

TLN Uplink

Volume 1 Issue 3
 September 2008

INSIDE THE TLN UPLINK . . .

YOU are THE KEY to TLN's Success!

Anne Charles, TLN Project Director



Soon, the leaves will begin to change and we'll turn around twice and it will be winter. Let's not be so quick, however, to a b a n d o n

summer. This summer was exciting for TLN. CEA's International Conference was hosted in beautiful Denver, Colorado (plan now for next year's event in Madison, WI), we added a number of courses to our broadcast line-up and are in the process of adding more. We brought you NIC's "Gang Intelligence" training, and so many more events, and we continue to provide you

18 hours of programming each and every day. On the horizon, we anticipate adding character education, more financial literacy, expanded ESL offerings, and much more in staff and offender programming. As TLN launched COA's Fall Semester, several new sites (over 700 students!) began taking advantage of our College of the Air post secondary courses through Milwaukee Area Technical College. And, we want to provide so much more!

TLN still remains the "biggest bang for the buck," broadcasting over 5400 hours of offender education and over 1400 hours of staff training each year. How can we make so much available for only \$1195? First, it's "strength in numbers," and The ONLY WAY we are able to keep the subscription fee at this reasonable price is if sites pay for

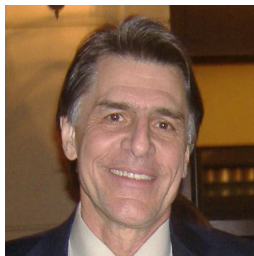
their subscriptions in a timely m a n n e r .

If you haven't taken time to submit your 2008-2009 invoice to your business office, please do so now, and if you need a new invoice, please drop Annie Ferguson an email at aferguson@ceanational.org or call me at 208-773-7866. We'll get it right out to you. You've heard that "every vote counts?" Well, to the Transforming Lives Network, EVERY SITE, EVERY SUBSCRIPTION COUNTS! Please see your invoice through today!

Thanks so much for your continued support. So many more great things to come!

Higher Education Act Passes	1-2
Tech Tips	2
Coming Soon to TLN! National Reentry Roundtable!	2-3
Digital TV Transition and TLN	3 / 6
Using Your IYO Funds	3
Kulani Taps Educational Opportunities Beyond The Island	4
Prem Rawat Offers No Cost Materials for Words of Peace	4-5
CEA Begins Second Year of College	5
TLN Staff Directory	6

Breaking News! Youth Grants Amended with Passage of Higher Education Opportunity Act



Steve Steurer, Ph.D.
 CEA Exec. Director

Congress has passed the Higher Education Act with significant changes to the Youth Grants provisions. I have included lan-

guage from the official summary, sending clarification sometime published by the House Committee on Education and Labor. Basically, the age limit will change from 25 to 35 years of age, and the years of eligibility before release, from 5 to 7. There are also several smaller provisions that will be distributed later. Additionally, Congress is mandating a study of post secondary education in corrections. I am sure that John Linton will be

"Basically, the age limit will change from 25 to 35 years of age."

soon. It looks like one of the most important events at our next CEA Leadership Forum will be USDOE training on the new regulations. I cannot tell you how long and hard so many of us have fought to get these changes and to make post secondary funds available for a larger range of inmates. Thank all of you for your help. **Continued on p. 2**

Breaking News, Cont. Higher Education Act Signed

Continued from Page 1

This year CEA was instrumental in two bills. It helped make the difference in the passage of the Second Chance Act. Alabama CEA members John Stewart and Susan McKee personally interceded with Senator Shelby to release the bill for the Senate vote, and it passed. bill -- something that he is expected to do within a week or two. Now all the work the CEA Executive Office and directors of correctional education have done to amend Youth Grant limitations has been passed by the House and Senate in **The Higher Education Opportunity Act: Expanding College Access, Strengthening our Future**. And, on August 14, President Bush signed the Here are the two summary paragraphs: **Higher Education Amendments of 1998 and 1992** The Conference agreement modifies the grants to states for workplace and

community transition training for incarcerated youth offenders to allow programs to serve offenders under the age of 35 and who will be released within 7 years. **Issues in Higher Education** The Conference agreement also includes studies that examine issues facing higher education, including post-graduation employment, minority-male achievement, bias in standardized testing, postsecondary education in correctional systems, teaching students with reading disabilities, and the capacity of nursing schools to meet current demands.

As more information becomes available, it will be released here, in the *TLN Uplink* as well as on the CEA website: <http://www.ceanational.org> and CEA's News & Notes.

Tech Tips by Scott

Scott Messina, TLN Tech



With summer waning and fall just around the corner, now is a great time of year to ensure your satellite equipment will be

ready for the winter season. Be sure to check all cable connections between each piece of equipment for connectivity as well as weatherproofing. Covering each connection with a silicone sealant or enclosure can extend the life of the cable and connection. To keep the snow from building up on the dish, use spray on Teflon or opt to purchase a low cost dish heater device for a more permanent solution.

“...now is a great time to ensure your satellite equipment will be ready for winter.”

Coming Soon To TLN!

National Reentry Roundtable

Amelia Thompson, Project Admin.
Prisoner Reentry Institute
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

An exciting partnership between John Jay College of Criminal Justice and The Urban Institute, and the Correctional Education Association's Transforming Lives Network has emerged out of the national Reentry Roundtable, *From the Classroom to the Community: Exploring the Role of Education during Incarceration and Reentry*. Convened by the Prisoner Reentry Institute at John Jay College and The Urban Institute, a Washington, DC-based social policy think tank, the national Roundtable took place on March 31 and April 1, 2008 in New York City and brought together researchers, policymakers, and practitioners from the fields of education and criminal justice to tackle this important topic. TLN will broadcast a two-hour DVD that provides a glimpse into the Roundtable discussion.

Jeremy Travis, the architect of the Reentry Roundtable and the President of John Jay College, facilitated the two-day meeting and encouraged discussion of the intersections of education, incarceration and reentry. Participants not only examined the need for and current state of correctional education, but they also offered promising programmatic and policy directions and discussed a range of education programs including Adult Basic Education, GED, vocational, and post-secondary both within correctional facilities and out in the community.



JOHN JAY COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

In addition to national experts, attendees welcomed Aik Boon Ng, Head of the Prison Education Branch and Principal of the Kaki Bukit Centre Prison

School for the Singapore Prison Service, who discussed Singapore's insistence on "education first and prison second" as a model for effective correctional education. In preparation for the Roundtable, seven academic papers were commissioned, exploring a range of issues that weigh heavily on the future of correctional education. Topics of discussion included the use of technology within the correctional setting, the link between correctional education and employment outcomes, and the challenge of servicing incarcerated juveniles and individuals with educational disabilities. The commissioned papers featured at the Roundtable are available at the Prisoner Reentry Institute's and The Urban Institute's websites:

<http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/centersinstitutes/pri/publications.asp> and <http://www.urban.org/projects/reentry-roundtable/roundtable10.cfm>.

Continued on p. 3

Don't Touch that Dial! Transition to Digital TV & TLN

Ed Johnson, TLN Uplink Engineer



Ed Johnson

You may have heard about the move to digital television (DTV) that is coming on February 17, 2009. How does this affect the Transforming Lives Network? Stated simply, it doesn't. The television set and satellite receiver that you are currently using to receive the Transforming Lives Network will continue to work. Several years ago the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandated that all terrestrial over-the-air television stations must broadcast their signals in a digital format only. This mandate only affects your local VHF and UHF TV stations (i.e. Channels 2 through 13 and Channels 14 through 83). The purpose of the mandate was to provide for the transmission of High Definition Television which has much more visual resolution than the current system. There are other benefits of DTV as well, which are discussed further below for those "techie" who want to know more.

You don't necessarily have to buy a new TV. If the analog TV set that you now have is connected to a satellite receiver such as the TLN network receiver, a DirecTV receiver, a Dish Network receiver, or your local cable system set-top box, your TV set will continue to serve

you well.

However, analog TVs will need additional equipment to receive over-the-air television when the DTV transition ends on February 17, 2009. Consumers who rely on antennas (including outside antennas and "rabbit ears") to receive over-the-air broadcast signals on TV sets having only analog tuners will need to obtain separate digital-to-analog set-top converter boxes to watch over-the-air TV. These boxes receive digital signals and convert them into analog format for display on analog TVs. Analog sets connected to such converter boxes will display digital broadcasts, but not necessarily in the full, original digital quality.

To aid consumers financially in the transition to DTV, the FCC created a TV Converter Box Program. The program will allow you to obtain up to two coupons per household for use with your analog TV(s). These coupons are worth \$40 each towards the purchase of a converter box. Most converter boxes on the market now sell for between \$40 and \$75 each. To learn more about the TV Converter Box Program, go to <https://www.dtv2009.gov/> or phone 1-888-388-2009.

As a result of the mandate, TV stations serving all markets in the United States are currently airing digital television pro-

gramming today, along with their analog signals (simultaneous broadcasts). The analog signals however, will cease to be broadcast in accordance with the mandate on February 17, 2009. At that point, full-power TV stations will cease broadcasting on their current analog channels, and the spectrum they used for analog broadcasting will be reclaimed and put to other uses.

The Commission's mandate also specified that as of March 1, 2007, all new TVs must include digital tuners. This rule prohibits the manufacture, import,



TLN uplink at ABS-CBN in Richmond, CA

or interstate shipment of any device containing an analog tuner, unless it also contains a digital tuner.

Continued on p. 6

Using Your Incarcerated Youthful Offender Funds

Cindy Borden & Penny Richardson

Northstar Correctional Education Services

Having trouble finding allowable expenses for your *Incarcerated Youth Offender* grant funds? Turning unused dollars back to the Federal Government every September? Looking for an expansion from vocational programming? TLN's College of the Air offers an excellent solution to your IYO programming. Eligible students take courses via satellite from Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC). Six or seven courses are available every semester for the competitive tuition rate of \$325 per three-credit course. As the grant guidance clearly states ... *to assist and encourage incarcerated youths to acquire functional literacy, life, and job skills...through the*



Cindy Borden and Penny Richardson

pursuit of a postsecondary education certificate, or an associate of arts or bachelor's degree while in prison...

TLN's College of the Air offers

three 22-credit certificates culminating in an Associate of Arts degree. Recording programming from the satellite makes it even more convenient for student access. Offenders can take courses using individual DVD players or in scheduled groups. The IYO grant requires that funds be used for direct instruction and related services.

Through TLN's College of the Air, IYO dollars are paid directly to MATC for student tuition.

Look no further for a solution to your IYO woes! Current course schedules and registration procedures are available at <http://coa.matc.edu>

CONTACT US!



Transforming Lives

Correctional Education Association

8182 Lark Brown Road

Suite 202

Elkridge, MD 21075

Phone: 800-783-1232

Fax: 443-459-3088

**TLN
TRANSFORMING LIVES**

We're on the web
www.ceanational.org

Continued from p. 3

Despite this prohibition on manufacture and shipment, retailers may continue to sell analog-only devices from existing inventory. As a result, at the point of sale, many consumers may not be aware that this equipment will not be able to receive over-the-air-television signals after February 17, 2009.

"You may have heard about the move to digital television (DTV) that is coming on February 17, 2009. How does this affect the Transforming Lives Network? Stated simply, it doesn't."

Now here's the techie stuff:

Each DTV channel is permitted to be broadcast at a data rate up to 19 megabits per second, or 2.375 megabytes per second. However, the broadcaster does not need to use this entire bandwidth for just one broadcast channel. Instead the broadcast can be subdivided across several video subchannels of varying quality and compression rates,

including non-video datacasting services that allow one-way high-bandwidth streaming of data to computers.

A broadcaster may opt to use a standard-definition digital signal instead of an HDTV signal, because current convention allows the bandwidth of a DTV channel (or "multiplex") to be subdivided into multiple subchannels, providing multiple feeds of entirely different programming on the same channel. This ability to provide either a single HDTV feed or multiple lower-resolution feeds is often referred to as distributing one's "bit budget" or multicasting. This can sometimes be arranged automatically, using a statistical multiplexer (or "statmux"). With some implementations, image resolution may be less directly limited by bandwidth; for example in DVB-T, broadcasters can choose from several different modulation schemes, giving them the option to reduce the transmission bitrate and make reception easier for more distant or mobile viewers.

For more in depth technical information, Wikipedia has an excellent article at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_television.

TLN Staff Directory

Programmatic Questions?

- Anne Charles acharles@ceanational.org
- TLN Project Director 208-773-7866 (direct)
- 800-783-1232, ext. 16

Invoicing Questions? New Subscription?

- Annie Ferguson aferguson@ceanational.org
- Marketing Consultant 208-209-3626 (direct)
- 800-783-1232, ext. 17

Technical Issues?

- Scott Messina acharles@ceanational.org
- Technician 208-773-7866 (direct)

TLN Website:

<http://tln.ceanational.org>

TLN Uplink Staff

Editor Anne Charles

Layout Kiara Wilson

Contributors: Cindy Borden, Anne Charles, John Holt, Ed Johnson, Scott Messina, Penny Richardson, Steve Steurer, Amelia Thompson

Coming Soon on TLN!

NIC

Women & the Workforce

9/24—9/25

AMC

MRSA & HIV

10/22

NIC

Recruiting and Retraining Corrections Personnel

11/19

See You There!

10/19 - 10/22
IACTP
Tempe, AZ

10/21 - 10/22
CEA - Region 6
Vancouver, WA

10/22 - 10/24
CEA - Region 2
Ocean City, MD

10/26 - 10/29
Women Working in Corrections
Des Moines, IA

11/16 - 11/18
CEA Region 7
Costa Mesa, CA

Kulani Taps Educational Opportunities Far Beyond The Island

Mary Nielsen, Education Supervisor



Kulani Correctional Facility

Hawaii Department of Public Safety

Kulani Correctional Facility is a minimum-security prison located on the eastern slope of Mauna Loa at an altitude of 5,240 feet. The majority of men have approximately twenty-four months remaining before parole or completing their sentences when they arrive here and, for some, MATC is their first higher education experience.

This fall will mark our first year of providing college courses through TLN. We have offered Sociology, Microeconomics, Nutritional Science, and High-Level Wellness and have already registered nine students for this fall. The response from student's experiences has been positive.

Naturally, distance education is self-motivated curriculum and not suited for everyone.

The Telecourse Course Study Guide and videos add an essential dimension to students' practical application and understanding. Students find the videos' exceptional quality and lesson presentations instructive while being entertaining.

Our Education unit's primary mission is to provide inmates with an opportunity to obtain vocational, educational, cultural and personal skills to help them make a successful transition from prison to their communities. Last year we had 14 high

school graduates. We have a combination of ABE teachers from the community as well as qualified inmates teaching and tutoring other inmates. We also provide two vocational programs in cooperation with Hawaii Community College, Automotive Mechanics Technology and Environmental Horticulture. Both are very successful programs that prepare inmates with the skills and knowledge needed for rewarding employment and reentry in the community. In addition, we offer on-site computer classes, Hawaiian arts and crafts, Transition (preparing for employment and community reentry), Cognitive Skills, Parenting, literature and Toastmasters International Club.



Kulani Correctional Facility

No-Cost Materials Available for Words of Peace with Prem Rawat

John Holt, Director
Words of Peace Prison Network

Words of Peace with Prem Rawat now offers a limited supply of materials to correctional facilities within the US, free of charge. Most items in the online store of [The Prem Rawat Foundation](#) - are available for a limited time to education departments, media departments, libraries, offenders and TLN site managers.

Please contact [Words of Peace Prison Network](#), to discuss your specific needs regarding these materials. Free orders can only be made through the Words of Peace Prison Network, and not the online store directly.



Featured Items:
Introductory Booklets - pack of six

A dynamic new series of 6 booklets introducing Prem Rawat and his message. Titles include: "It's About You", "Discovering Life", "Discovering Peace", "About Knowledge", "About The Keys", and "About Prem Rawat". 5 x 7 inches in size. 166 pages total.

Adi Magazine.

Adi is a new publication, featuring spoken words of Prem Rawat in a magazine format. Adi means ancient in Hindi. "Peace begins not with countries, not with governments. Peace begins with you, with me". - Prem Rawat. (55 pages) A **Subscription** is also available for Adi magazine.



the compound to view." Kathy C. Koone, Winn Correctional Center.

CD's are also available to those inmates who have personal CD players. The **"Inspire"** newsletter is also freely available for download, print and subscription by email.

DVD's of many Words of Peace episodes are regularly made available to facilities for their internal TV networks and we are in discussion with one facility about providing programming for a 24 hour "Peace channel".

Recently, a facility in Louisiana requested programs to record onto six hour VHS tapes to be played in all the compounds and the TLN site manager had this to say: "Thank you very much for your prompt response to my request for the Prem Rawat DVD's. They have been a wonderful addition to our video library. I have enjoyed them myself as I record them onto VHS tapes for

Recent comments from the many letters we have received from inmates follow: 'I recently saw a presentation by Prem Rawat on the Transforming Lives Network. I was deeply touched by his presentation... "I enjoy watching your program and I would like some of your words of peace please."... "Today I had the privilege of watching a Words of Peace show. It was very inspirational.' 'I read 'Peace is Possible', and the Adi magazine. Both the book and magazine have been an inspiration, and have given me tools I have looked for all my life.' ... "I need peace in my life. The first time I heard Prem Rawat speak I knew that peace is what I need. I found through his message that peace and joy and happiness is within us.'

Continued on p. 4

Words of Peace Materials, Con't

Continued from p. 4

'I have longed for something but could not figure out what it was. I thought it was nice clothes, a lot of money, and very beautiful women, but even after having all of these things I still felt empty inside like a lost child who couldn't find his way back. Because of your message, I went from going 100 mph in circles to a nice slow pace with no weight on my shoulders.'

Please contact us also for information regarding upcoming Words of Peace informational workshops and seminars attended by education staff and inmates at your facility. For those of you in Colorado, you are warmly invited to our workshop at [The Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance - COVA](#) annual conference, October 26 - 29, 2008

Words of Peace Prison Network
P.O. Box 50447

Santa Barbara, CA 93150

Email: wppn@wordsofpeace.org

Tel: 805-649-3241 Website:

www.tprf.org



Director: John Holt

Email: contactjohnh@mac.com

National Reentry Roundtable, cont.

Continued from p. 2 Roundtable conveners fostered the inclusion of currently incarcerated students' perspectives by inviting students incarcerated in state prisons to provide feedback on commissioned papers. Their probing questions and insightful remarks helped shape the Roundtable discussion and offered a model for translating dialogue and research into opportunities for currently incarcerated individuals to engage with events in the community that are connected to their in-prison experiences.

"...explore critical issues through the lens of the Roundtable discussion."

A monograph highlighting the event's topics and themes will be available in Winter 2008. The Roundtable broadcast will feature the presentation, "Bridging Learning from Incarceration to the Community." Presented by Jeanne Bayer Contardo of the Business-Higher Education Forum and Michelle Tolbert of MPR

Associates, this discussion provides an overview of post-secondary education and opportunities to help students transition from classrooms in prison to classrooms in the community. The discussion on "Race, Poverty and Education" featuring Harvard Sociologist Bruce Western and Columbia University Law Professor Ted Shaw is also featured on the resource. This discussion provides an engaging assessment of race and imprisonment trends in America. These segments invite viewers to explore critical issues through the lens of the Roundtable discussion. *From the Classroom to the Community: Exploring the Role of Education during Incarceration and Reentry* was made possible by funding support from the United States Departments of Education and Justice, the Achelis-Bodman Foundation, Jim Grenon, Susan Reese and the late Lou Reese. Watch for this exciting event on the Transforming Lives Network!

CEA Begins Second Year of College Research

**Cindy Borden & Penny Richardson
Northstar Correctional Education Services**

Students in 45 prisons in five states will begin college courses this fall as part of a four-year study investigating the impact of TLN as a delivery mode.

Using both experimental and control groups, this scientific randomized trial design will demonstrate the effectiveness of college programming by examining a variety of delivery modes. TLN will be compared to direct instruction, computer-aided instruction, web-based delivery systems, synchronous learning, and other instructional modes.

"A four-year study investigating the impact of TLN as a delivery mode."

Outcomes for participants in TLN's College of the Air programming (experimental) and *business-as-usual* (control) sites will be compared. Participant outcomes to be examined include academic achievement, achievement motivation, educational aspirations, progress toward completing a postsecondary degree, and improved employability. Outcomes for institutions include participation in postsecondary and other academic programming, institutional climate, and rates of recidivism.

The Correctional Education Association (CEA) was awarded this

prestigious Institute of Education Sciences grant from the US Department of Education, the gold standard for education research.

All methodology and instruments have been developed by RMC Research of Denver; Northstar Correctional Education

Services' Penny Richardson and Cindy Borden will begin data collection this August. Colorado, Iowa, Massachusetts, Nevada, and Oklahoma have agreed to participate in this important study. On-going progress and results will be disseminated at CEA conferences and in peer review publications. For more information please visit www.northstarcorrectional.com

