



Special points of interest:

- Presentations, talks and tours kick off fundraising drive October 29, 2012
- Religious Coordinators work closely with the ACWC Board and Star Advisors
- Website offers center of information, downloadable presentations, donation options.

Worship Center Fundraising Drive Is Underway



ACI Warden John R. Pate

Re-Shaping Spiritual Lives was the theme behind the October 29 fundraising kick-off event at ACI. Dignitaries, ACWC board and advisory board members, community leaders, inmates, and other media members were invited to help raise \$500,000 to construct a building dedicated solely for the purpose of promoting faith activities at ACI.

Participation in faith-based programs has a positive im-

pact on inmates, and helps keep them from returning to prison.

“If we impact the recidivism rate just 5%, statewide, 1135 inmates who are released will not return to prison, and we’ll save over \$16 million” said ACI Warden John R. Pate. “Here at ACI that would mean about 65 inmates won’t return to prison and we will save close to \$1 million dollars,” he continued.

Clearly a worship center will not only help men reshape their spiritual lives, but it will also benefit society through savings of tax dollars as well as saving inmates from a repeat offense.

JumpStart president and ACWC Advisory Board member Tim Terry gave the keynote speech and challenged to group to get behind this effort.

Inside Religious Coordinators Work Closely With Board

Religious coordinators working through the Chaplain’s office represent over 12 faiths who meet regularly with the ACWC committee to discuss ways in which they can support this effort. In addition, two inmates serve as advisors to the committee.

The coordinators are: Walter Williams (Catholic), Charlie Jackson (Protestant), Jeff Stinson (Native American), Russell Cain (Buddhist), Willie

Brown (House of Yahweh), William Tessier (Jewish), Marcus Grim (Rastafarian), Ronald Whetstone (Wiccan), Ed Harlin (Kairos), Danny Brown (Muslim), Gilbert Smith (Jehovah’s Witness), Carlos Elliott (ACI Choir), and Lawrence Sheedy (Recovery Programs). Todd Middleton (Chaplain’s clerk) and Charles Sullivan (Chaplain’s inmate advisor) round out the group.

All help with fundraising ideas and the gathering of

“There is nothing more important we can do to help guys help themselves and become more productive members of their communities, than by supporting them in their efforts to better themselves through faith-based programs,” he said.

“ACI is blessed to have a warden who is actively promoting these programs, and this has created a greater need for a dedicated worship center,” he continued. “They have simply outgrown their space.

To date contributions and pledges are estimated at \$30,000.

ACWC Website Provides Centralized Info and Updates

The ACWC website has recently been updated to reflect recent news. In addition, presentations developed for the kickoff event, and improved graphics have been added with the assistance of Mark Pitto, JumpStart program director. The presentations may be viewed online or downloaded to show to other groups.

Potential contributors and other interested parties can visit the site at www.slendalecorrectionalworshipcenter.org

Those who would like, may make direct donations using PayPal, MasterCard and Visa from the site.