



HOT SHEET



MAY 2010



Did You Know?

Mary King, Washtenaw County's community coordinator for the Michigan Prison ReEntry Initiative shared with the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners that the inability for probationers to secure employment is directly linked to recidivism. Her presentation showed 82% of businesses now require criminal background checks and only 12.5 % will hire someone with a felony conviction. She is asking that the county delete the box on job applications that indicate if the applicant has been convicted of a felony. Once checked, the application typically goes in the waste basket and the applicant does not have an opportunity to provide additional information regarding his/her conviction.

Ms. King noted that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits employer policies that reject all applicants with criminal records. The act requires employers to determine if the applicant's past convictions is relatively recent and related to the specific job for which he or she is applying.

County Commissioner Barbara Levin Bergman agreed with King and said that it should not make any difference for some jobs if a person has a criminal record or not, particularly if the crime was committed in the past. The proposal will come back to the Commissioners for more discussion, and hopefully, for final approval.

*Kelly L. Bidelman
Managing Attorney/Oakland and
Macomb Staff Offices
Legal Aid & Defender Association, Inc.*

Beyond Trauma: A Healing Journey for Women

Eleven week program provides hope and direction for women dealing with substance abuse and trauma. Mondays, June 15 - August 24 from 6:30 -8:00 pm at CARE, 31900 Utica Rd., Fraser, MI 48026. Free, but group size is limited, call 586.541.0033 to register.

Clothing Swap (FREE) by Macomb County Parent Coalition

Saturday, May 22, 2010 from 10:00 am -1:00 pm. At the Macomb Intermediate School District. located on Garfield Road North of 19 Mile RD. Clothing Drop off : Friday, May 21st from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm Saturday, May 22nd from 8:00 am - 10:00 am Admission is Free, but a donation of a non-perishable food item for the Macomb County Food Warehouse would be appreciated! Questions? 1-866-4-MACOMB or email: gsparents@yahoo.com.

Families Against Narcotics presents: "Motown in a Small Town"

Friday, May 14 at 7:00 pm at the Fraser Performing Arts Center, 34270 Garfield, Fraser, 48026. Tickets \$25 each - Assigned Seating, First Come - First Serve. For more information call 586-438-8500.

Hope Center in Macomb connecting individuals and families with services they need. Services include: food services, job services, humanitarian services, counseling, referrals to housing services. Located at 14300 E. 13 Mile Rd., Warren, 48088. Call 586.771.4718 or look them up on the web at www.wwcconnections.org.

REENTRY CONFERENCE: "I'm Back - with a compelling story to share" Saturday, May 15, 2010 from 10AM - 5PM at the Double Tree Hotel, located on the Southfield Freeway Serviced Drive at Ford Road. Highlighting a regional and local panel discussion of experts, a spiritually empowering luncheon, interactive workshops presented by diverse presenters including reformed, successful and intellectual returning citizens. For more information please call, (313) 557-4818 or (313) 557-4848.

New Unemployment Insurance Agency located in the VerKuilan Building at 21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Twp., will provide help for those having trouble with their unemployment claims. Open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, staffers can answer questions on payments and explain the agency's regulations and requirements. Walk-in service, no advance appointments.

Furniture Bank Closing

The Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan closed its Macomb County facility, effective March 31, 2010. The location in Oakland County (Pontiac) will remain open.

Free Clothes Drive

On May 15th at Riversedge Fellowship Church there is a clothing drive from 10am - 2pm. All clothes are free. They are located at 45504 Cass Ave., Utica, MI 48317. For more information please call 586-739-4055.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: the Hidden Highway

Thursday, April 29th at 6:30 pm located at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores Presentations by: Theresa Flores, survivor, author: "The Sacred Bath: An American Teen's Story on Modern Day Slavery" and just published "The Slave Across The Street", Senator Martha G. Scott, 2nd District, Michigan State Senate, legislative update, Jeff Martineau, Founder and Executive Director of HOPE PROJECT, a Michigan home for survivors of sexual human trafficking. Seating is limited. RSVP to email: KJA1951@aol.com or call Helen Leonard at (313) 399-8767. There is no admission, however, contributions to HOPE PROJECT, a 501(c)(3), are appreciated.

"The Spirit of Macomb" is the theme of the 2010 HSCB Information Exchange to be held on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at the Macomb Intermediate School District, 44001 Garfield, Clinton Township, MI 48038. The registration form is posted at: macombhscb.community.officelive.com. Registration is online only at: <https://www.solutionwhere.com/misdtraining/cw/showconference.asp?3253>. For more information about the 2010 Information Exchange, contact one of the event Co-Chairs: Phil Gant (MRS) at GANTP@michigan.gov or Denise Uhouse (MISD) at duhouse@misd.net.

Make the Most of your Money in 2010

Michigan State University Extension—Macomb and the United Way for Southeastern Michigan invite you to a FREE conference about your money. Saturday, April 24, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the MISD, 44001 Garfield Road, Clinton Township, 48038. Includes continental breakfast and lunch. Raffle prizes and more. Register by April 19. For more information, call (586) 469-7614.