

MY JOURNEY HOME, INC.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
Friends and Family of Prison Inmates (FAFPI)
Transitional Re-Integration Program (TRIP)
Children of Prison Inmates (COPI)
The Forum
900 West First Street, Ste 200
Reno, Nevada 89503

MEMO

TO: Advisory Commission of the Administration of Justice

FROM: Elaine Voigt, Executive Director
Members of the Board of Directors of My Journey Home, Inc.

DATE: January 3, 2008

The purpose of this memo is to update the commission members on the events since our last testimony of September 2007 meeting. On September 21, 2007, My Journey Home, Inc. (MJH) submitted a proposal and budget to the Interim Finance Committee.

In October, we met with The Ridge House and established a collaboration for the purpose of bringing "wrap around" programs to released inmates. We signed a Memorandum of Understanding to better assist our clients. In working together for a common goal, The Ridge House executive director, Steve Burt, wrote the grant for MJH, applying to be the vendor for NDOC's re-entry program for Northern Nevada. November 23, 2007, we were informed that My Journey Home had been granted the designation and was awarded an \$81,000 grant. The Ridge House embraced the opportunity with an office in their building and will be administering the grant. This grant will allow MJH to put its executive director on salary to work for MJH full time. Mrs. Voigt has resigned her position with the Division of Industrial Relations to continue her work on a full time basis for MJH.

December 6, 2007, the Director of the COPI program, Gene Golish and Elaine Voigt, Executive Director, met with Suzie Rusk, Supervising Counselor of

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the Washoe County Schools, to work out the details of the upcoming "Poetry, Art and Essay Contest" for kids with parents in prison. The theme will be "If only". The contest will begin in early February and run through April. Top honors will be chosen at the end of April.

December 3 through 5, MJH enlisted 2 members of the group, Kristen Kirkpatrick, (she testified in Sept) and Rick Broo, (board member) to attend and complete the "Workforce Development Seminar" instructed by the Federal Parole and Probation office in Reno.

Executive Director Elaine Voigt, Fran Zito, LCSW and Rick Broo, were invited to give a presentation of MJH programs for the Release Preparation Program (RPP) at Federal Correctional Institution in Herlong on December 12, 2007. After returning home, they received the phone call from Bryan Birkholz, Case Manager in Herlong and coordinator of the RPP, advising that MJH had been chosen as the re-entry program for FCI Herlong. The next class for FCI Herlong will be in July and MJH will be a participant in the "Job Fair" in August.

Beginning after the Winter break, MJH will be presenting "The Forum" at the Opportunity School at the Glen Mare building for the at risk youths. The Carson City Juvenile Detention Center entered into a formal partnership with MJH to formalize "The Forum" as part of the regular curriculum at the center.

December 20 the administrators of the Tuesday Night Groups (TNG) at Sparks Christian Fellowship, the location of our meetings, informed us that out of the 2607 attendees of the TNG, FAFPI, TRIP and COPI had 1075 participants in the last 15 weeks. That averaged 72 persons per week.

Mrs. Voigt as already begun strengthening the present resources and is exploring more avenues of community support. We look forward in bringing you another update at the next meeting.

Respectfully
My Journey Home, Inc.

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