



UPAN Newsletter

Volume 5 Number 8 | AUGUST 2018

"Empowerment and Growth Through Knowledge and Unity"

UPAN's 5th Anniv – VOTE! – XMAS Card Contest

NEXT UPAN MEETING: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Kafeneio Coffee House 258 West 3300 South, Salt Lake City

TOPIC: Utah's Parole Re-Entry Program with Directors Eric Barker and Bart Mortensen
All UPAN Meetings are free and open to the public.

October UPAN Meeting, Monday, October 8, 2018 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Kafeneio Coffee House 258 West 3300 South, Salt Lake City Topic: TBA

FOCUS MEETING: Monday, October 1, 2018 6:30 – 8:00 PM

LOCATION: Region 3 Adult Probation & Parole Office, 36 W. Fremont Ave (Just West of State St.) SLC

Subject: TBA

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

THE EVOLUTION OF UPAN OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS

by Molly Prince

July 29, 2018 marks five years since we had our first gathering of family members of incarcerated individuals in the group room of my clinical office. It is amazing how the time has flown by. It is rewarding to review the

various accomplishments the families of prisoners and former inmates, that make up UPAN, have made related to Utah's criminal justice system. Now I'll indulge in a walk down memory lane and share how UPAN began.

The Prison Family

Prison visiting brings together a variety of people from diverse backgrounds. By 2013, my husband and I had been visiting our incarcerated loved one regularly for about seven years. The challenges and frustrations, as well as the joys became common discussion while waiting to visit with other families and friends of inmates. In Wasatch, the waiting area was fairly large, and it was easy to stay to ourselves and not talk to other families waiting to visit unless you had seen each other there repeatedly over a period of weeks, months, or years.

However, the tiny Oquirrh visiting waiting area was an entirely different dynamic. During 2013, while visiting the maximum allowable visits per month, several of us got to know each other very well while confined to the small Oquirrh waiting area, sometimes for up to an hour before we were allowed to proceed. We helped new visitors understand the nuances of how to achieve a successful visit in Draper. We shared our frustrations with each other about everything from the archaic visiting rules at that time to ongoing problems with the inmate phone service, to challenges with the medical and mental health service. We exchanged phone numbers and email addresses. We became what I considered a "prison family." We would not see each other at any other time other than before or after visiting, but we developed acquaintances and alliances that helped get us through the often overwhelming and discouraging prison journey that families travel with their loved ones.

The History

By 2013, my husband, **Lacee Harris**, and I had been attending the FOCUS meetings for several years. FOCUS was hosted by the UDC for families and community members interested in what was happening in the prison system. I told other mothers, fathers, wives, aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers, sons, and daughters during visiting, about the FOCUS meetings. I encouraged them to get involved. But the Prison was not consistent about posting FOCUS meeting notices in the visiting waiting areas of all the housing facilities to inform families of when they were held. Some families would show up to these meetings and share their questions, concerns and frustrations. At one meeting which became particularly emotional, it became evident that Utah prison families needed another outlet to come together and share their fears and frustrations while also working to change and improve the system for our incarcerated loved ones.

Eventually I decided to hold what I called a prison family support group. After all, I am a mental / behavioral health therapist with my own practice. I thought I could use my skills and resources to help families and friends of prisoners learn to cope with the impossible challenges they were being faced with by having a loved one in our complicated and often very unfair criminal justice system. One day in the parking lot after a visit, I talked about this idea with another woman I

had become acquainted with. Her name was **Tanja**. I have lost track of her and cannot reach her anymore. At the time, I knew that she was also trying to make a difference and help change some things that I was also trying to change by attending the FOCUS meetings. I told her I had been thinking and praying about starting a prisoner family support group. She expressed support for that idea. Tanja was instrumental in passing the word around about our planned meeting for July 29, 2013. I also had been talking with **Heather Fabian**, whose father was in USP and whom I had gotten to know a bit while waiting for visits. She also supported the idea and said she would attend.

At that time, **Brooke Adams** was still a reporter for the Salt Lake Tribune. She reported on criminal justice issues and I had met her at the FOCUS meetings where I was pretty vocal about concerns we had with the prison. I told Brooke that we were going to start a support group for people with incarcerated family members. She put a small article in the Tribune about our endeavor. Brooke was very supportive of us and attended many of our meetings once we got them up and running, before she became the Public Information Officer for the DOC and later moved on to another stage of her career.

The First Meetings

The first meeting of what would evolve into UPAN was attended by 25 people and we did not have enough chairs for us all to fit in my office group room. During that meeting we handed out surveys of the areas that the attendees thought were the most pressing that they wanted to focus on. We collected email addresses and phone numbers to start our email list. A father of an incarcerated man who had previously worked for the DOC suggested we should start out by having a meeting with the newly appointed Executive Director of UDC, **Rollin Cook**. He pointed to me, Tanja, Heather, and a mother of an inmate, **Chris Moon**, and said we four should be the ones to meet with Dir. Cook. So we did. That meeting is fodder for an entirely different article, but it began UPAN's communication with UDC..

We began having monthly meetings in various libraries around the valley. UPAN's first Secretary, Heather Fabian, was instrumental in getting our monthly meetings scheduled and notices sent out. The original four women who met with Dir. Cook came up with the name Utah Prisoner Advocate Network, (UPAN) because within only a couple of months this group had grown from merely a family support group to a group of individuals dedicated to advocating for loved ones and making serious changes in Utah's criminal justice system. In October 2013 UPAN incorporated as a non-profit in Utah.

Guest Speakers

We continued to have monthly family meetings. UPAN progressed to inviting various guest speakers, starting in 2013 with attorney **Keith Hamilton** presenting on the Board of Pardons and Parole in a two part series; **Ron Gordon** (former Director of the CCJJ) regarding

criminal justice reform; **Jan Nicol**, Supervisor of Hearing Officers for the BOPP; a retired A P & P Officer speaking about how to be successful on parole; **Rev. Vicki Neuman**; **Matt Duhamel** who presented on sex offender registries throughout the US; **Don Wright** with PrisonED and **Kurt Guner** of SLCC Prison Education, **Mark Hugentobler**, Principal, Central Utah Academy at Gunnison; attorneys **Lorenzo Miller** and **Patrick Shea** on post-conviction issues; attorney **Andrew McCullough** who was running for attorney general one year; **Ryan Berg and the Donaldsons** with Fresh Start on REAL Transition; **Steve Turley** and the team overseeing the implementation of programs and security at the new prison; representatives of agencies supporting parolees in Salt Lake City such as the Home Inn and the HOST Program, and many others. In 2015 we had a panel that included UDC representatives of programming and public information as well as quality assurance along with BOPP director **Greg Johnson**.

Twice we have had speakers from the Legislative Auditors Office present to UPAN on Legislative Audits – one on the BOPP and the other on SOTP.

We have had presentations from our own ranks with **Miriam Greenland** updating on several occasions about how to talk and write to your legislators and corrections officials; **Glen Collett** presenting on his Dual Mode Sentencing proposal, **Mike McAinsh** on how to create your own prison ready Christmas cards; **Faye Jenkins** on Utah's S.O. Registry; and I have presented a few times myself on various topics, including twice presenting on parole success for sex offenders.

UPAN has held two "Meet your Legislator" meetings in which all legislators were invited to come and UPAN families spoke about the challenges and concerns they would like addressed by lawmakers.

Anna Brower Thomas of the ACLU graced us with her presence at many of our meetings in the first two years of our existence and presented at several. By 2017 we were invited to use the **Kafeneio Coffee House** as a permanent home for our meetings and have been forever grateful to **Pam Day** and her family for offering us a safe place to meet that has the added benefits of being able to purchase sandwiches for dinner and yummy coffee and tea drinks to keep us going!

Britnee Webb has coordinated Utah's Day of Empathy for UPAN in 2017 and 2018.

Shifts in Leadership and Growing Pains

UPAN's directors are the backbone of UPAN. We have had some changes over the years in leadership. We have been blessed to have some wonderful dedicated individuals who serve as leadership in UPAN. **Chris Moon** left to take a job in another state and **Shauna Denos** agreed to step up as Vice President. Shauna had been speaking out on criminal justice issues since

her son entered the system. After **Heather Fabian** moved and needed to focus on her growing family, she could no longer fulfill responsibility as secretary, **Mike McAinsh** took the position for two years. **Shane Severson** volunteered to be Director of Communications early on and has been the force behind our Website, Facebook Page, Twitter, and other social media presence. He responds to contacts and answers questions from the media and helps me stay abreast of the numerous emails we receive from family members wanting guidance in how to help their inmates deal with a wide variety of challenges and issues. **Mark Henderson** assists Shane with the audio-visual duties at our meetings. **Warren Rosenbaum** has continued as our esteemed newsletter editor, since our first edition of UPAN News in June of 2014. **Audrae Rogers** stepped up to coordinate the Holiday Card program.

I stepped down as President so I could focus on other areas of need for UPAN, and Shauna took over that position. She is tirelessly supported by husband **Rusty Denos** who has also been our chauffeur to long distance meetings we have had. Checking the post office box and retrieving mail has become the responsibility of my husband, **Lacey Harris**. I end up sorting and triaging it, forwarding various letters to various individuals who can respond to those that we are able. I also send all newsletter related correspondence to our newsletter volunteer coordinator, **Deon Corkins**, who generously gives many hours per month to keeping the list of inmates receiving newsletters from volunteers organized and compatible with the volunteers who send them. Without Deon's amazing organizational and communication skills, those inmates who have no other source of receiving the UPAN Newsletter, would not be receiving newsletters, and volunteers would not know when an inmate has moved or paroled.

Our newest addition to the leadership of UPAN is **Faye Jenkins**, as Director of Sex Offender Policy Issues.

Volunteers Needed

UPAN continues to need volunteers who are willing to work from their homes to gather information or chair committees on a wide variety of issues inmates face that UPAN tries to pay attention to so we can work to further improve the conditions in the prisons and reform criminal justice system here in Utah. Newsletter mailing volunteers are also always welcomed. Please email us at utahprisoneradvocate@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer, thus being a part of our efforts to make the many improvements the criminal justice system needs as recognized by so many families and inmates (not to mention many UDC administrators and officials and legislators who often feel frustrated by an antiquated and entrenched system).

Deep Gratitude

I look back at the past five years and am amazed at the progress that UPAN has made with the input and information provided by our families, inmates, parolees,

other grassroots organizations, and volunteers interested in improving our prisons and criminal justice system.

On behalf of the UPAN directors and the many families and inmates who benefit from the work UPAN does, I want to thank everyone who has contributed in any manner to UPAN's cause. To those who have shared

information with us, contributed financially, talked to or written their representatives and senators, helped us advocate by simply talking to their friends and neighbors about the issues we face, spoken at our meetings, public events, and rallies, contributed articles for consideration for publication, and taken on a cause that is close to their heart. Happy Anniversary, UPAN!

UPAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

→ In 2013 accomplished the change in visiting policy in Utah State Prison and CUCF to allow married women to visit male inmates who were not their biological sons, brothers, husbands, or fathers without a chaperone who was their husband or the inmate's parent.

→ In 2014 UPAN participants were able to go on tours of the Draper Prison under the guidance of former Warden Chuck Bigelow.

→ In May 2014 UPAN was honored with the Torch of Freedom Award by the ACLU of Utah.

→ In 2014 UPAN was very involved in discussions about prison relocation and the need for criminal justice reform. Shauna Denos spoke before Utah's Legislative Prison Relocation Committee. This resulted in CCJJ Director Ron Gordon coming to a UPAN meeting and listening carefully to the concerns of family and friends of incarcerated individuals when he was gathering information throughout the state about the various areas needing to be addressed as part of the Criminal Justice Reinvestment Initiative.

→ June 2014 was the debut of the UPAN Newsletter. Warren Rosenbaum generously agreed to become our Newsletter Editor and had experience in newsletter publishing for non-profits. It reaches not only inmates and their over 800 families and supporters, but other community advocates, community organizers, Utah officials, legislators, and correctional administrators.

→ By the end of 2014 our readership had grown and Heather Fabian created the Inmate Newsletter Volunteer program. It now has close to 50 volunteers sending newsletters out to close to 400 inmates who do not have family to print and mail to them each month. If inmates have family or friends, we ask that they have someone in their support group subscribe to our newsletter, receive it via email, then print and mail in to their inmate. This will save our volunteer resources for those individuals who have no one else to do so.

→ The DOC has invited UPAN directors over the years to give input on a wide range of issues ranging from visiting, to restrictive housing, programming needs, re-entry and parole success, to design of the new prison.

→ UPAN was involved in the discussions regarding Criminal Justice Reform in Utah, joined the Rally for Reform in February 2015. In 2015 UPAN also joined

the coalition People Not Prisons with other organizations including the ACLU, Disability Law Center, Utah Division of Substance Abuse & Mental Health, and others. This movement resulted in the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) which is slowly helping to reduce the number of incarcerated individuals in Utah.

→ In June 2015 the Authorization to Verbally Discuss Health Information was implemented by the DOC which created a release of information and internal process in which inmates can designate a 3rd party person to speak with the Clinical Services Bureau (Medical) at the Prison about their medical issues.

→ In 2015 Audrae Rogers volunteered to oversee the Inmate Holiday Card Volunteer program and has handled that efficiently since that time. In 2017 she implemented the Christmas/Holiday Card Design Contest for inmates to submit hand drawn holiday cards to be judged and winners published in the newsletter. These cards were also available to download and print for use by UPAN families.

→ UPAN families have spoken out on prison relocation, and the directors have been involved in a stakeholders' roundtable (now suspended by the State) with a variety of other organizations on the development and design of the new prison. Dir. of Special Projects Steve Turley and his team have presented at a UPAN meeting on the design and plans for the new prison.

→ UPAN helped gathering information for the Legislative Audit of the Utah Board of Pardons and Parole in 2015. Since the release and recommendations in 2016, UPAN directors attend monthly meetings with the Executive Director of the BOPP along with the ACLU, Disability Law Center, Fresh Start, Human Justice Foundation and several parolees.

→ UPAN contributes ideas and offers input on items the BOPP is implementing to improve their process as well as come into compliance with Audit Recommendations.

→ UPAN received City Weekly's Best in Advocacy Award in 2016.

→ UPAN families and inmate support systems have participated with the ACLU to learn how to lobby and communicate with their legislators to effect change in

Utah's criminal justice system. Multiple UPAN participants have been instrumental in talking to their legislators and being catalysts for audits and implementation of reform laws.

→ UPAN participants have testified before legislative committees to accomplish criminal justice reform as well as new laws including Ban the Box and Good Landlord Amendments in 2016.

→ 2016 and 2017 UPAN participated in Cut 50's Day of Empathy in Salt Lake City with a variety of speakers including families of inmates, former inmates, representatives from various prison reform groups and community agencies.

→ UPAN's Michael McAinsh, Molly Prince, and Lacey Harris were featured along with Rep. Brian King, ACLU's Anna Brower Thomas, and many others in Metamora Films' Documentary *Not for Rent* which premiered right after the 2017 legislation to curb discriminatory Good Landlord programs in Utah.

→ UPAN had reps at the ceremonial Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new prison in August 2017 and have continued to follow this project as it develops.

→ UPAN families and inmates provided a wealth of information on the Legislative Audit of Sex Offender Treatment Program in Utah State Prison released in April 2017. It was a family member of an incarcerated individual who talked with his legislator that was the impetus for the audit. Currently, the DOC is reworking this program, which has not received additional funding from the state in 20 years yet needs to treat hundreds more offenders. UPAN has formed a professional

relationship with UDC programming and continues to be attentive to the SOTP as it continues to change.

→ One UPAN family, the Darters, from the "Wasatch Back" has fought long and hard to get attention on the problems with prosecutors, public defenders, plea deals, and sentencing. So far this has contributed to passage of a bill requiring funding for public defenders and brought attention to the problems in that area.

→ UPAN is regularly contacted by a variety of media outlets for opinions and viewpoints on various criminal justice issues in Utah.

→ UPAN is attempting to find ways to assist State inmates and their families who are caught up in the Inmate Placement Program (IPP) in County Jails throughout Utah that do not have the programs, job opportunities, or facilities appropriate to house long term state inmates for years on end.

→ UPAN keeps an eye on issues related to county jails, particularly the lack of oversight for medical care. However, we do not have anyone who has stepped up to spearhead this area of interest.

→ UPAN families have participated in the Faith in Reform summit for the past four years.

→ UPAN directors have coordinated with the DOC when it has sponsored FOCUS meetings, sharing ideas for speakers and topics of interest to community organizations and prison families. We recently met with Kaitlin Felsted, the new Public Information Officer and are pleased that she will be resuming hosting FOCUS meetings beginning October 1, 2018.

"The way to change the world is through individual responsibility and taking local action in your own community." Jeff Bridges

MIKE HADDON APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DOC

August 7, 2018 UDC Press Release

Gov. Gary R. Herbert has appointed Mike Haddon to serve as the executive director of the Utah Department of Corrections. Haddon has served as deputy director of the Utah Department of Corrections for the past 11 years. He has twice served as interim executive director, including holding the position since May 2018.

"I appreciate that Mike has nearly three decades of experience in criminal justice - on the state, local, and county levels," Gov. Herbert said. "He is clearly a talented individual. Most importantly, he understands that we cannot simply warehouse inmates. Instead, we need to focus on rehabilitating people and helping them lead better lives and prepare to be productive citizens. "Mike will work with partners in state government to make sure that the new corrections facility in the Northwestern Quadrant is completed in a timely way,

making the most of taxpayer dollars," the governor added. "He will also ensure that this facility is designed to meet the needs of the wide variety of individuals it will service."

During his time at the Department of Corrections, Haddon has focused on establishing best practices in public safety and worked toward effective offender reentry.

"It is truly humbling to be called to serve the citizens of Utah," Haddon said. "The Utah Department of Corrections works hard each day to keep the public safe and help offenders successfully reintegrate back into society. Much of this success can be credited to our talented and dedicated staff, and I am honored to serve alongside them. Utah has a lot of critically important

work ahead related to corrections, and I am confident that, together, we will move the work forward with positive results.”

Haddon was appointed deputy director to the Utah Department of Corrections in January 2007 and again under the direction of former Executive Director Rollin Cook in 2013. In addition to supervising department functions such as finance, research, records, information technology, inmate medical services, correctional industries and policy, Haddon has served as the agency’s legislative liaison.

Prior to his service with Corrections, Haddon served as Director of Research for the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice and the Utah Sentencing Commission. He has worked in the criminal justice field in Utah for 26 years.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in political science with a minor in economics from Boise State University.

He also holds a master’s degree in Public Administration, with an emphasis on criminal justice administration, from the University of Utah.

The Utah Department of Corrections oversees the Utah State Prison and Adult Probation & Parole functions, plus the Division of Programming, which administers treatment programs and education to offenders; Clinical Services, which provides medical, mental health, dental, and other treatment to the offender population; and Utah Correctional Industries, which produces goods and provides services primarily to state agencies, other governmental, and nonprofit entities.

Additional Corrections functions include a Training Academy for cadets, an Investigations Bureau, and the Sex Offender Registry. It also operates two state prison facilities – one in Gunnison and one in Draper. The state also contracts with 20 county jails throughout the state.

BRIEF UPDATE ON SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT IN USP

Shortly after the publication of the July UPAN Newsletter, Programming Director Victor Kersey announced that the contract with ISAT to provide sex offender treatment in the Resolve Treatment Program was to be terminated as of August 30, 2018. He reported that State Purchasing was putting together a Request for Proposals (RFP) with his direction and input for a new contract with a new providing agency. While UPAN does not have details regarding the reasons for the termination of the contract with ISAT, we have been in contact with Dir. Kersey about the continuation of the various treatment programs offered in Utah State Prison.

The new RFP was sent out via State Purchasing the first week of August. Bidding closed the week of Aug 13, and the bids from prospective agencies have been received. Review and scoring is taking place and the selected vendor’s information will go to state purchasing at which time an offer will be made once it is approved by state purchasing. USP expects to have the new treatment providers on site after Labor Day. Please note that these dates are subject to change based on a variety of unforeseeable factors.

Kersey shared his expectation for a “seamless transition” in terms of the implementation of the new contract after the termination of the old one. As of July 30th, he stated at that point, he did not expect any disruptions in services. This is because ISAT only has two therapists providing treatment in the Resolve program, and they will remain in place until the end of August. The only program that may be impacted and

delayed for a short time is Firewall, which just started in July and has been facilitated by ISAT therapists.

Depending upon who is awarded the new contract, there will be some time devoted to training the new contract therapists in the specific treatment curriculum used in the prison and orientation to working in a prison setting. UPAN is hoping that all therapists put in place under this contract will be approved providers with experience in this specialized type of treatment.

For inmates and families who have contacted UPAN about concerns of the core CBI-SO program being delayed due to these developments, please be aware that we have been told that there will not be a disruption in that particular treatment track. It is being facilitated by therapist /Deputy Warden Greg Hendrix, LCSW and Programming Director Victor Kersey, PhD on a permanent basis in Draper. The CBI-SO programs in San Juan and Sanpete County Jails have already begun. Excepting Firewall, all other Core programs should remain intact with no disruption in treatment. This does not mean that inmates may not experience individual delays due to changes in housing for various reasons, including results of risk assessments or placement in a different program due to other circumstances.

Once again, we urge everyone to be patient and not to allow their thoughts to go into a place of fear. These changes continue to be intended to improve SOTP and make things better for all of the program participants in the long run.

“The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual.”
Vince Lombardi

"Let us never forget that the government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers over democracy are not a president and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country."
Franklin D. Roosevelt

The stakes are too high for voting to be a spectator sport. Vote." Anonymous



YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS A RELEASED FELON - VOTE!

By Molly Prince

Much of the following information was obtained at: <https://slco.org/clerk/elections/voter-information/>
<https://elections.utah.gov/> and DMV.org

UPAN receives letters from incarcerated individuals asking what they can do to help in criminal justice reform. Many express a desire to become active in the change process when they are released. One vital thing that EVERY un-incarcerated felon in the state of Utah *can do* and, I believe, *has a responsibility to do*, is VOTE. This includes learning about the candidates and issues on the upcoming ballot. Then exercise the precious right that all citizens of Utah who are not housed in a correctional facility have - VOTE.

Have Your Voice Heard

Voting is the way to have your voice heard. The excuse for not voting I hear from many ex-offenders with a felony record is "I am only one person, it won't make a difference." My response is that is simply not true! Every vote counts! Even if the candidates and values you vote for are not victorious, your voice has been heard. I saw a quote somewhere that says "*You can either vote by voting or not voting. If you don't vote, someone else's vote counts more. It's math. SO VOTE!*" I believe that if we do not exercise our right to vote, we do not have a right to complain about the state of affairs that affect our lives. We cannot change our world by sitting quietly by and waiting for other people to do it. We are all in this together.

Shape Tomorrow by Voting Today

People who have formerly been incarcerated, people on probation and parole, and people who have completed all steps to pay their debt to society have a responsibility to improve the system for those who come after them.

One person who is now out of the system, has been off parole for several years and has rebuilt his life and successfully moved forward told me that any changes that happen now won't change what he and his family have already gone through.

While that may be true, my response is that it seems that those of us who have gone through something traumatic have a responsibility to do what we can in any small way possible to improve circumstances for those who will follow. Otherwise, bad policies and ways of doing things will simply get worse. They become routine, the way things are done, par for the course, blindly followed, what is expected and won't ever change unless something extraordinary happens to force some change. Educating yourself about those

who want to become our leaders, our lawmakers, our congressmen and women and then voting for those whom we believe will represent our interests most effectively is our privilege and duty in Utah!

Another argument is that none of the candidates completely represent someone's beliefs, values and vision for our society. Well, then vote for the one that closest resembles your values and ideals, because not voting is actually a vote for the candidate that will pursue policies based on values opposed to your own. For years the Salt Lake County Voter Information guide said on its cover, "*If you don't make a choice, you don't have a voice.*" This is so true!

Finally, Let's Bury This Myth!

Throughout its existence, UPAN has been fighting the **myth** that a felon cannot vote in Utah. *The truth is that ANY CITIZEN who is NOT HOUSED in a correctional facility may register and exercise their right to vote in Utah!* This means that inmates in the Utah State Prison at Draper or CUCF in Gunnison cannot vote, nor can anyone housed in a county jail or in a community correctional center or transitional center. **But once released from a facility, the individual has the right to vote restored immediately. However, it is also his/ her responsibility to take the steps to exercise that right by registering to vote.**

Many other states do not allow felons to vote and there are movements in other states to restore the right for felons to vote. Utah is a state where we do not need to fight for that right. You already have it. Exercise it!

Eligibility Requirements Include:

You must be a U.S. citizen and be 18 years old on or before the next election and have resided in Utah at least 30 days immediately before the next election.

Where and How to Register to Vote in Utah

You may apply to register to vote year-round. When you are released from prison and get that State ID or Driver's License you can check the box on the application and register to vote at that point. You can complete your Utah voter registration online, by mail, or in person. If you are eligible to vote, your county clerk will then mail you a voter registration card that tells you where your polling station is (you must vote at your assigned polling station or the clerk's office or by mail).

You do not need to designate a political party affiliation to register to vote.

Register Online To register online you need a valid Utah driver's license or ID card. Your address must also be current and up-to-date with the Driver's License Division (DLD) so that your ID or driver's license information is the same as the information you are submitting online. You will need to submit your registration a minimum of 7 days before the next election you wish to participate in.

Register by Mail To register by mail, complete a State of Utah Mail-In Voter Registration Form and send it to your local county clerk's office at least 30 days before Election Day. This form can be found online at your local county clerk's website or at your local Driver's License Division.

Register in Person Registration can be completed in person at your local county clerk's office. You may also register to vote at your local DLD when you're applying for or renewing your Utah driver license or ID card. Registering to vote is easy and empowers you to have as much say as anyone about your leaders and laws – countywide, statewide, and at the federal level.

Register when Applying for Driver License When you apply for a driver license in Utah, you will be offered the opportunity to register to vote. The Utah DLD provides registration forms as a convenience for those who want to participate in this democratic process.

Changing Your Voter Information

You will need to re-register if you change your name, move to a new address, or if you change your political party affiliation. Simply complete a new voter registration form and submit it to the proper county clerk's office. You may do the same if you change your party affiliation—though you do not need to declare a party affiliation in order to vote.

You Will Be Assigned a Polling Place to Vote

"Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good. 'Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm." Ralph Waldo Emerson



"Voting is not only our right, it is our power. When we vote we take back our power to speak up, to choose, to stand with those who support us and each other." Loung Ung

UPDATE ON SUPERVISION LENGTH GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT

by Ernie Rogers

The probation and parole "Supervision Length Guidelines" are posted for public comment. (See website below)

The July issue of the UPAN Newsletter explained that bill H.B 291, passed in the last legislative session, directed the Utah Sentencing Commission to develop "Supervision Length Guidelines" because improvement in several aspects of probation and parole operations were seen.

You will receive a voter registration card that identifies the location of the place you vote. These are often at schools or churches.

Vote by Mail

In a comedy routine, Chris Rock spoke the truth, "They don't want you to vote. If they did, we wouldn't vote on a Tuesday. In November. You ever throw a party on a Tuesday? No. Because nobody would come." In Utah, we have an alternative to voting on a Tuesday in November. If you prefer to not have to brave the crowds on election day, or take time off work, you may select to Vote By Mail. If you choose this voting method, you will receive a ballot a few weeks prior to the election through the U.S. Mail and can vote and follow the instructions on the ballot and envelope to sign and mail it back before the deadline. I have been voting for 40 years and for the past 15 I have voted by mail. It is the most convenient and thoughtful way to vote.

On Election Day, Take Valid Voter Identification

Valid voter identification means a form of identification that bears the name and photograph of the voter which may include:

- 1) a currently valid Utah driver license; 2) a currently valid identification card that is issued by the state, or a branch, department, or agency of the United States; 3) a currently valid Utah permit to carry a concealed weapon; 4) a currently valid United States passport; or 5) a currently valid U. S. military identification card.

Other ID options: one of the following identification cards, whether or not the card includes a photograph of the voter: a valid tribal identification card, a Bureau of Indian Affairs card; or a tribal treaty card.

For more information, visit the State Elections Office website (below) for more detailed information about voting in Utah. You may register to vote on the website, learn about who the candidates are in upcoming elections, learn about upcoming referendums and find all information you need regarding voting.

Website at: <https://elections.utah.gov/>

final adjustments are to be made and voted upon on September 13th. H.B. 291 mandates that the commission will complete the new guidelines by October 1, 2018.

It is NOT clear at this point if the new guidelines will apply to everyone. The draft document states that “The guidelines are not retroactive.” I believe people currently on probation or parole should be subject to the new guidelines when they go into effect on January 1 2019 and not be confined to the current (old) approach.

Why we must take this matter very seriously: Mr. Thompson explained that the new guidelines will have the force of law and will be the reference document for decisions about when a person can be released from probation or from parole. Furthermore, the Utah legislature specifically wanted the public to have a say in formulating these guidelines. Now, it’s our turn!

My opinion: I am very pleased with what the legislature

and the Sentencing Commission have done. I see a lot of improvement in the new guidelines. However, I think we (through public input) can make this document even better by explaining how the guidelines impact lives. I see things that still need work and I will comment. I hope you will too.

Don’t worry, the draft “Supervision Length Guidelines” is only a bit over eight pages long, and not too difficult to understand. Go to this web site to get started: <https://justice.utah.gov/Sentencing/> Download the “Supervision Length Guidelines (Draft) For Public Comment.” Currently the button says “Sentencing Length Guidelines (Draft)” click it anyway, it is actually the Supervision Length Guidelines!

Email your comments to: marshallthompson@utah.gov or to sentencingcommission@utah.gov
Mail to Marshall Thompson, State Capitol Complex, Senate Building Suite 330 PO Box 142330 SLC UT 84114-2330

2018 Christmas/Holiday Card Design Contest For Inmates

UPAN is sponsoring a Christmas/Holiday Card Design Contest. All inmates are invited to share their talents to design either a religious or a contemporary Christmas card (or one of each). Winners in both religious and contemporary categories will be posted on the UPAN website. People can download, print, and mail the cards as holiday greetings to inmates and friends. All artists are encouraged to join UPAN in the celebration of the 2018 holiday season. Entries will not be returned. They will be retained and kept in a binder on display at UPAN meetings for attendees to view and enjoy.

Artists: choose the size of the card to fit your design, 5½ x 8½ inch or 3.6 x 8½ inch (a 1/3 fold of an 8 ½ x 11 inch paper). The original art work can be any size (like 8½ x 11 paper) and we will resize it to the size you specify. Please sign your entry on the bottom right of your design. **Entries must be received no later than Monday, OCTOBER 1, 2018** and winners will be recognized in the November issue of the UPAN Newsletter. Mail to: UPAN, Attention: Christmas Card Contest, PO Box 464, Draper, Utah 84020.

SUMMARY OF AUGUST 13 UPAN MEETING

(video available on UPAN Facebook)

RESEARCH STUDY – ATTENTION CARETAKERS OF CHILDREN OF INMATES:

A research study is offering a free \$10 Amazon gift card for participants to take a 10-minute survey. If you are a caretaker of children with a currently incarcerated parent, please email: byucaretakerstudy@gmail.com to receive a link to the 10-minute survey. After completion, you will be provided with a \$10 Amazon Gift Card. This study is being conducted by Spencer Moore, a student at BYU under the direction of Professor Justin Dyer. Spencer shared that he had personal experience with having a parent incarcerated when an adolescent.

SUPERVISION LENGTH GUIDELINES

Ernie Rogers shared a brief PowerPoint presentation developed by Mike McAinsh on the Proposed Supervision Length Guidelines. He urged everyone to access and review them on the Sentencing Commission website. (See details on page 8 & 9 above.) and submit their opinions during the public comment period which will end September 2.

The draft outlines proposed lengths of probation or parole for various categories of offenders including General, Sex and Kidnap, Homicide, and Misdemeanor Probation. It includes Early Termination Criteria that includes 1) completion of all ordered assessments and treatment / programming by a JRI certified provider, 2) Risk reduction as indicated by LS/RNR assessments and earned compliance credits for not violating probation /parole conditions, 3) Sex Offender Specific Risk reduction that shows Average or below average on sex offender overall risk score using a validated risk assessment designated by the UDC Sex Offender Task Force and if the offense involves a child, the offender must also score a 2 or lower on a pedophilic risk assessment tool as defined by the UDC SOTF. It also requires that the offender has demonstrated compliance and stability during their community supervision as documented by A P & P’s Response and Incentive Matrix (RIM) History, Case Action Plan (CAP) progress; Completion of an exit polygraph to determine any inappropriate conduct for individuals convicted of a sexual offense; other relevant factors, and the

recommendation from A P & P on the termination of supervision.

If the Treatment and Risk Reduction requirements are met, A P & P or the relevant supervising authority can submit notice to the Court (for probation) or the BOPP (for parole) with supporting rationale for early termination based on the Compliance and Stability requirement described above.

*****UPDATE ON WORK BEING DONE TO MAKE CHANGES TO UTAH'S SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY*****

Faye Jenkins and Wendy Parmley presented on child sexual abuse statistics and the problems with Utah's current sex offender registration laws. Faye presented a well-researched PowerPoint presentation laden with statistics on Utah that UPAN hopes to share in a future UPAN news, when space allows. Faye and Wendy have been meeting with lawmakers including Brad Daw and Rep. Dunnigan, policy maker Marshall Thompson of the CCJJ and their support staff about needed updates and changes to the current law. Wendy stressed that we need to start with a few items that everyone can agree need revising or changing. There is currently discussion about the need to create a task

force for reviewing these registry laws. Goals for changes during the 2019 legislative session include:

- Changing the start of the 5- or 10-year registry period FROM when an offender gets off probation or parole TO when the offender enters community supervision.
- Ending the requirement that ties s.o. registration to driver's license renewal.
- Changing the protected area restrictions to where offenders can enter if they have a reasonable purpose to be there in line of parental duty with a responsible adult. (Currently the definition of parental duty is defined by each county attorney, so is not consistent throughout the state).
- Changing the exploitation of a minor law to give different weight to different elements / types of the offense (production would have a heavier weight than possession/viewing)
- Look at limiting the public notification website to high risk offenders which would piggy-back on the new parole supervision length guidelines which are based on offender risk.
- Consider removing felony penalties for violating the registration law.

Faye and Wendy are working closely with the CCJJ and their legislators moving this endeavor forward.

The August 2018 UPAN Newsletter Is Our 50th Issue by Warren Rosenbaum (Ed.)



From a somewhat feeble 4-page first issue, UPAN's Newsletter quickly grew to our current 10-page size. Molly Prince and the editor, who had some previous newsletter experience, have worked as a team, producing this monthly source of information with inmates and their families/supporters in mind as the primary readers, while offering others including UDC directors and administrators, Utah State agency officials, State legislators, community leaders, educators, and reporters with a condensed source of information.

Addressing the diverse span of education and comprehension in our readership, the editor occasionally breaks down some complex sentences and phrases for a broad readership understanding. It's kind of fun and

ego boosting to read highfalutin technical talk, but sometimes it's equally rewarding to have a translator give you the short direct version. That task is part of the editor's job. For example, the sentence **"The burden imposed on registrants exceeds the goals of the registry"** was translated by your eagle-eyed editor as: Fancy way to say, "It ain't worth it!" Translation can add a bit of reading relief when the info is very serious and/or extremely dry.

The word count for 50 issues is about 337,000 words. Our readership is estimated at 3,000 or more with some out-of-state people downloading the UPAN Newsletter from our website. A toast: "Here's to another 50." Ed.

I hope our readers agree, 5 years of UPAN, 4 years of internet website, and 50 issues of UPAN News – that's cool. Ed.

Utah Prisoner Advocate Network
P.O. Box 464, Draper, UT 84020
Website: UtahPrisonerAdvocate.org
Email: Utahprisoneradvocate@gmail.com
Facebook: [Facebook.com/UtahPrisoner](https://www.facebook.com/UtahPrisoner) (go here to view recent UPAN meetings)

President: Shauna Denos
Past-President & Treasurer: Molly Prince
Vice-president: Unfilled
Secretary: Unfilled
Director of Communications: Shane Severson
Newsletter Editor: Warren Rosenbaum
Inmate Newsletter Volunteer Coord: Deon Corkins
Director of Sex Offender Policy Issues: Faye Jenkins

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead