



Sixth District CJAN Newsletter

CSOSA HOSTED A CITYWIDE RE-ENTRY ASSEMBLY PROGRAM IN FEBRUARY 2010

CSOSA's CJAN NETWORK

By: Lawrence E. Jordan
CSOSA's Sixth District Community Relations Specialist.

On February 18, 2010, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) hosted a Citywide Reentry Assembly Program that served as the highlight event for this year's Reentry Month activities. Reentry Month brings focus and attention to the issues surrounding reentry and/or the returning offender. As the Master of Ceremonies, Cedric R. Hendricks, Associate Director of CSOSA's Office of Legislative, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs, so aptly stated "many of the successes that CSOSA's offender population experience are partially due to the Agency's partnership with the Faith Community." Through CSOSA's Faith-Based Initiative (FBI) and Community Supervision, mentor-mentee relationships have been created which provide support to the offender during his or her supervision and reintegration process. This support seems to have been what was needed by some offenders when they encountered obstacles in the past that led them back through the doors of the criminal justice system. Many of those who were recognized during the Program stated that they were able to transcend various obstacles that in the past would have sent them back to jail because of the strong and nurturing support of their mentor.

The importance of this Program and the activities of Reentry Month were clearly evidenced by the exuberance

of the people in attendance. Adrienne Poteat, Deputy Director of CSOSA, Herman Odom, Director of the Office of Ex-offender Affairs for the District of Columbia, Reverend Donald Isaac, Executive Director of East of the River Clergy-Police Community Partnership, Amin Muslim from Councilmember Yvette Alexander's Ward Seven Constituent Services Office, local media reporters, a multitude of Faith Leaders, Neighborhood Advisory Commissioners and Com-

munity Civic Association Leaders, and the outstanding Community Action Group Gospel Choir, that helped to set the mood, and so many others experienced an inspirational and educational evening. Thomas Williams, Associate Director for Community Supervision Services Unit of CSOSA gave the closing remarks, followed by the benediction given by Reverend Stephen Tucker, Pastor of the New Commandment Baptist Church.



Residents of the District of Columbia came out in record numbers in severe weather to attend the Citywide Reentry Assembly as CSOSA and the Faith Community recognized the accomplishments of Mentees and Mentors from across the city. Residents were able to network, break bread, and fellowship with individuals of a Kindred spirit.



Community Action Group's Gospel Choir set the tone for the Citywide reentry Assembly Program that was held on Thursday, February 18, 2010.

PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION IN THE SIXTH DISTRICT AT THE MONTHLY CAC MEETING



From left to right: The Honorable Judge Rigsby, CSOSA's Deputy Dir. Adrienne Poteat, CSOSA's Associate Dir. Cedric Hendricks, U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Ronald C. Machen, Jr., and Albert Herring from the Office of the US Attorney.



Residents came out in record numbers at the CAC meeting to hear the Honorable Judge Rigsby of the Superior Court, and the new U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Ronald C. Machen, Jr. share their strategies for reducing crime in the District.



Adrienne Poteat, Deputy Director of CSOSA, gave an in-depth overview of CSOSA to participants at the CAC meeting on 3/8/10.



New U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Ronald C. Machen, Jr., made a welcomed presentation to the Sixth District residents.

Announcements:

- ◆ Sixth District CJAN Meeting, March 30th, 2010; 100 42nd Street, NE 6:30PM – 8:30PM
- ◆ Sixth District CAC Meeting, April 12th, 2010; 100 42nd Street, NE 7:00PM – 9:00PM
- ◆ Sixth District CJAN Meeting, April 27th, 2010; 100 42nd Street, NE 6:30PM – 8:30PM
- ◆ Sixth District CJAN Meeting, May 25th, 2010; 100 42nd Street, NE 6:30PM – 8:30PM

A MESSAGE FOR THE SIXTH DISTRICT



Neighbors and residents of the Sixth District:

Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency's (CSOSA) mission remains to increase public safety, prevent crimes, reduce recidivism, and support the fair administration criminal justice in close collaboration with the community. Our service to the District of Columbia is to establish strict accountability and to prevent the population that we supervise from engaging in criminal activity. In the Sixth District, we intend to achieve our objectives through engaging in activities that support the natural system of the family unit, thus positively hedging the reintegration outcome of those that we supervise.

Lawrence E. Jordan

To submit a community announcement, a scheduled activity or for more information about the Sixth District Community Justice Advisory Network, contact: Lawrence E. Jordan at (202) 220-5515 or (202) 220-5320.