

## Biographies

**Sheriff Jason Mosher:** Sheriff for Vernon County, Missouri since 2012. The Vernon County Sheriff's Office will protect and serve every citizen of Vernon County. We want a safe and secure county for all. With the entire staff of the sheriff's office and the citizens of our county working together as partners, we can all be proud to call Vernon county our home. The main focus of the Sheriff's Office is crime prevention. Additionally the Sheriff's Office is charged with investigating all crimes, providing court security, serving court papers, patrolling the county, providing educational services to all youth and parents of Vernon County, and, of course, maintaining a secure environment at the jail for city and county prisoners.

**Sheriff Ron Long:** Pulaski County Sheriff since 2013. For the second straight year, Pulaski County experienced a decrease in the number of crimes being committed.

Pulaski County Sheriff Ron Long said from property crimes to aggravated assaults, the trend in those types of felonies continues a downward slide throughout rural Pulaski County.

Statistics released by Long's office this week indicate that during the 2013 calendar year, the overall crime rate decreased 11% from 2012. In 2014, the county experienced a 23% decrease from the prior year. Long said that translates into a 30% overall reduction of crime over the past two years. According to Long, the decreases are not slight ones, they are in the double-digit range. The largest reductions were in the number of robberies. Robberies are down 33%; aggravate assaults show an overall decrease of 31%. Rape cases are down by 40% while thefts are down 25%. Long attributes the decrease in crime to multiple factors. Targeting major offenders, crime groups, fencing operations and drug dealers, are key factors to Pulaski County's fight against crime. A reorganization of the department's reserve deputy/detective units, has also been instrumental to the reduction. (Waynesville Daily Guide, January 2015).

**Alicia Ozenberger:** Alicia serves as the Deputy Director for ACT Missouri, and is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Missouri. She received her bachelor's degree from Missouri Western State University, and her master's degree from Stephens College in Education Counseling. She provides trainings on Youth Mental Health First Aid, Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training, and From Darkness to Light to members of the Prevention Network and community groups.

**Eric Adams:** Positive Choices Lebanon Sponsor Eric Adams has a long history in Lebanon as a community leader. Adams has been a teacher at Lebanon High School since 2007 and teaches art photography, digital media and photojournalism. He and his students have a proven record of organizing Positive Choices events for the 1,400 member student body. They have held assemblies to provide education and awareness about safety issues affecting teens. Positive Choices Lebanon earned 2nd place in Missouri in 2014 for its Battle of the Belt public service announcement video. PSAs have also been nationally recognized in 2014 and 2015 4-H Filmfest.

Before teaching, Adams was a photojournalist at the Lebanon Daily Record for 10 years. He was responsible for reporting about community events from local schools, civic organizations and the government. Adams earned a bachelor's of science degree from MU in 1996. He earned a master's in education from Drury University in 2011. He has been a church youth leader for 15 years and a 4-H project leader for 12 years.

**Claudia Kays** (Mothers Against Methamphetamine): Executive Director of MAMa Sedalia Chapter, and the Director of Drug Endangered Children in Pettis County. She also does part time work in Recovery Coaching and Parenting classes with the Powerhouse in Marshall, MO. She began her work because she had a son

who battled addiction starting at the age of 12. In 2013, she became a C-2000 coalition in Pettis County and piloted with ACT Missouri and National DEC to bring Drug Endangered Children to Pettis County. She has obtained her certificate by National DEC to be a Core Trainer for Drug Endangered Children and has certification as a Facilitator for a Curriculum-Based Program, 'Youth Connections', which targets 10-17 year olds to educate them on healthy choices. In April of 2014, her son was featured in a video with MODEC in Missouri, and she has since utilized that in a new presentation that she takes to schools to show the causes and effects of Drug Endangered Children.

**Johnnie Williams:** Convicted of Robbery – 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Escape from Custody in 1997. Johnnie was received into the Department of Corrections on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1997. He served time at Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City Correctional Center, and Western Missouri Correctional Center. Johnnie was paroled on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 after 18 ½ years incarcerated. While incarcerated Johnnie became involved in many programs, eventually facilitating many of them as well as speaking to inmates that were within 60 days of release. Since his release, Johnnie has begun to volunteer his time at Mothers Against Methamphetamine (MAMa), speakers at Victim Impact Panels, and has had the opportunity to go back inside of a prison to speak during the last seven months. Johnnie uses his story to connect with and educate people both in the community and those incarcerated, and is focused on substance abuse, reentry, and helping people.

**Mark Shields:** Mark R. Shields, MEd, LPC, CRAADC, has 30 years behavioral health experience in prison, halfway house, hospital and community-based organizations. He is the director of the Missouri Access to Recovery Grant for the Missouri Department of Mental Health, Director of Behavioral Health. His 25 years of post-graduate professional work experience includes: inpatient psychiatric hospital-based substance use disorder treatment, prison-based substance use disorder treatment, half house services for offenders, psychiatric day treatment, and community-based outpatient substance use disorder and

mental health counseling. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in counseling from the University of Missouri in 1981 and 1984, respectfully.

**Dr. Adriatik Likcani:** Associate Professor of the Child and Family Development Program at the University of Central Missouri and Coordinator of the Institute for Behavioral Health. In addition, he is co-founder and Executive Director of Recovery Lighthouse, a community-based organization providing recovery support services to Central Missouri. Dr. Likcani earned his PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy at Kansas State University in 2013. He earned a master's degree in MFT from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2004 and a MSW in 2011 from the University of Missouri – Kansas City. Dr. Likcani has served on a number of boards at the local, state, and national level related to substance abuse and mental health treatment and prevention.

**Reverend Dan Doty:** Executive Director/CEO of City Union Mission. He has served in this position since 1992. He initially came on as a staff member in 1978. Dan gives the overall direction for the ministry and serves under a godly Board of Directors. He has served on the board of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions, and also currently serves on the board of the Kansas City Downtown Rotary Club 13 and Tri-County Ambulance in Plattsburg, MO.

Since 1924, City Union Mission has provided warm beds, nutritious food and a place of safety for thousands of poverty-stricken and homeless men, women, and children. Founded by Rev. and Mrs. David Bulkley, the Mission's staff has been uncompromising in our commitment to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the hurting and the lost. City Union Mission receives no government support and is not a United Way agency. The Mission depends completely on the gifts of God's people – individuals, churches, groups, foundations, and businesses who have a heart for the poor and homeless.

**Kevin and Shawna Coffman:** The Coffman family founded *Saved by Grace NEWS* September 1999 as a result of Kevin conducting weekly Bible studies at the Cass County Detention Center in Harrisonville, Missouri. Kevin recognized the immediate need for the inmates to have Christian material to read and study, so he and Shawna formatted and published a newsletter, "written by inmates for inmates". 16 years later, almost 70,000 copies of the *Saved by Grace NEWS* newsletters are shipped in bulk, free of charge, to over 500 prison chaplains and other prison ministries for distribution to the incarcerated.

In April, 2002 God led the Coffmans to start a church in their living room with the help of several other families. Today, Kevin & Shawna pastor *Saved by Grace Fellowship*, located on the outskirts of Raymore, Missouri on 16 acres of land. The church focuses on individuals needing recovery help from addiction and provide a safe and loving environment also for those with a prison background.

**Steve Fleshman (co-founder/Executive Director) & Dan Lee:** *Life Issues* is an addiction recovery ministry that is an outreach of Heartland Baptist Fellowship (HBF) of Cass County, a not-for-profit ministry located in Harrisonville, Missouri. This ministry serves individuals and their families in the Cass County region of Missouri by meeting the various practical needs that they encounter through addiction and poor choices. *Life Issues* is focused on imparting God's wisdom into people's hearts and teaching life skills to help break the cycle of sin and to keep it from becoming generational.

*Life Issues* was formed in January 2011, and holds weekly meetings every Friday night at 7pm; we are also an approved recovery and post-treatment support group of the Cass County Drug Court and DWI Court. Many come to us as referrals or after hearing of us through HBF's jail ministry. Some are moms and dads seeking help for their children, and others are seeking help for a family member, friend or even themselves.

Several of our students are involved in other local recovery programs, and choose to attend our weekly meetings to add a faith-based component to their recovery, and to utilize the benefits of our support group. However, in addition to our weekly meetings, Life Issues also offers a one-on-one, sponsor led, discipleship program called Truth About Temptations (TATs).

Just as tattoos (tats) permanently mark one's body with ink; we want our Truth About Temptations program (TATs) to permanently mark your heart and mind with the indelible ink of God's Word, to give you victory over temptations. Regardless of your addiction (sin), TATs deals with one's trigger (temptation), which is the common denominator to all sins. Below is an overview of the individual lessons in our sponsor led program:

**This program is made up of 9 lessons and an appendix.**

- 1. Lesson 1 ..... God's Forgiveness**
- 2. Lesson 2 ..... A Right Heart**
- 3. Lesson 3 ..... A Clean Mind**
- 4. Lesson 4 ..... Abiding Fruit**
- 5. Lesson 5 ..... God's Armour**
- 6. Lesson 6 ..... Dying to Self**
- 7. Lesson 7 ..... Falling "In Love"**
- 8. Lesson 8 ..... "One" "In Christ"**
- 9. Lesson 9 ..... Graduation-Victory**
- 10. Appendix: "In Christ" "Christ in us"**

After completing each lesson, you will receive a TAT token to commemorate your efforts, and to give you an incentive to earn all nine TATs. In addition to going through these 9 lessons with a sponsor, Life Issues also requires that you attend 20 meetings, to complete / graduate from our program. So, this is approximately a 6 month program, and there is no charge to attend our

meetings, or to receive counseling in small groups, or for our one-on-one program; Jesus told his disciples "...*freely ye have received, freely give*" (Matthew 10:8), so we have made these resources available for free.

**Brandi McGuire:** Spent 12 years in active addiction, just celebrated five years clean. Brandi had a couple of stints in jail, and spent time in prison. She is helping to implement a recovery court in Johnson County, MO as well as a sober living house in Sedalia.

**Christine McDonald:** Author and activist, loves motivational speaking, and she does all she can to help and to advocate for ex-offenders, addicts, and prostituted and trafficked women. One of her largest passions is educating people outside of these circumstances to help them have a better understanding of the barriers society has placed before the underserved population. She lives to help others put their lives back together.