



REENTRY

National Media Outreach Campaign



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REENTRY PROFILE — The San Diego Reentry Roundtable

On the third Tuesday of every month, the conference room on the 13th floor of the San Diego Hall of Justice is filled to overflowing for the meeting of the San Diego Reentry Roundtable. Members represent every facet of the criminal justice system -- from correctional institutions, parole, probation, law enforcement, faith-based and community-based organizations, to governmental agencies, researchers, universities, former prisoners and family members, and concerned community members. The meetings are held in the offices of the San Diego County District Attorney.

“We are fortunate to have the support of District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis,” says Anita Paredes, former chair and founding member of the Roundtable. “I don’t know of any other jurisdiction where the district attorney has tackled the issue of prisoner reentry as a necessary element of public safety.”

Jeremy Travis, formerly of the Urban Institute, facilitated two meetings here in 2001 to begin the conversation on reentry, sponsored by the Price Family Charitable Fund and the San Diego Community Foundation. These meetings brought together a broadly representative group of diverse San Diego institutions and community leaders to discuss the challenges posed by prisoner reentry.

With funding from the Price Family Charitable Fund, the San Diego Community Foundation and the Annie E. Casey Foundation, local policy makers, practitioners and researchers came together in April 2002 to create the San Diego Reentry Roundtable. The purpose of the meeting, facilitated by Jeremy Travis, was to develop a concrete action strategy focusing on the neighborhoods hardest hit by the removal, incarceration and return of a large number of individuals in San Diego.

Initially, the group focused on City Heights, an urban neighborhood of San Diego, and parolees returning from state prison. At that time, state prisoners and reentry were federal funding priorities. “We spent a lot of energy on the concept of a local reentry center for state parolees, and a lot of people equated the Roundtable with the City Heights proposal,” says Paredes.

In September 2004, members engaged in a consensus-building exercise, and agreed that the focus of the Roundtable should not be limited to state parolees, but would include local jails, federal and juvenile institutions. In addition, the group agreed that reentry was a concern for the entire county, while realizing that some areas would require more resources than others.

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For more information, or to sign up for the Reentry quarterly e-newsletter, please contact:

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REENTRY PROFILE - San Diego Reentry Roundtable - *continued*

In January 2005, the group drafted its mission statement, “to promote the safe and successful return of offenders to our community.” Since that time, the Reentry Roundtable has functioned as advisors for various projects, including the Urban Institute’s Reentry Mapping Network site in San Diego. In the fall of 2005, the Roundtable co-sponsored a conference with the California Department of Corrections Prison Industry Authority and the San Diego Workforce Partnership to educate employers about the value of hiring qualified and motivated parolees. This October, the Roundtable will assist the San Diego Sheriff’s Department in hosting the International Community Connection Association’s annual research conference.

The purpose of the Roundtable is not to provide direct services, but to promote best practices and eliminate barriers to successful reentry. Anyone interested in improving prisoner reentry is invited to attend. For the past two years, the group has been heavily involved in the development and implementation of California Senate Bill 618, groundbreaking legislation that begins the reentry process *before* the defendant is sentenced.

SB 618, now called the San Diego Reentry Project, was spearheaded by DA Bonnie Dumanis’ office with input from the Roundtable. Partners include the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), San Diego Sheriff’s and Probation departments. The San Diego Association of Governments is evaluating the project. Since most prisoners return to their old neighborhoods, the County has an interest to ensure that prisoners return better prepared to be law-abiding citizens than when they left.

Nonviolent offenders can volunteer for the program if they are likely to be sent to either Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility in San Diego or the California Institution for Women. A major innovation of the program is that all assessment that generally is conducted at prison reception centers is completed in jail prior to the offender’s transfer to the prison. A risk/needs assessment is conducted, and along with assessment results, form the basis of the offender’s in-custody treatment plan. The offender does not have to wait months in the reception center before transferring to the main prison and being assigned to programs that will ameliorate his/her risks and needs for positive reentry.

An institutional case manager works with the inmate and transfers case management to a community case manager within six months of release. The community case manager ensures a continuum of care from the institution through parole. The parolee can continue to receive case management and supportive services while on parole. An interdisciplinary team, or “community roundtable,” meets with the parolee and the case manager on a regular basis to better meet the parolee’s individual needs.

According to Liz Doroski, Research Analyst II from SANDAG’s Criminal Justice Research Division, about 100 offenders have been enrolled since March 2007. CDCR officials have said that one of the reasons that San Diego was chosen as the site to implement SB 618 was the involvement of the Roundtable and openness of the community to come together around prisoner reentry.

Along with influencing policy and perception with regards to prisoners and reentry, one of the benefits of attending the monthly meetings is networking. “There’s definitely an informal network meeting in the hallways after we adjourn,” says Paredes. “We all hang around until we are chased out.”

*Have you missed an issue of the Reentry e-newsletter?
Past issues can be found on the Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign Web site
(<http://www.reentrymediaoutreach.org/enewsletter.htm>)!*

REENTRY PROFILE - San Diego Reentry Roundtable - *continued*

"I see The Roundtable as a collaborative effort to ensure and enrich the access and delivery of services for the formerly incarcerated from federal, state and local facilities," says Jack Micklos, current chair of the Roundtable and Deputy Director of San Diego Second Chance Program. After five years, there is no sign that interest is slowing down around prisoner reentry in San Diego. For information contact Jack Micklos, Chair (619) 234-8888 or Anita Paredes, Chair Emeritus (619) 543-8561.

-Thanks to Anita Paredes for submitting this article

To read a recently published article about the San Diego Reentry Roundtable and California Senate Bill 618, published in The San Diego Union-Tribune on August 16, 2007 go to www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20060816/news_1n16prison.html

REENTRY PROFILE — The Grand Divas

An emerging best practice for grandparent caretakers of children with incarcerated parents



Most grandparents, as we know them, are the rocks of our families, providing wisdom and often a link to our past. They may tell us silly stories of when we were young. They may tell us their own adventures in life and share their experiences of struggle and success. Thus, grandparents often are an intrinsic part of our lives. They help us to remember who we are, where we came from, and they can give us insight into where we may be headed.

Across the nation, there exist many noteworthy efforts to improve the lives of families and children living in less than desirable circumstances. Yet, often overlooked in these efforts are the unique needs of grandparents fulfilling the unanticipated role as primary caregivers for their young grandchildren. This growing trend in third generation care is often a direct result of parent incarceration.

There has been a 700% increase in incarcerated women in the past two years in the U.S. Of the 1.3 million children affected by having an incarcerated parent, most are raised by their grandparents. For the first time, the 2000 federal Census collected data on grandparents who were primary caregivers for their grandchildren. The numbers revealed that approximately 5.8 million grandparents were living with grandchildren under the age of 18. Forty-two percent of these grandparents were responsible for the care of their grandchildren.

These grandparent-headed families face a number of challenges in obtaining necessary health care, financial and public assistance, legal supports, and adequate housing. Combined with the need for these basic necessities are unique psychological and emotional needs which often go unnoticed and unmet.

In Providence, Rhode Island, incarceration and recidivism rates of minority populations are at an all-time high. Consequently, the numbers of grandparents providing primary care for their grandchildren is on the rise. Responding to the needs of this ever-growing population is an emerging network called The Grand Divas.

The Grand Divas are a group of older and mature women who have come together to bring support and resources to each other, and to foster well-being, healing, and friendship as they travel this new life's journey of caring for the children of their children. Casey Family Services in Providence, RI, facilitated the launch of this group. Staff at Casey Family Services, a community-based foster care and family service agency, recognized the needs of this growing population and set out to devise a program to support mature/older women in the community. The result is The Grand Divas.

With support from Casey Family Services, six very special women came together in February, 2006, to launch The Grand Divas. Since that time, The Grand Divas has grown in number, and they have expanded to new dimensions. Supportive activities, relationships, and resources now empower them, bringing education, recreation, and healing to this circle of grandparent caregivers. The group has evolved, facilitating their own planning, targeting and discussing their needs, and identifying resources to achieve the kinds of results they envision.

REENTRY PROFILE—The Grand Divas - *continued*

To date, they have hosted workshops for grandparent caregivers on depression, self-esteem, beauty for the mature woman, financial stability, meditation and yoga. Future workshops are planned and include leadership development along with other skill-building activities.

Other workshops and activities provided for and by The Grand Divas include:

- Health/Nutrition
- Yoga
- Reflexology
- Medicaid/Medicare
- Education/Public Schools
- Elections/Voting
- Running Your Own Business
- Healthy Cooking
- Menopause
- Sexual Abuse-Child and Adult
- Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs
- Attention Deficit Hyper-activity Disorder (ADHD) in Children
- Diversity

While learning about the importance of nutrition and physical activity to maintain good health after the age of 50, especially as it relates to the stamina needed to care for young children, the gentle stretching and relaxation of yoga became especially appealing. The Grand Divas now incorporate yoga into their weekly meetings. The idea that the great benefits of their experience with healthy mind and body activities could positively impact their families soon took hold. As a result, The Grand Divas got together and crafted a grant application that proposed including entire families in positive health and nutrition education and activities. This successful proposal resulted in fifteen low-income families receiving supportive training in stress and health management.



Being part of The Grand Divas has also provided a vehicle for these women to share their stories. One such experience occurred when one of the Grand Divas was invited by *Making Connections* Providence and The Family Life Center to participate in a community forum about reentry. Featuring the Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign documentary *Omar and Pete*, this Grand Diva shared her experiences as both the mother of an incarcerated son and as a grandmother raising his child. Among the 100 or so audience members in attendance were her supportive Grand Diva sisters, cheering her on as she opened her heart and offered first-hand insight into the challenges of being a mature caregiver for her grandchild.

This uniquely public experience has enabled this Grand Diva to pursue more leadership opportunities, empowering her to share with and to help others in their struggle as grandparent caregivers. Thus, a powerful working relationship has formed between the Grand Divas and The Family Life Center. The Family Life Center is a nonprofit organization in Rhode Island that provides the previously incarcerated and their families with pre-release and long-term services and supports. In 2006, members of The Grand Divas were among those who worked with The Family Life Center on the successful Rhode Island Right to Vote Campaign. In November 2006, Rhode Island became the first state in the nation's history to restore voting rights to formerly incarcerated individuals through public referendum. Fifteen thousand Rhode Island citizens won back their right to vote.

It has been almost two years since the first Grand Divas meeting. The group has expanded to include other great, smart and spiritual women who have grown together, shared experiences, and developed relationships with each other. For some, this experience has brought them outside of their own cultural and ethnic circles for the first time.

Ileana Valentin-Lopez, a member of the Casey Family Services staff who was instrumental in creating the Grand Divas group was recently asked how successful this program is. "Quantifiably, we can look at the growth in membership," she stated. "Qualitatively, we can look at the growth in their confidence, the strengthening of their relationships with one another, and the lowering of walls in order to cross cultural barriers. They have built trust among themselves by sharing their stories, struggles, tears, and triumphs. They are all Grand Divas because they are beautiful and grand."

REENTRY PROFILE— Back On Track San Francisco

Low level drug offenders too often cycle in and out of the criminal justice system. San Francisco District Attorney Kamala D. Harris is applying “smart on crime” strategies by bringing together law enforcement, government and private sector leaders to address the epidemic of recidivism and the structural barriers for safe and successful reentry.

In 2005, the District Attorney launched the Office’s Reentry Unit, an umbrella of various reentry programs for juveniles and young adults with heavy focus on educational and workforce development, family and community accountability and restorative justice. The Unit’s flagship program, *Back on Track*, couples strict accountability and close supervision with education, employment support, housing, and wellness education. The program’s goal is to protect communities and save public resources by channeling young, first time drug offenders away from crime and into productive lives. A comprehensive public/private partnership, the program is intended to show that early intervention with first-time, low-level drug offenders can help them permanently exit the criminal justice system.

Eligibility- Eligibility is restricted to first-time young adult felony drug offenders arrested and charged with small quantities of narcotics. Defendants are not eligible if they have histories of gang involvement, gun possession, or violence. Preference is given to offenders who are parents of young children. When an individual is arrested for drug sales or possession-for-sale, the District Attorney’s Office reviews the case and the defendant’s criminal record to determine eligibility. The Office then advises both the Court and the defendant of the option to enter the *Back on Track* program.

Program Opportunities and Collaboration - In partnership with Goodwill Industries, the Superior Court of California, as well as public and community based service providers, *Back on Track* is a unique public/private reentry initiative focused on demonstrating the public safety, economic, and social efficacy of offering career development alternatives for young adults who otherwise face a felony conviction and incarceration.

Back on Track connects participants with institutions and individuals that can help them secure and embrace legitimate employment and substantial educational opportunities. *Back on Track* partners, such as the Academy of Art College, Morrison & Foerster, the San Francisco 49ers, 24 Hour Fitness, City College of San Francisco, Building & Construction Trades labor unions, and local business community, all believe that the right mix of supervision and consistent reinforcement will result in these young people making and sticking with the right choices.

Back on Track Reentry Court - When a defendant agrees to participate and is deemed eligible by the DA’s office, they are referred to a case manager and a job coach. Within the first six weeks, participants complete 220 hours of restorative community service and must be fully engaged in employment readiness activities. Upon successful completion of the initial six-week phase, a referral is made to *Back on Track Court*, overseen by U.S. District Court Judge Thelton Henderson and Superior Court Judge John Dearman. Participants are required to plead guilty pursuant to a Deferred Entry of Judgment, through which sentencing is postponed for twelve months.

During the program, in collaboration with Goodwill’s *Back on Track* Career Advisors, each participant develops a Personal Responsibility Plan that outlines his or her specific educational, workforce, family and other objectives for the 12-month program. Objectives may include: obtaining a high school diploma, securing full time employment, stabilizing housing, attending parenting classes, opening and maintaining a bank account, enrolling in college, abiding by child support orders, etc. Participants are provided unparalleled support services to ensure that they have the tools to reach each objective outlined in their Personal Responsibility Plan. In addition to regular contact and meetings with a Career Advisor, participants must appear before a *Back on Track* judge every two weeks to report on their progress.

If a participant is charged with a new drug case, they are terminated immediately from the program and go directly to sentencing. If a participant successfully completes the year-long program and is not rearrested, the District Attorney’s Office asks the Court to dismiss the case and seal the related arrest, leaving the participant with a clean adult felony record.

Effectiveness - *Back on Track* is showing tremendous results. In 2007, the National District Attorney’s Association recognized the program as a model for DA Office’s around the country. Now in its second full year of operation, the program boasts a less than 10% recidivism rate, which is extraordinary in light of the fact that over 50% of comparable offenders are charged with new crimes within two years of release. In lieu of County Jail and court cost, each young

REENTRY PROFILE— Back On Track San Francisco - *continued*

person accepted into the *Back on Track* program saves the City over \$30,000 in jail costs alone. More than 90% of participants in the program are employed, in school or job training. All participants with child support obligations are in good standing and making their required payments. Currently, 120 participants are enrolled in the program.

For more information on this program, please visit <http://www.sfdistrictattorney.org> or contact Lateefah Simon at (415) 575-6328. Lateefah is also the former executive director of the Center for Young Women's Development. Her work is featured both in GIRL TROUBLE (<http://www.reentrymediaoutreach.org/gt.htm>) and in a short film about the Center's work (http://www.reentrymediaoutreach.org/gt_video.htm).

REENTRY CONFERENCES AND EVENTS -

Drug Court Conference

The New England Association of Drug Court Professionals will hold its 7th annual conference, "**Addiction: The New England Drug Court Perspective – When Communities Respond People Recover.**" **September 20-21 in Boston, MA.** Keynote speakers include West Huddleston, CEO of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, and Tim Condon, Deputy Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Other featured speakers are Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick; John Walters, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy; and John Hoffman and Susan Froemke, co-executive producers of HBO's Addiction Project. Break-out sessions will explore a number of substantive topics related to the drug court system, covering both current practice and emerging policy and legislative initiatives. Among those encouraged to attend are judges and drug court professionals, state and community leaders, health care providers, and advocates. www.advocatesinc.org/images/NEADCP-brochure%2007.pdf

Special Supervision Conference

The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency of the District of Columbia will host a Special Supervision Conference on **October 15-16 in Washington, DC.** The conference title is, **Transforming Barriers into Strengths: 'Evidence Based Practices in Supervising Special Needs Offenders.'** For information and registration visit the CSOSA website at www.csosa.gov

National Prisoner Reentry Conference

"**Healing the Heart, Healing the Community,**" the 6th **Annual National Prisoner Reentry Conference** presented by Christian Association for Prison Aftercare and Prison Fellowship (previously sponsored by Transition of Prisoners). **October 26-28 in Minneapolis, MN.** Keynote speakers include Mark Earley, former State senator and Attorney general of Virginia who became president of Prison Fellowship in 2002; Pastor V. Ricardo Thomas, Senior Pastor of Faith Tabernacle Church; Carol Kent, founder and director of "Speak Up With Confidence" seminars and president of Speak Up Speaker Services; and A. Scott Washington, Executive Director of ReConnections, a grassroots, faith-based community service organization. Workshops include: *Legal Barriers to Successful Reentry*, *Fatherhood Pre- and Post-Release*, and *Impacting At-Risk Youth*. Among those encouraged to attend are: Chaplains, Case Workers, Counselors, Community Leaders, Reentry Workers, Corrections Workers, Pastors, Agency Managers, Prison Ministry Leaders, Family Members of Prisoners and Ex-Prisoners. For information and registration please visit the CAPA website at www.capaassociation.org

Conference on the Impact of Incarceration

Centerforce and the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice will hold a conference on the impact of juvenile and adult incarceration on **October 22 and 23, 2007 in San Francisco.** "**Critical Juncture: Innovative Solutions for Addressing the Impact of Youth and Adult Incarceration in Our Communities**" will explore both policy and practice and provide implementation tools. Break-out sessions will cover reforming youth corrections, multi-systemic therapy approaches, community-based reentry partnerships, and sentencing reform. www.njisj.org/documents/SUMMITPOSTCARDEMAILFLYER.pdf

Race Still Matters Conference

The Race Still Matters Coalition will host a conference on racial justice on **October 20, 2007 in Newark.** The **Race Still Matters Conference** will bring together community members and leaders to discuss a range of racial justice issues, with workshops on racial profiling, felony disenfranchisement, mandatory minimums, reentry, police practices, and others. The conference is free and open to the public; pre-registration is required. www.aclu-nj.org/racestillmatters/racestillmattersabout.htm

REENTRY CONFERENCES AND EVENTS - *continued*

Save The Date

The 4th Annual National Offender Workforce Development Conference, “**Breaking Cycles Changing Lives**” is sponsored by Productive Workforce Development and United Job Creation Council of Los Angeles, **April 16-19, 2008 in Los Angeles, CA.** For information or to reserve a seat call 314-749-0405 or email whitener@proworkdev.com.

REENTRY NEWS AND RESOURCES

Articles:

Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency article on Faith-Based Offender Reentry Efforts

National Sheriff Magazine recently printed an article on Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency's faith-based offender reentry efforts. The article, *Faith-Based Offender Reentry Programs in Washington, DC*, is available at www.csosa.gov/Olipa/pubs/faithbased_offender_reentry_mayjune2007.pdf

County to be site of pilot program for inmates re-entering society

SACRAMENTO – Instead of releasing a state prisoner with cash and a bus ticket, a pilot program planned for San Diego County this fall will give prisoners new help to succeed in society. San Diego County was selected for the first pilot because of a “roundtable” of representatives from state corrections, local law enforcement, social services, former inmates and others that has been meeting for several years. To read the article please go to www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20060816/news_1n16prison.html

Legislation:

Senate Judiciary Committee Passes Second Chance Act (*reprinted from New Jersey Reentry Digest, August 16, 2007*)

On August 2, 2007, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee completed the mark-up of the Second Chance Act of 2007 (S.1060). The bill will now be sent to the Senate floor for consideration, which sponsors say will take place shortly after the August recess. The bipartisan bill has 30 co-sponsors in the Senate. In the House, key sponsors are working to bring the bill to the floor for a vote when Congress reconvenes in September. The Second Chance Act would authorize a \$65 million reentry grant program administered through the Department of Justice for state and county reentry initiatives and a \$15 million reentry program for community and faith-based organizations to deliver mentoring and transitional services. The bill also includes drug treatment and mentoring grant programs. www.reentrypolicy.org/reentry/Second_Chance_Act_of_2005.aspx

Studies, Briefs and Reports:

New Study on Reentry and Employment (*reprinted from New Jersey Reentry Digest, August 2, 2007*)

The Urban Institute has released the results of a five-year longitudinal study of men returning to Chicago from Illinois state correctional institutions. Co-authored by Christy Visher and Vera Kachnowski, "*Finding Work on the Outside: Results from the Returning Home Project in Chicago*" examines the workforce experiences of 400 men prior to their incarceration and at an average of two and six months after release. The study finds that less than 30 percent of these men employed at the time of the interview at six months after release and about half (49 percent) reported having worked at least one month since their release. Employment before prison, participation in job training during prison, strong family relationships, and an absence of health problems led to a greater likelihood of finding work after release. www.urban.org/publications/1001090.html

Analysis of U.S. Prison Growth (*reprinted from New Jersey Reentry Digest, August 2, 2007*)

The Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice has released a new report, "*Analyzing U.S. Prison Growth.*" Authored by Mike Males, the report analyzes rising incarceration rates over the past quarter century through the demographic lenses of race, gender, and age. Overall, the report cites harsh sentencing laws for drug-related offenses as the major driver of the prison population growth. www.njisj.org/documents/AnalyzingUSPrisonGrowth.pdf

Issue Briefing on Reentry and Employment (*reprinted from New Jersey Reentry Digest, July 19, 2007*)

MDRC has released an online ‘Issue Focus’ on reentry and employment as part of its research on welfare and barriers to employment. The briefing explores the relationship between crime and employment, cites research on the effectiveness of employment programs for reentering individuals, and provides synopsis updates of ongoing investigations of employment initiatives targeting formerly incarcerated individuals. www.mdrc.org/area_issue_23.html

REENTRY NEWS AND RESOURCES—*continued*

New Research on Faith-Based Reentry Programs (*reprinted from New Jersey Reentry Digest, July 19, 2007*)

Researchers from the Urban Institute's Justice Policy Center have published two new articles on faith-based reentry programs. "Assessing Intermediate Outcomes of a Faith-Based Residential Prisoner Reentry Program," co-authored by Caterina G. Roman, Ashley Wolff, Vanessa Correa, and Janeen Buck, examines a reentry program in Reno, Nevada, assessing: 1) how a client's religiosity and/or spirituality related to other client characteristics and program-level characteristics; 2) whether clients who completed the program differed from those who were terminated; and 3) how religious preference, religiosity/spirituality, religious salience, and incarceration's impact on spirituality influenced program completion, program satisfaction, and perceived progress.

"Faith-Based Efforts to Improve Prisoner Reentry: Assessing the Logic and Evidence," co-authored by Daniel P. Mears, Caterina G. Roman, Ashley Wolff, and Janeen Buck, addresses four questions on faith-based prisoner reentry programs: 1) What is a "faith-based" program?; 2) How does or could such a program reduce recidivism and improve other behavioral outcomes among released offenders?; 3) What is the evidence concerning the impacts of faith-based reentry programs?; and 4) What are critical implementation issues that may affect the operations and impacts of such programs? www.njisj.org/documents/faith-basedreentryprograms.doc

COMMUNITY SCREENING TAPE OFFERS

This month, the Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign (<http://www.reentrymediaoutreach.org>) is pleased to offer screening copies of two exceptional documentary productions presented earlier in this campaign. A user feedback form must be returned after receiving any campaign production. Application forms can be found on the website as indicated below. Please read instructions carefully as applications are most often denied due to incomplete submissions. Most productions have an accompanying viewer discussion guide, which can be downloaded using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader (<http://www.adobe.com>). A limited supply is available of each of the following productions:

To Serve This Present Age: Reentering Through Faith

Outside The Walls: A National Snapshot of Community-Based Prisoner Reentry Programs

To Serve This Present Age: Reentering Through Faith capitalizes on the black church's growing commitment to play an active role in addressing the substantial impact of crime and imprisonment on families and communities. The need for the video is based on the large numbers of men and women, disproportionately people of color, who are returning home following incarceration. Many seek assistance from houses of worship, which are striving to meet this demand. Offering specific strategies, the accompanying outreach guide functions as a "call to action," encouraging clergy and lay people to create or strengthen their local ministries or programs to assist former prisoners and their families. Additional resources include a glossary of reentry terms, suggested federal funding sources, and a list of national organizations that may be helpful in developing a reentry initiative.

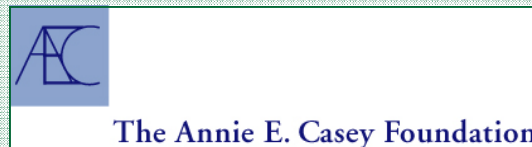


Funded by a generous grant from The Annie E. Casey Foundation, *To Serve this Present Age: Reentering Through Faith* was developed by the Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, and the National Alliance of Faith and Justice. Videotapes and DVDs of *To Serve This Present Age* are available for community use. To order a copy, please visit www.reentrymediaoutreach.org/faith.htm

Outside The Walls: A National Snapshot of Community-Based Prisoner Reentry Programs - The Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign's *Outside the Walls* videotape showcases several reentry programs in each of six categories – education and employment; health; housing; family; public safety; and faith. The video profiles each program – presenting a description of services, highlighting partnerships and collaborations, and providing outcomes that document why the program is effective. In addition to staff and partners of the various reentry programs, diverse viewpoints are presented, including individuals who were formerly incarcerated, crime victims and their advocates, as well as policymakers, parole and probation departments, departments of correction, government agencies, and community leaders. Transcripts of the video as well as the companion resource guide are on the Reentry Web site. The **resource guide** contains briefing papers on the six categories as well as profiles of almost 100 reentry programs.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) is supporting the **Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign** as part of the Making Connections Media Outreach Initiative (MCMOI), which is designed and managed by Outreach Extensions. This vital effort links media broadcasters to local stakeholders and their diverse constituencies, providing outreach strategies and media resources that support their efforts to strengthen youth and families and build effective communities.

The Making Connections Media Outreach Initiative offers media support to local coalitions that are part of AECF's *Making Connections*, a multi-faceted, long-term effort to improve the life chances of vulnerable children by helping to strengthen their families and neighborhoods. The Foundation's intent is to stimulate and support a local movement that engages residents, civic groups, political leaders, grassroots groups, public and private sector leadership, and faith-based organizations in an effort to help transform tough neighborhoods into family-supportive environments.



This e-Newsletter is an electronic publication intended to keep you informed about news and events relating to the Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign. **Please let us know how we're doing through the feedback form on the Reentry Web site (<http://www.reentrymediaoutreach.org/contactus.htm>).**

For more information, please contact:
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We welcome the names/e-mail addresses of your colleagues so that we can send copies of this e-Newsletter to them as well.