

US JIP Committee Report –June 2017

Andre' G- BOT Chair Liaison

Bea A. Area 3- Chair

JUNE 2017

We only had one literature request, which was from an inmate at Vacaville Prison's Medical Unit. Ongoing communications with Pen Pals and volunteers. Feedback from several volunteers has been that the Pen Pal relationships are enriching to the volunteer as well as the inmate. Chair had several communications with volunteers who are presently working with inmates. Have reached out to Chowchilla Institution to facilitate initiating a meeting at that facility. To date, no response from the facility; however an inmate in recovery is working to initiate a meeting at this facility. Will report next month if any progress is made on this initiative.

Two new volunteers joined our committee at the Spring 2017 conference.

As our report was past the deadline for the Spring conference, I have included a recap of Spring 2017 activities below. Many thanks to co-chair Hamid K. for representing the US JIP Committee at the Spring conference!

Best!

Bea A.

SPRING 2017

Literature Requests

The US JIP committee and ISO responded to **13** new requests for literature and/or meeting starter kits from inmates.

We also fielded requests for support and/or literature from 2 members of the clergy, 1 Mental Health Counselor and 1 Volunteer Coordinator working with the Department of Corrections (Maine, Arkansas, Nevada, Florida)

Pen pals

Coordinated 9 new pen-pal relationships between GA members and inmates seeking recovery support.

Feedback from members serving as pen pals has been very positive. Those who embark on this 12-step work have found the service work to be rewarding and meaningful, both for the inmate AND the member.

This pen-pal service is an ongoing outreach opportunity for any members interested in carrying the message.

Prison Meetings

Our records indicate that there are currently 32 active GA meetings in Prisons and Jails throughout the U.S.

Although we strive to maintain up-to-date and current information, we cannot "guarantee" the accuracy of this information, as meetings are sometimes cancelled by the institution due to unrest within a particular institution, changes in budget and programming and so forth.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Female Pen Pal/Sponsor – Jacksonville, Florida

A female inmate in Lowell Correctional Inst. (Ocala, F) is seeking a sponsor who is willing to give her support prior to anticipated release in 17 months. An out of state Pen pal has volunteered and is corresponding with this inmate at this time. *We are still seeking a female volunteer from the Jacksonville area.*

Male Pen Pal – Chowchilla, CA

We have many active pen pal volunteers connected to several Chowchilla inmates.

A recent request (March 2017) for literature was received by ISO and literature has been sent. This most recent request is from a "lifer." Although Pen Pal was not a specific request, anyone interested in reaching out is invited to contact the committee for more information.

Meeting Assistance - PENNSYLVANIA

FCI McKean, Lewis Run, PA – Want help starting a meeting. (Carry over from January. This opportunity is still open!)
