



Credible Messenger Movement

Bi-Annual Progress Snapshot Sep 2020-Dec 2020

Maine Department of Corrections Division of Juvenile Services

Mission Statement

All youth who have touched the Juvenile Justice System will be connected with a safe Credible Mentor in their home or identified community, to reduce recidivism, strengthen positive community ties, develop life and prosocial skills, and have equal access to employment, education and services.

PROGRESS REPORT

(September 1st, 2020-December 31st, 2020)

Mentoring **15 male youth**—12 community youth and 3 confined youth.

4 Pending Adult Messengers and **4 Pending Young Messengers.**

Ongoing Work

- ❖ Identifying gender-specific mentors to begin a girl's mentor group at Long Creek.
- ❖ Acting as a Credible Messenger for youth in the community and facility and working with JCCO's and courts on appropriate referrals and programs for youth.
- ❖ Educating providers and stakeholders on the Credible Messenger Movement and debunking any misconceptions or confusions by attending JJAG, DMC, and other stakeholder meetings

2020 Completed Goals

- ❖ Create, manage, and facilitate credible messenger groups in the community and facility.
- ❖ Develop relationships with police, schools, courts, and communities.
- ❖ Identify Adult/Young Messengers and identify a funding stream or fiscal agent for stipends for mentors.

2021 Goals/Objectives

- ❖ Create a community and facility girls' group.
- ❖ Complete the internship program.
- ❖ Manage the Community Diversion Team to divert youth of color out of the juvenile justice system.
- ❖ Apply and solidify funding sources to expand Credible Messengers to Juvenile Region 1 & 3.

TYPES OF MENTORS

Adult Credible Messengers: mentors who have previously been involved in the criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

Young Messengers: Young Messengers are youth who are currently and previously incarcerated who want a chance to use their experience as peer support to other youth.

Support Mentors: Support Mentors are individuals who want to be a positive role model and guide youth in the right direction throughout the challenges of life. They will not necessarily share the same life experiences but can volunteer their time as mentors.

Professional Allies: Professional Allies can be individuals, programs, providers, and agency who will use their professional experiences and resources to support Credible Messengers and Young Messengers through trainings, career opportunities and resources.

SPECIALIZED SECTORS

Substance Use ● Domestic
● Violence/Violence ●
Disproportionate Minority Contact;
● Sexual Assault ● Sexual
Trafficking/Exploitation ● Family
Support