

# This Week at Second Chance ...



"A public safety program of the Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission"

[www.kc-crime.org](http://www.kc-crime.org)

Second Chance Mission: "To provide a crime prevention strategy for Metropolitan Kansas City through research, advocacy and the funding of programs that improves opportunities for ex-offenders to lead productive lives."

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## **Missouri Reentry Conference 2009**

The Second Chance Program focuses on metro-wide reentry efforts through Research and special projects, Advocacy through the Reentry Coalition, and Fundraising to support local organizations providing direct services to the offender population.

In an effort to keep you more informed on what's happening in the Second Chance community, we will send out this e-newsletter periodically with the latest and greatest news and information!

Thanks for your support of the Second Chance Program!

**Coming Soon**

Board Meeting –

The 2009 Missouri Reentry Conference was hosted by ARCHS at Tan-Tar-A Resort on November 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>. The Missouri Reentry Conference was a huge success with more than 320 attendees, 35 workshops and 45 guest speakers. Barry Mayer, Vice President of the Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission and Lora McDonald, Second Chance Program Director, were honored to be selected as presenters for the conference on the topic of Building a Successful Community Collaboration.

The conference featured nationally recognized speakers with impressive credentials. Dr. Kurt Brumby, Center for Effective Public Policy, discussed policies related to sex offenders, including conclusions that residency restrictions (while they may be comforting to the public) have no impact on public safety. Francine Lucas-Sinclair, Founder and Director of Yellow Brick Roads Organization for the Children of Incarcerated Parents, shared how her personal experience as daughter of Frank Lucas motivated her to bring children together in a nurturing environment with other children whose parents are incarcerated. Dr. Rev. Wilson Goode, Sr., the first African-American Mayor of Philadelphia, shared that his most important and rewarding work has been the development of the National Amachi Program, a Big Brothers Big Sisters program specifically designed to mentor children of incarcerated parents. Both Lucas and Goode noted the staggering numbers of children whose parents are incarcerated--- children who are eight times more likely to go to prison as adults than their peers whose parents have not been incarcerated.

January 19th at 3PM  
@ Liberty Memorial  
for members and  
invitees.

Kansas City  
Metropolitan Reentry  
Coalition, Tuesday,  
January 26th, 3-4PM  
(networking before  
and after meeting)  
Pioneer Campus of  
MCC, 2700 E. 18<sup>th</sup> St,  
K.C. Mo., Auditorium

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L to R: Director Lombardi, Ms. Lucas-Sinclair, Dr. Goode (lower right).

The conference re-affirmed the value of the work of the Crime Commission in prisoner reentry in a number of ways. First, Missouri Dept. of Corrections Director George Lombardi noted the lack of law enforcement involvement at the conference and asked the Crime Commission to help reverse that for the 2010 conference. Secondly, someone needs to “connect the dots” between services and institutions. Institutional staff members are responsible for preparing offenders for release yet they have limited knowledge of resources available in the community the offender is returning to; they need contacts in KC to help them identify what is available to respond to the unique needs of each offender. Third, there are state and local policies that challenge the success of offenders. Senator Yvonne Wilson will sponsor the Food Stamp Bill to allow drug offenders the ability to apply for benefits in 2010 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time, yet few conference attendees seemed to be aware of the Senator’s efforts. The Crime Commission can connect the policy makers with the corrections community to produce progressive reentry policies that focus on public safety.

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## Meet the Second Chance Board:



### *Sheriff Richard Anderson*

#### **Member of the Board**

Platte County Sheriff Richard Anderson, a former special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was elected to his position in 1996. Anderson is the Chief Law Enforcement Officer in a county that spans 421 square miles and boasts a population topping 80,000. His office operates a 151-bed detention facility in Platte City, MO, and provides dispatching services for 23 police departments, fire departments and ambulance districts. The office is also responsible for emergency preparedness and animal control for the county. The department that he oversees staffs more than 80 deputies and 38 civilians.

Anderson earned a Bachelor of Science in Law Enforcement from Central Missouri State University. After a four year stint in the United States Air Force in the security police field, he became an FBI special agent. He remained with the bureau for more than 25 years until retiring in 1994. His FBI assignments included organized crime, violent crime, white-collar crime and foreign counter-intelligence cases.

Sheriff Anderson is among the increasing number of law enforcement leaders who recognize the importance of engaging with the community to respond to prisoner reentry. The Crime Commission values his support and leadership and welcomes him as the newest member of the Second Chance Advisory Board.

Have you missed an issue of this newsletter? Go to our website for the archived copies: [www.kc-crime.org](http://www.kc-crime.org)