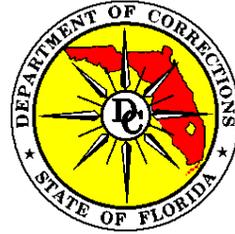


CORRECTIONAL



VOLUNTEERS

Introduction: Faith and Character Based Programs

The Faith and Character Based (FCB) Programs seek to unite corrections and the faith community to effect an inner transformation of inmates. The purpose is to reduce disciplinary infractions in correctional institutions by offering programming that promotes prosocial behavior. The FCB Programs is one of the re-entry efforts centered on strategies which are proven effective and designed to reduce spending on corrections, increase public safety, and improve conditions in the neighborhoods to which most inmates and offenders return. The ultimate goal is that through this inner transformation there will be a reduction in recidivism and a smoother transition into society in order that ex-offenders can become productive citizens.



Family Day at one of our Faith and Character Based institutions

Programming

Programming is centered on Seven Domains:

1. Life Mapping/Attitude Domain
2. Community Functioning Domain
3. Marital/Family Domain
4. Healthy Choices Domain
5. Mentoring Domain
6. Re-entry Domain
7. Faith Formation Domain



Within each of these domains are numerous classes that address spiritual, emotional and behavioral issues of inmates that tend to produce criminal behavior. Volunteers are critical to program success. They teach, mentor, facilitate and supervise the activities and provide creative insight and effort to supplement the activities.

Data

Volunteers have made profound effect on the FCB Programs. To many inmates, unpaid citizens giving of their time and treasure to help others is a powerful role model that produces real change. Volunteers, numerous and varied are the key to success for the FCB programs.

The programs have also had a dramatic effect on the volunteers. The number of volunteers and the hours they donate have skyrocketed at institutions with an FCB Program.

At the 11 institutions that have Faith and Character Based Programs the number of volunteers before that programs began were 1,332 per month. After the programs began the number of volunteers jumped to 2,417 per month—an increase of **81%**.

The number of volunteer hours is even more dramatic. Before the programs volunteers donated a total 3,282 hours per month. After the programs began the number of volunteer hours increased to 9,487 per month—an increase of **189%**.

Perhaps most important Disciplinary Rates and Recidivism Rates have shown a measurable decrease at institutions with the Faith and Character Based Programs. For this the Department owes a tremendous “Thank You!” to all our volunteers.