



CSOSA RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF IDENTIFYING PUBLIC SAFETY SOLUTIONS THROUGH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

CSOSA'S CJAN NETWORK

By: Lawrence E. Jordan

On November 19th, 2015, CSOSA's Office of Legislative, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs (OLIPA) hosted a Community Forum at the St. Luke Catholic Church's Community Room located in Ward Seven between the hours of 6:30PM – 8:30PM. The theme was "Public Safety Solutions through Workforce Development."

The evening began by welcoming the attendees, followed by an explanation of the theme of this forum. The objective of this forum was to convey to community members that workforce development is a key strategic component necessary for the District of Columbia to begin to reverse the upward trending incidents of violence and unemployment within the far north-east and southeast quadrants of Washington, DC.

To simplify what are complex solutions to the two social ills that were identified (violence and unemployment), it was discussed that there is the need of local service providers to develop training and apprenticeship opportunities based on local labor market data. The current data suggest that opportunities are available in the construction, hospitality and administrative sectors. Once unemployed and/or hard to employ individuals receive training and obtain employment, families will begin to lift themselves out of poverty, feel better about them-

selves, become role-models to other struggling individuals, and thus, effect the many incidents of violence that plague distress neighborhoods and their inhabitants.

To ensure that this forum was more than just another discussion, local service providers were invited to inform the community and the individuals that CSOSA supervi-

es of the many opportunities that are available to them. Presenters were even prepared to enroll individuals on the spot for many of their offerings. These presenters included representative from DOES, DC Central Kitchen, Total Family Care Coalition, and MBI Mental Health Services. It was an informative and educational evening for all that attended.



Members of the Department of Employment Services brought brochures, pamphlets, and employment applications to the Sixth District to ensure that this community was aware of the services available to them.



CSOSA supporters and loyal Sixth District CJAN attendees came out in numbers to learn about the concept of supporting public safety through workforce development activities.

PHOTO GALLERY: COMMUNITY PARTNERS SUPPORTING CSOSA'S THEME OF "PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT"



The Department of Employment Services sent multiple expert speakers to the forum to include Mr. Ricky Lewis, Charles A. Smith, Walter Simmons and others. Their message was workforce development oriented, and powerful!



Marianne Ali of the DC Central Kitchen honored this forum with her presentation describing the cutting-edge model that DC Kitchen utilizes as they make training-to-self-reliant a reality.



Long-time community partner and supporter representing UPO Shirley Price, and her colleague, Wilbert Gibson spoke about the many offerings that are available through UPO, Inc.



Mr. Richard Mullen-EI of MBI Health Services not only manned a service table, but also made a moving presentation to the CJAN members in attendance.

CSOSA Announcements

- ◆ 1/17/2016 Justice Sunday; Peace Baptist Church, 712 18th Street, NE, 10:00AM
- ◆ 2/13/2016 Women's Symposium Forum - Temple of Praise, 700 Southern Avenue, SE; 8:00AM - 3:00PM
- ◆ 2/17/2016 Citywide Reentry Forum - Gallaudet, Kellogg Center, 800 Florida Ave. NE; 6:00PM - 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 crime, reduce recidivism, and support the fair administration of justice, in close collaboration with the community. In the Sixth District, we intend to achieve our objectives through the support of pro-social activities, and the strict accountability towards the men and women 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) 220-5333.