her job was watching her students grow up and helping them to mature into upstanding adults. She joined the CWIT family in 2010 as a mentor. She says, “I’m here to learn and listen more than to give instruction. I never ask a mentee their story, I always let them tell me. I’ve gone to places and been with people I never would have met if I wasn’t a mentor. I feel incredibly blessed for those experiences.”

Sharon has learned from her mentees a different way of approaching life. Things that we take for granted, the things that make life easier—like checking accounts, stamps and envelopes, or feeling secure in having important mail sent to our house—are things that many people aren’t privileged to have. She says, “Unless I see different, I don’t know different. If I only see white, I don’t know what brown, yellow, red, blue or green looks like. People have certain ideas because they haven’t had a lot of experiences. I grew up in a society that had certain racial prejudices. Part of me still reacts in a certain way, but I’ve learned to think beyond that and make a choice to respect people and not stereotypes.” She sees mentoring as an adventure. “It’s the idea that someone cares enough to be there and to listen.”

What makes Sharon happy about being a mentor:

- When my mentee graduates from the program.
- When my mentee accomplishes a goal.
- When my mentee is honest and admits she could have made a better choice.
- When I can help my mentee with getting to an appointment and make things “a little easier.”
- When my mentee is able to open a bank account.
- When my mentee enjoys something as a clean/sober person.
Mentor Spotlight, Esther Latcher:

“I grew up on the North Side of St. Louis City, in a neighborhood with a lot of drug dealing and wrong doing. I dropped out of high school in the 9th grade because I was running with the wrong crowd. I was in and out of jail for most of my life, and ended up in the federal penitentiary on a seven-year sentence for selling drugs. When I got out I joined CWIT, and have been in the program for the past year.

“The scariest part of getting out is not having anything, and not knowing how you’re going to survive. I prayed that I wouldn’t have to go back to my old ways, but without the support of a family, it’s hard to know what steps to take. CWIT was able to show me the way, and I’m incredibly grateful for the program. My mentor, Kathy, is an incredible support. I wouldn’t have made it through the program without her. Being around positive people in the program has helped me to turn my life around and stay positive myself, even in the hardest of times. I hope one day to be able to help others the way the Center has helped me.”

Mentoring and Advocacy Numbers

Total clients: 50
Total employable women: 37
Total women employed: 29
Women in substance abuse treatment: 33
Relapse: 12  Recidivism: 0
Schirmer House

The Center for Women in Transition contracts with the Department of Corrections to provide re-entry services at Schirmer House to women who are released from Missouri State prisons. Schirmer House is a 28-bed facility with 24-hour staffing. At Schirmer House, women receive wrap-around services, including case management, narcotics anonymous, employment assistance and life skills education on site, and educational, medical, and therapy referrals. Their basic needs are met with apartment style living, food assistance and weekly supplies. They are taught and held accountable to keep house, keep schedules, maintain a budget and maintain savings. The women live at the facility for 6-8 months, and some have stated that it’s the best living environment they’ve ever had.

Transitioning at Schirmer becomes a culture. The women quickly adapt to the living arrangements and take pride in working toward sober living, keeping their spaces clean, planning good meals, and maintaining workable budgets. Schirmer House prides itself on delivering quality services, with proven results, to often very high-need clients.

Schirmer House Numbers FY 2014

Total clients: 61
Total employable women: 52
Women in substance abuse treatment: 42
Relapse: 35
Total women employed: 31
Recidivism: 9

Food Stamp Bill

The Center and its Advocacy Advisory Board advocate for legislative changes to improve the reentry environment for its clients. In FY 2014, the Center focused its efforts on supporting SB 680, the bill that ended the lifetime ban on receipt of SNAP benefits (Supplemental Nutrition Association Program, commonly known as food stamps) for persons who have a drug felony on their records. The bill passed in May. This was a huge win for reentry services in Missouri!

Volunteers, clients and staff from the Center and Let’s Start traveled to Jefferson City on April 9th for Advocacy Day.
This year’s Gala was a huge success! Thanks to our amazing donors, sponsors and guests we raised over $85,000. This was the best-attended event in the Center’s history. The Center honored **Yvette Boozer, Wanakee Robinson, Mercy Health** and the **St. Louis Alliance for Reentry (STAR)**! Remember to mark your calendars for next year, **March 20th at 6:30PM**.

**Thank you to our event sponsors!**

- Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
- Fischer & Byrne
- Law Offices of Eric Barnhart, LLC
- One West Associates
- Summers Compton Wells LLC
- Drury Development Corporation
- Husch Blackwell LLP
- Nicole Zellweger and Jim Bass
- Missouri Foundation for Health
  - Kelly Mitchell
  - Laura Toledo
  - Edward Jones
  - Cpt. Robert Catlett
  - Annette Llewellyn
  - Kara Conwell
- Cardinal Ritter Senior Services
- Carative Health Solutions
- Southern Commercial Bank
- Sr. Sherri Coleman
- Coventry Healthcare
- Wohldmann Accounting Services
- First National Bank
- Peoples United Bank
- Barb and Jim Gehringer
- Mueller Prost
- Hammond and Shinners, PC
- Hugh & Linda Arnold Whaley
- Southern Commercial Bank
- Drs. Ralph & Pam Caraffa
- Paul & K Wentzien
- Sisters of Mercy of the Americas,
  - South Central Community
  - Stephen & Carolyn Golden
- Lathrop & Gage LLP
- Hammond and Shinners, PC
- Hugh & Linda Arnold Whaley

**A special thank you to our item donors!**

St. Louis Alliance for Reentry accepting their Restorative Justice award.
Finance Overview FY 2014*

INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>$60,392.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Donations</td>
<td>$56,971.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,169,502.46</strong></td>
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EXPENSE

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<th>Type</th>
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<td>Program Expenses</td>
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<td>Administrative Expenses</td>
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<td>Fundraising Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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The Center ended FY 2014 with a $14,922.41 net income.

*Unaudited

Help Us Make Fiscal Year 2015 Even Better!

- Your gift of $100 will help provide food for a month for one participant in the program.
- Your gift of $400 will allow a woman to live in safe, affordable housing for one month.
- Your contribution of $864 gives transportation to one woman for 12 months, allowing her to attend treatment programs, search for and maintain employment.
- Your gift of $7,000 will provide services to one woman for her entire year in the program.

Please consider us in your year-end planning. We can accept donations of stock, and it is easy to set up a recurring gift through our website!

To make a financial contribution, mail a check to Center for Women in Transition at 7525 S. Broadway, St. Louis, MO 63111 or visit our website at www.cwitstl.org/donate_now.
In FY 2014, 150 volunteers gave over 4,000 hours of their time to continue the mission of the Center. Many thanks to our volunteers!

Junior league volunteers helped us clean the grounds around Courtois and Schirmer Houses.

Fontbonne University students beautified garden beds at Schirmer House.

Washington University Law School students helped organize donations.

A volunteer group with Extreme Faith Ministries helped with the office move.

To learn more about volunteering, contact Carrie Coats at carrie.coats@cwitstl.org or by phone at (314) 771-5207.
Donors FY 2014

Grant Funders
Affordable Housing Trust Fund
Boeing Community Fund
Lutheran Foundation
Missouri Department of Corrections
Missouri Housing Trust Fund
Regional Business Council
Robert Family Foundation
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
South Central Community
Sisters of St. Joseph
St. Louis Philanthropic
United Way

Partners of the Mission ($10,000 and up)
Judith Anthon
American Direct
Marketing Resources

Mercy Health
Founders Circle ($5,000-$9,999)
Emerson
Monsanto
Leona & Garry Robben
K Wentzien

President's Circle ($2,500-$4,999)
William Bentlage
Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelet
Lathrop & Gage
Stephen & Carolyn Golden
Jackie Peterson
Laura Toledo
Sr. Suzanne Wesley, CSJ

Directors Circle ($1,000-$2,499)
Pamela Caraffa
Capt. Robert Catlett
Drury Development Corporation
Tim & Emily Estepp
Elon & Suzanne Foitik
Missouri Foundation for Health
Kelly Mitchell
Nancy Klepper
One West Associates, Inc.
Phoebe Love
Ronna M Pohlman
Nancy McCarthy
Beverly Meyers
Kyle Baxter and Alan Ratchford
Harry and Karen Rosenbluth
Sisters of Mercy SCC
Summers Compton and Wells
Virginia Heagney & James Tobin
Nicole Zellweger

Leaders Club ($500-$999)
Carol H Aucamp
First National Bank

Eric Barnhart
Linda Pizzo & Tom Borgman
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Coventry Health Care
Stephen and Susan Coats
Sr. Sherri Coleman, FSM
Kara Conwell
James & Lois Criscione
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Rosemary Fairhead
Mary Ferguson
Teresa Flanagan
Nancy Green
Altrusa International
Annette Llewellyn
Altrusa Club of St. Louis
Mary, Mother of the Church
Deborah McNeil
James Mitchell
Ginger Parker
PB Plumbing & Drain Service
Carative Health Solutions, LLC
Donald & Becky Wohldmann
Robin Wright-Jones

Loyalty Club ($100-$249)
Davis Associates
S. Holly Baker
Margaret Boveri
Claudine Brooks
Kim Brown
Sr. Agnes Brueggen, RSM
Mary Bremmer
Julian Bush
Sisters of Charity
McAuley Community
Mary Ellen Cotsworth
Cecilia Criscione
Ann and Daniel Dalton
Sarah Davis
Mary Deason
Sheila DeHart
Chris Dothage
Glenn Eckert
Mary Ginger Fearheiley
Robert Mithun and Kimi

Fukutome
Schaw Charitable Fund
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Fred Hessel
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Mary Lindmark
Joanna Maltagliati
Franciscan Sisters of Mary
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Paula McGrath
Rena Murphy
Ruth Murray
Brian O'Toole
Sisters of Mercy, Sarah Paradoski
Countess Price
Ursuline Provincialate
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Ruth Rangel
Karen Rengstorf

Matt Riggins
Joan Ross
John and Nancy Stephens
Kevin & Julia Thorpe
C. Tomlin-Rice
Lisa VanAmburg
Lee and Ann Varner
Robin Waters
Cheryl Wittenauer

Supporters ($51-$99)
Jennifer and David Boresi
E. Rebecca Case
Jonathan Curtis
Garlanda Davis
Kathy Farache
Patricia Freeman
Abigail Hable
Stinson Morrison Heather
John and Lenora Long
Peter Neidorff
Janice and Edwin Valdez
Ralph & Susan Zamora

Friends (Gifts up to $50)
Women Lawyers Association
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Aylward
Sally Bakula
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Stephanie Grise
Elizabeth Hampton
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Bernice Heavin
William & Nancy
Heinbecker
Ellen Heitz
Center for Women in Transition has been awarded Neighborhood Assistance Program tax credits to be distributed and used by eligible individuals and businesses in Missouri through June, 2015. NAP credits allow qualified donors to reduce their Missouri tax liability by 50% of their total contribution. With the additional state and federal tax deductions, a $1,000 donation costs donors only $265!

Examples of how tax credits can be applied:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your gift</th>
<th>$1,000</th>
<th>$2,500</th>
<th>$5,000</th>
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<td>-875</td>
<td>-1,750</td>
<td>-3,500</td>
<td>-7,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>State tax deduction assuming 6% tax bracket</td>
<td>-60</td>
<td>-150</td>
<td>-300</td>
<td>-600</td>
<td>-1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>State tax credit (50% of gift)</td>
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<td>-1,250</td>
<td>-2,500</td>
<td>-5,000</td>
<td>-10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional federal tax due to reduction of state tax (35% of $500 credit)</td>
<td>+175</td>
<td>+438</td>
<td>+875</td>
<td>+1,750</td>
<td>+3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total out of pocket cost to donor</td>
<td>$265</td>
<td>$663</td>
<td>$1,325</td>
<td>$2,650</td>
<td>$5,300</td>
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</table>

Eligible Donors

- Individuals with income from royalties or rental property
- Sole proprietors
- Corporations
- S-corporations
- Partnerships
- Limited liability corporations
- Farm operations

Eligible Donations

- Cash
- Stocks
- Bonds

Credits may be used to offset individual income taxes, corporation franchise tax, tax on gross premium receipts of insurance companies, and financial institution tax.

To redeem, please request tax credits at the time of your donation. Only valid for those making a donation of $1,000 or more. Credits are not transferable or refundable.

Visit www.cwidstl.org/donate_now/naptaxcredits for more information or contact Carrie Coats at (314) 771-5207 or by email at carriecoats@cwitstl.org.

*Please consult your financial advisor for the tax treatment of your donation. The Center cannot provide tax advice.
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Stefanie Moore

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Jewell Donald

Schirmer House Supervisor
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Case Manager
LaTonya Rivers

House Managers
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Barbara Richardson, Schirmer House
Debbie James, Schirmer House
Lori Reed, Schirmer House
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Center for Women in Transition

The Center assists women in the criminal justice system in making a successful transition to their families and communities through practicing and promoting restorative justice.

7525 S. Broadway
St. Louis, MO 63111

cwit@cwitstl.org
www.cwitstl.org
314-771-5207

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Please check our website for upcoming events!

Certain project costs have been underwritten by the Missouri Department of Economic Development, Neighborhood Assistance Program.