COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Los Angeles County Parole Services Network: A Testimonial

The Parolee Services Network (PSN) is a collaborative project between the Los Angeles County's Alcohol and Drug Program Administration, community-based contracted services and the State California Corrections Department. The PSN program provides community alcohol and drug treatment and recovery services to parolees and supports parolee reintegration into society by encouraging a clean and sober lifestyle. Programs provide up to 180 days of treatment and recovery services. There are currently 83 clients enrolled in the Los Angeles PSN program. The following testimony was provided by a client who overcame his addiction and successfully completed the PSN program.

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Eric Jackson came to Socorro, an alcohol and drug treatment facility affiliated with Cri-Help, on October 7, 1998 directly from California Rehabilitation Center State prison. After completing the residential program, he transferred to the outpatient modality and was residing in a sober living facility, where he had obtained employment and was nearing completion of his program. Eric relapsed during this time and was returned to the residential program, with the approval of his parole agent and with the understanding that if he relapsed again, his parole would be violated and he would be returned to prison. Eric was sent back to the residential program and when he completed that portion of treatment, he was then returned to sober living and outpatient on a brand new Parolee Services Network (PSN) funded program. Eric never relapsed, resumed his former place of employment, transferred to another better paying job, where he has remained for the past eight years.

Eric was discharged from parole in 2002, today he is currently married and bought a home in Los Angeles County, where he lives with his wife. They celebrated their sixth year anniversary in March 2008. Since their children are grown, they now have four or five dogs, three of whom are pedigrees. Eric has remained in contact with the program, where he is an active privilege card holder and sponsor. Eric is clean today because of his commitment to recovery, remaining active in the 12-step community and is in gratitude to the Parole Service Network for giving him the opportunity to turn his life around and become a good neighbor, homeowner and productive member of the greater community.

At this time, Eric is assisting another client in our program, also on parole to develop the necessary life skills to remain in compliance with his parole and become a productive member of the greater community. "Our organization is grateful to Eric for his help and support with our clients who are still in treatment", said Richard Block of Socorro.