

State of the Rosebud Foundation, Inc.

January 2005

Rosebud Foundation has had a great year in service to individuals who are or were incarcerated and their families. We are becoming well known at the state and local levels as an organization that knows the issues and is taking a stand for empowering the community to make a difference.

Rosebud sponsored classes in three locations this year. The one at New Beginnings Transitional House for women was discontinued in March and since then the facility has closed. We served fifteen women for the time we were there. The class at Metro State Women's Prison had 130 participants this year. We provide folders, pens and paper to the women at Metro to journal, a simple, but valuable privilege granted us by the system. There were 241 children who participated in the class at Marietta Regional Youth Detention Center. About one-third of them came to more than one class. The children at MRYDC are awarded a copy of the book Power Source after they have attended at least three classes. We have awarded over forty books in the last year.

Jim Ivey, Board Chairman co-facilitates with me at Metro. At present I am the only facilitator for the class at the Youth Detention Center. When I cannot go, they do not have class. This group is the most challenging that I am facilitating right now. Every time I go there are new kids in the class and their behavior and interactions are frequently challenging for me. I ask the kids who come more than once to explain to the others what happens in the class. And I ask them why they came back. One night a young man said, "I have been in this class for several weeks and I always cut up during the meditations. This past week when I was in my room, I tried to meditate and it really worked." THAT is the reason I am a stand for this class. I must also note that the young man was taken out of the class about fifteen minutes later for inappropriate behavior in class. No matter – I know that the class makes a difference and that is why we take the stand that it continues.

We continued to receive in-kind donations. We were able to primarily furnish one transitional house with our donations. We co-partnered with Jan Varner to sell some items at an antique mall. We rented a booth at another establishment that sold flea market items. We co-partnered with Geoff Seymour to sell some old record albums on the Internet. We had one donated automobile during 2004, which we sold. We closed the flea market, as sales were not supporting the booth. Without an outlet for the goods, I have stopped much of the in-kind donations for lack of outlet.

In October Jim and I attended the White House Faith Based Initiative Conference in Miami. While the timing and some participants left no doubt this is a politically based initiative, there were some valuable insights to be picked up. The first, there is Federal grant money to be had for organizations with missions matching existing Federal programs and the willingness to meet Federal requirements. Running this program is a director that is probably as apolitical (appears dedicated to the people it serves) as any person working an arms length from the president (e.g., this gentleman spent several

years volunteering time as an attorney for Mother Theresa). How-tos were offered about grant applications that are usable elsewhere. The Rosebud Foundation, Inc. Mission is on the borderline of a few of the Federal grants. One session was a question/answer panel of four grant recipients (including two very large, long term charitable organizations) who offered some general caveats from their experiences - - - Jim paraphrased a few as follows: beware of “mission creep”, shifting your mission to where the dollars are and if you do, do it consciously after careful consideration; beware of the requirement of “matching” or “in-kind matching” monies and your ability to meet that requirement (grants can be big); be aware of the time and total administrative costs to maintain the annual (monthly, quarterly, etc.) bookkeeping, record keeping, and reporting requirements of the grant; and remember the paperwork - your records will be audited annually, they must be good records, and your “language” must be the language of the auditor. Another of these panel members left us with a thought that we took away regarding Federal (or any other) grants - - - “...grow at your pace...”

Several members of Rosebud’s Board of Directors have been instrumental in operations this year. Wolf Halton has provided much of the moving power (his picture and my truck are in the business plan on the website). Jim Ivey and Carol Selman have given much of their time to the attention of the business operations, particularly after my computer was stolen.

I continued to participate in Landmark Education coursework. A businessman who has participated in Landmark, Marty Hortman, has agreed to make donations to sponsor Landmark scholarships to Rosebud for development of board, staff, volunteers, counselees and their families. The impact this collaboration is having is formidable in both the transformation of how participants see themselves and our world and the rippling effect it is having in our environments – even with folks who have not participated in the programs.

We were invited to attend a two-day grant-writing workshop sponsored by the Department of Corrections in December 2004 and January 2005. The workshop was informative and we made some good contacts with others who have similar visions. We acquired the names of private foundations that may fund us.

In the past year we have pushed to open transitional housing for women coming out of prison. We completed a business plan in June which is posted on the website, www.rosebudfoundation.org. We have also been in communication with the Commissioner of Corrections, James Donald. He is so excited about the possibility of our opening the house he has promised inmate labor to do the renovations when we acquire the property. We have made numerous contacts and have explored many options for funding. The Cobb Community Foundation has expressed interest in giving us funding. Jim Ivey and Carol Selman worked with me to complete the application and the grant was mailed on January 28, 2005.

Thanks to all who have participated in this ministry. That includes not only those who have physically moved stuff, written grants, donated time, money and resources. My

gratitude extends to others who have given well wishes and have agreed that Rosebud Foundation is a stand for a world that works for everyone, no one left behind.

Respectfully and gratefully submitted,

Mary Campbell, President