

## CDCR Today

SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2010

### Hundreds of Children Visit Incarcerated Dads for Father's Day at Annual 'Get On The Bus' event

CONTACT: Gordon Hinkle

(916) 445-4950

Peggy Bengs

(916) 261-2282

SACRAMENTO - The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the Center for Restorative Justice Works (CRJW) are again bringing together hundreds of children to visit their incarcerated fathers to celebrate Father's Day during the Annual Get On The Bus event.



Today, hundreds of children and their caregivers will travel from major cities across California to one of three male institutions: Correctional Training Facility (CTF) and Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP) in Soledad and California State Prison, Solano.

The buses arrive between 8 and 10 a.m. to accommodate the greatest number of visitors in visiting rooms with limited space.

"Get On The Bus brings incarcerated fathers and their children together for a memorable visit," said CDCR Secretary Matthew Cate. "A strong bond between a father and his family helps that inmate succeed upon release and shows children how important they are in their parent's life."

Approximately 200,000 children in California have an incarcerated parent and live with relatives or in foster care, according to CDCR.

"Seldom do people ask, 'What about the children?'" said Get On The Bus Executive Director, Sister Suzanne Jabro. "These are the hidden victims of crime and punishment."

For the first time, youth members of Project WHAT!, a program that raises awareness about the effects of parental incarceration on children, are sponsoring a bus so that other children will have the opportunity to visit their parents. Project WHAT!, a program of the Berkeley-based nonprofit, Community Works, is comprised of youth ages 15-20, all of whom have or have had a parent in prison or jail.

In addition, Get On The Bus has launched two pilot projects to bring children for the first time to California State Prison, Solano and Salinas Valley State Prison.

Get On The Bus provides children and their caregivers with travel bags for the children, comfort care bags for the caregivers, a photograph of each child with his or her father, and meals for the day. The meals include breakfast, snacks on the bus, lunch at the prison and dinner on the way home. On the bus trip home following the visit with the fathers, each child will receive a teddy bear with a letter from his or her father as well as post-event counseling. The program is funded by donations from churches, schools, family foundations, grants and other organizations.

"A child needs to see and know their father is safe and to know they are loved," added Sister

#### SUBSCRIBE



#### PRESS RELEASE ARCHIVES

- ▼ 2010 (46)
  - ▼ June (10)
    - ▶ Jun 22 (1)
    - ▼ Jun 19 (1)
      - Hundreds of Children Visit Incarcerated Dads for F...
    - ▶ Jun 18 (1)
    - ▶ Jun 17 (2)
    - ▶ Jun 16 (1)
    - ▶ Jun 15 (2)
    - ▶ Jun 14 (1)
    - ▶ Jun 05 (1)
  - ▶ May (6)
  - ▶ April (7)
  - ▶ March (10)
  - ▶ February (6)
  - ▶ January (7)
- ▶ 2009 (75)
- ▶ 2008 (72)
- ▶ 2007 (97)
- ▶ 2006 (43)
- ▶ 2005 (10)
- ▶ 2004 (8)
- ▶ 2003 (1)
- ▶ 2002 (4)
- ▶ 2001 (8)
- ▶ 2000 (11)
- ▶ 1999 (20)
- ▶ 1998 (33)
- ▶ 1997 (35)
- ▶ 1996 (37)

Suzanne.

Get On The Bus reunited children with their fathers at California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo on June 5 and June 12, 2010. It also brought children to visit their mothers on May 7, 2010 for Mother's Day at three California women's institutions.

To view photos of the June 12 event at California Men's Colony, visit:  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/37381942@N04/sets/72157624191882144/>.

###

POSTED BY CDCR\_STAR AT 9:12 AM

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

---

#### CDCR SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

CDCR Implements Public Safety Reforms to Parole Supervision, Expanded Incentive Credits for Inmates - Wednesday, February 10, 2010

---

#### ADULT PAROLE

CDCR Implements Public Safety Reforms to Parole Supervision, Expanded Incentive Credits for Inmates - Wednesday, February 10, 2010

---

#### RAHABILITATION

Walden House Honors Ex-Offender Graduates of Substance Abuse Programs - Tuesday, March 23, 2010

---

#### JUVENILE JUSTICE

Families Are Invited! Take a Video Tour of all DJJ's Fire Camps and Facilities - Wednesday, February 10, 2010

---

#### REENTRY NEWS

An Overview of Secure Community Reentry Facilities - Wednesday, February 10, 2010

---

#### CONSERVATION CAMPS

Conservation Camp Inmates and Staff Recognized for Outstanding Work - Wednesday, February 10, 2010

---

#### CDCR GOING GREEN

California's Prison System Goes Green Announcing 16 Major Energy Saving Projects, and Upcoming

Wasco Solar Fields -  
Wednesday, February 10,  
2010

---

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Work Force Analysis for  
Proposed Facilities in San  
Joaquin County -  
Wednesday, June 16,  
2010

---

**INSIDE CDCR**

R.J. Donovan Correctional  
Facility Fights for Charity in  
Battle of Badges Event -  
Wednesday, June 23,  
2010

---