



# UPAN Newsletter

Volume 2 Number 12 | DECEMBER 2015

*“Empowerment and Growth Through Knowledge and Unity”*

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**NEXT UPAN MEETING : MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016 6:30-8:30 PM**

**Location:** Draper Library, 1136 East Pioneer Rd (12400 South, aka 124<sup>th</sup> South) Draper, Utah

**NOTE:** There will be NO UPAN Meeting in DECEMBER

**NEXT FOCUS MEETING : MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016 6-8 PM**

**Location:** Adult Probation and Parole Office, 36 W. Fremont Avenue, Salt Lake City UT 84101

Deputy Director of Administrative Services Mike Hadden will be present to talk about the upcoming legislative session and how the process works. This will be very informative to all who attend.

(FOCUS meetings are held every other month on the first Monday of the month)

**February UPAN Meeting: Monday, February 8, 2016 6:30-8:30 PM**

**Location:** Ruth Vine Tyler Library, 8041 Wood St. (55 West), Midvale, Utah

Wood is one block west of State Street off of 8000 South (aka 80<sup>th</sup> South)

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**Holiday Greetings**

Happy Holidays and a Good New Year,  
These wishes come with feelings sincere,  
Current conditions may be depressing,  
But with each day, you are progressing

Toward that life you see so clear,  
With family and friends you hold so dear,  
Raising the hope on which you depend,  
All the time knowing, you've got a friend,

A friend who's been built on lots of volunteer "sweatwork," The Utah Prisoner Advocate Network

Disclaimer: Formulate your own opinions about the information presented. This information is presented for the reader's enlightenment and evaluation.

## Get to know your Legislator (Bring Your Legislator to UPAN Meeting)

We are asking our UPAN participants to contact their local representatives and senators and invite them to our January 2016 meeting. You can find out who they are by going to: [le.utah.gov](http://le.utah.gov). E-mail them, call them, and send them a written invitation (see example below). This will only be successful if we all do our part to invite them!

### Sample Letter to Invite Legislator to January UPAN Meeting

The following sample letter is based on a draft letter Miriam has shared that she used to invite her own Representative to the January UPAN meeting. Families are invited to use it as a guide to write their own letters or emails to their own legislators.

Representative (or Senator) \_\_\_\_\_,

I am a participant in an organization called UPAN, Utah Prisoner Advocate Network, which currently has an email list of almost 400 members. UPAN holds a meeting on the second Monday of every month. On January 11, 2016, the meeting is planned specifically for our Utah legislators to attend to learn more about issues and concerns of family members throughout the state with incarcerated loved ones. We will share some of the problems and difficulties we deal with on a regular basis. Hopefully, this meeting will help you make a more informed decision on how to vote when issues surrounding reform for Utah's criminal justice system are presented for a vote.

I would like to invite you to attend this meeting on Monday, January 11, 2016 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. It will be held at the Draper Library 1136 East Pioneer Rd .Pioneer Road is 12400 South

This meeting will have three objectives:

First: This will put a face to the names we hear about up on the Hill. You will get to put a face to the constituents you represent.

Second: We can give first hand stories about the real people being affected by the laws you are passing.

Third: We can let you know what we would like to see happen with new criminal justice reform.

This will be accomplished by giving UPAN attendees several minutes each to express their views. We would like this to be a positive experience for all involved. Our hope is that you, as a legislator, will come away with an appreciation of everything we as families, and our incarcerated loved ones, are going through. We hope to share, ideas that continue to facilitate positive change. We need your help, you need our experience. I hope to speak with you soon about this, and I hope you will attend this important event.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your Address

Your Phone Number

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**BE BRAVE!**  
**by Miriam Greenland**

I hope all of the members of UPAN will contact their Senator or Representative and invite them to our January 11<sup>th</sup> UPAN meeting. It takes courage, but be brave! One year ago, I decided to contact my Senator and Representative to request their help with prison reform. I know there are a multitude of problems with our justice system that need to be addressed, but I decided to choose just one problem to focus on—the Board of Pardons.

First, I went to the internet web site: [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov), to find who represents me. Then I clicked on the link 'Who Represents Me?' at the bottom of the page, then entered my address and zip code. On the right of 'Who Represents Me' is a logo for the senators and a logo for the representatives. When I clicked on the Senator's logo it brought up their page, then I clicked on Senators and it brought up the whole senate roster, and I found my Senator's email address. The representative's logo works the same. I sent each of them an email and told them I was concerned about the high incarceration rates in our prisons and that I believed the problem was created because of the long sentences the Board of Pardons gives to our loved ones. I asked if I could meet with them and speak to them about my concerns. I concluded with my name, my phone number, and my address (so they would know I was really their constituent).

My representative, Mike Kennedy, called me back and set up a time to meet with me, he came to my home and was very receptive to everything I had to say, although he didn't agree with me on everything! Then Representative Kennedy set up a meeting with me and Greg Johnson, who is the administrative coordinator for the Board, and I discussed my concerns with them. I invited Representative Kennedy to our January UPAN meeting and he has agreed to attend.

I am still shocked that Mr. Kennedy actually treats me like I'm important!

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## **LEGISLATIVE AUDITS AND THE AUDIT OF THE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLE** by Molly Prince

We have received many questions about how the Legislative Audit of the Board works and where the Auditors are in the process. This article is intended to attempt to answer as many of those questions as possible. According to the website for the Office of the Legislative Auditor General (OLAG) <http://le.utah.gov/audit/office.htm>, it is the mission of that office "to serve the citizens of Utah by providing objective information, in-depth analyses, and useful recommendations that help legislators and other decision makers 1) improve state programs; 2) reduce costs; and 3) promote accountability. To achieve this mission, the office completes in-depth audits and special projects requested by the Legislature."

Various articles are available on that website that include: 1) What is the Legislative Audit Subcommittee? 2) Information for Audited Agencies; 3) Role of the Legislative Auditor General's Office; 4) Purpose of Audits; 4) Auditor General's Staff; 5) Best Practices for Good Management. There is also a link on the purpose of audits at [http://le.utah.gov/audit/audit\\_purp.pdf](http://le.utah.gov/audit/audit_purp.pdf).

### **The Role of the Office of the Legislative Auditor General** (Taken almost verbatim from the website.)

Performance audits help legislators resolve the difficult issues facing them. In a variety of areas, the audits conducted by the OLAG examine the operations of state programs. The office reviews and evaluates the programs, seeing how they are being implemented, testing whether they are being operated at the lowest possible cost, and evaluating if they are successfully attacking the problems leading to their creation. These audits offer the legislators another important source of information as they attempt to solve pressing problems.

This process delivers information about the programs conducted by state departments and institutions, as well as school districts and state colleges and universities, to those who set the policies and grant the funds. This process works in the following way:

- (1) the Legislature identifies policy issues for consideration;
- (2) the Legislature enacts legislation to address those issues; and
- (3) the agencies interpret, implement, and carry out the policy.

Performance and program auditors observe the agencies and determine how well their interpretation, implementation, and policy follow-through are done. The auditors then make recommendations to the Legislature based on the new issues identified in the audit process.

A performance audit can serve one or more of the following functions:

- It may show that an agency or program is more expensive than it needs to be—Is the agency or program operating efficiently?
- It may indicate places where an agency or program is not fulfilling its mission and serving the public—Is the agency or program effective?
- It may point out problems with interpreting the Legislature's intent when the agency or program was created—Is the agency or program complying with the law?

All this information is given to legislators in performance terms so they can judge for themselves what actions should be taken.

Legislative auditors are the watchdogs of state government. They work to ensure that state agencies and programs provide the intended services in order to serve the public efficiently and effectively.

### **An Overview of Steps Taken in an Audit**

A legislator requests an audit and this request is considered by the Legislative Audit Subcommittee—currently made up of Wayne L. Niederhauser, President of the Senate and Co-Chair of the subcommittee; Greg Hughes, Speaker of the House and Co-Chair of the Subcommittee; Senator Gene Davis, Senate Minority Leader; and Representative Brian S. King, House Minority Leader. Please note these are the legislators involved in the subcommittee, NOT the actual auditors. The auditors are staff employed by the State of Utah in the Office of the Legislative Auditor General.

Once the Subcommittee has approved and prioritized the audit request, the audit will be staffed according to its priority assignment and staff availability.

An in-depth audit can take several months from audit initiation to completion. The complexity of the organization being reviewed and the scope of the request determine how long the audit will take. It is UPAN's belief that since the Board of Pardons and Parole has such a vast scope of authority over individuals who are incarcerated or on parole in the State of Utah, it will take the maximum time for the auditors to sort all the information they have gathered and come to their conclusions and write the report.

According to the information provided on the website, "If all the audit questions cannot be answered in the necessary time period, then the auditors will work with the legislator(s) to identify the most critical questions." Once the audit is completed, the report is presented to the Audit Subcommittee, which then releases it to the appropriate legislative committees and to the public.

**Access to Information:** Utah Code 36-12-15(6)(a)((i) gives OLAG access to all records, documents, and reports of the entity OLAG is authorized to audit – in this case the Board of Pardons and Parole. Utah law also clarifies that this access extends to non-public records. Federal law authorizes auditor access to health information covered by HIPPA to state auditors investigating state agencies providing medical services. This is good information for UPAN families, inmates, and their state legislators to be aware of.

#### **Audit Process (information taken from "Information for Audited Agencies" on the OLAG website)**

**Survey Phase:** Once the audit of the BOPP was assigned to OLAG staff, appropriate Board personnel were contacted and an entrance conference was conducted which discussed the purpose and logistical questions were discussed. After this, the survey work started. This phase enables the audit staff to become familiar with agency operations and gather information relevant to the questions that the audit is focusing on.

**Field Work Phase:** This is the phase in which the audit team collected information, observed activities of the Board, interviewed various parties to assist them in their information gathering, reviewed and tested the processes and data of the Board, and evaluated the results of the various analyses. It is our understanding that the auditors also spent time learning about how Boards of Pardons and Parole work in other states in the US. The auditors are not able to answer specific questions from UPAN about everything they specifically did during the field work phase, as part of their confidentiality mandate, but since they started their field work in July, it leads us to believe that they have spent a significant amount of time gathering and reviewing data between July and October 2015. This was the phase in which UPAN was able to assist by providing the auditors with information received from many inmates and their families regarding matrix, ethical and other issues as related to the Board.

The audit team prepares working papers to document the audit findings. All working papers are considered confidential during the audit. Once an audit is released by the Audit Subcommittee, the working papers become public documents EXCEPT for those working papers that contain information that must remain confidential by law which includes all protected record information in the prison system.

**Report Writing Phase:** This is the phase the Board Audit is now in. The audit team prepares an exposure draft of the report. A limited number of Board personnel will receive a copy of the exposure draft which is confidential and not to be copied. After the Board personnel have reviewed the exposure draft, an exit conference will be conducted between the Board and the auditors. This conference provides an opportunity for the Board personnel to point out any errors of fact, call attention to additional information that might have been overlooked, and discuss conclusions and recommendations.

Based on the comments that the agency (Board) makes at the exit conference, the audit team will make appropriate changes to the exposure draft. A final draft, which is also confidential and not to be copied, is sent to the head of the Board Office for a written response for inclusion in the audit report.

**Release of Audit Report:** There will be an Audit Subcommittee meeting scheduled to reveal the final Audit report and the Board will be notified of that meeting. Twenty-four hours prior to this meeting an "embargoed copy" of the report is made available to the news media. Embargoed copies are still confidential documents, but reporters may contact the Board officials prior to the subcommittee meeting. At the meeting, a formal presentation is made by the audit supervisor, and a response by a senior official of the Office of the Board of Pardons and Parole will be heard. At this meeting, the audit becomes public. Most likely, the Audit Subcommittee will refer the audit to other interested legislative committees.

This report will include recommendations by the OLAG on what changes should be made by the BOPP to bring their agency up to their legislative mandate. The public will be able to access the report in the physical office of the Legislative Auditor General as well as on the OLAG website.

**Audit Follow Up:** Between six and eighteen months after the audit's release, the audit team asks the agency for an update on their recommendation implementation. Based on information gathered during this follow up, OLAG's annual report will identify which recommendations the Board fully implemented, partially implemented, and did not implement. An annual report is provided to each legislator at the beginning of every General Session. A copy of the annual report will also be available on the OLAG website.

**Audited Agency Responsibilities:** The agency (Board) is expected to accommodate auditor requests for information, records, explanations, and assistance during the audit. The agency is expected to notify the audit team as to the protection status of the requested information. The audit team will maintain that protection level. If protected agency information is requested of OLAG, the person requesting that information will be instructed to request the information from the agency that provided the information.

The BOPP is required to keep any audit results that are discussed with them confidential until the audit is released by the Audit Subcommittee.

The Audit Report on the Board of Pardons and Parole is expected to be finished and ready for release sometime in January 2016. For further information, please see the OLAG website cited at the beginning of this article.

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### **PEOPLE NOT PRISONS COALITION AND THE NEW UTAH STATE PRISON**

by Molly Prince, with content copied with permission from PNP document presented to The Prison Development Commission meeting on November 5, 2015

People Not Prisons (PNP) is a loose coalition of advocacy groups working on behalf of people with mental health conditions, people recovering from substance use disorders, and men and women caught up in Utah's criminal justice system. PNP includes but is not limited to: ACLU of Utah, Odyssey House, First Step House, Utah Support Advocates for Recovery Awareness (USARA), Utah Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (UAATP), Utah AFL-CIO, Disability Law Center, Utah Prisoner Advocate Network (UPAN), Utah Prison Support, New Roads Behavioral Health, The Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City, and several individual criminal justice reform advocates from various Utah communities.

Relocation discussion in the first place. It is PNP's commitment to their realization that will drive PNP's involvement in the Prison Development process.

#### **General Infrastructure**

The new Utah correctional facility offers an opportunity to resolve serious deficiencies caused by the dilapidated, patchwork compound of buildings at the Draper prison. Based on PNP's member's experience with current conditions, PNP suggests the following be included in the new facility, to enhance the wellbeing of both inmates and staff, and in the interest of enhanced public safety:

People Not Prisons began forming in 2014. This year, PNP and its various member groups have been advocating for a state of the art prison facility that better meets the needs of inmates, staff, and public safety, while also fulfilling the state's constitutional obligations and realizing Utah's vision of systemic criminal justice reforms.

- A separate and substantial law library
- A separately-managed gender-responsive facility for female inmates
- Adequate number of classrooms and program space, with adjoining bathroom facilities
- Adequate on-site medical and mental health facilities, including:
  - Separate treatment spaces for female inmates
  - A working nursery for new mothers who are incarcerated
- A separate facility for elder care and hospice
- Space available for safe and confidential therapeutic interactions, including for inmates in isolation or restricted housing
- Full ADA-compliant design, in particular with regards to programmatic access, communication support, shelving, and storage spaces
- Substantial outdoor recreational space with access from each unit and/ or section
- Convenient electrical outlets for learning and vocational spaces
- Some soundproofing between cells, particularly in Maximum Security sections
- Individual control over lighting and ventilation where safe and possible
- extremely limited restricted housing space, to discourage use of segregated housing in non-emergency situations

**Now that Utah's legislature has voted to move the prison, the Prison Relocation Commission no longer exists and a Prison Development Commission has taken its place. PNP and its members assert that the design and programming of the new facility should have substantial input from advocacy groups and members of the communities where the new facility will be located. Whatever design, construction, or architectural process is chosen by the State, it must include many points of entry for real public input and involvement. We strongly recommend that the State consider establishing a community oversight entity as part of the prison design process.**

People Not Prisons has compiled a list of important considerations that should be taken into account in the design process of Utah's next correctional facility. It is our belief in these possibilities that brought PNP member organizations and individuals to the Prison

### **Religious, Educational, and Recreational Services**

Spiritual, emotional, and mental rehabilitation are important components of fruitful prison time. Our hope is that all individuals who are incarcerated have the opportunity to make amends, improvements, and changes. Better treatment of inmates is correlated to less stress and physical danger for correctional staff, and also increases the likelihood that inmates, upon release, will be able to re-adjust to community life outside of prison. To this end we advocate for:

- Sufficient vocational programming space for both female and male inmates
- Worship areas for all religions represented by Utah State Prison inmates including:
  - Native American sweat lodge and other outdoor worship spaces
  - Non-denominational chapel large enough to accommodate multiple faiths for weekend services
  - Small multi-faith room in each section for individual meditation and prayer
- Classroom space safely outfitted for maximum security and other restricted inmates
- Daily substantial yard and gym access
- Consistent access to educational and other programs, regardless of security level

### **Ongoing Oversight**

To ensure that a reform-oriented philosophy endures at the new correctional facility, and regular input from surrounding communities and partner agencies is encouraged, PNP suggests that the state consider institution of a Community Advisory Committee for the new Utah State Prison. This Committee could be comprised of community-based therapists in mental health and substance abuse treatment fields (UPAN wants to add sex offender therapists to that list), former inmates and family members of former inmates, prison reform advocates, community leaders from West Salt Lake neighborhoods, and others interested in improving prison oversight. A Community Advisory Committee would be responsible for, among other things:

- Passing along concerns about prison policies and practices that are in need of reform
- Providing a forum for community input into prison-community relation issues
- Acting as an official liaison with the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice and the Utah State Legislature on issues related to inmates' rights and recidivism reduction
- Researching opportunities for facility and programmatic innovation for ongoing improvement

### **PNP Presentation at the PDC November Meeting**

The above was presented both verbally and in a handout titled *People Not Prisons: Physical & Programmatic Priorities for Utah's New Correctional*

*Facility* at the November 5, 2015 meeting of the Prison Development Commission by representatives of PNP Anna Brower and Leslie Hugo. Please note that the entire content of this handout has been included as written and reported on in this article.

Anna and Leslie reported on their experience at the PDC meeting during the November 9 UPAN meeting. They reported the meeting went "pretty well" and they felt there were encouraging comments from Rep. Hutchings, Carlton Christensen, Karen Mayne, and others about making sure Utah builds a different kind of facility that will actually work and includes input from the community. Anna also has commented that she felt much better at the end of the meeting than she did at the beginning.

The news media was at this meeting and here are links to the coverage:

<http://fox13now.com/2015/11/05/lawmakers-checking-off-to-do-list-before-beginning-construction-of-new-utah-state-prison-in-slc/>

<http://kutv.com/news/local/end-solitary-confinement-at-new-state-prison-aclu-says>

The next meeting for the PDC has not been set yet. You can keep track by checking the internet periodically.

### **Members of the Prison Development Commission:**

Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson, Senate Chair  
Rep. Brad R. Wilson, House Chair  
Sen. Karen Mayne  
Sen. Evan J. Vickers  
Rep. Francis D. Gibson  
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley  
Mr. Carlton Christensen  
Director of Corrections Rollin Cook  
Director of CCJJ Ron Gordon

According to the minutes of this meeting, the timeline for the completion of the new prison is "within four years from the date of property acquisition." Also, Mr. Cook has ensured that the "goals and expectations of the Utah Department of Corrections are addressed at all project phases," which is encouraging. Public input will be considered in the construction process. It was reassuring to read in the minutes that Rep. Hutchings "stated the importance of using public comment in the process as a method for receiving expert input on the soft sciences of treatment, populations, etc. He mentioned that the public should be informed about the process and be invited to provide input where appropriate." Further, Rep. Hutchings stated that he didn't believe public comment was necessary for ground preparation, but "should be invited on other people-specific items such as the development and design of program space in the facility."

Mr. Christensen stressed the importance of facilitating communication with environmental groups around the area about the design of the new facility. Finally, the State Division of Facilities and Construction

Management will prepare a project timeline. Based on media reports, rough estimates have been that the prison should be finished in 2019.

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### Year End Summary

2015 is coming to a close. This year has passed swiftly for many of us involved in UPAN. UPAN has experienced significant and rapid growth in 2015 in terms of our email recipients as well as our inmate mailing list that our volunteers send to. We have topped 400 email recipients who receive our newsletter and print and send to their own incarcerated loved ones. We have 24 (and growing) volunteers who currently send monthly newsletters to 209 inmates (and growing daily) who don't have their own support system in the community to do so.

In 2015 we have been faced with a variety of opportunities and challenges.

**HB 348** was drafted, passed, and signed into law, effecting some important changes in Utah's criminal justice system. While it is only the first step in many important issues that need to be addressed, we are thankful for it. It affects individuals who are both incarcerated and on probation and parole. UPAN has learned of quite a few individuals who have benefitted from the 4-month time cut for finishing CAP priorities in the past two months. This is important to note, because UPAN generally is contacted only when there are problems with processes, rather than successes. The fact that a few people have contacted us to let us know they benefitted from the new law has been refreshing and encouraging! Quite a few UPAN participants attended the seemingly never-ending committee meetings in the 2015 legislative session to support and facilitate the attention to the issues that resulted in the passage of HB 348. Many UPAN families and supporters participated in a rally on the capitol steps on February 10, 2015 sponsored by UPAN, the ACLU, and other community agencies (see February UPAN News).

**Visit to CUCF.** In June, Directors Molly Prince, Shauna Denos, and Heather Fabian were invited to do a presentation for the STRIVE program in CUCF. This involved talking (and singing) with an audience of around 80 inmates. We were warmly welcomed and it was one of the highlights of our year with UPAN. The June Newsletter described what a positive and fulfilling experience it was for all of us including our spouses who accompanied us. We received positive feedback from inmates on their experience as well. That day we also received a tour of CUCF via the courtesy of Warden Bigelow and under the guidance of Case Manager Mumford. It was enlightening and informative to see the newer facility (only about 20-something years

old). Prior to that we had toured Draper in 2014, which is in dire need of repairs and upgrading.

**Prison relocation.** Over the past two years, various UPAN families have been involved in the discussions regarding prison relocation. Various participants and inmates have differing opinions about this issue, but now that the legislature has voted to move forward with the relocation, UPAN hopes and plans to be involved in the discussion of the design and function of the new prison through our affiliation with People Not Prisons.

**Audit of the Board of Pardons and Parole.** UPAN has played a part in assisting the audit team in gathering information from incarcerated individuals regarding a wide variety of issues. These issues have included but are not limited to: a significant number of inmates being kept long over matrix; natural life decisions; keeping people for their entire sentences without giving them opportunity to program; ambiguous Decision Matrix forms completed by the Board in their decisions; unprofessional and potentially unethical comments; attitudes and behaviors by hearing officers and board members; possible deviation from administrative policies governing them; and issues related to refusal to consider inmates from other countries to participate in the International Transfer to their home country to do their Utah time there, where they have family and local support available. We look forward to the Audit Report in January 2016.

#### Authorization to Verbally Discuss Health Information.

UPAN directors and various participants have been in discussion about medical issues with the DOC even before UPAN existed. This year, the DOC created an Authorization to Verbally Discuss Health Information so that a prisoner can obtain the form and designate a person for the prison Medical Service to discuss their health / medical issues with. We feel this was a great accomplishment and thank Steve Turley and Brooke Adams (and other prison officials) who helped get this authorization developed. See June and October Newsletters for specifics.

**Guiding numerous family / support persons in understanding how to help their own incarcerated loved ones.** This year we have continued to respond to emails and phone calls from concerned family members who need help understanding how things work in the Utah Prison System. We have been able to provide guidance about who to contact for various

issues, and how to approach certain types of situations. We believe we are accomplishing our goal of helping families advocate for their own inmates, as well as helping incarcerated individuals find ways to resolve the problems they encounter during their prison journey.

**2015 has been a year of incredible growth in UPAN with positive developments and unprecedented events in Utah's criminal justice system. The UPAN directors would like to express appreciation to everyone who has played a part in all of this.**

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### **APPRECIATION FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH UPAN**

By Molly Prince

#### **A Sincere Thank You From The UPAN President**

As president, I want to express my deep appreciation for all the fellow UPAN families who do things to promote UPAN goals every day. I am so grateful for all of the directors who have helped keep things moving forward this year. We are saddened that Heather has moved out of state, but she remains on our Board and will re-define her role in UPAN from where she is. Shauna has been tireless in helping me sort, copy, and mail inmate's Data Surveys during the data collection phase of the Board Audit. Each director spends time contributing to UPAN's purpose, talking to families of inmates or responding to letters from inmates.

#### **Two New Directors Added To UPAN**

We expanded the UPAN Board of Directors this year to include Shane Severson and Warren Rosenbaum. The administration of an organization can be daunting and Shane has offered untold hours of development and administration of the UPAN website, Facebook page, and Twitter. He also assists in staying on top of all the emails and administers Mail Chimp to send out the more sophisticated version of our monthly newsletter and various announcements. Warren has been our newsletter editor since our debut issue in June 2014. He works hard to format and edit and write articles so that we can produce quality newsletters full of information each month. Warren is great to work with during the crunch each month, trying to get all articles pulled together and to make them fit into no more than ten pages, five sheets of paper, front and back. Both men have been a blessing to UPAN from almost the beginning. UPAN families and inmates benefit from their generous donations of time, expertise, and personal expense.

#### **Other Tireless Volunteers**

Holly created the UPAN logo and has printed newsletters each month which has helped the directors to not only make up the extras that need sending out, but to also have extras on hand at meetings when new people attend.

Miriam Greenland has repeatedly shared drafts of her letters that she writes to elected and government officials to give other UPAN folks ideas on what to say or how to approach the various topics we have written about. She has successfully contacted and met with her own legislators and other important individuals involved in the process of reviewing and creating legislation on criminal justice matters.

Audrae Rogers has put in many hours organizing and coordinating the Holiday Card program this year. Without her, this might not have happened this year and there are many out there who I am sure appreciate her hard work.

I extend a special thank you and acknowledgement to our 24 volunteers who generously give of themselves each month to print and mail newsletters to incarcerated individuals. They include:

Shauna Denos, Heather Fabian, Holly Moore, Warren Rosenbaum, Jim and Fran Darter, Janeene Vargas, Kathleen Flygare, Kelly Hemsley, Charles Greenland, Alisha Herbert, Danny and Mindy Berg, Sally Keller, Cindee McCullough, Lynne S., Becky C., Payge M., Victoria, Alice, Belva, and several others who would prefer to remain anonymous.

Finally, those of you who have been sending holiday cards to inmates this year are also appreciated and your kindness reaches farther than you may realize!

#### **Now Is The Season For Some Introspection**

I want to remind us all to count our blessings and know that only through love of truth and humanity will we achieve our goals. Remember to pay attention to the little miracles that occur in each of our lives when least expected to help us all move forward on our prison journeys, whatever and wherever they may be.

Wishing each and every one connected to UPAN a safe and happy holiday season!

***“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”***

Anne Frank

**Appreciation for our Allies and Other Advocates for Inmates**

Outside of UPAN proper but still allied with UPAN and our mutual goals are Anna Brower of ACLU, Jeanne Hill of the Catholic Diocese of SLC, Pastor Roderic Land of Calvary Baptist Church, Utah Prison Support, and Don Wright of PrisonEd. I apologize if I've overlooked a few more allies.

key ingredient toward rehabilitation and reentry of his students into society. This will come about with a new outlook, an attitude of understanding others, and repentance of previous shortfalls in behavior. The foundation of a new and contributing life can be enhanced through continued education. Thank you Don, for your tireless efforts. [Editor & the UPAN Staff.]

Seemingly tirelessly, Don Wright of PrisonEd presses on, with the vision that education, in many forms, is a

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**Attention Inmates -- PrisonEd Contact Information: Don Wright, Ph.D., President, PrisonEd Foundation; P.O. Box 900693, Sandy, UT 84090**

**PrisonEd Full Report November, 2015**

NEW STUDENTS DURING NOVEMBER: 16 (13 previous month)

ACTIVE AND PREVIOUSLY ACTIVE STUDENTS (corrections made in last month's figures) 193 Active Students (182 previous month); 66% (68% last month) 67 Draper (61 previous month) 39 Gunnison (37 previous month) 87 Jails (84 previous month) 98 Inactive Students (93 previous month); 34% (32% last month)

291 TOTAL STUDENTS who have ever enrolled in PrisonEd (275 previous month)

PARTICIPATING STUDENTS BY FACILITY

<u>DRAPER</u> 67 Active			<u>JAILS</u> 87 Active		
Lone Peak	5	(last month 5)	Beaver	8	(last month 7)
Olympus	1	(last month 1)	Daggett Co	2	(last month 2)
Oquirrh 1	1	(last month 1)	Davis	11	(last month 11)
Oquirrh 2	5	(last month 5)	Kane Co	3	(last month 3)
Oquirrh 3	4	(last month 3)	Millard	9	(last month 9)
Oquirrh 4	2	(last month 3)	Purgatory	11	(last month 10)
Oquirrh 5	3	(last month 2)	San Juan Co	35	(last month 35)
Promontory	3	(last month 3)	Sanpete Co	2	(last month 2)
Timpanogos 1	5	(last month 5)	Wasatch Co	6	(last month 5)
Timpanogos 2	3	(last month 3)	TOTAL JAILS ACTIVE	87	(last month 84)
Timpanogos 4	9	(last month 7)	TOTAL JAILS INACTIVE	42	(last month 42)
Uinta 1	3	(last month 3)	TOTAL ACTIVE-INACTIVE	129	(last mon 126)
Uinta 2	10	(last month 9)			
Uinta 3	3	(last month 2)	<u>Student Comments</u>		
Uinta 4	2	(last month 1)	"Many of us share a worst fear that we will not be able to make a good transition back into society, and therefore returning to prison, but PrisonEd is giving us hope." -P.D.		
Wasatch A East & West	2	(last month 2)	"I have become a wiser man and I thank you for the knowledge you share with us through these courses." -R.H.		
Wasatch B	6	(last month 6)	"This time down, I have really been looking for a way to put my life in order. Then I came across your book and this course." -C.V.		
TOTAL DRAPER ACTIVE	67	(last month 61)			
TOTAL DRAPER INACTIVE	42	(last month 42)			
TOTAL ACTIVE-INACTIVE	109	(last month 103)			
<u>GUNNISON</u> 39 Active					
uPrep Academy	39	(last month 32)			
Other	0	(last month 5)			
TOTAL GUNNISON ACTIVE	39	(last month 37)			
TOTAL GUNNISON INACTIVE	14	(last month 9)			
TOTAL ACTIVE-INACTIVE	53	(last month 46)			

\* \* \* \* \*

***"The wise person understands that his own happiness must include the happiness of others."***  
Dennis Weaver

## HOW AND WHERE TO MAKE A DONATION TO UPAN

UPAN accepts donations through: • our secure website at [www.utahprisoneradvocate.org](http://www.utahprisoneradvocate.org) • via mail at: P.O. Box 464 Draper, UT 84020 • in a donation box at our monthly meetings.

SPECIAL NOTE: In a City Weekly article by Stephen Dark, published Nov 26, 2015, "The Hurt Lockup," Molly and several others were interviewed. It's an excellent article, full of facts, and addresses a topic no one really wants to address... But needs to be said. [Prison rape. Ed.]

<http://www.cityweekly.net/utah/the-hurt-lockup/Content?oid=3083034>

In closing, let us again wish you a Happy Holiday Season with a little philosophy tossed in for good measure.

### Happy Holidays and a Good New Year to Our Dear Inmates

Holiday Season's Greetings from all the UPAN staff,  
We hope this Holiday Season will help you smile and laugh,  
The seasons of your life are fraught with challenges aplenty,  
Counting on your fingers 'n toes, they often exceed your twenty!

But from these trials you are taught that things will all work out,  
And from this season comes the thought of what life's all about;  
There's caring, sharing, and goodness and hope and love so pure,  
There's Good in every trouble, but initially we're not sure....

Now's the time to reminisce and rebuild your self-esteem,  
Look ahead to a better life, the one of which you dream.  
Some within these dark gray walls have family that they love,  
Others not so fortunate, have no one – or only God above.

Still others have another way – they seek the spirits they know,  
And with the Holiday spirit to help, they set their souls aglow,  
Aglow with faith, that soon will come, the change in this life-season,  
Then you'll move on, you'll meditate, seeking to find the reason,

Of why your life took a stumble, with a strange, unplanned detour,  
With times of heavy hardships and injustice you'd endure;  
There'll come a time when retrospection answers all of this,  
The Good now seen, your hearts feel clean, these years you can dismiss.

Life's history cannot be erased; but views of history change,  
The impact of the previous years, more time will rearrange;  
Life will resume a balance, for karma balances all,  
Good – prevails and satisfies, offsetting one's earlier fall.

\* \* \*

The Holiday Season has a reason, for touching you these years,  
Showing the love to be conscious of, from family and UPAN volunteers.

(By Warren F. Rosenbaum)

Utah Prisoner Advocate Network

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P.O. Box 464, Draper, UT 84020

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