

Turning Point: The Newsletter of



Published in October 2014

From the Chair:

by Hedy Harden

Annual Conference Held in Kansas City

More than 130 prisoner families and loved ones, former prisoners, and other concerned members of the community attended Missouri CURE's 11th Annual Conference on September 27, 2014, at St. Mark's Union Church in Kansas City MO. Located in the inner city, St. Mark's has a rich history of supporting grass-roots organizations and the progressive struggles of people of color, including Native Americans. This was our first conference held in Kansas City, after many months of hard work and organizing, especially by our Vice Chairman, Keith Brown El.

After opening remarks by Emcee Shirley Paschal of St. Mark's, Keith called all CURE members present to gather on stage for a group photo (see page 6).

Several awards were presented. The First Annual Rory Ellinger Award was presented by Linda Locke, widow of the late Rory Ellinger, to **State Rep. Brandon Ellington** for "Distinguished Statesmanship and Courageous Representation of Missouri Prisoners and their Loved Ones." The Jon Marc Taylor Award was accepted by Linda Locke on behalf of her late husband, **State Rep. Rory Ellinger**, for his "Courage and Commitment to Fighting Injustice and for Extraordinary Service to Prisoners and their Loved ones." The Second Annual Courageous Citizen Award was presented to **M. Lorraine Lewey**, Manager of the Martin Luther King Senior

Apartments in KCMO, Ms. Lewey interceded with the Housing Authority to make subsidized housing available to former prisoners.

Humanitarian Awards were presented to **Maureen Flynn, Kathy Franklin and Angelika Mueller-Rowry** for their many contributions.

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to **Keith Kehrer** of the Bryan Cave Law Firm for his pro bono assistance in obtaining Missouri CURE's federal non-profit status; to **Action Mailing Corporation** for donating the printing of our quarterly newsletter, and to **St. Mark's Union Church** for hosting our conference and members of its congregation for their wonderful support and assistance.

The theme of the conference, "Is This What They Call Rehabilitation?" alludes to the suffering and struggles that prisoners and their families deal with on a daily basis.

Speeches were given by Keith Brown El, keynote speaker Rev. Ester Holzendorf, and Hedy Harden.

After a delicious lunch served by St. Marks volunteers, workshops were convened on the following subjects: **Abuse & Human Rights Violations** led by Keith Brown El and Kathy Franklin; **Prisoner Health** led by Maurice Copeland and Rebecca Hamilton; **Legislation & Mandatory Minimums** led by Justine Edwards and Stephanie Charles; the **Death Penalty** led by Vera Thomas and Linda Taylor; **Sex Offenders & the Registry**

See KC Conference—page 7

Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants

Missouri CURE ♦ P.O. Box 28931
St. Louis MO 63132

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Autumn 2014

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**Note Our New
St. Louis
Address Above!**

Note: If you write to MO CURE and do not receive an answer, it does not mean that your problem is being ignored or is not otherwise being addressed.

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**Mission Statement**

CURE believes that prisons should be only for those who MUST be incarcerated and that prisoners should have all the resources needed to turn their lives around. We also believe that human rights documents provide a sound basis for ensuring that criminal justice systems meet these goals. CURE is a membership organization. We work hard to provide our members with the information and tools necessary to help them understand the criminal justice system and to advocate for positive change.

CURE is NOT a service organization. We are an all-volunteer non-profit criminal justice advocacy organization. CURE has NO legal services. We advocate for criminal justice reform, but we cannot take on individual cases.

The Echo of Tears

Last night I heard a teardrop fall

As I lay awake in bed

It told a story we all know

But keep inside our head

It talked of faded laughter

And dreams that won't come true

It reminisced about childhood days

And things we used to do.

It talked of love that's long since gone

And love that might have grown

It spoke of things we would have done,

If only we had known

It remembered the taste of birthday cake

and the smell of Christmas trees

It recalled the ocean to a boy

That as a man he'll never see

But in the dark, the last sound heard

still echoes in my ears

And that is the sound a prison cell makes
when it's filling up with tears.

—Anonymous



Justine Edwards and Caroline McGinness greeted people as they arrived at the conference and made sure they signed in, filled out a name tag, and took a copy of the program.



The Future Depends on You

by Anthony Genovese

I want to take a moment to talk to you about a subject that concerns all of us. Every prisoner in Missouri is aware of the existence of the 85% law. Even those who are not subject to the law are aware of its far-reaching effects. The majority of prisoners hear rumors (or spread them) about the current status of the law, but from my vantage point it seems that talking about it is about as far as most are willing to go.

I served in the NAACP as Vice-President for 3 years. While I was on the board or the organization, a few of us worked very hard on new 85% legislation drafts and helping to build a coalition of persons on the outside to support this cause. After years of hard work and sacrifice the momentum began to build. However, there were 30 members in the organization and everyone had ideas, but few had the willingness and motivation to help see them through. There is an old adage that says, "Nothing is impossible as long as someone else is doing it." What I witnessed while I was there and what I'm seeing now in the prison population is not all that different.

The majority of guys I speak with

want the law to be changed. They say all the right things and they seem to understand the impact that this law has on the whole of the Missouri prison population, but that's where it stops.

The CURE organization is the prisoner's only public advocate. These people work tirelessly to uphold justice for us and to make our voices heard. They travel to conferences and to the Capitol in Jefferson City to speak with

legal fees has been set up for months.

Which brings me to my point in writing this article to **you**, the majority. When are you going to get serious about your future? When are you going to stop depending on the rest of us to do it all? When are you going to get engaged in this cause, which could change your life and the lives of so many others and their families? I can tell you now that the minority of us

can't do it alone! As much as we want to change our future, we have no illusions that it can be done without a tremendous amount of support from the rest of you and your families.

Every great cause in our history has been won by the majority. People like Rosa Parks may have ignited the fire, but others like Martin Luther King led the masses to the victory. We can't do this without you, so I'm pleading with you to please give of your time, money and other resources to these causes today—our future depends on it.

Give to: Missouri CURE
P.O. Box 28931
St. Louis MO 63132
web: www.missouricure.org

End Mandatory Minimums!

the very people who can make all the difference in our future. Yet the majority of us do not support them. Money and other forms of help such as family support and resources should be pouring in to the organization. The CURE struggles every month to pay its bills and to find money to pay for gas and for their newsletter that advocates for us.

Donations are also needed to pay the law firm to take on the 85% law under the single subject rule (see article below). A donation fund to pay for the

them write "85% Donation Fund" on the check or money order.

The law firm requested that the NAACP set up the fund and send the money to Sindel & Noble once it is raised. Give to:

85% Donation Fund
NAACP Branch 4064 JCMO
P.O. Box 104221
Jefferson City MO 65110
phone 573-690-1097

Urgent—NAACP Fundraiser to Eliminate the 85% Law! *by Roosevelt Price*

The NAACP has contacted the law firm Sindel and Noble, P.C., Attorneys and Counselors at Law in St. Louis, to challenge the 85% law under the single-subject rule here in Missouri. This is the same law that was overturned and remanded in Illinois. The law firm wants \$2500.00 to initially take the case. A donation fund to pay for the legal fees has been set up. The cost will cover filing fees and paralegal fees. Sindel and Noble has

agreed to waive its hourly and court appearance fees. Thus we are urging prisoners and their families to donate whatever they can to help eliminate the 85% Truth In Sentencing (TIS) Act which established the 85% law. At last report \$1200.00 has been raised so far.

To donate money, go to your caseworker and fill out a green check to the address provided below and write "NAACP Fund" in the purpose box. If your family is donating money have

MASW.org

criminal justice task force

Goals for 2014-2015

Educate the Legislature, the Media and the Community about Criminal Justice issues.

- ◆ Write and distribute a report on the Missouri Parole Board process.

- ◆ Meet with others in Missouri working on re-entry; encourage them to become part of the MASW task force.

Advocate for legislation that will reduce prison populations.

- ◆ Work on drafting legislation that would change requirements/make up of parole board.

- ◆ Advocate for legislation that would expunge criminal records for certain crimes after so many years.

- ◆ Advocate for legislation to end mandatory minimum sentences and allow for great discretion in sentencing.

NAACP Branch News

Since our last newsletter CURE has attended several NAACP banquets.

SCCC: Although we were unable to attend the SCCC banquet on August 11, NAACP Branch 44AC had hoped to present Rory Ellinger's widow, Linda Locke, with an award plaque. The men sent a lovely plaque which came too late for the September 27 Annual Conference, inscribed: "Veritas Aequitas. In Memory of Rory Ellinger—A Vigilant Crusader for Truth and Equality. NAACP Branch 44AC." We will present it to Rory's loved ones at our meeting on November 7 in St. Louis.

MCC: On August 28, Angelika Mueller-Rowry and I attended the Moberly banquet hosted



by Branch 4071. It was my first time visiting MCC. All the NAACP dignitaries from St. Louis were there. Both Elston McCowan and I spoke and received beautiful Humanitarian Award plaques. I said that Mike Brown's legacy has to be about addressing the problems of racism and mass incarceration. It has to be about justice and making things better for generations to come. "Just like your ancestors endured centuries of slavery, and just like your parents and grandparents marched and died fighting

for civil rights in the 50s and 60s, people today are fighting for freedom and equality and for a brighter tomorrow."

WERDCC: On October 15, Branch 44AB at Vandalia hosted a delightful program, the theme of which was "The Journey: Over and Beyond." Elston McCowan, Missouri Prison Project Coordinator; Redditt Hudson, Field Organizer for Region IV; and Donna Sims of the St. Louis NAACP also attended. The keynote speaker was Elston McCowan. Redditt Hudson and I also spoke, mentioning Ferguson. I said that the momentum for change is in the air and that the time is ripe for prison reform.

We were presented with certificates expressing "our gratitude for you taking the time to support our chapter," and stating that, "We are learning that we are worth fighting for and that the journey from statistic to overcomer begins within each of us."

JCCC: On October 22; Keith Brown El, Angelika Mueller, Evelyn Gates and I attended the JCCC banquet, enjoying a delicious dinner and some great company. Lewis Diuguid of the K.C. Star and I were keynote speakers. Diuguid talked about traveling to Ferguson Missouri, where "Michael Brown, an

18-year-old unarmed African American, was gunned down on Aug. 9 by a white Ferguson police officer because he was seen as a suspect, a big, black bad man – instead of someone who might someday find a cure for cancer or develop new means for human travel or just be someone trying to enjoy 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.'

Keith and I were among those receiving award certificates "for your Dedication and Service to the cause of Justice for all people, and your Assistance to us here at Branch 4072."

The theme for the program was, "The Quest for Justice and Equality," which was quite appropriate since October has been a month of protests and calls for justice and equality to rival the 60's. October 22 was in fact the National Day against Mass Incarceration and the Criminalization of a Generation. I was honored to be there that night and to lend my voice to the call. Keith's presence was very moving. Until the last moment, he expected to be turned away after having spent 36 years in Missouri prisons. Speaking briefly, Keith admitted that it took a lot of courage for him to enter that prison and be convinced that he would be walking back out. He knew and spoke with many of the men, and it meant a lot for them to see him. One prisoner remarked, "This guy is the best mentor a person could ever have." ♦

New Hope for Mentally Ill

The Greenberger Center for Social and Criminal Justice is still a plan in the works, but the developer has lofty ambitions—to cut the incarceration rate of 2.3 million in half over the next ten years.

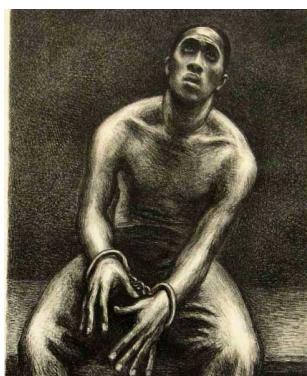
Francis Greenberger is a highly successful New York entrepreneur who has built or owned more than 20,000 apartments over the last 50 years. Greenberger's office is on Fifth Avenue. A high-school dropout at 15, he went to work for his parents, managed a couple of bands, and began his real estate career at age 19.

Greenberger's interest in the mentally ill grew out of his oldest son's condition. At age 18 his son and a friend were arrested for attempting to rob a cab

driver. "I needed money," he told his father. Greenberger's office was five minutes away. "I told him if he ever needs anything, just ask." His son replied "...But I needed the money right now."

"These aren't criminals," said Greenberger during an interview. "These are people who have committed crimes, mostly because they don't know any better or they are acting out of impulse. And study after study has shown that prison only makes this behavior worse."

About a year after his first arrest, his son called police, convinced he was being followed by a drug dealer. When



police didn't respond, he gathered up all the trash he could find in his apartment and set it on fire, then called the Fire Department, thinking they could protect him. Instead he was charged with arson.

Greenberger had researched the criminal justice system and learned how detrimental it could be for the mentally ill. He pleaded with the D.A. for alternatives but found that none existed. He decided to build one of his own. The Greenberg Center, which will likely open in 2016 as a pilot project and a think tank as well as a treatment

See Mentally Ill—page 10

by Hedy Harden

Corrections Department?

The focus of this September's state meeting of Missouri CURE was on rehabilitation. Just how much "correcting" goes on in the current prison system? At the heart of the matter, I believe, the Corrections Department sometimes forgets what its very name means. "Corrections" implies that action will be taken to improve, or correct, the behavior and attitudes of the people who are imprisoned there. Many, inside the department and outside of it, however, view it as the "Punishment and Retribution" system.

There are some special programs that offenders currently can take, but there needs to be an intensive effort made at the rehabilitation of offenders. Vigorous training and counseling is necessary for many to learn how to become productive members of society. Some incarcerated individuals have only known a life of crime. Investing in rehabilitating people who need reform should be a priority.

Some of that rehabilitation is as simple as showing offenders how to behave as a respectful member of society through example. This is easy to accomplish, and it costs the taxpayers nothing. Employees who behave with civility and respect toward others, all others, will set good examples. If you treat someone the way a respectful person behaves, most likely you will end up with a more respectful individual. If you treat someone like an animal or as an object to be used for entertainment, the result will only be an angrier, more disruptive version of the person. At one prison, there is a sign that asks employees as they enter the yard, "Are You Modeling Behaviors That Will Aid the Offenders in Improving Theirs?" It's a great thought, but not one that is always carried out. Both employees and offenders can make it a habit to treat each other with respect. It's a big step toward being able to integrate back into society.

As an educator, innately I believe people can improve. If I didn't, my job would be senseless. I once heard a high level official at one prison boast, "We don't even try to fix anyone

here." If that is what people at the top are saying or thinking, then it isn't surprising that the effort on the ground is only half-hearted to achieve rehabilitation. I'm not saying that all employees are bad or disrespectful. I am saying that there needs to be an attitude from the top down that the priority is to rehabilitate and "correct" the people who are serving time in the "Corrections" Department.

It is time that our prison system focuses on true rehabilitation. The GED program is available in some of the state's prisons, but not in all of

them. Some offenders who want an education are put on lengthy waiting lists with little hope of getting to achieve academic success. Vocational programs are not widely available. Having a mechanical program at one state facility

or a furniture program at another prison does not give the training and background that the majority of the inmates need. What is one of the leading causes of parolees reoffending and going back to prison? The inability to find work. After years, and sometimes decades, of incarceration many re-enter society with few marketable skills. Returning to crime is sometimes seen as their only option in a world where they are limited in their experience and expertise. There needs to be a concerted effort to teach marketable job skills so that after incarceration there are employment opportunities for these men and women.

Too many times the "rehabilitation" programs that are offered only scratch the surface. Many inmates wait until close to their parole date to take the required classes. Developing skills and positive attitudes and behaviors should be an integral part of the entire experience. It should not be simply a mad dash at the end of incarceration to look good on paper. Inmates often spend more time watching television than they do working on developing skills that will make them productive members of society upon their release. We spend thousands of



by Caroline McGinnes

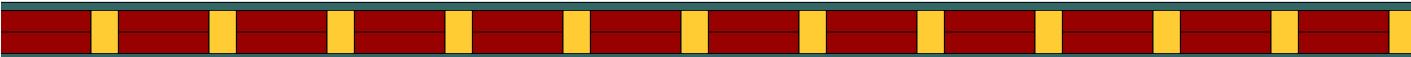
dollars a year on each inmate's incarceration. Shouldn't we get rehabilitated results instead of warehousing people and then releasing them?

Movies about prisons are popular. Many of us remember watching "The Shawshank Redemption" which tells the story of the wrongful imprisonment and escape of Andy Dufresne (played by Tim Robbins). Others of us have laughed while watching "The Longest Yard" or have cried while watching "The Green Mile." Some in our government or society may ask why they should care about the treatment of inmates in the Missouri prison system. My question to you is, how can you cheer for or cry over the fictional inmates in a movie but disregard the real men and women who someday will be back in your communities? Like it or not, there are thousands of real men and women in Missouri, and millions across the country, who are either going to be made better or worse by the prison system. Our communities will be dealing with them in the future one way or another. It is, or should be, the concern of everyone to care whether or not we are rehabilitating the incarcerated or if we are simply grooming them to become worse individuals in our communities in the future.

How can you make this change happen? Be vocal and let the legislators know that this is important. Speak for those who are seen as invisible. Speak for the members of the community who want better people released onto the streets. Speak for what is right as human beings.

Change starts with you. ♦

ATTENTION: There is an epidemic of violence involving small, innocent children being gunned down in KC and St. Louis. This is wrong and it is not helping the cause we all are fighting for out here. Please help MO CURE spread the word that discharging weapons when children are present is reckless and has to stop. Let's show our children the same consideration and compassion that others showed us when we were young. **from Keith**



Missouri CURE Members at Conference (L-R): Shirley Paschal, Bev Livingston, Jeff Humfeld, Ester Holzendorf, Kathy Franklin, Gerry Hartwigsen, Kim Curry, Mark Childers, Vicki Henry, Dolores Owen, Stephanie Charles, Audra McLeod, Clarence Shirley, Brianna Burton, Clara Fuller, Carl Greer, Audrey Chaney, Shari Matthews and Elaine Auch. Other CURE members present but not pictured: Hedy Harden, Keith Brown El, Alton Bey, Brianna Burton, Maurice Copeland, Gene Dudley, Justine Edwards, Maureen Flynn, Evelyn Gates, Don Harden, Eli Jackson, Caroline McGinness, Shirley Miner, Mattie Roberts and Shirley Sutton.



Vera Thomas and Linda Taylor led the workshop on the death penalty.

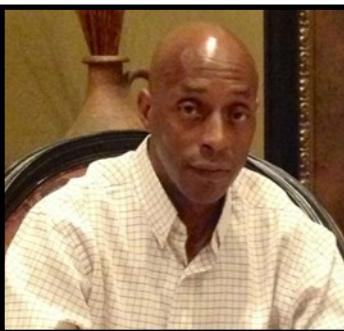


Kathy Franklin, Missouri CURE's new secretary, received a Humanitarian award and helped lead the workshop on abuse.

This is about all we could see of Maureen ("Mo") Flynn as she whizzed by. A long-time friend of CURE, Mo secured St. Mark's for our conference, but between preparing and serving food and doing whatever else needed to be done, we were lucky to get her on stage to accept an award before she was gone again.



A Humanitarian Award was presented to Maureen Flynn for her extraordinary and selfless contributions in making this year's Kansas City conference a success. A community and prison activist, she donated funds, food, labor and love.



Darren Brown & Don Harden led the Re-entry workshop.



Attorney Rebecca Hamilton and Maurice Copeland led the workshop on Prisoner Health and Medical issues.



Vicki Henry of WAR and Alton Bey led the workshop on Sex Offenders and the Registry.



Aaron Malin is Director of Research for Show-Me Cannabis in Missouri and an advocate for ending the War on Drugs. He led the workshop on Legalization & Standardization of Marijuana.



Keynote speaker **Rev. Ester Holzendorf** spoke on "Connecting the dots." She talked about her decades of experience working for Corrections in Oklahoma and urged us to hold the DOC accountable for their own rules and regulations.



Keith Brown El spoke about the abuse of authority in prison and how it reaches beyond prison walls into our communities, creating a crisis in law enforcement, where savage treatment and even outright murder result, such as in the case of Michael Brown and so many others. With so much abuse of our loved ones in prison, he told us that we are stronger than we think and that it's still too early to get tired.

"We are dedicating this conference to the legacy of **Michael Brown** and all the Mike Browns out there and in prison who have been victimized by this system."



Hedy Harden compared the resolve of the people in Ferguson to our resolve to fight the oppression of our loved ones in prison.

"People in Ferguson stood up and said, 'It stops here and now! We're not going to take it no more!' They showed the world what can happen when people unite to fight for justice. We stand here today and bear witness to all the brutality, the neglect, the mistreatment, the victimization and enslavement of our family members and loved ones, and we say loudly and clearly that we ain't gonna take it no more!" She called on workshop participants to begin developing plans to combat the many issues of injustice suffered by our loved ones.



Linda Locke accepted the Jon Marc Taylor award for her late husband, **State Rep. Rory Ellinger**.

KC Conference—from page 1

led by Vicki Henry & Alton Bey; **Parole** led by Hedy and Kim Curry; **Re-entry** led by Darren Brown & Donald Harden; and **Legalization & Regulation of Marijuana** led by Aaron Malin.

The entire group came back together to summarize the outcomes of the workshops.

Following was a presentation of the "Ten Most Wanted," which is a small selection of the many prisoners who should be released from incarceration, whether for medical

reasons, for having satisfied rehabilitation objectives, or because of potentially exonerating evidence in their cases which was either overlooked or purposely ignored. Family members and loved ones of each of the ten prisoners stood on stage holding a photo, and a group picture was taken.

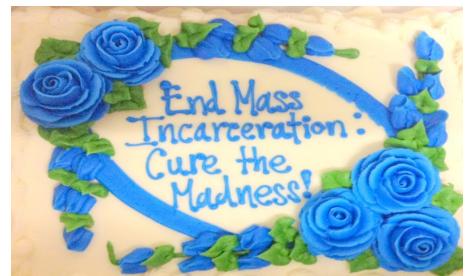
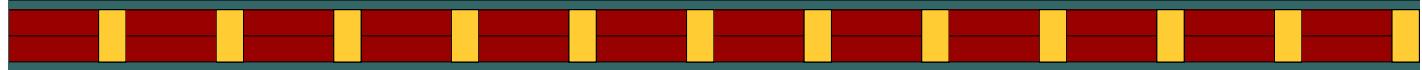
Finally, a brief CURE business meeting was held with election of officers. Hedy and Keith were re-elected, and Kathy Franklin is our new secretary. Keith closed out the program by reciting a moving rendition of a poem by Gil Scott Heron entitled "Winter in America."



The first annual Rory Ellinger award was presented to **State Rep. Brandon Ellington**.

Although temporarily stranded in Germany and unable to attend the conference, **Angelika Mueller-Rowry**, coordinator of our health and medical committee, was presented a Humanitarian award for her "Extraordinary Contributions Toward Saving Lives and Preserving Prisoner Health."







Cornell Jackson was about to complete an 8 year sentence for robbery in 1975 when a guard was killed at Missouri State Penitentiary. Initially 9 men (The Missouri Nine) were charged with the crime but only 2 were eventually prosecuted. Cornell and George Williams were each given 99 years. Both men were kept in AdSeg for 17 years and were finally released to population in 1992. They have each served 39 years for a crime they did not commit.

George Williams (Lil George) went to prison in 1973 at age 23 with a sentence of 25 years. After a guard was murdered in 1975, George was framed and given an additional 99 years for second-degree murder. He is now 64 years old and has been in prison for 41 years. George is innocent of the charge for which he is serving and should have been released decades ago.

Ten Most Wanted

2014 Jon suffered a major stroke and remains paralyzed and incapacitated.

Ricky Kidd has served 18 years of a life without parole sentence for a 1996 murder in Kansas City he didn't commit. No physical evidence links Ricky to the crime. Ricky's lawyer failed to present key evidence and witnesses



Eric Clemons is 53 years old and has been confined for 31 years—since 7/20/83. He is serving life with no parole for 50 years. It appears that his only crime was coming to the aid of his brother who was about to become the victim of a strong-armed robbery. According to the Forensic pathologist a single blow was responsible for the death of the victim. However, the pathologists gave conflicting testimony at two separate trials about which person delivered the fatal blow. First he testified it was Eric; then he testified it was Eric's brother. While Eric's brother received a 10 year sentence, Eric is in prison essentially serving natural life.

Dr. Jon Marc Taylor has earned numerous college degrees, including a PhD, while incarcerated during more than three decades in prison. Since Congress removed Pell grant eligibility for prisoners, Jon has fought tirelessly to inform the public of the importance and necessity of educating prisoners. He authored the book 'Prisoners' Guerrilla Handbook to Correspondence Programs' as well as more than 100 articles. He has received numerous writing awards, including the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award. In 2010, Taylor led the Crossroads Correctional Center's NAACP chapter in making history when it sponsored an in-prison seminar as part of the NAACP National Convention being held in Kansas City MO. His sacrifices and achievements on behalf of prisoners and their loved ones are too numerous to mention. Early in

during his trial. He became a suspect because he was one of 10 men named in anonymous calls to police. The Midwest Innocence Project has taken up Ricky's case and has clear and convincing evidence of his innocence. "We know who did the crime and we can prove it," Attorney Sean O'Brien said. "Not many can go to court with convincing evidence like that."

Jeff Mizanskey was a productive tax-paying citizen when he was convicted and sentenced to life without parole for a small amount of marijuana. This is his first time in prison and he has volunteered and completed every program available to him. Jeff is now 61 years old and has already served more than 20 years.

Reginald (Reggie) Clemons at age 19 was charged with murder in the "Chain of Rocks" killings in 1991. Convicted and sentenced to death, he has now been on death row for 21 years, is now 43. A defense committee led by Jamala Rogers of the Organization for Black Struggle has publicized the gross injustice and questions surrounding his case and mounted an international fight for justice. Overwhelming community support led to Reggie receiving a stay of execution and being appointed a Special Master Judge by the Missouri Supreme Court. A four-day hearing was held and a decision is pending.

Anthony Miner became involved in a domestic dispute with a woman who falsely and maliciously accused him of rape.

After her anger subsided and having had time to reflect, she tried to recant her statement in front of a jury—but the prosecutor wouldn't allow it. The prosecutor threatened to charge the woman with perjury, among other things, unless she agreed to lie under oath to have Tony convicted of a crime he didn't commit. The prosecutor's exact words, which he stated in front of the jury, were "You better get your black ass on the stand and testify to what you told me or you're going to jail." Tony is 59 years old he has been

unjustly confined for decades.

Judy Pickens is currently serving time at WERDCC for a crime she did not commit. Judy received horrible state appointed representation and none of her witnesses were ever called to testify. Since being incarcerated, Judy has been diagnosed with CHF and also a rare blood/iron disorder where she has to go out of the facility to receive transfusions. She has an extreme amount of fluid on her legs, so much so she is in a wheelchair and cannot walk. Judy's medical condition is extreme and she needs to receive specialized care,

especially while fighting for her freedom.

James Naugles, 39, has been incarcerated for close to 18 years. Shot 10 times at the age of 16, he was left paralyzed and in a wheelchair for life. In 1996 at a friend's house a friend of the man widely credited with shooting James arrived. Words were exchanged and the other man reached for a gun; James shot first. James was sentenced to 25 years for 2nd-degree murder and armed criminal action.

Being a paraplegic is a medical challenge in itself. Being a paraplegic in prison is terrifying. The following summer James was bitten by a brown recluse spider while incarcerated. Due to lack of medical care his right foot developed an infection in the bone and to save his life his foot had to be amputated; it continues to be a daily struggle 18 years later. At one point James had a wound on his right buttock that was so deep it went to the bone. He has lost a testicle because an infection was left untreated for months. A hernia developed to his left groin, and Corizon ignored his complaints of pain for over 2 years before surgery was performed. Today James has a wound on his back that began as a cyst 3 years ago. He has open areas on his left foot that have been there for 2½ years. Corizon's recommendation for treatment of his left foot was to amputate the leg above the knee, James refused. He has had countless surgeries and has been housed in prison infirmaries for years at a time. Obviously MO DOC and Corizon are incapable of caring for James and his complex medical needs. ♦

Missouri CURE
P.O. Box 28931
St. Louis MO 63132



Help End Mass Incarceration—and CURE the Madness!

Asante Sana! We are grateful to the following people for their generous donations:
Fari Abdullah, Stephanie Charles, Anthony Genovese, LaJuan Hayes, Jeremy Holt, Curtis Johnson, Anthony Miner, Shirley Miner, Jeanette Oxford/MASW, and Tena Sharp.
Special thanks to NAACP Branch 44AB at WERDCC for their special gift of \$250.00.

Upcoming CURE meetings

St. Louis: 6:30 pm Friday, November 7, University City Library, 6701 Delmar, main auditorium. Focus will be on legislation to reform mandatory minimum sentencing.
Legislators are invited.

All are Welcome to Attend!

Kansas City: 6 PM Waldo Library, 3050 Prospect::

- ◆ Wednesday, Nov 19
- ◆ Wednesday, Dec 10

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facility, will not directly benefit his son, who is in the middle of a five-year prison sentence.

Cheryl Roberts, a former city court judge, is the executive director of the Greenberger Center. The center would offer a voluntary program for people who can show a connection between their crimes and their mental illness. Once convicts consent to enter the program, however, they would not be allowed to leave. Treatment would last for one to three years and would emphasize group therapies.

According to Jeremy Travis, president of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, “There used to be numerous facilities like this, but now no one is doing what they’re trying to do.”

Greenberger hopes his efforts will someday extend beyond prison walls to prevent crimes being committed.

“If you look at all the shootings and such, where parents and families said they had nowhere to go, no one to turn to,” he said, “I think we’re beginning to realize that the pendulum maybe swung too far away from mental institutions, and we need this third way.” (*Source: New York Times*) ♦

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Make checks payable to Missouri CURE.

★ *Stamps from prisoners are welcome if permitted by your institution.*

