



RJMN 20th Anniversary Celebration - March 28-29, 2014, Huntsville, TX

Emmett Solomon founded RJMN in 1993 after taking early retirement from Texas Department of Criminal Justice where he had served as a chaplain for 20 years and Director of Chaplaincy for 10 years. His vision was to build a network of churches and ministries to encourage active participation in the restoration of incarcerated offenders, released offenders and their respective families and to encourage/refresh those doing ministry by introducing them to each other through a quarterly newspaper and conferences. He never took any pay, travel expenses or compensation of any kind from the ministry. Instead he invested a lot of his own finances, time, energy and knowledge to develop and engage others in restorative justice ministry. Over the years we have seen many innovative and effective ministries developed as a direct result of Emmett mentoring men and women interested in serving this people group.

The ministry began as INforms Ministry. The first statewide ministry conference was held at Sam Houston University.

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R • J • N E W S

Nothing stops a bullet like a job

Straight Ahead Ministries
November Newsletter

When we ask kids in lock up what they want to do when they get out, the answer is nearly always the same: they want to get back to school and get a job. At Straight Ahead, we're committed to providing services that help kids realize their God-given dreams for their lives. We focus with them on what they want (a job), rather than what they don't want (go back to jail).

We work with them on getting back to school. Getting a job is a bigger challenge. Criminal records, lack of training and job experience all stand in the way of successful employment. Over the years we've found that even when we are able to help youth find a job, often they are not able to keep it.

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Regional News by Richard Blake

By Richard Blake

Sacramento, California

Even with the recent completion of the New California Health Facility in Stockton, and significant reductions in the state's prison population, major steps in fulfilling the demands of the Federal Court ruling, Governor Jerry Brown's appeal to remove federal oversight of the California prison system resulted in only a one month extension by the federal judges. This gives the state until late February to comply with the earlier ruling that California must reduce its prison population by an additional 9,600 inmates because of the state's overcrowded conditions. Governor Brown is asking for a three-year delay to implement proposed rehabilitation programs.

Other problems continue to mount throughout the state indicating that the crisis is escalating. At the **California State Prison-Corcoran**, a correctional officer was stabbed by an inmate last month. A scuffle ensued that sent an additional three officers to the hospital for treatment.

In another incident two correctional officers at **CSP-Calipatria** were attacked by an inmate. Injuries sustained by these officers also required hospital treatment for their injuries. This incident is pending further investigation.

More California News

San Francisco's Sheriff Mirkarimi has been working with Adult Probation Chief Still to operate a unique reentry pod in County Jail number two; the program arranges for community connections and resources to inmates ready to be released. The CJCJ staff has been active with several local innovative programs in an effort to reduce recidivism.

San Diego County and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation have reached an agreement that will allow county offenders to take part in state fire camps. This agreement to provide housing in the conservation camps frees up space in the county jail facilities and increases the state's trained firefighters, providing additional public safety as well as providing opportunity rehabilitation training for participants.

Castro Valley – Follow Up Ministry, International (FUMI) held their annual banquet this month. The banquet is dedicated to providing information and updates of the ministry's activity, and future plans. A complimentary dinner was provided to show appreciation to contributors, volunteers, and staff. This year's banquet featured the testimonies of ex-inmates. Their stories told how God used God Squad and Follow Up Ministries to help change their lives. FUMI provide discipleship training seminars, and Bible Studies, and chapel service for the inmates in State Prisons, City and County Jails, and Juvenile facilities. FUMI has representatives and key leaders in Arizona, California, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas. Additional Outpost Training and distribution of the Scripture Investigation Course is taking place in countries around the world.

Cook County Jail, Illinois

Cook County Jail's inmate population continues to grow resulting in overcrowding, budget pressures, and political criticism over the way the criminal justice system works. Overcrowding has resulted in housing Cook County detainees at six other jails in the state.

Police crackdown in violent neighborhoods, a backlog in the court system, longer sentences, and increase in mentally ill inmates are primary causes for this influx in numbers.

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Nothing stops a bullet like a job

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Straight2Work

In our Straight2Work program, youth learn how to show up on time and ready for work; they develop their own initiative and gain skills. The program, which includes a classroom component and on-site employment, creates a context where lives can be transformed by the power of Jesus Christ, the common goal of all that we do.

Read more in: **Teaching for Transformation in Today's Challenging Youth** (http://www.straightahead.org/www/default/ckfinder/userfiles/1057/files/Teaching%20for%20Transformation%20in%20Today%E2%80%99s%20Challenging%20Youth.pdf?utm_source=SAM_eNews_Sept2013_Final&utm_campaign=Sept_eNews&utm_medium=email)

A Funeral and a Launch Celebration

All of the students who recently completed our Straight2Work classroom component have found jobs. During their launch celebration last week, one student explained, "I learned what employers want, and I developed the habit of showing up to class and then to work every day."

"I never would have been hired at my new job if I hadn't taken this class," said another. "Thank you for giving me a chance."

Two weeks ago a 16-year-old boy in our community was killed in a fight on the street. All of our students knew him; one was related to him.

In the launch celebration photos above, they're all wearing shirts that memorialize their dead friend. They're also all employed.

Nothing stops a bullet like a job.



No one truly knows a nation until one has been inside its jails.

A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones

anonymous

Ministry is a two-way street

By Tara Cobler
Psi Chi/Psychology Club Community Service Chair

On Friday, October 25, 2013, a group of Psi Chi/Psychology Club members from Sam Houston State University students helped out the Restorative Justice Ministries Network in Huntsville. The group was entirely female, classifications ranging from freshmen to senior, and the represented majors were psychology and criminal justice. The group divided in two: one group stayed at the family center to sit with the loved ones of the discharges and parolees, and another group went to the Greyhound Bus Station to help the released men fill out paperwork for their free cell phones.

The service was a valuable experience for all of the participants. The students at the family center were able to offer emotional support and learn about different people's struggles.

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Kairos ministry opportunities

God's life changing work through the Kairos prison ministry is expanding in the Texas prisons.

Kairos, the three-day weekend similar to the free-world Walk to Emmaus, Cursillo, and Tres Dias, began in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in 1986 at the Ferguson Unit near Huntsville.

Kairos of Texas (KOT) expanded to about 35 Texas prisons in the 1990s, and has since gone to a number of youth and private facilities, and then Kairos Outside for the women of those incarcerated.

Kairos has not had a new start in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in some years, but recently there is new interest and dedication to starting Kairos Inside weekends on some of the large, maximum security units in the state which do not now have the ministry.

The first unit targeted for expansion is the 2,600-man maximum security Wynne Unit in Huntsville. The date for Wynne Kairos #1 is November 6-9, 2014.

The large Estelle Unit and the Ellis Unit, as well as other large units in Texas, are on the short list of those which would be blessed by Kairos and which are being considered for the ministry.

In a recent Board meeting of Kairos of Texas, TDCJ Director of Chaplains Bill Pierce and TDCJ Director of Volunteer Services Stacie Woods spoke of the great work the more than 21,000 volunteers are doing with ministry to offenders in the TDCJ. Mr. Pierce issued a challenge to the Kairos ministry to expand in the TDCJ where the ministry is not yet present. Kairos Prison Ministries International President Evelyn Lemly also spoke at the meeting, encouraging Kairos to expand into more Texas prisons.

The plan is to expand into the large facilities as volunteers can be identified to form teams to go in. In KOT guidelines about 44 volunteers are needed for a full team.

Normally a Kairos team member will have already participated in his or her own personal walk through a free-world weekend--in the Walk to Emmaus, Cursillo, Tres Dias, or other three-day movement weekend.

Those who have participated in a three-day weekend know the spiritual power that God supplies which facilitates the dramatic transformation of offenders' lives.

Kairos has a different focus from the free-world weekends in that the offender participants are the underworld leaders in the institution. They volunteer to come to the weekend, and when they are there, they receive an overflowing measure of God's love and grace which has changed the perspective and life direction of thousands.

In my experience, at the violent and gang-infested Eastham Unit near Huntsville in the 1990s, Kairos began ministry in 2001. The prison was transformed by the power of God's presence in the Kairos ministry.

After the Kairos weekend, volunteers follow up on the unit with weekly Prayer and Share meetings, and monthly Kairos Reunions with the offender participants.

We invite you to join this new effort to expand what is a proven and effective ministry to prisoners.

To join the ministry, please contact Jim Austin, who is spearheading the expansion effort. Jim may be contacted at (832) 563-7352, or at jaustin@encorehealthresources.com.

RJNews publications are dependent upon contributions from readers. Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so by sending a check or money order to: Restorative Justice Ministries Network, 1229 Avenue J, Huntsville, TX 77340. Or you are welcome to make your donation online <http://www.rjmn.net/donate/htm> RJMN is a 501c3 religious organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Writing off lives

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

From the New York Times

Published: September 29, 2013

The prison population in the United States has declined modestly in recent years after three decades of growth. This is partly the result of saner sentencing policies for nonviolent drug offenders, who are more likely to be given probation and drug treatment than in the past.

At the same time, however, the number of people in prison for life has more than quadrupled since 1984 and continues to grow at a startling pace. The zealous pursuit of these sentences began in the 1970s, becoming something of a fad; it is past time to revisit the practice.

A new study (http://sentencingproject.org/doc/publications/inc_Life%20Goes%20On%202013.pdf) from the Sentencing Project, a research group, found that one in nine inmates, about 160,000 people, is serving a life sentence. Nearly one-third of these prisoners are serving life without parole. Many of these lifers were convicted of nonviolent crimes or of crimes that occurred before they turned eighteen.

For much of the 20th century, a sentence as harsh as life without parole was rarely used. Instead, a person sentenced to “life” — for murder, say — could be released after 15 years when the parole board determined that he or she had been rehabilitated and no longer posed a threat. This began to change during the drug war years. Harsher sentences once reserved for people convicted of capital crimes were expanded to include robbery, assault and nonviolent drug offenses. States restricted the use of parole and governors who feared being portrayed as soft on crime began to deny virtually all clemency requests.

Research shows lengthy sentences do nothing to improve public safety. But these long sentences are turning prisons into geriatric centers where the cost of care is prohibitively high. The practice of routinely locking up people forever — especially young people — also ignores the potential for rehabilitation. The whole trend is deeply counterproductive. States need to encourage more rational sentencing, restore the use of executive clemency and bring parole back into the corrections process.

Revival is happening in Texas

Revival is happening in Texas and it is emanating from Texas prisons.

Over 20,000 volunteers regularly enter Texas Prisons to hold prayer meetings and facilitate programs.

Results are undeniable. Lives are being transformed. Volunteers eagerly bear testimony about the remarkable outpouring of the spirit within prison walls.

Conversions of non-believers are having positive moral effects inside and outside our prison walls.

Excited volunteers testify about revitalization in their personal lives and fan the flames of revival at home and church. It’s hard to tell if the prisoner or the volunteer received the most benefit.

Wardens and Chaplains are openly recruiting new volunteers to serve in prisons. In addition, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) is now appealing for nurturing churches and volunteers, on the outside, to help citizens returning from prison.

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Restorative Justice Ministry Events Calendar

November 21, 2013, 10:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m., Meeting of the Family and Faith Based Work Group of the Re-Entry Task Force for the State of Texas (see more information on Page 18, first letter in From the Inbox.)

Location: Union Baptist Association, 2916 West T. C. Jester, Suite 200, Houston, TX 77018

For information or to reserve a seat, contact: Rev. David Valentine, 936-435-0993 (work—Covenant Fellowship) or 936-662-5784 (cell) or by email at covenantpastor@gmail.com.

2014

February 19-21, 2014, 6th Annual National Prisoner's Family Conference –Early Registration Deadline Dec.15, 2013

Location: Night Hotel Dallas North, Dallas, TX

For information: call (915) 861-773, email info@prisonersfamilyconference.org, or visit www.prisonersfamilyconference.org

February 19-21, 2014, Prisoners Fine Art Showing & Contest at the 6th Annual National Prisoner's Family Conference

Location: Night Hotel Dallas North, Dallas, TX

Prisoners & friends should email: info@pffunited.org for submission & contest rules

March 28-29, 2014, RJMN 20th Anniversary Celebration

Sponsor: Restorative Justice Ministries Network

Location: First Baptist Church, Huntsville, TX

For information contact Anita Parrish at arparrish@sbcglobal.net

April 3-5, 2014, COPE Regional Conference

Location: Baton Rouge, LA

For information: office@copeconnections.org

May 29-31, 2014, IMPACT 2014 Correctional Ministry Summit

Sponsor: Correctional Ministries & Chaplains Association

Location: Wheaton College, IL

For information call 630-752-7085 or email info@cmcainternational.org

June 16-20, 2014, Canadian School of Peacebuilding

Location: Winnipeg, MB

Sponsor: Canadian Mennonite University

For information: Email csop@cmu.ca, Registration: <http://csop.cmu.ca/index.php/registration/>.

June 18-20, 2014, COPE Regional Conference

Location: Indianapolis, IN

For information contact: office@copeconnections.org

June 23-27 2014, Canadian School of Peacebuilding

Location: Winnipeg, MB

Sponsor: Canadian Mennonite University

For information: Email csop@cmu.ca, Registration: <http://csop.cmu.ca/index.php/registration/>.



**Ministry Resources from Restorative Justice Ministries Network
1229 Avenue J, Huntsville TX 77340**

Order online at: <http://rjmn.net/resources.html>

Recommended for ministry people:

Challenging the Impossible: Discovering Beautiful Trophies for Jesus- Joe Fauss \$13.00 _____
The inspirational story of Joe and Charlotte Fauss, who have spent the past 31 years reaching out to prisoners.

The Real World of Restorative Justice Ministry- Pastor Dave Umfreville \$13.00 _____
Timeless principles in a restorative justice ministry arena. Dedicated to those who labor in this field.

Families on the Gallows of Criminal Justice - Roger Hollar \$35.00 _____
This is a complete manual for churches on doing ministry with at-risk families and children of inmates.

Ministry Action Awareness Clinic - Roger Hollar \$13.00 _____
Develops awareness of the at-risk nature of families & children of inmates. Introduces the Mercy Heart model for ministry.

Recommended for ministry & offenders:

Serving Time, Serving Others - Tom & Laura Lagana \$18.00 _____
Acts of kindness by inmates, prison staff, victims, and volunteers

Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul -Canfield,Hensen,Oberst,Boal,Lagana \$18.00 _____
Stories to celebrate the spirit of courage, caring and community

Chicken Soup for the Prisoner's Soul -Canfield, Hensen, Lagana \$18.00 _____
Stories to celebrate the spirit of courage, caring and community

Karla Faye Tucker SET FREE-Linda Strom \$12.00 _____
Her Death-Row transformation captured the world's attention. Uplifting, good read
Spanish version also available \$12.00

Restoring Peace Using Lessons from Prison to Mend Broken Relationships - Kirk Blackard \$13.00 _____
Forward by John Sage, Founder, Bridges To Life A book about how to really restore any broken relationship.

Recommended for offender's families and friends:

What Is Jail, Mommy? - Jackie A. Stanglin \$13.00 _____
It is the author's firm belief that it is incumbent on each of us to provide age-appropriate facts to young inquiring minds. To do otherwise will be evident in future generations. *Spanish version also available* \$13.00

Family Arrested: How to Survive the Incarceration of a Loved One - Ann Edenfield \$16.00 _____
Ann Edenfield is Executive Director of Wings Ministry, a ministry to families of inmates.
Audio tape book also available \$23.00

An Inmate's Daughter - Jan Walker
Jan Walker taught parenting and family relationships to adult felons for eighteen years.
She used her background and success with incarcerated dads to create this 'true fiction' novel \$11.00

Recommended for offenders:

Man, I Need a Job- Ned Rollo \$11.00 _____
Provides offenders the insights and skills they need to find and keep a job following release

99 Days and a Get Up - Ned Rollo \$13.00 _____
A guide to success following release for inmates and their loved ones.

Life Without A Crutch - Ingraham, Bell, Rollo \$11.00 _____
An introduction to recovery from addiction

The Ex-offender's Re-Entry Success Guide - Drs. Ron & Caryl Krannich \$10.00 _____
Smart choices for making it on the outside for good! Insights, advice, self-tests, examples and exercises.

Total \$ _____

All prices include shipping and handling. We can mail books to prisoners on your behalf.

SEND BOOK(S) TO:

INSTITUTION: _____ **INMATE #:** _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PURCHASER: _____ **PHONE:** _____

Use this Ministry ID Key to locate Ministry Emphasis:

*1=Prison *2=Non-residential Aftercare *3=Victim *4=Professionals *5=Juvenile Offenders *6=Family
*7=Resources for other RJMs *8=Residential Aftercare *9=Jails *10=By Mail

*CANADA

1,2,3,6,7,9 **Bridges to New Life Society**
Rob Baskin
1197 Sutherland Ave
Kelowna
BC V1V 5Y2
1-250-448-6975
1-250-448-6977 Fax
hope@bridgestnl.org
www.bridgesTNL.org

1,7 **Restorative Justice Ministry Network of Canada**
Darryl McCullough
89 Kimberley Avenue
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705-646-2657
705-646-5828 Fax
darryl.mccullough@sympatico.ca

Canadian School of Peacebuilding.
Canadian Mennonite University
500 Shaftesbury Blvd
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3P2N2
204-487-2200

*SCOTLAND

1 **Christian Prison Ministries Scotland**
Colin Cuthbert
PO Box 8806
Carluke ML8 4RJ
015-557-71157

ALABAMA

7 **Mothers Against Methamphetamine**
Mary Holley, M.D.
PO Box 8
Arab 35016-0008
256-498-6262
256-498-6263 Fax
drholley@mamasite.net
www.mamasite.net

10 **Anti-drug Correspondence Course**

ARKANSAS

9 **Cornerstone Baptist Jail Chaplaincy**
Ron Faught
PO Box 93
Cave City 72521
ronfaught3@aol.com

CALIFORNIA

1,5,9,10 **Follow up Ministries**
Glenn L Morrison
PO Box 2514
Castro Valley 94546-0514
510-881-1178
510-881-8043 Fax
Fumi2000@msn.com
www.followupministries.org

1,4,5,6,7,9 **Once Life Matters Ministries, Inc.**
Marty Angelo
PO Box 1146
Frazier Park CA 93225
oncelifematters@yahoo.com
http://www.oncelifematters.com

COLORADO

5 **Youth Transformation Center**
Jeannette Holtham
PO Box 38074
Colorado Springs 80937
719-440-1983
www.youthtransformationcenter.org

4 **Desert Waters**
Ventline for Correctional Staff & Families
PO Box 355
Florence 81226
866-968-8368
youvent@desertwaters.com
www.desertwaters.com

FLORIDA

1,4,9,10 **Christ To Inmates**
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8(M) **Prisoners of Christ**
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904-358-8829 Fax

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eeministries

1,8(M),10 **Matthew 25 Ministries Inc**
PO Box 5690
Lake Worth 33466
561-432-9072
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www.matthew25ministries.org

1 **Diocese of Palm Beach**
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PO Box 109650
Palm Beach Gardens 33410-9650
561-775-9543

1 **Horizon Communities Inc.**
Ike Griffin, President
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Tallahassee 32301

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Menlo Park CA 94025
Ike@horizoncommunities.org
www.horizoncommunities.org
Blog: http://ikegriffin.blogspot.com

ILLINOIS

8 **Koinonia House National Ministry for families**
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630-221-9932
info@koinoniahouse.org
www.koinoniahouse.org

INDIANA

8 **Wings Of Hope**
Linda Kluczinske, Exec Dir
2720 Fairfield Ave
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www.wingsofhopeprisonministry.org

IOWA

7,10 **ECS Ministries**
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www.moorelifeinstitute.com

MASSACHUSETTS

2 **Scotland Congregational Church**
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8 **The Bridge House, NEAM INC**
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www.bridgehouseneam.org
Jean Sullivan, Intake Coordinator
jeans@bridgehouseneam.org

MAINE

2,3,6, 7,9 **Set Free in Maine**
Kenneth Stephens
249 Cushnoc Rd
Vassalboro 04989
207-622-4709
207-512-2010 **Fax**

2,3,6, 7,9 **Northeast Dream Center**
Pastor Ken Stevens
18 Lithgow St
Winslow 04901-7149
207-692-2128

MICHIGAN

6 **Crossroad Bible Institute**
Dr David Schuringa
PO Box 900
Grand Rapids 49509-0900
616-530-1300
616-530-1302 **Fax**
david@cbi.fm

MISSOURI

1,2,6,8 **Mission Gate Prison Ministry**
Rick Mathes
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Chesterfield 63006
636-391-5860
636-391-6611 **Fax**
MissionGateMinistry@msn.com
www.MissionGateMinistry.org

7 **Beyond the Fences Ministries of Restorative Justice**
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816-537-5696
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NEBRASKA

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Ruth Karlsson
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ruth@releasedandrestored.org
www.releasedandrestored.org

NEW MEXICO

1,6 **Wings Ministry**
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2270 D Wyoming Blvd. NE #130
Albuquerque 87112
505-291-6412
505-291-6418 **FAX**
AnnEdenfield@WingsMinistry.org
www.WingsMinistry.org
Author: Family Arrested: How to Survive the Incarceration of a Loved One

NEW YORK

1,9 **Volunteers In Corrections Assemblies of God Prison/Jail Ministries**
Chaplain Don Snyder
12111 Ridge Rd
Medina 14103
dsnyder01@rochester.rr.com

1,2 **New Beginnings for Women**
Karen Lafina Alo
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585-746-7730
newbeginnings@rochester.rr.com

1,2,3,4, 5,6,7,9 **Pastor Dave's Prison Ministry**
Dave Umfreville
5140 Main St Suite 303-139
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davidumf@live.com

NORTH CAROLINA

10 **Christian Pen Pal**
PO Box 11296
Hickory 28603
828-256-6100
cppnews@hotmail.com
http://www.Christian-penpals.com

10 **Ruff Edge Ministries**
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OHIO

1,7 **Restorative Justice Ministry of Ohio**
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cholybee@hotmail.com

10 **Letters for the Lord**
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PO Box 593
Harrah 73045-0593
godell5@cox.net

1,2,5, 6,8(B) **Criminal Justice & Mercy Ministry OK Methodist Conf.**
Stan Basler
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Oklahoma City 73106
405-530-2015
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10 **Christian Motorsports Ministries Prison Victory Magazine**
Roland Osborne
1006 W Taft #225
Sapulpa 74066
607-742-3407
roland@christianmotorsports.com
www.christianmotorsports.com

PENNSYLVANIA

10 **PrisonMail.org**
Earl Garber
PO Box 1602
Altoona 16603
814-742-7500
info@prisonmail.org
www.prisonmail.org

1 **Narrow Path Prison Ministries**
Rev Gordon Coppersmith
240 E 4th St
Emporium 15834
nppm4him@cameroncounty.org
http://prisonministry.net/nppm

1,3,7,8 **Justice & Mercy Inc**
Rev John Rush, MCL
PO Box 223
Reading 19607
610-777-2222
rushjoes@aol.com
www.justicemercy.org

1 **The Yokefellowship Prison Ministry (YPM)**
8 **New Person Center**
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Reading 19607
610-777-2222
info@yokefellowship.org
www.yokefellowship.org

SOUTH CAROLINA

5,10 **Epiphany Ministry Inc**
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843-248-8835 **Fax**
pnew@epiphanyministry.org
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1,9,10 **Justice Ministries/ Prison Evangelism Outreach**
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SOUTH DAKOTA

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www.prisoncongregations.org

Use this Ministry ID Key to locate Ministry Emphasis:

*1=Prison *2=Non-residential Aftercare *3=Victim *4=Professionals *5=Juvenile Offenders *6=Family
*7=Resources for other RJMs *8=Residential Aftercare *9=Jails *10=By Mail

6	Family Connection/Children's Connection Dawn Brende 303 N Minnesota Ave Sioux Falls 57104-6012 605-357-0777 605-357-0780 Fax familyconnect@hotmail.com	1	St Theresa Catholic Church Prison Ministry Rev. Justin Udomah 4311 Small Dr Austin 78731 512-451-5121 frjustin@sttaustin.org	info@iifbc.com www.iifbc.com
		6	Shepherd's Inn Gaspard Center Mary Green PO Box 20618 Beaumont 77720-0618 409-898-8797 409-892-9534 Fax mary@gtba.org www.gtba.org	
TEXAS		3	Victim Services Division-TDCJ Angie McCown, Director PO Box 13401 Austin 78711-3401 800-848-4284 512-406-5417 Fax	
6	Eunice Chambless Hospitality House 13378 Fm 3522 Abilene 79601-8770 325-548-2180 325-675-5414 Fax echhdir@netscape.com	1,3,5,8,9	Wheless Lane Christian Brothers Restorative Ministry Robert Mitchell/Robert Sephus 2702 Wheless Ln Austin 78723 512-926-2988 c-mitchell@webtv.net www.whelesscoc.org	7
1,2,7,9,10	TAX - Abilene Corrine Hansen 2657 Rountree Dr Abilene 79601-2034 325-676-5741	6	Christian Life Crisis Intervention Dion Ainsworth PO Box 20618 Beaumont 77720-0618 409-898-8797 409-736-3983 Fax dion@gtba.org www.gtba.org	3,4,5,6,7,9,10
2	Mission Arlington 210 W South St Arlington 76010 817-277-6620	2,3	Compassion Christian Counseling Vande Derrick 1297B Calder Beaumont 77701 409-832-5772 409832-7224 Fax	2
1,2	A Vision Of Hope Prison Ministry Reverend Jeremy Koch-Founder/ President P.O. Box 201321 Austin 78720 512-761-2755 512-285-6245 FAX avisionofhope12@gmail.com www.avisionofhope.org	1	Good Hope Prison Ministries The God of Hope Ministries Robert Dorrrough 4220 Monterey Oaks Blvd Austin 78749 512-891-1649 rdorrrough@TheGodofHope.org Linda Dueker—Women's Director ldueker@TheGodofHope.org	2
1	Restorative Christian Outreach Min. Mack Bailey 7506 Ed Bluestein Blvd Austin 78723 512-926-2431 midway3060@yahoo.com	1,2,3,4, 5,6,7,8,9,10	Criminal Justice Ministry/Diocese of Beaumont Deacon Harry Davis PO Box 3948 Beaumont 77701-2802 409-924-4300 409-838-4511 Fax criminaljustice@dioceseofbmt.org www.dioceseofbmt.org	1
1,2,4,6,8,10	Light for New Life Min Inc Rev Don Domeracki PO Box 170501 Arlington 76003-0501 817-572-5305 ddmeracki@tx.rr.com www.lightfornewlifeministries.org	1 6	Golden Triangle Baptist Assoc. Dion Ainsworth PO Box 7728 Beaumont 77726 409-898-8797 dion@gtba.org www.gtba.org	1
1,6,7,9,10		1,3,4	International Institute of Faith Based Counseling Debbie Marcantel PO Box 20723 Beaumont 77720 409-832-9060 409-832-7224 FAX	1,9,10
			Harvest House 349 NW Renfro Burlison 76028 817-295-6252	
			Holy Ground Prison Ministry Johnny T Horan PO Box 2526 Brenham 77833 979-836-6328 daphne@gcfchurch.us	
			Manasseh Ministries Muriel C. Roger 6705 FM 279 Ben Wheeler 75754-5205 903-852-4402 manassehministries7@juno.com	
			St John Baptist Church Rev R Michael Stromille 1508 S Broadway Dr Carrollton 75006 972-242-9194 SJBC@saintjohnncarrollton.com www.saintjohnncarrollton.com	
			Redeemed Ministries Betty G Oates PO Box 891 Chico 76431-0891 940-644-5237 940-644-2982 Fax RedeemedMinistry@hotmail.com	

1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10	Newlife Behavior Ministries Buck Griffith 3833 S Staples Ste S-101 Corpus Christi 78472-2188 361-855-3372 361-855-7469 Fax nlbcasa@yahoo.com www.nlbm.org	1,5,6,7	Ministry to Ministries Jim Lang PO Box 700023 Dallas 75370 214-215-6226 972-283-7871 jimlang41@aol.com	El Paso, Texas 79907 sheimer@ymlm.org Rev Karl Heimer heimer@ymlm.org
1,9	Prayer-Life Seminars Inc Hugh White 630 Meadowbrook Dr Corpus Christi 78412-3019 361-993-7651 361-985-8615 Fax hughwhite@aol.com www.prayer-lifeseminars.org	1,2,3,9	R O D Ministires Dale Truitt PO Box 710385 Dallas 75371-0385 214-827-8555 214-824-5355 Fax ddtruitt@hotmail.com www.rodministries.org	1,2,5,9,10 Deep In The Word Prison Ministry Partner in Christ, James Guerra PO Box 4752 Fort Worth 76164 214-883-3601 jguerra789@aol.com
1	The Ministry Church, Inc Therapon, Belief Therapy® & Prisoners of Hope® Dr Paul Carlin, President PO Box 1168 Crockett 75835 936-544-5400 theraponinst@earthlink.net www.theministrychurch.org	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10	St Francis Anglican Church Fr William Conner PO Box 140182 Dallas, 75201 972-900-7298 frwilliam@catholic.org www.angelfire.com/tx5/holycross	1,2,6,7,9 Mercy Heart State Office Roger Hollar, Director Pastor PO Box 163783 Fort Worth 76161 817-514-0290 Office 817-281-7413 Fax info@mercyheart.org www.mercyheart.org
1,7,9	Care Center Ministries Mel Gipson PO Box 171059 Dallas 75217 214-824-9852 214-824-3499 pastormelvin@yahoo.com	1,3,6,7,9,10	Texas Baptist Men Don Gibson 5351 Catron Dr Dallas 75227-9927 214-828-5353 214-232-1856 Don.gibson@texasbaptistmen.org www.texasbaptistmen.org	8 (M) New Name Ministries Jon R. Cordeiro, National Director PO Box 11694 Fort Worth 76110 817-920-5886 newnameministries@sbcglobal.net www.newnameministries.org www.unprecedentedthebook.com
1	Christian Fellowship Enrichment Jim Lang PO Box 700023 Dallas TX 75370 972-283-7871 jimlang41@aol.com	1,7,8,9,10	The Salvation Army 6500 Harry Hines Blvd Dallas 75235 214-956-6276 214-956-6059 Fax www.salvationarmytexas.org	1,6,7 Parents and Children Together (PACT) Rev Suzanne Boeglin 2836 Hemphill St Fort Worth 76110-3214 817-924-7776 pact1924@sbcglobal.net
1,2,4,5,7,9,10	First Baptist Dallas Prison Min. Jerry Bedison 1707 San Jacinto St Dallas 75201 214-969-7746 214-969-7720 Fax jbedison@firstdallas.org www.firstdallas.org	1,2,4,7	Worldwide Voice in the Wilderness Johnny Moffitt PO Box 740273 Dallas 75374 972-234-6009 972-234-6050 Fax info@wviw.com www.wviw.com	10 Write-way Prison Ministries Inc Rodger Turley PO Box 461582 Garland 75046-1582 972-840-9798 972-864-9692 Fax writewaypm@verizon.net www.writewaypm.org
1,7,9,10	Freedom Outreach Ministries Mel Gipson PO Box 180941 Dallas 75218 214-325-9583 214-824-3499 Fax pastormelvin@yahoo.com	5,6,	Air Chapel Terry Dyer 320 King Ave Denison 75020 903-786-5899 tdyer@mail.airchapel.org www.airchapel.org	1,2,4,6,7,8(F),9,10 Cross Prison Ministries Inc Carole Ross PO Box 412 Gatesville 76528-0412 254-865-5163 crossprisonministry@earthlink.net www.liferow.org
1,7	Inmate Discipler Fellowship/TX Baptist Men Mark Hollis 5351 Catron Drive Dallas 75227-9927 214-828-5347 Mark.hollis@texasbaptistmen.org www.inmatedisciplerfellowship.org	1	Prison Fellowship Ministries—TX Mercury Bynum PO Box 602 Desoto 75123 469-232-8013 682-222-7385 FAX Mercury_bynum@pfm.org	1,7,9 Discipleship Unlimited Terry Strom PO Box 145 Gatesville 76528 254-831-0016 terjean@msn.com www.discipleshipunlimited.org
		1	Lutheran Prison Ministry Attn: Rev Stephen Heimer 301 South Schutz Drive	8 (F) Spirit House Ministries Leslie Culver, MAC Executive Director PO Box 2474 Georgetown, TX 78627 512-591-4848 www.spirithouseministries.org

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1,2,3,4,5,6,9,10	Morning Star Jail/Prison Ministry Rev Robert L Buchanan 2251 El Paso Grand Prairie 75051 972-647-1445 setatliberty1@aol.com www.morningstar-baptist.org	281-452-2352 wfstevens1@pdq.net		ptaul@workfaithconnection.org www.workfaithconnection.org
10	Encouraging Word Ministries Margaret Hackler PO Box 5148 Gun Barrel City 75147	1,2,5,7,8	Newgate UMC/Onesimus Journey Rev. Marvin Hood 3827 Broadway @I-45S Houston 77017 832-567-0758 marvelous272003@yahoo.com	2 Vision City Church Pastor Rick Vasquez 4300 W. Bellfort Houston 77035 Español /English 713-270-9434 visionchurch2011@gmail.com www.visionchurchhouston.com www.rickvasquez.org
10	Open Arms Ministry Steve & Diana Moore PO Box 529 Hillsboro 76645 254-580-2935 mrst24dbt@aol.com	1,7,9	Oil of Joy for Mourning Rev Rhonda Arias PO Box 720768 Houston 77272-0768 713-419-1214 oilofjoy@sbcglobal.net www.oilofjoyformourning.org	1,2,6 Covenant Fellowship Rev David Valentine PO Box 10769 Huntsville 77340 936-435-0993 dbhvalentine@suddenlink.net www.cf huntsville.org
1,3,	Bridges To Life John Sage PO Box 19039 Houston 77224 713-463-7200 jsage1@aol.com www.bridgestolife.org	1,2,6,9,10	Path to Freedom Ministry St. John's Downtown UMC Jonathan Chism 2019 Crawford Street Houston 77002 713-659-3237 ext 4020 713-659-2236 Fax jchism@stjohnsdowntown.org www.stjohnspathtofreedom.org	1 Elkins Lake Baptist Church Rev Ken Huggins 206 State Highway 19 Huntsville 77340-7152 936-295-7694 936-295-3388 Fax www.elbc.org
1,9	Crossover USA Gary R Nichols 911 Westmont Houston 77015 713-545-7991 713-455-7060 Fax gnichols@crossoverusa.com	1,2,3,5,7,9,10	Restored to Christ Harold Travis 14147 Ivy Bluff Ct Houston 77062 281-488-5110 281-488-8218 Fax harold@clearlakemethodist.org	1,2,3 Episcopal Diocese of TX RJM Edwin Davis PO Box 388 Huntsville 77342 936-662-3842 edsalpc@yahoo.com
1,3,4,5,8,9,10	Epiphany Ministries of Texas Chuck Talbot PO Box 590578 Houston 77259 chucktal@msn.com www.texasepiphany.com	1,3,4,6,9,10	Servants of Christ Prison Ministry Sibble Knight PO Box 111275 Houston 77293-0275 281-449-2703	1,2 Faith Temple Holiness Church of God in Christ 2614 Montgomery Rd Huntsville 77340 936-438-8750
5,7,10	Initiatives for America's Youth Boone Vastine 15153 Kimberley Ct Houston 77079-5130 281-493-4556 layjjm@aol.com	1	Skills for Life Inc James Arnold PO Box 38553 Suite 113 Houston 77238 281-733-1223 arnojl@msn.com www.skillsforlifepm.com	1,2,3, First Baptist Church First Contact Family Ministry 1229 Avenue J Huntsville 77340-4698 936-291-3441 www.fbchuntsville.org
9	Jail Chaplaincy Ministry Freddie Wier PO Box 30262 Houston 77249-0262 713-569-2929	8	Spirit Key Inc Allen Rice 13617 Kaltenbrun Rd Houston 77086 281-971-0014 office@spiritkey.org www.spiritkey.org	1,2,4 First Baptist Church Welcome Back Ministry 1229 Avenue J Huntsville 77340-4698 936-291-3441 www.fbchuntsville.org
1,2,3,4,5,6,9,10	Morning Star Baptist Church 5110 Crane ST Houston 77026-3908 713-674-7170	2,7	The WorkFaith Connection Patricia Taul Community Partner Manager 10120 Northwest Freeway, #200 Houston, TX 77092 713.984.9611	Bill Kleiber 800-998-3004 kleiber@sbcglobal.net www.thewelcomeback.org
6	Newgate Connection Wesley Stevens PO Box 96333 Houston 77213-9633			

6	Hospitality House Debra McCammon 912 10th St Huntsville 77320-3937 936-291-6196 www.thehospitalityhouse.org	1,6,7	Prison Fellowship Ministries Kelly Purselley PO Box 54987 Hurst 76054 Kelly_purselley@pfm.org www.prisonfellowship.org	903-472-2762 Tandrus26@gmail.com
7	Restorative Justice Ministries Network Bill Kleiber, Exec Director 1229 Avenue J Huntsville 77340 936-291-2156 kleiber@sbcglobal.net www.rjmn.net www.restorativejusticenews.net www.rjmntexas.net Anita Parrish, Ministry Assistant arparrish@sbcglobal.net	1,6,10	Texas HOPE Literacy Inc Lucy Smith PO Box 905 Hurst 76053-0905 817-919-3161 hopeliteracy@sbcglobal.net www.hopelit.com	2 Lee P Brown C. J. Institute Dr. Tracy Andrus, Director Wiley College 711 Wiley Ave Marshall 75670 903-923-2420 tandrus@wileyc.edu
2,6,7	Bill Kleiber 800-998-3004 kleiber@sbcglobal.net www.thewelcomeback.org	1,2,7,100	Freedom in Jesus Ministries Don Castleberry PO Box 939 Levelland 79336 806-778-3923 806-897-0730 Fax fijm@nts-online.net	3 Hope For Healing Ministries Inc Susan Edwards PO Box 9331 Midland 79708 214-477-2610 sedwards@hopeforhealingministries.org www.hopeforhealingministries.org
1	TDCJ Chaplaincy Operations Bill Pierce, Director 1060 State Hwy 190 E Huntsville 77340 936-437-4975 936-437-4988 Fax billy.pierce@tdcj.state.tx.us www.tdcj.state.tx.us	1	The Brotherhood of St Andrew Oliver Osborn PO Box 537 Lake Jackson 77566-0537 979-297-6217	1 P.T.C. Prison Ministry Bobby Griffin PO Box 633741 Nacogdoches 75963 936-559-0070 ptcm_griffith@hotmail.com
3	TDCJ Victim Services Janic Sager PO Box 949 Huntsville 77432 936-437-4942 Janice.sager@tdcj.state.tx.us	1,2,3,7,8(B),9,10	Calvary Commission Joe Fauss PO Box 100 Lindale 75771-0100 903-882-5501 903-882-7282 joefauss@calvarycommission.org www.calvarycommission.org	2,5,7,8(M),9,10 Freedom House Discipleship Jami Butts 1517 Custer Odessa 79761 432-661-9503 freedomhouse05@gmail.com www.odessadreamcenter.com
1,7	The Old Time Religion Hour Inc Rev George Lupo PO Box 1225 Huntsville 73342 936-293-8000	2,7,10	Cristo Es La Roca Prison Ministry 6504 Quaker Ave #305A Lubbock 79413 512-709-9454 paulinagmz@yahoo.com	2,6,9,10 Loops (Loved Ones of Prisoners) Leland & Linda Maples PO Box 14953 Odessa 79768-4953 432-580-5667 432-580-8299 Fax leland@loopsministries.com www.loopsministries.com
1,5	University Heights Baptist Church Bro Richard Rogers 2400 Sycamore Ave Huntsville 77340-6120 936-295-2996 office@uhbc.net www.uhbc.net	10	Exodus Prison Ministry Joyce Hargis 4243 34th Street Lubbock 79410 806-791-3673 806-780-9780 Fax joyce@exodusprisonministry.org www.exodusprisonministry.org	1,2,3,4,8(B),9 Mike Hooker Ministries Mike / Charlotte R Hooker PO Box 143 Queen City 75572-0143 903-796-5297 214-796-6592 Fax
2,5	Winner's Circle Juvenile Program Kent Lucas 550 Elkins Lake Huntsville 77340 936-436-9467 winnerscircletexas@sbcglobal.net		Simple Acts Ministry Ted M. Zobeck P. O. Box 6601 Lubbock, TX 79493 806-407-4726 806-928-8345 ted@simpleactsministry.org www.simpleactsministry.org	1,2,3,6,7,10 Operation Oasis Michael Lee 302 Centennial Blvd Richardson 75081-5057 972-437-3801 972-437-3139 Fax mlee@operation-oasis.org www.operation-oasis.org
3,4,5,6,7,10	Mercy Heart@ Christ Memorial Stephen Drake 241 W Bedford-Eules Rd Hurst 76053 817-285-1671 cmcc1999@sbcglobal.net www.CMCCfamily.org	2	Harvesting Inter'1 Ministry Center 560 Easy Dr Mansfield 76063 817-453-3663	2 One Man's Treasure Clothes Closet Annette Jenkins 519 E I-30 #211 Rockwall 75087 888-433-9826 onemanstr@yahoo.com www.onemanstr.org
		2	Marshall Re-Entry Ministries 1900 Olive St Marshall 75670	

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- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>1,2 Amen Prison Ministries, Inc.
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210-433-5998
210-381-1702 FAX
ncampos4@satx.rr.com</p> <p>1,10 Joy Prison Ministry
Ura White
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Spring 77387-7324
281-253-8342</p> <p>1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 C. J. Ministry Archdiocese of San Antonio
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galynn@trinityrjm.com
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bettyj@camalott.com</p> <p>1,4,6 Houston Trinity Prison Ministry
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www.crjma.org</p> <p>2,3,6,7,10 Bridging The Gap Ministries
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www.opendoorwaco.org</p> <p>8(Deaf Men) Healing Hands Ranch
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www.healinghandsranch.org</p> <p>1,3,4,6,7,9 RJM Family Service and Mediation Center
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**Would you like to have
your ministry listed
in the Ministries Directory
and on the RJMN website?
Contact Anita Parrish
at arparrish@sbcglobal.net**

Regional News by Richard Blake

Continued from Page 2

Lansing, Michigan

In a unanimous vote Michigan's state senate approved legislation to increase prison time for drive-by shooters. If they endanger the safety of others the penalty will range from the current four year sentence to a maximum of ten years, or if victims are injured there is a maximum sentence of fifteen years, for serious injuries that maim the maximum is twenty years, and life sentences for those who cause death. The bill now goes to the House for their action.

In Other States

The introduction of pets into Maryland and New York state prisons has created interest from the media. The plan is patterned after a model implemented by Kathy Quinn (Sister Pauline) and used at the Purdy Treatment Center for Women in Gig Harbour.

The program is designed for inmates to train dogs to assist disabled people. The plan has a two-fold benefit: Prisoners involved in the program have a boost in self-esteem as they make a worthwhile contribution to a community beyond the prison walls. Participants often pursue working with animals after leaving prison.

Mercy Heart is winning the war on family disintegration due to incarceration

Mercy Heart (est. 1995) is actively pursuing ministry in the lives of at-risk families and children of inmates. 2.2 million children are struggling with the stigma of having a parent in prison. We exist to help these families and children know that they are not alone in their struggle. The work of Mercy Heart (MH) is accomplished through local churches that individually fund and staff a Mercy Heart Chapel Program on their site.

Mercy Heart is addressing the needs of these families by providing a weekly encounter format where family members can work safely through the transitions of incarceration and re-entry. In addition, Mercy Heart conducts a one-day in-prison program, Legacy Day With Dad/Mom. We go behind prison walls with children and caregivers to help them begin the reconciliation process.

We are in our second year of a three-year plan to:

- 1) Add fifteen new MH Chapel Programs throughout fifteen targeted counties in the Texas I-35 corridor.

In our first year we added four sponsor churches. Four months into our second year we are on target to add at least four new sponsor churches. We currently serve Denton, Tarrant, Harris and Wise Counties with nine Chapel Programs.

- 2) Increase our Legacy Day in-prison program to ten per year.

In our first year we conducted six programs. We will conduct eight programs in our second year.

Testimony: "After my husband was released we went to MH as a family. MH was a huge part of the family reunification process. I would tell any church considering [sponsorship of a MH] program that the mission will be beyond your ability. It will take a miracle. Be open and the miracle will come. Our family is one of those miracles."

For information contact Roger W Hollar – roger@mercyheart.org

Ohio is a leader in smart reforms for juvenile justice

By Evelyn Lundberg
Columbus Dispatch

When I was a justice on the Ohio Supreme Court, and now as I visit other states working on juvenile-justice reforms in my new capacity as an advocate, once again I find great reason to be proud of Ohio. In other states, I continue to hear that Ohio is a national model for juvenile-justice reform.

Earlier this month, the Campaign for Youth Justice released a report that highlighted Ohio's leadership in enacting research-based reforms to keep youth in the juvenile-justice system and out of the adult criminal-justice system.

In Ohio, an average of nearly 300 youths are bound over to the adult system each year, and in 2012, Ohio reached a historic low of 205 bound-over youths. Most people do not know that the majority of these youths receive adult court sentences of five years or less, meaning they will return to our communities in the near future, often worse off because they are even less prepared to survive in the adult world.

The national research has clearly shown that youths who come into contact with the adult court system can face long-term negative consequences. Youths in the adult system are, on average, 34 percent more likely to reoffend than youth who commit similar offenses but stay in juvenile court.

Research also shows that youths in adult jails and prisons have very high rates of suicide and mental-health issues, frequently face physical and sexual assaults and often do not have access to required programming, such as education, while spending their formative years learning about and becoming accustomed to a criminal environment.

Finally, these youths face many collateral consequences after their release, such as lifelong barriers to employment and housing.

In light of this research, Ohio has taken two steps toward retaining youth in the juvenile justice system.

First, Ohio lawmakers created a “reverse waiver” mechanism that allows some youths who are mandatorily transferred to adult court to come back to juvenile court if they aren't convicted of the crime that got them transferred. The juvenile court judge then makes an individualized decision about whether that youth should be sent to adult court or can be rehabilitated in juvenile court on any other charges still pending.

Second, Ohio legislators created a presumption that all youth should be held in juvenile detention centers instead of adult jails unless and until they are convicted in adult court or a judge determines that a certain youth should be placed in the adult jail. Many adult jails are not prepared to deal with children and have no continued schooling arrangements and no youth-specific treatment available for mental-health needs. Or they may put youths in solitary confinement solely because the law doesn't allow them to be mixed with adults.

These reforms are significant steps in the right direction and align with both research and best practices across the country for positive outcomes for youth and their communities.

I am proud that our lawmakers have understood the need to keep more of Ohio's young people in the juvenile justice system — for their sake and for ours. The community that works with youth, be they judges, agencies or service organizations, all look forward to working further with our legislators to keep Ohio a national model. Thank you for your leadership.

Evelyn Lundberg Stratton is a former Ohio Supreme Court justice and a longtime advocate for improved treatment of the mentally ill in the criminal-justice system.

RJMN 20th Anniversary Celebration - March 28-29, 2014, Huntsville, TX

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Emmett expected an attendance of about 50. Instead 250 showed up. Anita Parrish began working with Emmett as a volunteer after reading an article in the *Huntsville Item* about the conference. The first quarterly edition of INFORMS was mailed to 3,000 households, ministries and churches in April 1994, with six additional volunteers helping to get it out. The last mailing of the newspaper totaled 60,000 with a volunteer force of around 50 from various churches, ministries and towns. In the meantime, a name change occurred and the ministry became Restorative Justice Ministries Network.

Emmett expected an attendance of about 50. Instead 250 showed up

Emmett envisioned the ministry lasting about 10 years. From his personal contacts and various other sources, the first mailing list of 3,000 was compiled. Today the database contains more than 96,000 names that have been accumulated over 20 years. The vast majority of people are Texans who over the past 20 years have been involved in ministering in one way or another to those whose lives been touched in some way by the criminal justice system.

Put the date of March 28-29, 2014, on your calendar now and join with us in celebrating this wonderful man sent by God to penetrate the darkness of prison and bring compassion into the lives of all affected by crime. You can help make the celebration an event to remember. Countless numbers of lives have been positively impacted by RJMN either by becoming involved in ministry or by benefiting from it. Please share your story of involvement with Emmett and/or restorative justice ministry by sending your story and any photographs you'd like to share to Anita Parrish at arparrish@sbcglobal.net or Restorative Justice Ministries Network, 1229 Avenue J, Huntsville, TX 77340. A book will be compiled to tell the 20 year story of Restorative Justice Ministries Network.

Ministry is a two-way street

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One student spent two hours with the same family learning about what they have been through with their loved ones. Another student walked around the center, offering support in any way she could. The students at the family center enjoyed having the opportunity to show people they care about what they are experiencing.

The service at the Greyhound Bus Station was also enriching for the students. They were able to meet the men that had been released and directly interact with them. When the students instructed the men how to fill out the paperwork and answer their specific questions about it, they were a respectable and gracious group. When everyone had completed their paperwork, the men and the students were even joking around and conversing about random things.

It can be easy to judge people based on their backgrounds and choices they have made in the past, but this service demonstrated to the Sam Houston Psi Chi/Psychology Club group that people remain similar to one another no matter the external circumstances. Organizations like the Restorative Justice Ministries Network share with the world a message of pure forgiveness and compassion that touches everyone from the recently returning citizens to the vast array of volunteers.

From the Inbox

Meeting for better collaboration between Faith Groups in Harris County

The Family and Faith Based Work Group of the Re-Entry Task Force for the State of Texas will be meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2013 at Union Baptist Association (2916 West T. C. Jester – Suite 200 – Houston, TX 77018) from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to have better collaboration between Faith Groups in Harris County that are involved in Faith Based Re-Entry Ministries and having a stronger partnership with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice regarding re-entry issues. If your ministry or your church is involved in Faith Based Re-Entry Ministries, we are inviting you to attend this very important gathering on November 21. There is no cost to attend or to participate in this meeting.

For more information or to reserve a seat, please contact:

Rev. David Valentine, Chair
Family and Faith Based Work Group
936-435-0993 (work – Covenant Fellowship), 936-662-5784 (cell), Email: covenantpastor@gmail.com
or Rev. Rickie Bradshaw, Union Baptist Association

Female volunteers needed with Barabbas Ministries, San Antonio

There is a need for female volunteers to spend a few hours per week at Haven for Hope, assisting men and women to obtain their official State of Texas identification.

You will be trained in the process for assisting people to apply for various types of identification cards/documents (birth certificate, State ID, Driver's License, etc.) required for employment and transportation. It is vital for these men to obtain an ID for employment and transportation.

If you are interested in volunteering, or just finding out a bit more about this opportunity, please contact Carol by phone at (210) 692-4594 or by email at CarolMorton@PrisonMinistryPartners.com.

Support for ex-offenders and families plus free dinner every Tuesday evening in Lillian, TX

We have a weekly support group for ex-offenders every Tuesday night in Lillian TX. We have substance abuse classes every week. We offer a free dinner to anyone. We support the families of ex-offenders as well. We offer food, clothes, support, transitional living on a ranch. Could you post this for our weekly event? We are in the Johnson County area.

Jimmy and Beth Humphus, humphus2005@skybeammail.com

Praying to find a fellowship of believers

Dear RJMN

Thank you so much for the many referrals and resources sent! I will try to make the most of the ones that can help with my next step out the door.

Please know your help in this matter is greatly appreciated! Thank you also for your response to my request! God bless you!

Gratefully His,
Mark (Kyle Unit)

P.S. Please pray that I will find favor in finding a fellowship of believers who will support me in prayer and godly instruction.

Guides for new Texas bills and riders including Visitation Survey Form

Over the past few months, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC) has been releasing **short “how to” guides** about newly enacted legislation or riders, which can help practitioners, as well as system-involved individuals and family members, and others interested in juvenile and criminal justice.

Examples of 2 new guides recently released are listed below:

HB 1318 Implementation Guide (<http://www.texascjc.org/sites/default/files/uploads/HB%201318%20Implementation%20Guide%20%28Appointment%20of%20Counsel%20and%20Indigent%20Defense%29.pdf>): Read about new legislation impacting both youth and adults:

HB 1188 Implementation Guide (<http://www.texascjc.org/sites/default/files/uploads/HB%201188%20Implementation%20Guide%20%28Limited%20Employer%20Liability%29.pdf>) Read about new legislation intended to limit the liability of employers who hire people with criminal records; it prevents employers from being sued for cause if an employee with a record commits a crime, with certain exceptions. This guide is especially useful for business groups and employers, organizations that offer trainings to people with criminal histories, attorneys, and previously incarcerated individuals seeking employment.

A complete list of Implementation Guides for the 83rd Legislative Session is available at (<http://www.texascjc.org/sites/default/files/uploads/HB%201318%20Implementation%20Guide%20%28Appointment%20of%20Counsel%20and%20Indigent%20Defense%29.pdf>)

Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC) Visitation Surveys are available

During the 2013 Texas legislative session, the Texas Legislature passed **Budget Rider 61** (<http://www.texascjc.org/sites/default/files/uploads/BR%2061%20Implementation%20Guide%20%28Prison%20Visitation%20Study%29.pdf>), which requires the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to conduct or commission a survey of its visitation policies, for purposes of improving those policies.

TCJC have created two **ANONYMOUS** surveys to learn more about the visitation experience, and to request suggestions for improving that experience. TCJC will share their findings with officials at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, who we hope will take their findings into consideration.

Survey for Visitors: click here (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TDCJ-visitacion>) to take the survey. **The surveys will close on December 31, 2013!**

Revival is happening in Texas

Continued from Page 5

For 20 years Restorative Justice Ministries Network (RJMN) has acted as an ecumenical endeavor to activate the energy of The Church to serve as missionaries in the largest mission field in Texas by obeying Christ’s command to visit those in prison. Revival is the result of faithful obedience to that command by thousands of dedicated volunteers. If you want to become involved in this ministry opportunity but aren’t sure how to get started, we can help connect you with a chaplain, ministry or church in your area. Contact us at 800-998-3004 or arparrish@sbcglobal.net and we’ll help you get started.

Revival is happening. You are urged to catch the wave. Feel the joy of your salvation. Extend the message of revival to your family, and communicate the message in your community.

Grace & Peace,

Bill Kleiber, Executive Director, RJMN

Building hope through justice

Breakaway Outreach Ministries

More than 2.5 million juveniles are arrested every year in America and 70% of juveniles convicted of crimes have gone on to commit crimes again. With Our U.S. prison population increasing 15 times faster than the general population, the urgency for youth intervention has never been greater!

Turning the tide of juvenile delinquency one child at a time

Statistics tell us that over 75% of the people who ever come to Christ do so by the age of 18. If we don't reach young people by this age, our chances of reaching them later are very slim. Breakaway provides outreach programs for kids locked up in juvenile detention centers and youthful offender prisons throughout the southeastern United States. These services include small group Bible studies, entrepreneurial training, counseling, one-to-one mentoring, high-energy extreme sports events, recovery groups, aftercare assistance, and reentry support.

Where Do They Come From?

Most of the kids who commit crimes suffer from the impact of a broken family, the lack of positive peers, and a cultural epidemic of violence and abandoned morals. Juvenile correctional institutions today are filled with kids from urban, suburban, and rural America.

Regardless of where kids come from, the majority of them will be going back to their communities, perhaps in your neighborhood. We can choose to discard them, but we cannot deny that Jesus Christ died for them. We must remember that those who deserve love the least need it the most!

What Do They Need?

One study indicated that 94% of incarcerated youth have never had one single positive adult male role model that was consistently present in their life! Another study indicated that 84% of the boys who become serious juvenile offenders have parents with criminal records. It is quite clear that at-risk young people are in desperate need of healthy relationships with adults.

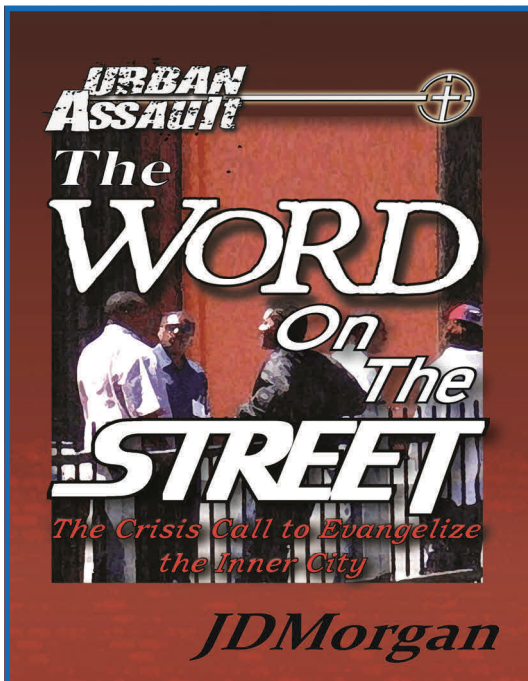
Our approach is more about building relationships with young people than building programs. The Justice Department reported that nearly 1.5-million American children have a mother or a father in federal or state prison. Of these children, 1.38 million live in homes without their fathers. A study presented to the American Sociological Association showed that these boys with absentee fathers are twice as likely to end up in prison as those who come from two-parent families.

Welcome to our mission field!

These kids are desperate for a family, positive relationships, and godly influences in their lives! We can sit back and watch young offenders get caught up in the cycle of becoming "lifers," or we can intervene today and help them Breakaway from a troubled past and become responsible young adults in our society. Statistics say that most of the kids incarcerated today will become repeat offenders. Breakaway Outreach is there to show kids that statistics don't determine their future, their choices do!

In 1996, Breakaway began as a small Bible study in a juvenile detention center and has since grown into a global movement based out of Chattanooga, TN. Breakaway pilots the National Network of Juvenile Justice Ministries and is the catalyst for the E3 Urban Leadership Initiative, a commission to train, equip, and mobilize the next generation of urban youth leaders, multiplying gospel-centered movements in communities around the globe. Breakaway Outreach was founded by Jimmy and Cindy Larche. For more information go to <http://www.breakawayoutreach.com/>

New resource for rebuilding relevance into the ministry and life of the urban church—book review



Urban Assault – The Word on the Street
By: JD Morgan
eheapress, 106 San Pablo Towne Center
San Pablo, California 94806
978-0857703, \$ 15.99, 2013, 306 pages

Reviewed by Richard Blake, richard330@yahoo.com

Urban Assault – The Word on the Street by JD Morgan introduces a new standard for defending the faith described by JD Morgan as the “Urban Apologetic.” In a bold proclamation, Morgan challenges the Church, its leaders, and individual members to recognize the crisis-call to evangelize the inner city.

The book is divided into three parts. Part I presents a strong case for urban evangelism, a brief history of the ‘hood, and explains how post Christian and anti-Christian influences have taken root within the “household of faith.” Morgan contends that to function as the church was intended it must “refocus, and redirect its ministries both inside and outside its walls as a conduit to salvation and to recommit ourselves as a church and as individuals to the ministry of reconciliation.”

Urban Assault – The Word on the Street is written with conviction, is credible in analysis, and provides plausible, workable solutions for making an impact on the opportunities, theological relevance, and civil responsibility. Morgan informs readers of complex root causes that have created the urban ghettos which are resulting in crisis in the inner city across America.

Morgan is a visionary, a leader, and an evangelist who has rallied around him a team of men and women dedicated to join in a movement of those who are willing to leave the safety of the sanctuary to go out into the streets and meet the people at the point of their needs. The testimonies, passions, and solutions of some of these called-out ones are included in Part II – The Calling, and in Part III – The Called.

In the late 90’s I operated a Christian bookstore in San Leandro, California. An invisible demarcation line delineated San Leandro as a suburb of urban Oakland. Geographically I was considered suburban. My passion and purpose for ministry was urban. I envisioned extending my ministry by reaching into the urban community with the Gospel message, while providing a service to individuals and the churches in both communities.

At our first meeting JD Morgan and I shared our dreams and visions across a counter in my bookstore. In the years since, I have admired James for his perseverance, for his constancy in the faith in times of adversity, and for his integrity as a minister of the Gospel.

I was humbled when asked to contribute a chapter in this book about my experiences while working behind the scenes for a faith-based organization ministering to men and women behind prison walls. I count it a privilege to have had a small part in bringing this book to fruition.

Urban Assault – The Word on the Street has an important message for every American.

Richard Blake is a regular contributor to the RJ News. Regional News by Richard Blake is on page 2 of this issue. More book reviews by Richard are available at <http://richardblake.wordpress.com/>

Restorative Justice Ministries Network 2013 Report

By Bill Kleiber, Executive Director

To churches, volunteers and supporters:

First we want to thank you, your families, and your congregations for your generous prayers and support. RJMN is very blessed to have churches and individuals which contribute time, energy and finances to this ministry on a regular basis. Together we have helped restore thousands of lives, saved Texans millions of dollars and helped reduce the recidivism rate in Texas to 22.6% vs. the national recidivism rate of 66%.

We have a very dedicated Board of Directors, all serving at their own expense, who help move the ministry forward. They are:

1) Dr. Ed Davis, President of the board; retired professor and teacher of Restorative Justice, Sam Houston State University; Restorative Justice Ministry Coordinator for the Episcopal Diocese of Texas

2) Mark Hollis, Vice President of the Board; Restorative Justice Ministry Coordinator, Texas Baptist Men; Executive Director, Inmate Discipeler Fellowship

3) Emmett Solomon, Founder of RJMN and Executive Director for 19 years; former Correctional Chaplain and TDCJ Director of Chaplains

4) Richard Lopez, retired Director of Chaplaincy Support, TDCJ Chaplaincy Department; Coordinator of Northern Prison Units for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston; Project Coordinator, Bridges to Life

5) Mark Pickett, former TDCJ Correctional Chaplain and Regional Chaplain; Associate Minister at the First United Methodist Church, Huntsville; Coordinator of Restorative Justice Ministry for the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

6) Chaplain Jerry Cabluck, Founder of Welcome Back Tarrant; highly involved with city, county and state offices connected to criminal justice

Our Staff:

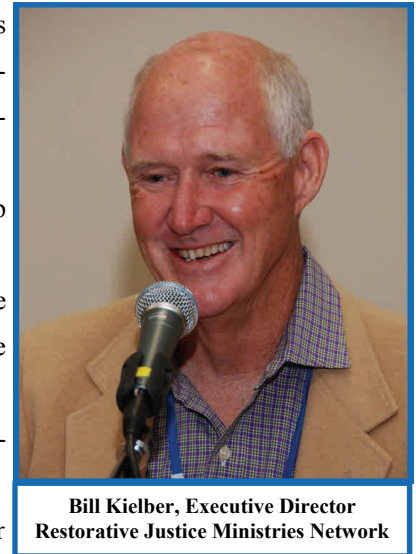
1) Bill Kleiber, Executive Director Bill came to RJMN as temporary help after his release from state jail. He quickly became a valuable asset as a ministry assistant and progressed to full time employee. After 10 years with RJMN, Emmett turned the reigns over to Bill to lead this ministry into new areas.

2) Anita Parrish, Ministry Assistant and Comptroller The Lord sent her to volunteer way back in 1994 when this organization was less than 6 months old. It was not long before she became an employee. She has been the glue which holds things together around here for almost 20 years.

Several volunteers spend many hours each week assisting in the day to day functions of ministry to returning citizens and their families who come to take them home. We won't mention all of them. However, there are a few that work tirelessly almost every day of the week: Michael Bartos, Ronny Dale Goodwin, Amy Lea Iles and Ray Runnels.

Without our faithful volunteers, this ministry could not present the following report:

- Assisted and/or participated in 4 Restorative Justice Ministry Conferences in Houston, Huntsville, Tyler and Austin



**Bill Kielber, Executive Director
Restorative Justice Ministries Network**

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Restorative Justice Ministries Network 2013 Report

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- Ministered to 12,441 family or loved ones who came to take a returning citizen home; 7,722 men at Welcome Back; 12,751 men at the bus station upon release from prison in Huntsville
- Made available over 11,000 free cell phones to released prisoners to help them get jobs and manage their lives
- In cooperation with the Covenant Fellowship Church and TDCJ, Front Door Ministry received requests from 3,779 incoming prisoners for ministry to their families while they are incarcerated
- 13,778 emails sent seeking a welcoming contact for returning citizens and/or families
- 3804 calls received at RJMN offices on the 800 Telecare line
- 1919 volunteers worked 4,839 hours

It is doubtful that we could have accomplished all of this without the First Baptist Church in Huntsville so generously providing free office space in their facilities. We sit only one block from the Walls Unit, Huntsville, Texas, and the bus station where most of this ministry takes place. First Baptist also furnishes many of the volunteers who carry this ministry forward.

Emmett' Solomon's vision for many years as he worked as a correctional chaplain was to develop an active network to assist ministry in the justice arena. Presently there are over 96,000 addresses in our data base. Most of these people have done ministry within prisons or with victims of crime, law enforcement employees or their respective families.

We thank each of you whom God has led to provide support for RJMN. Of course, we need continued support. We see no indication that the ministry will be diminished during the coming year. The Lord has grown RJMN from a fledgling to a thriving efficient ministry to people all around Texas and beyond.

Our websites are: www.rjmn.net; www.rjmntexas.net; www.rjweek.com; www.welcomebacktexas.com; and www.restorativejusticeneeds.net. These sites provide additional information about RJMN ministries and provide valuable resources for ministries and people in need.

Coats to Comfort—Get your church involved

Welcome Back Volunteers have greeted over 300,000 men released from the Huntsville Prison Unit. Traditionally many churches and ministries have collected items for Coats to Comfort to assist these recently returning citizens.

Please consider collecting new or used coats to help these men reenter our society. Many of these individuals take buses to cold northern climates wearing short sleeved shirts provided by prison release.

This is a very easy clothing ministry to initiate. Receivers of coats and clothing are very grateful and remember these acts of kindness for the rest of their lives.

There are 25 chapters of the Texas Inmate Family Association who will go to the churches to collect the coats already gathered and transport them to Huntsville when they visit their loved ones in the nine prisons around Huntsville.

If a church wants to start a Coats to Comfort ministry they can call RJMN at 1-800-998-3004 or email Kleiber@sbcglobal.net for assistance.

Thank you for your kind support.

Remembrance of those who died in prison

Huntsville, TX—November 2nd is a day when many Texans honor the dead and reflect on their own mortality. Members and friends of the Texas Interfaith Center for Public Policy celebrated All Souls Day or Dia de los Muertos at the Captain Joe Byrd Cemetery remembering those in our Texas community who died in state prisons by laying a flower on the graves of more than 3,000 individuals.

Our religious and cultural traditions provide teachings, practices, and rituals to help us remember the dead and to honor the inherent worth and dignity of each human life.

For 160 years, the Captain Joe Byrd Cemetery has been the final resting place for many people who died while serving time in Texas prisons, either because their families couldn't afford funeral costs or because no one claimed their bodies.

The laying of flowers was followed by a brief interfaith service of remembrance at Huntsville's Wesley United Methodist Church. Following the service Frank Wilson, author and Sam Houston State University graduate was available for a Q&A session about his forthcoming book about the Captain Joe Byrd Cemetery.

The interfaith service and laying of flowers on Dia de los Muertos or All Souls Day affirmed our common humanity.

The Texas Interfaith Center for Public Policy (TICPP) is a faith-based, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing theologically grounded public policy analysis to people of faith and other Texans. If you would like to know more about the TICPP contact Cindy Eigler, at cindy@texasinterfaith.org

The views and/or opinions expressed in the articles of guest writers do not necessarily reflect the views and/or opinions of the Restorative Justice Ministries Network, the Restorative Justice News or the RJMN Board of Directors.

Emmett Solomon, Publisher
Anita Parrish, Ministry Assistant
Shirley Orr Smith, Editor

The Restorative Justice News (R. J. News) e-newsletter is published periodically throughout the year by Restorative Justice Ministries Network of Texas, Inc. The RJM Network is an information resource for Restorative Justice Ministries. Inquiries about any kind of Restorative Justice Ministry are welcome. Currently there is no subscription fee for the R. J. News. The publication cost is being subsidized by the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, the Texas Baptists and reader donations.

The board of the non-profit corporation includes: Jerry Cabluck, Ed Davis, Richard Lopez, Mark Hollis, Mark Pickett, and Emmett Solomon. Bill Kleiber is Executive Director of RJMN Texas.

Comments, questions and news articles may be sent to Emmett Solomon, Publisher at esolomon@rjmn.net. Articles are subject to space available.

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<http://www.rjmn.net>
<http://www.rjmntexas.net>
<http://www.rjweek.com>
<http://www.restorativejusticenews.net>

Please complete the form and return to Restorative Justice

Ministries Network, 1229 Avenue J,
Suite 360, Huntsville, TX 77340.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL: _____