

November 7, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski  
Chair, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
144 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce,  
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
123 Hart Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Alan Mollohan  
Chair, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
Room H-309, The Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Wolf  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce,  
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Mikulski and Mollohan and Ranking Members Shelby and Wolf:

Thank you for your support for the Second Chance Act prisoner reentry grants. We appreciate your leadership on behalf of the program and ask for your continued support as you conference the FY2010 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations bill.

Our diverse organizations represent constituencies working to improve reentry from prisons and jails. We write to express our support of the House mark of \$100 million for the Second Chance Act in FY2010. As you know, over 700,000 individuals are expected to be released from federal and state prisons this year and over 9 million individuals are expected to be released from jail. The Second Chance Act will provide our communities with the services and tools to improve reentry and reduce recidivism.

The Second Chance Act is a common sense, evidence-based approach to reducing crime and improving public safety. By providing the resources needed to coordinate reentry services and policies at the state, tribal and local level, the Second Chance Act ensures that the tax dollars spent on corrections do not simply fuel a revolving door in and out of prison and jail.

State, tribal and local governments and nonprofit organizations around the country are eager to launch and expand innovative reentry programs, and families and communities are desperate to access the services the Second Chance Act will provide. In FY2009, more than 600 applications for Second Chance Act grants were received—far exceeding the available funding. The House FY2010 Commerce-Justice-Science bill provides sufficient funding for the Second Chance Act to meet the high demand for reentry programming, including reentry courts, job training, and substance abuse treatment.

Again, we thank you for your support of the Second Chance Act. With your continued leadership, the program will provide the needed resources to improve recidivism rates and better transition individuals into our communities from jails and prisons.

Sincerely,

Council of State Governments Justice Center  
A.R.R.O. (Advocacy, Re Entry, Resources and Outreach), Lansing, MI

A.T. Roseborough & Associates, Inc.  
AdvoCare, Inc., Hancock, MD / Great Cacapon, WV  
Advocates for Recovery - Colorado  
Advocates for Recovery through Medicine (ARM) - Washington DC Chapter  
All of Us or None Oklahoma  
Alston Wilkes Society, Columbia, SC  
America Works of New York, Inc.  
American Catholic Correctional Chaplains Association  
American Correctional Association  
American Correctional Chaplains Association  
American Federation of Government Employees  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Jail Association  
American Probation and Parole Association  
Anderson Professional Training Services  
Association of Prosecuting Attorneys  
Association of State Correctional Administrators  
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law  
Benedict Center, Milwaukee, WI  
Beyond the Conviction, Kansas City, MO  
California Association for Alcohol and Drug Program Executives  
Call to Do Justice  
Campaign for Youth Justice  
Catholic Charities USA  
Catholic Social Services of Lackawanna County of the Diocese of Scranton, PA  
Center for Women in Transition, St. Louis, MO  
Center Point, Inc., San Rafael, CA  
Centre, Inc., ND  
CentrePeace, Inc., Bellefonte, PA  
Chaska Police Department, Chaska, MN  
Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness  
Chicago Jobs Council  
Church of Scientology  
Civic Association Serving Harlems, Inc.  
Coalition for Juvenile Justice  
Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition  
Colorado CURE  
Community Information Center, Portland, OR  
Community Reentry Services, Cottonwood, CA  
Conexions, Inc.  
Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)  
Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Correctional Education Association  
Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA)  
Council on Addictions of New York State (CANYS)  
Criminon International  
Delaware Center for Justice  
Disciples Justice Action Network  
Dismas Charities Inc.

Dismas House of Kansas City, Inc.  
District of Columbia Reentry Task Force  
Drug Policy Forum of Texas  
Employment Connection, St. Louis, MO  
Episcopal Church  
Faces & Voices of Recovery  
Faces and Voices of Recovery South Carolina  
Families Against Mandatory Minimums (FAMM)  
Family Justice  
Fight for Lifers West, Pittsburgh, PA  
First Stop-Second Chance (FSSC), Birmingham, AL  
Fortune Society, New York, NY  
Foundation for Recovery, Las Vegas, Nevada  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Friends of Recovery of Delaware and Otsego Counties, NY (FOR-DO)  
Greater Mt. Olive Prison Ministry, Oklahoma City, OK  
Hand Up Ministries, Inc., Oklahoma City, OK  
Haymarket Center, Chicago, IL  
HeArt Mentoring, Cottonwood, CA  
Hiller & Associates, Oklahoma City, OK  
Hope Outreach, Community Care and Homeless Ministry, Enid, OK  
Hope Outreach, Enabling Garden, Enid, OK  
Hope Outreach, Faith Farm, Enid, OK  
Hope Outreach, Homeless Ministry, Enid, OK  
Interfaith Drug Policy Initiative  
International Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE)  
International Community Corrections Association  
Jewish Prisoner Services International  
JIFF, Inc., Memphis, TN  
Justice Maryland  
Kansas City Community Center, MO  
Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission, Kansas City, MO  
Legal Action Center  
Light of the Whirl, Kansas City, MO  
Living Room, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
Maryland C.U.R.E.  
Maternity Care Coalition, Philadelphia, PA  
McShin Foundation  
Mental Health America  
Message Carriers of Pennsylvania, Inc.  
Methadone Support Org. (MSO)  
Metropolitan Community College of Kansas City, MO - Business Technology Campus  
Missouri Association for Social Welfare - Criminal Justice Task Force  
Missouri Recovery Network  
NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals  
National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc.  
National AIDS Housing Coalition  
National Alliance of Faith and Justice

National Alliance to End Homelessness  
National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice  
National Association of Counties  
National Association of Juvenile Correctional Agencies  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD)  
National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. Prison Ministry and Criminal Justice Commission  
National Coalition for the Homeless  
National Correctional Industries Association  
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (NCADA) - St. Louis Area, MO  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD)  
National Crime Prevention Council  
National Criminal Justice Association  
National Employment Law Project  
National H.I.R.E. Network  
National Policy and Advocacy Council on Homelessness (NPACH)  
National Trust for the Development of African American Men  
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby  
New Jersey Association on Correction  
North Lawndale Employment Network, Chicago, IL  
Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) of Arlington County, VA  
Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) of Richmond, VA  
Ohio Justice & Policy Center, Cincinnati, OH  
Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC)  
Oklahoma Baptist State Convention Prison Ministry  
Oklahoma CURE  
Old Pueblo Community Services, Tucson, AZ  
Oriana House, Inc., Akron, Cleveland, and Tiffin, OH  
PAPIS Virginia Reentry Coalition  
Pendulum Foundation, Denver, CO  
Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance, Harrisburg, PA  
People Advocating Recovery, Louisville, KY  
Plumas Rural Services, Quincy, CA  
Prison Communities International, Inc.  
Resource Information Help for the Disadvantaged, Highland Springs, VA  
Rhode Island Council of Community Mental Health Organizations  
S.T.O.P. Organization Against Crime and Violence, Kansas City, MO  
Safe Streets Arts Foundation  
Safer Foundation, Chicago, IL  
Samaritan Village, Inc., Briarwood, NY  
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
Sarita Lynne Ministries, N. Kansas City, MO  
SEARCH Homeless Services, Houston, TX  
Second Chance Network, Oklahoma City, OK  
Second Genesis, Inc., Silver Spring, MD  
Sentencing Project  
Society of St. Vincent DePaul - St. Louis Council (Missouri)  
South Carolina Reentry Initiative (SCRI)

Southern Colorado CURE, Colorado Springs, CO  
Spirit of Peace Community Development Corporation, Dayton, OH  
St. Leonard's Ministries, Chicago, IL  
State Associations of Addiction Services (SAAS)  
Tarzana Treatment Centers  
TASC Illinois  
The Center for Urban Families, Baltimore, MD  
The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
The RASE Project, Harrisburg, PA  
The Work First Foundation  
Therapeutic Communities of America  
Third Way  
Union for Reform Judaism  
Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations  
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries  
United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society  
Victory Circle Peer Support, Inc., Springfield, MO  
Virginia CARES, Inc.  
Wellbriety For Prisons Inc., Nampa, ID  
Wellness, Redemption, & Rehabilitation Program, Inc., Las Vegas, NV  
WestCare Foundation  
Women of Reform Judaism  
Word of Hope Ministries, Milwaukee, WI  
Xtreme Souldutions, Marion County, GA  
YouthBuild USA