

# Friends Outside



PROVIDING SERVICES FOR INCARCERATED AND  
REENTERING PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES IN  
CALIFORNIA SINCE 1955.



# The Mission



*Friends Outside offers caring, evidence-based services*

*To adults and youth*

*Who are incarcerated, reentering the community or at risk,*

*So that they, their families and neighborhoods*

*Can be safe and thrive.*

# Advocacy



- Advocating for incarcerated people and their families
- Promoting humane conditions of confinement
- Supporting efforts to reduce crime and delinquency by addressing social factors that contribute to the causes:
  - Poverty
  - Disenfranchisement
  - Alienation
  - Isolation
  - Mental Illness
  - Family dysfunction

# Advocacy Work (partial list)



- Sponsoring and supporting legislation (over 15 bills in the past 15 years)
- Publications (including Corrections Today, The Prevention Researcher, How to Tell Children About Jail and Prison)
- Innovation (Children of Incarcerated Parents: A Bill of Rights)
- Participation/Membership (Fathers and Families Coalition of America, American Corrections Association, San Francisco Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership, San Joaquin County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission, Forensic Mental Health Association)

# Our Work in California State Prisons



- Since 1971 and continuing today.
- Family Liaison Services on site in all California prisons, bridging the gap between incarcerated people and their loved ones.
- Parenting education, conflict resolutions, pre release preparation and resources for those reentering the community.
- Visitor Centers on site at all California prisons, support for visiting family members, removing barriers to visiting and helping children, parents, grandparents, spouses and friends to remain in contact.

# Our Work in San Joaquin County



- Jail Services since the early 90's: comprehensive case management services; parenting education that meets the requirements of court-ordered parents; Creative Conflict Resolutions; Anger Management; CBI-Substance Abuse (UCCI); ORAS (Ohio Risk Management System); and Thinking for A Change (starting July 1<sup>st</sup>) funded by the Sheriff's Department
- Job Club and Support Groups: open to anyone who is reentering, and any family member

## More...



- WRAP: Warrant Reduction and Advocacy Program; since 2013; providing outreach and assistance to probationers referred by Probation who are at risk of non-compliance due to failure to report; Friends Outside case managers reach out to the referred people, offering assistance and case management to enable them to become compliant, thereby avoiding the issuance of a warrant. Friends Outside Case Managers inside prison reach out to local inmates approaching release to the community on probation, offering assistance with reentry and help with compliance.

## More....



- TYGER: Providing “warm support” to transition age youth who are participants in the federally funded program, upon referral of the probation officer/mental health clinician, to help them stabilize their housing and family relationships.
- CBI-SA: Providing an evidence based substance abuse treatment program (UCCI) to probationers referred by Probation.



# More...



- Wellness Reentry Program: Funded by the California Wellness Foundation, this program provides evidence based reentry case management and reentry services with special attention paid to health needs of clients. This highly successful program is open to anyone who has reentered the community after incarceration at any point in their lives. The grant also funds our InkOffMe events, Job Club and the support groups.

# More...



- Operation Ceasefire: Friends Outside provides a dedicated case manager and support services to Operation Ceasefire participants under an MOU, in partnership with the City of Stockton, PeaceKeepers, and the Stockton Police Department.
- Collaboration: Friends Outside is proud to be a supportive partner to Criminals and Gang Members Anonymous in Stockton and in state prison.

# Friends Outside in Local Prisons



- Deuel Vocational Institute and the California Health Care Facility

Friends Outside provides programs and services to incarcerated people and their families in all state prisons including those in San Joaquin County and nearby where local people are most likely to be incarcerated. Services include Sierra Conservation Center, Folsom State Prison, and even Pelican Bay State Prison where the highest security local inmates are confined. Our Case Managers inside state prison are available to prepare local inmates for their move from confinement to freedom.

# Friends Outside work in California...



- Friends Outside chapters are located in Los Angeles County, Santa Cruz County, Stanislaus County and Sonoma County, providing jail and reentry services and support to families and children of incarcerated people.
- California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation: We are a proud partner with CDCR, providing programs and services to incarcerated people in all California state prisons and to their families who come to visit them, consistently under contract since 1981.
- San Francisco Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership, providing advocacy to effect changes in policy and practice in order to accomplish better outcomes for children who have experienced arrest and incarceration of a parent.

# Contacts



- Gretchen Newby MA, MFT Chief Executive Officer
- Lisa Paez Chief Operations Officer
- Katia Lao Visitor Center Program (CDCR)
- Omar Cervantes Family Liaison Program (CDCR)
- Maria Gonzalez Director of Reentry

# Location



Friends Outside provides programs and services in California and advocacy nationwide.

Our administrative offices are located in  
Stockton, California at:

7272 Murray Drive, Stockton 95210  
(209) 955-0701

Which is also the site of our Friends and Families Center,  
providing services in San Joaquin County.