

US JIP Committee Report –February 2016

Andre' G- BOT Chair Liaison

Bea A. Area 3- Committee Co-chair

SKR Requests

January was a fairly quiet month with regard to requests for Starter Kits. Only one request received by ISO this month, and this SKR is pending approval from the institution's counselor or administrator.

DATA

We have been maintaining an extensive spreadsheet with all activity with re. to US JIP for the past 4+ years, and this allows us to track inmates, meeting progress and status in a consistent manner. Often we are able to track an individual inmate as they transfer to other facilities, and we are able to access current information on specific institutions.

SUCSESSES

Communications we have received are positive and it is evident that GA is gaining a bit of traction within Jails, Institutions and Prisons. We have "established and ongoing" pen pal relationships with quite a few inmates, have placed 1 new inmate with a temporary sponsor and a GA member started a new meeting in a woman's facility in Milwaukee!

A beautiful example of the Program WORKING occurred this month when I a GA member reached out to ISO to report she is starting a meeting at the MWCC (Milwaukee Women's Correction Center). In 2014, an inmate requested an SKR in hopes of starting an in-house meeting at this facility. As a follow up to this inmate request, a female member of GA in recovery, who had previous prison experience, offered to become "pen pals" and has provided ongoing support to this female inmate. ***This month, a member of GA in the Milwaukee area reached out to ISO to report she is assisting with a formal meeting at this facility! This is how it works! One member helping another... the momentum builds and the program WORKS if You Work It☺***

Many thanks to ALL who volunteer to serve in our fellowship through the JIP!

Transitional Support

This is an important component of successful living AFTER an inmate is released. ***We encourage all Areas to share their success and report on support being offered in their area*** for that essential transition from institutional living to living a life that is truly "Happy, Joyous and Free"

Area 3 (Las Vegas) provides ongoing support and regular GA meetings at "Freedom House" a transitional living facility for individuals who struggled with addiction prior to or during incarceration. It is one of the few facilities in the area that serves as a transitional living facility for paroling inmates; offering life-skill training and a safe, drug free, gambling-free environment.

Share your successes, your needs and your desire to serve. The JIP committee welcomes active involvement from our membership.