



This Month at the Second Chance Foundation...

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."

December 1-21, 2008

What's New?

In an effort to keep you more informed on what's happening at the Second Chance Foundation, we will send out this e-newsletter periodically with the latest and greatest news and information! The news items will be identified as Research, Advocacy, Public Relations, Special Project or Fundraising related.

Thanks for your support of the Second Chance Foundation!

Coming Soon

- Board Meeting – January 20, 3pm, Kauffman
- Board Meeting – February 17, 3pm, Kauffman

What's Been Going On?

- **Advocacy Issues:** The Crime Commission has been in contact with **Senator Yvonne Wilson's** office about Senate Bill 764, which modifies the eligibility requirements for Food Stamp assistance. This bill would make it possible for the thousands of Missourians with drug related criminal convictions to qualify for Food Stamps. Missouri is one of only fourteen states that blocks Food Stamp benefits for this population. This week, Crime Commission staff has met with **Wayne White**, Director of Footprints (Substance Abuse Treatment) and **Ashley Jones**, Assistance Program Officer at Greater Kansas City LISC to help identify ways we all can help Senator Wilson pass this important legislation.

- **Special Project:** One of the Crime Commissions' Metropolitan Community Service Workers is completing her service through Second Chance. Her assignment is to contact every prison in Missouri and identify the spectrum of programming available in each facility. Meanwhile, the Second Chance Program offers her job training, new skills and waives her community service fees.

- **Special Project/ Advocacy:** Board Member **Chi King** and **Sharie Rey**, U.S. Probation Services have convened a group to cultivate new employers for offenders. Participants include Bureau of Prisons, Missouri Career

Potential Employer's Breakfast, hosted by Judge Gaitan and Mr. Dunn, Sr., March TBD, 8-10am, 2345 Grand, Lathrop & Gage, to increase the number of area employer's who could realize benefits through offender employment.

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Centers, Kansas Workforce Partnership, Connections to Success and the Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission. In March, they will host a breakfast for prospective employers at Lathrop and Gage Law Offices. Second Chance Foundation will co-sponsor the cost of the breakfast. Board Member **Judge Gaitan** will be a presenter.

- **Special Project/ Program Development: Nelson Hopkins, Sr.,** Lead Paralegal at P & P Negotiation Services, met with Second Chance to discuss his work with preparing people, post conviction, for their parole. His for profit LLC is working with Second Chance to explore ways to offer their services to those who can not afford the fees.

- **Special Project/ Program Development:** This month **Peter Kindle,** PhD, Second Chance Volunteer, drafted and submitted a concept paper to the Missouri Community Service Commission for the Crime Commission to host a team of five AmeriCorps Volunteers who would develop a comprehensive strategy to address employment for ex-offenders. It's a lengthy process to be accepted, but could have the Americorps paid volunteers to supplement our staff by August, 2009.

- **Research/ Fundraising: Theresa Reyes-Cummings,** Jackson County Community Mental Health Fund, met with us this week and has offered her expertise and assistance to Second Chance to write a grant for our Gaps Analysis. Next step is a grant writing meeting the first week of January with **Dr. Alex Holsinger,** UMKC.

- **Research/ Special Project:** MCSP Board Member **Denise Bruce,** of Missouri Probation and Parole, has been discussing ways Second Chance may be able to work with her office area's Youthful Violent Offenders. We hope to pilot a project that will incorporate research while mentoring these young people who are at risk of re-offending without intervention and support.

- **Advocacy/ Community Collaborations: C. Eugene (Gene) Morgan,** President of the Kansas City Community Center met with Second Chance

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staff this week to share notes on re-entry on a state and local level. Mr. Morgan serves on the Missouri Re-entry Process Team in Jefferson City. We will be asking Mr. Morgan to provide a presentation about the Re-entry Team to Second Chance in the future.


- **Special Project:** Kansas City Center for Urban Agriculture is in discussions with **Patti Banks** and Associates and has approached Second Chance and the City of KCMO about developing an “edible boulevards” program. This could address Parks and Recreation’s challenges with maintaining boulevards while providing skills for offenders and food for the community. We look forward to a collective meeting in January to flesh out this idea.

- **Office Update:** Our Pioneer Office, Room 207, is being regularly utilized for Second Chance activity. Please keep in mind that Pioneer offers use of their large conference rooms if you would like to go through Second Chance to access this space for your re-entry activities.

- **Advocacy Issues:** Bureau of Prisons hosted a meeting to identify and respond to barriers associated with re-entry within the Federal corrections systems on December 11th. Second Chance presented how we endeavor to work with the metro area to address the re-entry issues.

- **Crime Commission Highlights:** On December 15th, the Crime Commission Annual Luncheon was held at the Westin. The highlights included the announcement of **Carol Marinovich** as the new Crime Commissioner; the retirement of **Sergeant Craig Sarver** (TIPS); and a year in review video. A special thank-you is extended to all of our new Second Chance Advisory Board members who showed their support by attending this luncheon.

- **Public Relations/ Advocacy:** **Barry Mayer** presented the Second Chance Program to the City Council Public Safety Committee on December 3rd. Board Member **Cathy Jolly** created this opportunity to expose the general public to our work.



- **Board Committee Development:** The Board has formed a nomination committee which will be chaired by **Al Reiderer** and **Rev. Bob Hill** will serve on the committee. The Finance Committee will be chaired by **Bill Dana** with members **Bill Grojean** and **Bailus Tate**. If you are a board member and would like to join one of these committees, you may contact us or Mr. Reiderer or Mr. Dana for more information.

- **Public Relations:** **Mark Morris** from the Kansas City Star is writing a follow up story about the Second Chance Foundation. He interviewed staff members **Barry Mayer** and **Lora McDonald** on December 10th. We will keep you posted on when the story is going to run.


- **Special Project:** **Joyce Layman** and **Dr. Allen Beck** of Pacific Accord presented their programming, Investment in Excellence, which addresses mindsets. They work with CEOs, athletes and inmates as well as many other groups to help people realize their potential. Second Chance is exploring ways to bring this training to leaders in corrections as well as offenders. Board Member **Carl Dicapò** connected Pacific Accord with the Crime Commission.

- **Fundraising:** **Patricia Kern and Associates** will be retained to initiate a fundraising campaign for Second Chance. They will be building upon the case statement drafted by Barry Mayer this month to develop a fundraising initiative.

What's Coming Up?

Second Chance Board Meeting-

January 20, 2009, 3pm at Kauffman Legacy Park, 4801 Rockhill in the Troost Room



Second Chance Board Biography Book Project & National HIRE Network Education/Employment Letter of Support project-

Second Chance Volunteer, Mr. Peter Kindle, PhD., will be in contact with each board member as he helps develop a board bio book. He will be looking for a brief biographical overview for each board member along with personal on why you believe the Second Chance initiative is important or worthwhile to Metro Kansas City. Peter will be asking for a photograph to go along with the bio.

Also, Peter will be asking each board member if they are interested in submitting a letter of support to the National HIRE Network's National Reentry Consortium in support of several legislative issues before Congress this coming year. Changes at the Federal level could have a local impact. Peter has information he can forward to help board members make their decisions and will also be available to draft the letters.

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