

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

There is so much to be done, and so much that we can do—rather than we COULD do—if more members were to get actively involved. We would love to see CURE accomplish even more, but we need actively involved members to work on planning, organizing, and on keeping track of what's happening and what needs to happen next.

Telephone numbers: Portland: [503-977-9979](tel:503-977-9979) / Outside Portland: [1-866-357-CURE \(2873\)](tel:1-866-357-CURE). For information about Support Group Meetings, Orientations to ODOC and to Release (Multnomah County), leave a message and someone WILL call you back. We are not able to accept collect calls.

1631 NE Broadway #460, Portland, OR 97232 or tbs2k2@comcast.net, or www.oregoncure.org.

MEMBERSHIP in Oregon CURE provides:

- ☆ a purpose and pathway for achieving safer communities;
- ☆ a voice to advocate for improvements in the criminal justice system;
- ☆ information and resources to support local and national efforts to create safety, prosocial skills and attitudes, and hope for incarcerated citizens;
- ☆ opportunities to gain knowledge and skills to help others.

Prisoner\$3.00/year
Individual\$15.00/year
Family\$25.00/year
Sustaining.....\$50.00 – \$100.00/year

Sponsor.....\$100 – \$250/year
Benefactor.....\$250 and more
Organization.....\$50.00 and more

Donations and memberships are tax-deductible.

Oregon CURE
1631 NE Broadway #460
Portland, OR 97232

“The object of the law is to reform criminals and prevent crime, and not to punish maliciously or from a spirit of revenge.”

OREGON C.U.R.E.

CITIZENS UNITED FOR REHABILITATION OF ERRANTS

Winter 2006

VOLUME 25

National CURE Board Meeting

Jan Singleton

Hosted by the Oregon Chapter of CURE, the annual meeting of the board of directors was held October 7-10, 2005, in Portland, Oregon, with representatives of 21 chapters in attendance. The first day consisted of CURE advocacy training by Chair Kay Perry (MI), with each state chapter represented receiving its own notebook specifically prepared for that state. The second day was filled with



discussions concerning the pros and cons of the privatization of prisons and whether or not National CURE should amend its position on this issue. The third day, Sunday, was filled with reports from various criminal justice advocates, discussions, and the sharing of information by Oregon CURE chair, Cindy Van Loo, and several members of the Steering Committee, concerning activities and programs in Oregon and Oregon CURE's working relationship with the Oregon Department of Corrections. Finally, on Monday, the last day of the meeting, the board re-elected its executive committee and voted to change the name "National CURE" to "International CURE" because National CURE has received special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the

United Nations. The board also voted to amend its previous position against privatization of prisons (the only controversial issue on the agenda) by stating that " * * * [W]e recognize that private facilities do exist and may be built. We continue to oppose them. However, when such private facilities do exist, they should operate under a contract that obligates them to meet * * * requirements, and clearly states the penalties for failure to comply. Such facilities should be monitored * * * by governmental jurisdictional authorities with the competence to judge compliance." The meeting ended on a positive note, with Charlie and Pauline Sullivan inviting everyone present to attend the International CURE Convention to be held June 24 through 27, in Washington, D.C.

Thank you!!

Cindy Van Loo, Oregon CURE Chair

Thanks to all of you who sent in your membership renewals and/or donations as a result of our recent fund-raiser letter mailed in November. So far, we have received responses from 80 people with a total of \$4,300 being collected. Our goal is \$8,000. If you have not mailed in your membership renewal, it is not too late. If you have questions or didn't receive a fund-raising letter, please contact us at the number on the back of this newsletter. Because of the limited resources available to our incarcerated citizens, Oregon CURE decided not to send this letter to them; however, we want to thank them for their continued support. Our incarcerated citizens make up about one-third of our members.

HOME FOR GOOD RE-ENTRY CONFERENCE Gretchen Hite and Kristine Vala

Oregon CURE was invited to attend the second annual "Home for Good Re-Entry Conference" held last October 2005 and sponsored by the Oregon Department of Corrections ("DOC"). "Home for Good in Oregon" is a corrections, community, and faith-based partnership for re-entry into the community from prison. Six members of the CURE steering committee were able to attend the conference, which was held at Kah-Nee-Ta, a resort in Central Oregon. While we applaud the DOC's desire to keep our accommodations money with a native Oregon company, it was difficult for some to attend because of the distance from the metropolitan areas of the state and cost-prohibitive for other participants to stay overnight.

The focus of the conference was "A Gathering of the Village." The presentation message was loud and clear -- education and employment are two of the greatest needs for the released prisoners. What wasn't so clear was how to provide these requirements with the present lack of funding and resources.

The conference provided a forum for a much-needed start that must continue to gain momentum with the involvement of all concerned parties. If you're going to be getting out of prison soon, you can send a kyte to your counselor to fill out a Home for Good application for information on programs or services that may be available to you in the community you will return to.



Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

Terry Stein

Kimberly Hendricks, PREA Coordinator at ODOC, attended CURE's January Steering Committee meeting to explain PREA and ask for Oregon CURE's support for a grant from the Federal government. She explained that PREA is in effect from the time a person is in custody in the back of a police car until they're off postprison supervision. The intent is to protect anyone in custody or on supervision from sexual assault and/or coercion or solicitation. There are several things the grant would be used for: technology and equipment upgrades, staff and prisoner training, and increased coordination between ODOC and local corrections agencies.

One of the things that would be affected would be prison housing assignments: predators and possible victims would not be housed together. Also, victims would not necessarily be moved or placed into protective custody where they lose their jobs and some privileges (even though they have not been at fault).

Since most of CURE's members have family members or friends who are prisoners, we are completely in support of eliminating, or at least reducing, the occurrence of sexual assault or coercion in prison. Therefore, we unanimously agreed to write a letter in support of the grant application.

Please note, Oregon CURE is not a resource for legal advice. The Oregon State Bar Association has a lawyer referral service: 503-684-3763 or 1-800-452-8260.

POEMS / STORIES NEEDED

Send us your artwork, poems, short stories, favorite quotes, etc. for review and consideration in publishing in future newsletters. All entries should be sent directly c/o Oregon CURE, 1631 S.W. Broadway, Suite 460, Portland, OR 97232



Interested in starting a group in your area?
Call CURE at 503-977-9979 (Portland) or 1-866-357-CURE (2873) (Outside Portland).
Are you fluent in Spanish and interested in starting a Spanish-speaking group? Call CURE to volunteer.

CURE SUPPORT GROUPS – MEETING MONTHLY

<p>1st Saturday 11:00 am–12:30 pm Salem Religious Science Center, Bldg D 2495 Lancaster Drive NE Free Parking</p> <p>503-873-4363 (Aba Gayle)</p>	<p>1st Wednesday 7:00 pm–8:30 pm Beaverton Community Center 12350 SW 5th, Suite 100 Free Parking</p> <p>503-350-0236 (Gretchen)</p>	<p>1st Tuesday 7 pm–8:30 pm Marie Callender's Restaurant Library Room 1300 Valley River Drive Eugene, OR</p> <p>541-935-1182 (Ken)</p>
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Support Group Changes

Gretchen Hite

The **Portland Support** group meeting, held the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Multnomah County Library, Gregory Heights Branch, will be discontinued until further notice. Thank you, Sue, for three years of dedication, compassion, and understanding.

The **Eugene Support** group has changed its meeting location to Marie Callender's Restaurant, Library Room, 1300 Valley River Drive, Eugene, Oregon.

The **Beaverton** and **Salem** locations remain unchanged. All meetings are confidential - and are usually attended by only a handful of people, so if you are interested in remaining anonymous and meeting with people in similar situations, please attend.

Look on our website at www.oregoncure.org for dates and times of meetings.

– Our Thanks –

Oregon CURE hereby expresses our sincere gratitude to Metro Print of Portland for its donation of printing services: With their help we are able to do more with our resources.



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