

Second Chance Outreach

www.HopeForHomies.org

[Donate Now](#)

May 5, 2020

Friends,

I hope this email finds y'all well. Welcome to our new newsletter format! We will be doing our best to refresh you monthly with news of how Second Chance Outreach is walking beside homies through incarceration and beyond. Our hope is to help you understand how to support homies through us and join us in celebrating their transformations.

As we continue to move forward and build a safe haven for homies, we, like most everyone, are being hit hard by COVID-19. It is a challenging time to be an outreach worker, a challenging time to be launching a new project, and a challenging time to be fundraising. So we are focusing on what we CAN do. With the possibility of COVID-19 getting into the prison system, we are focusing on in-reach - on supporting our friends within the walls through letters and phone calls and prayer and a listening ear. Our Hope for Homies project, which has been on my heart since I started envisioning it in solitary confinement, is growing and is starting to produce. And we are building up SCO by expanding our Board of Directors. You can find more information about these efforts below.

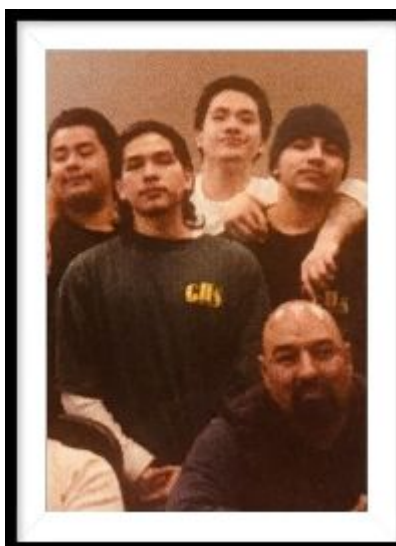
Right now I am trying to make ends meet by working for a temp service, doing jobs for Mary B., and filling in needs with side jobs. In my free time, I am caring for my family and partnering with my friend Jodie on a market garden project that will be the backbone of Hope for Homies. The market garden, Milltown Gardens, will house the SCO office, partner with us to donate produce and flowers to the local community, and direct a portion of its profits to supporting SCO. Sales of plants have already begun, and we put strawberries into the ground just today. It is an experiment and a small start, but it gives me hope that, between the gardens and increased financial support of SCO, I will one day

In my past, I have spent years at a time in solitary isolation. In those quiet times when anxiety arose from underneath I would shout out to the Lord in fear and confusion of this emotion I hadn't felt before: "Lord Jesus, help me to slow down and catch my breath. Please, God, please." I know our current period of isolation may not be as bad as solitary confinement, but even now we are becoming isolated for fear of placing someone in a position of risking their life and health. But there are simple things that we can do to ease the loneliness that many people are feeling. Please take a second to reach out to someone via text or phone call. I spent years not being able to see my mom because she was deported, and other years without any visits from family or friends. Any time someone wrote me or accepted my collect call it would ease up the darkness of being alone.

So friends, please continue to be safe and take the measures that are needed to keep you, your loved ones and those around you safe as we are doing at SCO. Find the ways you can be light to the world, as we are doing with prison in-reach and Hope For Homies. And take care of yourselves.

Respectfully.

Neeners



David Lujano Joins SCO Board

We are so happy that David Lujano has agreed to join the board of Second Chance Outreach! David is an Instructor/Mentor for the young homies in Green Hill School in Chehalis, Washington. Green Hill School is a juvenile detention center for medium and maximum security juvenile offenders, where our good friends Alex and Manny are serving Juvenile life sentences. David's work with juvenile offenders and his history of being a former homie/inmate make him uniquely qualified to advise us on goal setting,

Please join us in welcoming David to our team!



Hope for Homies Breaks Ground

We are teaming up with Milltown Gardens to launch Hope for Homies! This project, where men can find peace and purpose through working in the soil, has been a vision of mine since my time in solitary incarceration. This month we opened sales of plants and plant starts, and just today we started planting our strawberry garden. It will take a lot of time and work to have this project producing enough to cover costs and be able to donate fresh produce and flowers back into the community, but now is the perfect time. With the recent upheaval of life as we knew it, we anticipate the need for affordable or donated local food to increase. We pray that God will use our project to provide for those in need, support the gardens, and contribute to the mission of SCO.



Upcoming...

Our next newsletter will introduce you to our homie Michael Koehler, an inmate at the Washington Corrections Center in Shelton, WA. We met Michael last November through our participation in the facility's Hispanic Culture club, of which he is currently the vice president. He will share in his own words a bit about his life and transformation.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Second Chance Outreach

www.HopeForHomies.org

We Need Your Support!

Your support matters now more than ever before. As we build up the Hope for Homies project, we are hoping to see our monthly support triple, so that I can dedicate myself to supporting homies and the community full time. The need is high right now for communications into facilities, and that takes time. We anticipate the need for fresh local food donations to grow as well, due to the current level of unemployment and upheaval in our economy. Please take the time to share this newsletter with anyone you think may be willing to support our efforts to nourish the hearts and bodies of the homies that we serve as they try to change the trajectory of their lives.

Thank you for your love and support,
Neaners

[Donate Now](#)

Copyright © 2020, Second Chance Outreach, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Second Chance Outreach
PO Box 741
Burlington, WA 98233

FOR YOUR TAX PURPOSES

Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Second Chance Outreach is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.