

THE TERRY HARRIS
ANNUAL PROJECT
UPDATE
“FAMILIES OF
PRISONERS: VOICES
UNHEARD”

“Voices Unheard”

Volume # 2

Fall 2015

Thanks for your continued support!!

Special points of interest:

- Terry’s Endowment is over \$15,000 as of August 2015
- Regal Fundraiser to help boost Terry’s fund for 2015.
- Spring Grant a great success!
- Terry is now a Chaplain visiting area prisons.

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It is absolutely amazing to see The Terry Harris Endowment Fund grow from year to year. We get the occasional call from no where, asking about what Terry is doing and how they can be involved. You wonder, “How did they know?” The connections that have been created through the Terry Harris Endowment, the Community Foundation and the Salvation Army Freedom Ministries has been nothing short of intriguing. The fund has grown to over \$15,000 since inception and we are so thankful for those who have caught the vision of making a difference in the lives of Families of Prisoners. There are many sad cases where guys have just not been able to make it on the outside and usually breach, which could be a minor thing but enough to send them back and they return to prison, leaving their

families. BUT when they do get the support, training and encouragement and some financial support for their families, lives are changed! The children grow up knowing both parents, marriages are restored, guys find self-worth and take responsibility for the past as well as the future and another family is saved. That is why we persevere and keep trying to find new ways to connect and educate and offer services that many of us take for granted like a good job, clean and safe living conditions, accountability, responsibility, proper training, and spiritual development. Together this helps improve our communities and brings hope to the children that didn’t ask for their family to be in turmoil. They want what every kid wants, acceptance, love, opportunities to grow and develop, learn,

thank you!



We are thankful for every donation that has been made to Terry’s Endowment! Together we are making a difference in people’s lives! THANKS!!

have fun and have a future that is FULL of possibilities! “A Future so bright they have to wear shades” Together we are making a difference and we thank you for partnering with us.

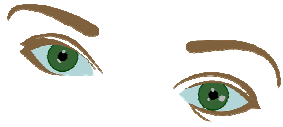
Freedom Ministries S.A.F.E Program

“Incarceration places the entire family at risk. The remaining spouse and children suffer shame, a sense of loss, confusion, embarrassment, and poverty (frequently family income is drastically reduced). Incarceration, unlike any other catastrophes that happen to families, is not seen by society as a situation that deserves compassion. Keep-

ing this in mind, the S.A.F.E. program assists families, prisoners and ex-prisoners with the immediate and long-term effect of incarceration and acts as a bridge between those we serve, the community at large and the criminal justice system, thereby enhancing the character of justice and restoration. We do this via one-to-one coun-

seling, family counseling, crisis intervention/prevention, holistic education/information group sessions, women’s self-help groups, mentoring, parenting program, home visits, community links, transportation, practical assistance and spiritual guidance & support.”

http://
www.freedomministries.ca



“We believe that when completed this book will be used to expand our understanding of the challenges faced by families”

Give me your Eyes by Brandon Heath

When Terry was ordained in 2011 just before we launched The Terry Harris Endowment Fund, one of the songs that was sung during the service was by Brandon Heath “Give me your Eyes”. Many have asked Terry why he does what he does and how it became such a focus in our lives. I think the lyrics explain the reason behind the why and how “IT” has grown over the last few years to become

all that it has. An Endowment Fund for the future, a possible book, maybe a play, educational resource, employment and a passion to see lives changed for the better!

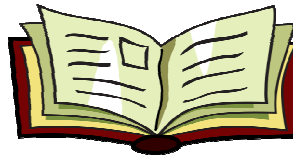
You can hear the song in its entirety at the link below but here is the chorus.....

*All those people goin' somewhere
Why have I never cared?*

*Give me Your eyes for just one second
Give me Your eyes so I can see
Everything that I keep missing
Give me Your love for humanity
Give me Your arms for the broken-hearted
The ones that are far beyond my reach
Give me Your heart for the ones forgotten
Give me Your eyes so I can see*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5AkNqLuVgY>

Book update: “Voices Unheard”

Terry continues to work on his next book, “Voices Unheard”. During this past year as he had some time off between contracts, He reviewed all the material that he has collected about Families of Prisoners. We are hoping that Terry will be able to publish by the end of 2016. Stay tuned as there will be ways that you can be involved when we reach that point.



We believe that when completed this book will be used to help expand our understanding of the challenges that families face when following their loved one through the system, as well, it has the potential of

being used in educational settings as a valuable resource. We experienced a walk through of a play being developed based on the material last year and it provoked great discussion and feedback on what can we do to make a difference! It was a real eye opener to this hidden population.
More to come in 2016...

REGAL FUNDRAISING for Terry’s Endowment



We have been looking for new ways we can raise more money towards Terry’s Endowment. We have had some very creative ideas come to our attention, some will take time to develop but here is one that may be of interest to some. Who could use some useful and practical things for Christmas? REGAL has a fundraising program that we can tap into for a few weeks between now and Christmas and any money raised will be

donated directly to The Community Foundation for TERRY’s ENDOWMENT.

Here is how it works:

“We all live busy lives but we still want to help support the organizations that are important to each of us.... Regal offers an efficient and simple fundraising program with the most fundraising products in Canada. We set you up with your own Fundraising web-store where your supporters

place and pay for their orders...everything ships directly to your fundraising supporters.”

There are no tax deductions for this effort but we do increase Terry’s fund. Happy Shopping!!

Check out Terry’s page at www.the.shopregal.ca

We have a goal to see how much we can add to the fund by our shopping?? Thanks so much!!

Another Grant is Given.... SPRING 2015

Canadian Families and Corrections Network, Strengthening Families Affected by Incarceration Day, \$2,375 From the Terry Harris Endowment Fund and the Sunnyside Children's Fund

Canadian Families and Corrections Network, the Community Foundation for Kingston and Area, Kingston Frontenac Public Libraries, the Correctional

Service of Canada, and Sesame Street are teaming up to host a 'Strengthening Families Affected by Incarceration' Day. The intent of this library event is to raise awareness, education and tolerance; and to decrease bullying and isolation for innocent children in our schools who may have crime in their families. This event is open to ALL families who want to talk, read and play together at Sesame Street



activity stations with their favourite Sesame Street characters. Come and join us!

Date has been set for October 3, at the Turner Library from 2 to 4.

"Strengthening Families Affected by Incarceration"

What Happened on October 3rd? By Terry Harris

I attended "Strengthening Families Affected by Incarceration" Day at the Isobel Turner Library on October 3rd hosted by CFCN and Sesame Street as well as other agencies listed in previous story. It was a very impressive and informative afternoon. It brought community stakeholders together from Corrections, Kingston Police, Community Advocates and Families im-

pacted by Incarceration. The day featured interactive games for kids hosted by their favourite Sesame Street characters. There were also informative resources available to help families and the general public become more aware of the impact and how to improve the circumstances that plague this population. They released a DVD that will be distributed throughout Canadian Librar-

ies for educational purposes. "Little Children, BIG Challenges: Incarceration" There were also handouts for parents on "Tips for Incarcerated Parents" 1) Answering difficult Questions and 2) Connecting through visits. Both very useful for families and caregivers.

Congratulations to everyone for a Job Well Done!!



Congratulations to CFCN for a great event!

Children are impacted by Incarceration!

Children who are affected by Incarceration have difficulty socially fitting in with other children and kids can be really cruel. Often they never tell others where their dad actually is and they don't talk about it themselves. CFCN has come up with a creative way, with the help of Sesame Street, to help children express themselves and talk about their situation through the use of a DVD called, "Little Children, BIG challenges: incarceration" By reducing the stigma, we can

encourage children that though their parents might not have made the best decisions, they do not have to follow the same path. Talking about it openly changes their future and enhances our community to be more proactive and responsive to their needs.

Awesome Job!!

Here are some facts that you might not have known...

In 2007, an estimated 357,604 Canadian children

were affected by paternal incarceration, or 4.6% of the total Canadian population aged 19 and younger. Children of federally sentenced fathers are two to four times more likely to be in conflict with the law than Canadian children in general. <http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca>

We must keep finding ways to draw out the children so they can be open and honest about how they are affected by incarceration. Then we can get them the resources they need and that's when real change begins.



Elmo reading... "Jeffrey Goes to Jail"

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We're on the web!
www.encourager.ca
Spring 2016

We are thankful for every dollar that is donated to Terry's Endowment. So far all donations have been one-time donations. Thank-you!! We would love to see if we can double Terry's fund by the end of 2016. One way we could possibly do that is by having some folks donate on a monthly basis?? If this is of interest to you, please contact Tina at Community Foundation above and she can help you set it up.
\$25/month = \$300/year
\$50/month = \$600/year
\$100/month = \$1200/year
Regardless of how much or how often we are thankful for every dollar!!

Acknowledging and Reaching Children of Prisoners

By Shawn Bayes, Executive Director of Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver

"Within Canada, a particular group of children, the children of prisoners, have epidemic poor life outcomes, and these children — unlike their counterparts in the United States, the United Kingdom, India, Australia, and a host of other countries — have not been recognized as a distinct group. Researchers have identified these children as having much higher than normal incidences of lower academic achievement, truancy, gang involvement, substance addiction, mental illness, crime, and incarceration (Stanton 1980; Baunach 1985; Gabel, S. 1992; Dressel and Barnhill 1994; Gabel and Johnston 1995; Seymour 1998; Ascione and Dixson 2002; Murray and Farrington 2005). The primary source of their risk is hidden through labels which place them within broader social pathologies. In failing to recognize these children we condemn them to increased risk.

In order to more effectively assist the children of prisoners it is necessary to consider that children of prisoners are affected by their parent's imprisonment and that within this group of chil-

dren those whose mother is imprisoned are at event greater risk. Moreover, while there is limited research on the subject, existing studies suggest that the children of imprisoned mothers tend to be placed in informal care agreements with family and friends (Gabel and Johnston 1995, 106-107). As a consequence, these children do not come to the attention of government services. Instead, the problems and needs of the children of prisoners are most likely to be recognized by their teachers, rather than other professionals in the child welfare or medical systems. It is important therefore that teachers understand the unique problems of these children, and understand what they can do.

The Big Questions

Anyone working with children of high risk is always concerned that their actions do not in any way diminish a child's potential. There are three key questions to keep in mind when considering the children of prisoners.

- 1) Are the children of prisoners at any greater risk than children without a parent in prison who face similar risk factors?*
- 2) Does acknowledging and identifying the children of prisoners increase their risk factors?*
- 3) What is it about the lived experience*

An update on Terry

The last year has been full of changes for Terry and there may be more in the near future as well. In March, the funding that supported Terry's position as a COSA Coordinator (Circles of Support and Accountability) came to an end. The funding was only for 5 years and Terry came in year 2. He finished work the end of March and they had a big send off for him and we were blessed by people's generosity! Terry had a much needed break and we waited to see what would happen after the postings for Salvation Army were released the end of April. One of the Chaplains in Terry's office was posted to Toronto and that opened a door for Terry to return to Freedom Minis-



tries as a Chaplain end of June. He has another 6 month contract that ends at Christmas but we are hoping that this will be converted to a full-time position come the new year but at the time of writing that has not yet been confirmed so we would appreciate your prayers for Terry's future employment. In February we opened our home to an International

Student from China who is finishing her Grade 12 at LCVI. Ming has brought lots of laughter as we try to learn Chinese and she adapts to Canadian Culture. Over the summer we finished our basement and added another bedroom which we were able to fill in September with a 5th year Queens Education Student. Noelle is not with us full-time but adds delight to our home when she is here. Our home is now FULL with two needed bathrooms!!

We celebrated 3 years in our home this October and we are beginning to feel at home now that the basement is complete. Though we may not know what is going to happen next we know that God will take care of us. Blessings, D&T