California Men's Centers San Diego December 1, 2006 Activity Summary

Progress was made on our "Tolling Project", the project that would help inmates complete the necessary paperwork to suspend their child support payments while incarcerated. The Career Services Office of Cal Western Law School has shown interest to a proposal we submitted and has tentatively agreed to provide law students to interview the inmates, help them complete the documentation, and process the documentation through the System. Additionally, I was able to briefly meet and interest the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Chief District Parole Administrator as well as the Director of Division of Community Programs who is based in Sacramento. It appears the offshoot project, which we proposed and facilitated, between the Department of Child Support Services and San Diego Public Defender should be functional in January 2007, or thereabouts.

We've added talking heads and back issues of Transitions to http://www.californiamenscenters.org/.

The nondenominational Safe Faith Place Communities domestic violence information, education, and referral program brought in another large congregation. I'm one of the program's trainers. The program is now serving well over 40,000 families in the San Diego and Oklahoma City area.

One of our members stepped up to fund an Internet radio show that I've wanted to do and been talking about for several months. Now it's just a matter of finding the time to put it all together. The show will be irreverent, cynical, sarcastic and factual, hopefully a highbred of Prairie Home Companion and Saturday Night Live – something like that. If I can figure out how to pull it off we'll have a live audience and many of you will be involved, even if you don't know it yet.

While a bit premature, we are in the process of forming another nonprofit called Children's Rights Initiative for Sharing Parenting Equally (CRISPE). The idea – not mine – is to purchase a 42' tandem axle custom coach, wrap it like a billboard on wheels, and drive it around the country promoting equal parenting. On both sides in big letters it will say "Equal Parenting Express". I'll let you figure out the possibilities, which, I assure you, are quite incredible. A deposit has been made on the coach: http://www.countrycoach.com/model.cfm?brand=all&my=07.

Deborah Watkins somehow figured out how to let people donate to our center on a direct deposit monthly basis through NCFM. I don't know how she did it, but there's no way to thank her enough. Please feel free to use her system and send money our way on a monthly basis. We are working on some fairly large projects with very little outside financial assistance.

Our Center now gets calls from across the U.S. and we even had one person in France call us, schedule and appointment, and fly over to have us help him with a custody situation. We moved one of our men out of state, sent him to the East Coast, for fear of his PBH wife (if you don't know what PBH stands for here's a hint, "Psycho Bit...from He...

There's more, but time is short, so that's the report.

Harry Crouch President, NCFMSD