FAITH-BASED INITIATIVE

FBI Journal



Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency



Volume 3 Issue 3

August 2009

FBI's Service Providers

By Sondra Hunt, FBI Team

CLUSTER A

-CAPITOL CITY RESTAU-RANT MANAGEMENT

-S.E. VETERAN CENTER

-LYDIA'S HOUSE

-WALK ON WATERS

-D.A.D.S. OUTREACH

-CONCERNED CITIZENS ON ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE, INC.

-DESTINY, POWER AND PURPOSE, INC.

CLUSTER B

-DC METRO HEALTHY MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIPS

-GREATER MT. CALVARY HOLY CHURCH

-WENDT CENTER FOR LOSS AND HEALING

-PILGRIM REST THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

> -UDC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

-C.H.O.I.C.E., INC.

-NOMIS YOUTH NETWORK

-FLAME FINANCIAL

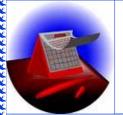
-HOLISTIC APPROACH TO HEALTH

Cont. on Page 2

Summer Edition

Summer & Fall = A Time for Training—see Page 6

Mark Your Calendar



September 12, 2009, 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m

"Lifted Up"

Fall Concert (Pro-Social Activity)

 $McKendree\hbox{-}Simms\hbox{-}Brookland\ United\ Methodist\ Church$

Service Provision is Still in Vogue

Lifting a Hand to Serve

By: Chris Keels, FBI Team Leader

This issue of the FBI News Journal, is dedicated to our service providers and their recipients. The FBI has over thirty (30) service providers that offer services and resources to our mentees (offenders). Services range from clothing to vocational training. We take this opportunity to thank those institutions, organizers and funding sources for your commitment to the re-entry community and to reentrants. If you were not committed to such a ministry, many well deserving individuals would not have an open door to enter. In these difficult economic times, it is particularly important that reentrants have community-based services that assist in their re-entry process.

Although CSOSA is a cutting edge community supervision agency, it is realized that CSOSA cannot do it alone and should not try to meet every need of the re-entrant. Such actions would defeat the whole purpose of successful re-entry. Individuals must learn to navigate and become familiar with resources, services and role models/mentors that will assist them in the future.

Having a place to go just to talk to someone is the first step, but just as important is the desire to have



someone who will listen and help with strategizing and developing options. FB Service Providers offers assistance with a special caveats called *'love and commitment.'* Mentees and offenders who are a part of the initiative find comfort, support, friendship, role models, and life planning in your corridors.

CSOSA is particularly grateful for your commitment to re-entrants and strongly encourage you to continue your fine work for the citizens of the District of Columbia.

Additional Service Providers

LEBONY JAMES NUTRITION

-SAMARI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - CORPORATION

DISCIPLES OF LOVE INC./
BREAKTHROUGH COMMUNITY

-DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

-INSTITUTE FOR LIFE LONG LEARNING

-SOUTH WASHINGTON FAMILY STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIVE

CLUSTER C

-DAMIEN MINISTRIES

-COMMUNITY FAMILY LIFE SERVICES

-COUNCIL OF WOMEN MINISTRIES, INC.

-SAMARITAN MINISTRIES

-NORTHWEST SETTLEMENT HOUSE

-CHRISTIAN IMPACT

-GEORGIA AVENUE FAMILY SUPPORT COLLABORATIVE





"CELEBRATING YOU"

Lifting a Hand to Serve- by Chris Keels, FBI Team Leader

To your credit and with your assistance, Tashia Chambers, City-Wide Outreach Coordinator for the Faith-Based Initiative was able to compile a FBI's Service Provider Resource Manual. You can access this document through www.csosa.gov, CSOSA's web-site beginning September 1, 2009. Ms. Chambers will be contacting each program to invite you to a meeting to discuss service gaps and ways to close the gaps. Until then, please know that your work is important, meaningful and appreciated by the staff and clients of Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency.

Cluster Coordinators

CLUSTER A

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CITY-WIDE OUTREACH COORDINATOR

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Call us or e-mail we would love to hear from you. You are special to us! Happy Labor Day and Please Remember to Enjoy the Fall Season



FBI 2008-2009 Special Emphasis Report—By Chris Keels, FBI Team Leader

Since 2007, the Faith-Based Initiative has focused its mentoring concept on addressing the needs of our offenders in a group or class process. Such avenues allow the mentors and mentees to meet on a weekly basis, focusing on the mentee's primary need. The prioritization of needs for such specialized mentoring was selected from program reviews in 2007 & 2008. In 2008, the Initiative focused on Family Reunification, Basic Parenting Classes, Pro-Social Skills Development, Gang Prevention and Intervention, Relapse Prevention and Job Coaching.



2008 Special Emphasis

The Family Reunification Program provides basic parenting, stay away orders, child support requirements, custody and legal issues, with wrap around services that include education, employment and housing during the four month class. The program began its fourth class on June 3, 2009, with twenty-nine students. The programs successes included: increased referrals, 75 - 85% completion rates, reduced recidivism, custody awards, child support negotiation and more effective parenting skills. The next graduation is scheduled for September 30, 2009, at McKendree-Simms-Brookline United Methodist Church at 6:00p.m. Please plan to celebrate with us.

The SE Parenting Class focuses on basic parenting skills and commitment to parenting ideologies for the parents. The group is in its 15th class which started on July 9, 2009, with a graduation scheduled for August 20, 2009.



The FBI has co-sponsored a number of pro-social events for offenders. Pro-Social events include concerts, workshops, festivals and other forms of education or entertainment. The purpose is to assist our clients in finding appropriate people, places and things that will promote successful re-entry. In exchange for attending and participating in the programs, the offenders receive a contact credit with CSOSA. If your faith institution is sponsoring a free event, please notify the Outreach Coordinator tchambers@daprp.org so that we can make this information available to our Community Supervision Officers (probation/parole officers) and clients.



In 2008, two faith institutions (Pilgrim AME and First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church) secured funding from the District of Columbia to provide gang intervention and prevention programs. The Hustle and Flow Program at Pilgrim AME has continued beyond the funding period. The group focuses on prevention, gang exiting planning, alternative forms of survival, family restoration, and etc. Contact Rev. Karen Harrison, Program Coordinator at 202-396-8582 for more information and to arrange attendance.



Order My Step Women's Relapse Prevention Group - see page 5. Two Men's Relapse Prevention Groups entitled, Take Back What Was Stole from Me", Classes I & II, will begin in September sponsored by Community Hope-Church of the Nazarene in SE and New Canaan Baptist Church in NW.

In April 2008, FBI trained over forty mentors in the art of job coaching. In 2008, the initiative co-sponsored with our Vocational, Opportunities, Training, Education and Employment Unit (VOTEE) two job readiness conferences for offenders. Life skills topics such as interviewing skills, resume writing, dressing for success and time management were presented. Over two hundred offenders attended and one hundred resumes were completed on the spot.



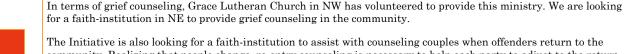
2009 Special Emphasis



As a result of the 2008 program review, the FBI added the following additional special emphases that includes: Housing Assistance, Grief Counseling, Relationship Restoration, Health Screenings and Prevention and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Intervention.



The Paramount Housing Resource and Assistance Center opened at Paramount Baptist Church in April 2009. The program assists offenders with locating apartments and rooms to rent, as well as assisting with developing agreements with home owners (family or friends) that offenders approach for housing and shelters. The Initiative is looking for a Faith Institution in NW to perform the same services. Thirty or more mentors were trained in June on the process and concept.



The Initiative is also looking for a faith-institution to assist with counseling couples when offenders return to the community. Realizing that people change, re-entry counseling is necessary to help each party to adjust to the return.



This Wasn't So Bad At All! By: Mr. Davis, CSOSA Client

"Hello,

My name is Mr. Davis and I am 29 years of age and a proud parent also. The article that I'm about to write on Parenting Class will discuss my issues and views I had upon entering the class. Upon entering Parenting Class I thought to myself, "me, taking this? You got to be crazy." I've never harmed my kids and always took great care of them all to the best of my ability. So I thought to myself, I'm not the one who's hurting my kids, it's the other parent and I shouldn't be here, she should be and this whole Parenting Class is full of crap to be honest. So as a father who felt everything he was doing was right and had nothing to do with affecting his children, I tried and made every effort possible to justify and block out information that could be used to make me a better parent and/or to pass on some knowledge to someone else who has parental issues. Then as I went to class every Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for 15 weeks, something started to make sense. When we as parents have differences amongst one another or just do resentful things, it affects not just the parents, but the children. As the weeks went by and I started to listen to everyone else and realized that we all have different problems that got us here, and it's not about bettering us for us, it's about bettering us as parents for the children. As we already know, being black in America we are considered extinction in race and that's a major problem. To be a black man and have children and then to be out of your children lives for a certain period of time because of what we do, and not what others do, is quite ridiculous if you ask me. That's where it all begins, at home with a foundation and being able to accept that we as parents may never always be there, but the children are always forever. Looking past the bickering and saying "Mommy and Daddy loves you and no matter what we do we will always be there for you," going to the schools, and P.T.A. to let our children

are there and care what goes on with them even though we are not in the same household., spend time with them, take them to the park or the movies, better yet just sit down and talk to them so they feel loved by their parents and not looking for love in the wrong places. It is then that we will see as parents and as a black race that we have a major impact on how our kids turnout and view life and its surroundings. So once those views were instilled into the situations on why I was there started to make sense. Then I decided to partake in the conversations we were having as a group. Although not all views are going to be looked at the same, but you listen because there could be something you could use to help you out. Being old or young you learn something new everyday, so better yourself not only as a parent but as a person and living would be that much simpler. So gearing up to end this journey, I said to myself, You know what? This wasn't so bad at all!" I became a lot wiser when dealing with my children and met some of the most dedicated parents and teachers to help reform the way children should be taught, treated, and loved and that was a meaningful chapter in my life. It's what you call the 90/10 rule: it's 10 percent in what you say and 90 percent in what you do that determines what you truly want for you and your children. Thank you Mrs. Keels and Rev. Keels for allowing me to write on this subject and being part of something spectacular that will "save children and our race from becoming an extinction."" His CSO is Dominique Prophet, DVIP

My Summer Experience at CSOSA By: Antoine Prue

When I first found out that I was going to be working at CSOSA for the summer, I thought "wow this is going to be a boring summer", but boy was I wrong. For the past 6 weeks I have met plenty of intelligent people, and did things that I couldn't do before (make copies, prepping interviewees for their interviews, make important business calls, preparing for FBI presentations and programs etc.). The most unforgettable experience this summer working at CSOSA would have to be working with Mrs. Christine Keels. On the first day of work, I was told that Mrs. Keels will work you hard and I learned that first hand. Mrs. Keels worked me hard and kept me busy with work most days. She gave me something to do instead of sitting in a cubicle all day and I appreciate her for that.

Ta'Kia Jackson, Sondra Hunt, and Kyra Wooden are also among some of the people that I worked for this summer that I truly appreciate and admire. From the first to the last day of my summer work, they have made me feel welcomed and have went out of their way to make sure that I had the wonderful summer experience that I had. I will never forget the time I have spent on the $13^{\rm th}$ floor of 633 Indiana Avenue and if I had the choice, I would do it again.

My Experience at CSOSA By:: Andre Grissom

I have been working at CSOSA for over a month. I have learned many things about

this agency during this time.

I have been typing, filing, shredding and helping a lot. CSOSA has given me a good experience in a prototypical office environment. I have learned some of the ways of the system of this agency. CSOSA stands for Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency. They work with many areas. I have been introduced to two of these areas in Community Justice Programs: the Community Service Program and Faith-Based Initiative.

When working with CJP (Community Justice Programs), I have gained knowledge of different things like the Cont. on Page 8

2008 - 2009 Special Emphasis Report cont.

The Nubian Express will be traveling through SE to provide basic medical screening. Upper Room Baptist Church is sponsoring this program which provides blood pressure testing, eye exams, foot exams and diabetes testing at two of CSOSA SE field offices. The Initiative is looking for a faith institution in NW or NE to provide the same or similar services.

The Initiative is working with our Mental Health Units to provide a group process for veterans and offenders who have committed violent crimes or been the victim of such to address Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).





If your faith institution, sorority, fraternity or community organization is interested in getting involved with any of the aforementioned vital restorative and healing ministries, please contact Christine.Keels@csosa.gov for more information.

Such an effort will bring greater meaning and excitement in the life of your faith institutions or organization's outreach, support and evangelism ministries.

Order My Steps Graduation

By Tashia Chambers, City-Wide Outreach Coordinator

On the evening of Tuesday, July 21, 2009, CSOSA's Faith-Based Initiative along with the Southwest Church of Christ and Greater Mt. Calvary Holy Church, graduated its second class of women from the Order My Steps Women's Relapse Prevention Group. The support group focused on gaining control over addiction and preparing to regain status in the community as productive citizens while maintaining a drug free lifestyle.

Each week, the Women's Relapse Prevention Group covered different topics from toxic relationships to alternative ways of dealing with pain. The group provided a supportive environment for the women to open-up and focus on the cause and effect of addiction. Midway through the program, mentors (some of whom have recovered) were assigned to each participant. A sisterhood quickly developed and when one member slipped, the others were there to lift her to her rightful place.

Rev. Graylon Freeman, Pastor at the Southwest Church of Christ delivered the keynote address at the graduation. He delivered a powerful word from God on how to fit all our "stuff" into our lives. The five graduates each received a new ensemble from Suited for Change, a nonprofit program that dresses women who are reentering the workforce.

Graduation

Five women graduated and were featured in a fashion show and received a new bible from mentor Cynthia Artis. There was food, fellowship, and fun to follow. We wish the ladies all the best!



If you are interested in getting involved in the Order My Steps
Women's Relapse Prevention Group,
please contact Tashia Chambers, Citywide Outreach Coordinator at (202)
462-1360 or email tchambers@daprp.org. The next group will begin on Thursday, September 10, 2009.

Faith-Based Initiative Researches Gaps In Services

By Tashia P. Chambers, MSW

"The goal of the FBI is to return the sons and daughters of the District of Columbia to the fabric of our communities." The Cluster Coordinators and I, are committed to helping men and women successfully reintegrate into the community with a sense of dignity and respect. As Citywide Outreach Coordinator, my duty is to expand the network of service providers and provide direct support to the offender population.

Since Early 2008, the Faith-Based Initiative has successfully partnered with over 30 community non-profit agencies in an effort to effect positive change in the lives of returning citizens. The Cluster Coordinators have done their part as well, by directly assisting with this effort and partnering with more churches in the city. Part of my task for this year is to assess the progress thus far and identify the gaps in services. I am currently working on a report that will summarize the FBI's partner churches and community agencies and organize the list by category as well as location in the city.

I plan to use the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis to assess the FBI needs in meeting 13 offender needs such as Job Coaching, Family Reunification, Gang Intervention, Pro-Social Skills, Grief Counseling, Relapse Prevention and Housing. The SWOT Analysis is a strategic planning method used to evaluate involvement in a project. It entails specifying the objective and identifying the internal and external factors that are favorable and unfavorable to achieving the objective. I am looking forward to presenting these findings at your Cluster Advisory Council and Mentor Meetings beginning in September 2009.

Mentor Matching Report Card

By Chris Keels, FBI Team Leader



The Faith-Based Initiative through the diligent support of the Clusters, has faithfully assisted offenders in being matched with mentors. As of July 31, 2009, the following report was filed for the record:

Cluster A - 49

Cluster B— 44

Cluster C - 55



Congratulations to the Clusters



TOTAL-148 Matches in 2009

We commend our Cluster Coordinators, their staff, the mentors and the mentee for making the commitment to working together for change.

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2009 Mentor Training Schedule

By Elmira Gwynn, Training Specialist-FBI

September

Saturday, September 19th

4:00pm

Specialized Training-Mentoring in the Midst of Differences - Mentor Special Emphasis Training

Re-Entry & Sanctions Center

8:30am -1900 Mass. Ave. SE (next to the D. C. Jail)

September 2009

Saturday, September 26th

Mentor Re-Entry Orientation Training and Communication Training

Re-Entry & Sanctions Center

8:30am -4:00pm

1900 Mass. Ave. SE (next to the D. C. Jail)

${f October\ 2009}$

Saturday, October 24th Training and Communication Training

8:30am -4:00pm Re-Entry & Sanctions Center

> 1900 Mass. Ave. SE (next to the D. C. Jail)

${f November~2009}$

Saturday, November 17th

Specialized Training—Testifying and Negotiating Skills—Mentor Special Emphasis Training

8:30am -4:00pm

D.C. Superior Court—TBA

Saturday, November 21st

Mentor Re-Entry Orientation Training and Communication Training

Re-Entry & Sanctions Center

8:30am -1900 Mass. Ave. SE (next to the D. C. 4:00pm Jail)

December 2009

Saturday, December 12th

8:30am -4:00pm

Mentor Re-Entry Orientation Training and Communication Training

Re-Entry & Sanctions Center

1900 Mass. Ave. SE (next to the D.

Happy Holidays







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Cluster Spotlights-A

By: Minister Kelly Wilkins, Cluster A Coordinator

Concerned Black Men Inspire Re-Entering Citizens

After teaching a GED class all morning, Spencer Chambers' sits behind his desk to catch up on paperwork. Mr. Chambers is the Program Manager for Concerned Black Men (CBM), a National Organization and says that his passion is teaching GED classes to help make re-entering men and women become better citizens.

CBM was founded in 1975 by several Philadelphia police officers who formed a network of male role models to provide constructive social support, academic development and career enrichment for inner city youth. These men and others continue to accurately project themselves as positive role models to the expanding vision of its programs. Mr. Chambers stated that, "CBM affirms the total family." CBM observes all aspects of the child, including the enhancement of the parent's life by offering parents selfimprovement and work force readiness programs.

CBM evidences a commitment to the re-entering citizens in the District of Columbia by offering GED classes, parenting classes and workforce readiness training programs at the Covenant Baptist Church, a leader of CSOSA's Faith Based Re Entry Program located in Ward 8. Mr. Chambers and his colleagues at CBM understand that the reentering period is a time of confidence building and adjustment. CBM offers one-on-one attention to each of its participants and inspires both Black men and women to rise to the full extent of their capabilities to become cont. on Page 11

Property Acquisition Community Development Corporation

By: Minister Wilkins, Cluster A Coordinator

The Property Acquisition Community Development Corporation (PACDC) in partnership with Campbell AME Church is making its mark in DC's Ward 8. This program recently consummated a partnership with CSOSA to assist in strategically targeting faith outreach beyond the walls of the faith institutions into the community within which the multiple needs exist.

Kenneth Green is the Director of Commission and Social Action at Campbell AME Church. He is also the Chief Executive Officer of PACDC. His responsibility, on behalf of PACDC is to acquire property for citizens who have special needs including re-entering residents, the elderly and those with mental challenges, among others. Currently, PAC has a property which PAC seeks to develop for re-entering citizens. Mr. Green and PAC firmly believe that everyone should have a home and, along with Campbell AME, a quarterly Buying Seminar has been convened for Ward 8 residents, including those who are re-entering the community.

PACDC and Campbell AME's most recent venture is called the Campbell Helpful Resource Institute of Systems & Technology (CHRIST). This program provides computer education to the community, including re-entering citizens. This dynamic duel is expecting to become a certified training site for Microsoft. Until then, they are committed to teaching computer literacy and expanding its training to networking and programming. The CHRIST Project has nineteen (19) computers available for community use at the site.

Cont. on Page 8

Cluster Spotlight- B

By: Minister Gloria Blackwell, Cluster B Mentor

"Enough is Enough, Time For Change"

CATAADA House and The Center for Empowerment and

Employment Training

I am a member of Greater Mt. Calvary Holy Church, and a mentor under CSOSA's Cluster B Faith-Based Mentoring Program for exoffenders. On January 6, 2009, I had the privilege of being matched with a male client. I am part of a female mentoring team designed to help serve the awesome need for mentors. I came to the conclusion a long time ago that when it comes to serving a need, help has no gender, nor does help have a religious origin.

When I first spoke with my mentee over the phone, I started speaking words of encouragement to him. I remember telling him that there was greatness on the inside of him. The mentee is the prodigal son who has come home to himself. He was suffering with long term problems of addiction. I therefore, suggested the out-patient drug treatment facility called CATAADA HOUSE (Calvary's Alternative to Alcohol and Drug Abuse), and today he celebrates one year of being drug free. I also referred him to CEET (Center for Empowerment and Employment Training), where he enrolled in a GED program. He will be taking his exam in August of this year. My mentee is unique individual, who embraced the need for positive change without resistance. cont. on Page 9

Cluster Spotlight- C

By: Rev. Karen Harrison, Cluster C Coordinator

Daniel A. Payne Reclamation Program (DAPRP)

Richard Ford came to DAPRP in February 2009. DAPRP provided life skills and service provisions. He was applauded for his positive attitude and determination. Mr. Ford was released to Hope Village Halfway House after serving 9 years in California for stealing heavy equipment from his employer to support his drug habit. Once at Hope Village, Ford was determined to change his life around. Although he still had three months

left at Hope Village, Ford took it upon himself to start searching for housing while most of his peers were waiting until the last minute. He was initially referred to Gospel Rescue Mission by the Outreach Coordinator, Tashia Chambers. Upon speaking with the caseworker, Mr. Ford realized the facility was unable to schedule placement so far in advance. Not discouraged, Mr. Ford returned to DAPRP and made phone calls and visits to other agency representatives in the community. After a month or so, he was able to secure placement at La Casa in Northwest, Washington.

Mr. Ford is currently working on getting his commercial driver's license (CDL). While awaiting registration for classes at Toni Thomas and Associates, Mr. Ford volunteered to take free cont. on Page 11



The Birth of an Idea

By Deacon Guy Starling Jr., Chair of the Transitional Housing Task Force Greater Mt. Calvary Holy Church

On Saturday, June 13th, at the Re-Entry and Sanction Center (RSC), our mentor specialized training session was a seminar on Housing. As each presenter emphasized their topics, it became abundantly clear there was a critical need for transitional housing in the District of Columbia. Particularly, what stood out were the demographics illustrated by Mr. Sweets of the DC government Office of Ex- Offender Affairs, the abundance of abandoned property in the city coupled with the large percentage of ex-offenders returning to the District from Wards 5,6,7,8. After realizing that affording housing in D. C. (in some cases) becomes the top priority for returnees, an idea was birthed at the Mentor Training Session.

As representative of faith institutions and congregants from clusters A, B and C discussed the topic of housing, we realized it is the faith communities calling to meet the returnees at their needs. They are part of our community (city -wide) regardless of affiliation. Inspired by this cause to meet the needs of our ex-offender population, The Faith Based Transitional Housing Task Force was born, to develop a proposal for a faith based transitional housing initiative.

The co-chair of the task force is, Elder Judy Martin, Miracle Temple Non-Denominational Church at 202-584-3103 or judie01@verizon. net. If you are interested in working with this task force, please contact Guy Starling at 202-577-9706 or charlie0573@yahoo.com

You Are Invited!!!!!

The Housing Task Force meets every 4th Monday at the Re-Entry Sanction Center (RSC) 1900 Mass. Ave. SE (next to the D. C. Jail). Please come join us!



Grissom's Story cont. from page 4

systems they use and cooperating with each other during vital processes. I have learned how to create a community gathering while working on Faith-Based Initiative projects. I have also learned how to create a presentation for meetings and events. When working with the Community Service Program, I learned the process for a offender to get their community service hours. I have learned many things at CSOSA so far and I am planning to learn more during my stay at CSOSA this summer.

D.C. Summer Workers—Comments from CSOSA

Immediately, our FBI Summer Workers became engaged in FBI. They designed a flyer for a program. As a result, Grissom's school will be participating in a FBI program in January.

Grissom's was told by Mrs. Keels that his most valuable skill is proofreading; therefore, he was given standard operating procedures and other critical documents to proofread. Prue assisted with maintaining the records of the Family Reunification Program, prepared gifts packs to be given out, and surfed the web for articles related to parenting, Obama's position on reentry and other resources. Prue assisted with scheduling interviews and sent e-mails on



behalf of the manager, (which were always written in a professional tone).

Quickly, they learned to meet deadlines, and had opportunities to present at a Manager's Meeting on the FRI

We are proud of the work of our summer interns and commend them for an outstanding performance. We expect that one day they will be knocking on the doors of CSOSA for employment and that they will present themselves as most qualified!!!!

Cont from page 7 Spotlight Cluster A

Mr. Green and Rev. Dr. Rodger Reed, Sr., the Senior Pastor of Campbell AME Church, have a growing and transforming vision for the Barry Farms community. More information about PACDC and its services can be obtained by calling or emailing Mr. Green at (202) 872-2196 or kgreen@pepco.com. The PAC DC office is located within Campbell AME Church at 2562 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave., SE.

 $\underline{A\ Strong\ Woman}$ Mentee Spotlight by Tashia Chambers, OMS Coordinator

My mentee is a member of the FBI's Order My Steps Women's Relapse Prevention Group. An admitted marijuana smoker, she was referred to the group by her Community Supervision Officer and is finding it hard at times to abstain from her drug of choice. It is not always easy for her, especially given her living situation. At the time of her referral, she was renting a room from her co-worker who had been making unwanted advances towards her. While she admits being more than friends with him at one point in time, she had decided to end their relationship. It was timely that on her first day at the OMS group, the day's topic was toxic relationships. My mentee had been living with the stressful and **cont. on Page 9**



By: Minister Gloria Blackwell

"Enough is Enough, Time For Change"

CATAADA House and The Center for Empowerment and

Employment Training

Cont. from Page 7

I applaud him for the determination he has demonstrated from the very beginning. He is a model for many, that if you make up your mind that enough is enough—change is possible



Words of Reflection

_____if we carry excess baggage on life's journey, teach us to travel more simply. If our possessions own us, free us to trust you and share with others. If our need for control keeps us anxious and demanding, help us to relax. If we carry loads of guilt, may we hand them over to you, trusting you to forgive us. ____make us simple: simple in trust, simple in life, simple in commitment to you.

Prepare us for your mission. Allow us to join your labor to heal the hurting, feed the hungry, and bring good news to the poor. We_____ in the name of _____, in whose name we are renewed and sent on our mission.

A Strong Woman cont..

occasionally abusive relationship for long enough. She finished her apprenticeship months ago and started working on a construction site. When asked by another group member about the possibility of moving out, the mentee responded she was on a tight budget and didn't think she could afford a one bedroom apartment on her own.

After sharing her concerns, Ms. Chambers, the group facilitator, provided her with information on DC Housing through the www.dchousingsearch.org website. This site is useful to many as it allows users to name their own rent and unit size. It also describes amenities, tenant requirements and housing types. She was so excited when she came to group the following week. Her application to rent a property in Northeast Washington was accepted and she was moving definitely!

My mentee is now figuring out how to break the news to her roommate. Of course, she has the group's support in this as well.



Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency's

Faith-Based Initiative Presents Fall Concert



Saturday, September 12, 2009

5:00 p.m.

McKendree-Simms-Brookland United Methodist Church

Celebrate a New Life!

Show Thanks for All That We Have!

Lift Your Spirit!

Dance With Joy!

Pray for Peace!

Reflect on Our Children Returning Safely to School!

Sing with Gladness!

Celebrate the Faith-Based Initiative!

You are invited to join Court Services and Offender Supervi sion Agency's (CSOSA) Faith-Based Initiative in a Fall Concert entitled, "*Lifted Up*." We recognize that in this time of economic and spiritual hardship, we need to gather and seek commonality, joy and solutions. This is a free concert, however you are asked to bring one can good or non-perishable to support area food banks as a spiritual-community offering.

Light Refreshment Will Be Served

Celebrate the Faith-Based Initiative!

For more information, contact Tashia Chambers, Outreach Coordinator at (202) 462-1360 or tchambers@daprp.org.

Please Post this Announcement in Your
Local Faith Institution or Program —
All Are Invited

Daze of Our Lives—Re-Entry Spiritual Life Study



The Faith-Based Initiative and its partners invite you to this exciting Spiritual Life Study. The study is for everyone seeking to understand the barriers to re-entry and to develop solutions to the problems. The format of the study includes the utilization of the parables and stories of Christian witness that speak to the social conditions of our time. Participants will examine the "Daze of Their Lives" for the purpose of constructing their own story, and finding solutions. Such story telling and witness will be used to begin the process of healing the community and the re-entrant as witnessing and experiencing serve as a salve for healing.

This study and the development of action plans is an opportunity for everyone to come together and study the issues will charting solutions. Come, as you are for this opportunity to welcome re-entrants to pursue your responsibility toward building community.

For more information and to register, contact Ronnie Corsey at 202-562-5576 or email rcorsey@covenantbaptistdc.org. We look forward to seeing you at the first class on September 14, 2009.

Directions to the Church:

Metro - Congress Heights - Green Line

Bus - W4

Parking – lot in the rear of the church, enter through the alley on the side of the church.

Light Refreshments Will Be Served

Dates: Mondays, Sept. 14th, 21st, 28th and Oct. 5, 2009

Time: 6:30p.m. – 8:00p.m.

Community of Hope Church of Nazarene

905 Alabama Ave. SE

Washington, D.C. 20032

Mentor/Mentee/CSO Quarterly Review—Staffings by Hallem Williams, Senior

Program Analyst

On July 14, 15, and 30, 2009, the FBI conducted staffings with mentors, mentees and Community Supervision Officers. The purpose of the staffing was to determine whether the initial mentoring plan's goals had been met and to discover whether additional services were needed.

While patiently waiting their turn to be interviewed, mentees (offenders) heard very meaningful presentations from area service providers on "Conflict Resolution Skills."

We celebrate and encourage the relationships that have developed between our mentor and mentees. And of course, we recognize the support that it provides to

our community supervision staff.

Throughout this newsletter, you have read the joy and excitement that our mentees find in discovering themselves through the support of others. Many of the relationship continue well beyond the expiration of supervision, which is the intent for all to find life-long connections in the community for which

they belong.

Our next Quarterly Staffing will occur in October 2009. Stay in touch with the Cluster Coordinator for more details.

Into the Future—Calendar



>City-Wide Mentor Meeting— September 12, 2009 -McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC—24th and South Dakota Avenue NE DC 20017— Tashia Chambers (202)-462-1360

The focus of this meeting is to update the mentors on CSOSA's FBI—Special Emphasis. You do want to be there!!!! > Fall Concert—September 12, 2009-McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC— 24th and South Dakota Avenue NE DC 20017— Tashia Chambers (202)-462-1360

> Revive the Spirit 2010—A Stimulus of Faith 1/20/2010—The ex-offender conference will focus on survival in the current economic arena.

Would Your Church Like to Host this event? Contact Chris Keels at 202-345-4494 or christine.keels@csosa.gov

Would you like to host a FBI event at your Faith-Based Institution? Let us know!!!



Faith-Based Initiative Team CSOSA Community Justice Programs 633 Indiana Avenue, NW 13th floor Washington, D.C. 20004

Jasper Ormond, Associate Director

Phone: 202-220-5346



Adrienne Poteat, Acting Director, **CSOSA**

Cluster Spotlight-A

law-abiding, productive citizens of the District of Columbia.

CBM is currently accepting applicants for its GED classes. For additional information regarding adult education, job readiness and parenting classes, you my contact Spencer Chambers at (202) 783-6119 or visit CBM's Office at 3845 South Capitol Street SE, Monday-Thursday from 9AM to

Cluster Spotlight C

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computer classes through the DC Library, recognizing that he needed to improve his computer skills to ensure success in his field. When asked to offer advice to others in similar situations, Mr. Ford offered the following: "Take things one day at a time. Make basic plans and put the rest aside. A lot of people I know have started things and haven't finished. It's important to complete things." Described by his caseworker as a highly motivated self-starter, Mr. Ford is currently enrolled in the Literacy Program which involves 10 hours of class time per day for the next two months. He wants to become a local delivery man or be a cross-country truck driver.



MENTOR MATCHING IS A WARM &

LASTING SPIRIT

Since 2006, the F.B.I. has matched 408 mentees with mentors. This warm and meaningful gift is a lasting gift. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact:

> Chris Keels, MSLC 202-345-4494

christine.keels@csosa.gov

or

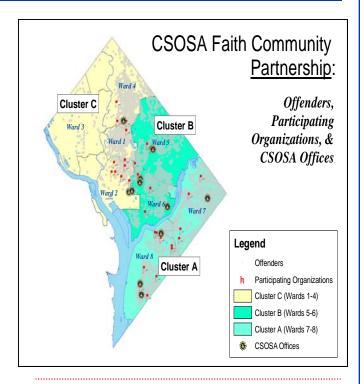
Hallem Williams

Senior Program Analyst

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The Cluster Coordinators (see pg 2)



Design Layout by Ta'Kia Jackson, **Program Support Specialist**