



Arrowhead Regional Corrections

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Superintendent of Northeast Regional Corrections Center Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Kathy Trihey, Superintendent at the Northeast Regional Corrections Center, was recently awarded the Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act County's Board of Directors Jack Young Award. This award is given to individuals who have furthered the mission of community corrections having made outstanding contributions to the development of and improvement of community corrections in Minnesota.

Kathy started as a Group Living Counselor at the Arrowhead Juvenile Center (AJC) in 1974. She experienced the transition to a Community Corrections agency and the birth of Arrowhead Regional Corrections in 1976. In 1979, Kathy was promoted to Social Services Director of the Arrowhead Juvenile Center. In this role, she provided the supervision and leadership to create one of the first Intensive Supervision units for juveniles in the state. It was known as S.W.A.T. (Special Workers Assisting Treatment) and was recognized nationally as a model program. This programming was groundbreaking at the time and has now been fully integrated into AJC's current corrections practices.

Kathy served as a supervisor in Court and Field Services beginning in 1986 and was promoted to the Superintendent position at the Arrowhead Juvenile Center in 1987 where she served for 26 years. Under her leadership, the juvenile center expanded in 1996 to include an additional 24 beds dedicated to residential treatment programming. In addition to short term and long term residential programming, Kathy implemented a juvenile male sex offender program that is one of the best in the state.

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At the request of the Arrowhead Regional Corrections Director, Kathy transferred to the position of Superintendent of the Northeast Regional Corrections Center (NERCC) in February of 2013. NERCC was in need of major work, and once again, Kathy took on the project. She ushered NERCC through a complete transformation both in physical structure as well as programmatically. Kathy's vision, expertise, dedication and fearlessness have resulted in a positive outcome that will serve the Arrowhead region for decades to come.

It should be noted that throughout Kathy's career she has had to overcome barriers and was truly a ground breaker. During her career, it was not typical for women to be in leadership positions. She paved the way for many women to follow.

Kathy is passionate about her work and particularly working for children and families. This is where her heart is. She is a tireless advocate for children's mental health, education, and diversity issues.

Kathy's other passion is working with female offenders. She started the Duluth Task Force on Female Offenders over 25 years ago. She has worked to prioritize and fight for funding for gender specific programming her entire career. She has participated on the State Advisory Task Force on female offenders and is considered an expert on the subject. In 2010, she was recognized for her work and received the Esther Tomljanovich Lifetime Achievement Award from the State of Minnesota Female Offender Advisory Task Force.

Kathy plans to retire in November 2015 after 42 years of service. There is no question that she has had a long career, but what is noteworthy is all that she has accomplished during that time. When Kathy reflects on her time with ARC, she can truly say that she has made a difference in our region, our state, and in the field of corrections.