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The Year in Review

Jean Auldridge and Carla Peterson

Virginia C.U.R.E. represents prisoners and their families on criminal justice and prison matters, with rehabilitation, reentry, and well being as primary objectives of the organization. C.U.R.E. volunteers inform, build relationships, and increase public and policy maker's awareness of issues. C.U.R.E. encourages family ties and empowers families in promoting fairness and mutual respect in prisons. The more people involved, the more successful we will be.

Each year, C.U.R.E. organizes events and special projects, such as **Advocacy Day at the General Assembly**, a **Family Day Picnic** for children of prisoners and their caretakers, and an **Annual Conference**, that is open to the public featuring noted speakers and luncheon. Special issue meetings are organized as needed. Recently a **Parole Forum** was held in Richmond, attended by the Chairman and two members of the Virginia Parole Board. A **Community Forum** attended by 75 people was held this year in Arlington.

The **20th and 21st Annual Conferences** were held in Fredericksburg. Reentry issues were featured in 2007. In 2008 the theme was *Think Exit Upon Entry*. Keynote speaker was Charles Sullivan, Director of International CURE, who spoke of the critical need for reducing the number of prisoners in the United States. Speakers included the Rev. Paul Stock, Executive

Director, Mid-Atlantic Region, Prison Fellowship Ministry; Pixie Williams, Director, Pen Pals program; Harry Redd, DOC Agribusiness program; Thomas Petersik, Virginia C.U.R.E. Board member, Prison Industries; Bill Richardson, member of Virginia C.U.R.E.'s Parole Policy Working Group; Jane Brown, Virginia Department of Social Services, Brandy Nixon and Jesse Barker of "Greener Pastures," the Thoroughbred Horse Retirement program at James River Correctional Center. James River Warden Lester Layton attended the Conference.

C.U.R.E. volunteers continue to attend state and national conferences. The Board of Directors meet quarterly with Dept. of Corrections officials to review issues brought to C.U.R.E.'s attention. Chapters meet monthly in Norfolk, Harrisonburg, Lebanon, Fredericksburg and Northern Virginia. This year **Lebanon C.U.R.E.** updated the Directory of Community Resources for their area; **Hampton Roads C.U.R.E.** prepared Christmas cards for prisoner members and helped organize Advocacy Day; **Harrisonburg C.U.R.E.** contacted local legislators to discuss issues; **Fredericksburg C.U.R.E.** arranged luncheon for the Annual Conference; and **Northern Virginia C.U.R.E.** participates in the **Legislative Committee** and the **Parole Policy Project**.

A C.U.R.E. volunteer sends birthday

cards to prisoners. *Prisoner members: Be sure to let us know your birthday when you renew your membership.*

We encourage you on the **outside** to invest by volunteering your time and talents on behalf of loved ones **inside**, and you on the **inside** to build C.U.R.E. by explaining to your family and friends that by joining they can make a difference. ▲

Carla Peterson is Director and Jean Auldridge is President of Virginia C.U.R.E.

Annual Advocacy Day

Virginia C.U.R.E.'s Annual Advocacy Day at the General Assembly will be held on the Martin Luther King Holiday, January 19, 2009. Families and friends of prisoners will meet at 8:00 a.m. in Room 7 West of the General Assembly Building, Capitol Square, Richmond, VA, (corner of Broad & 9th Streets) for a briefing on legislation, to receive handouts for legislators and to breakout into groups. This is the time to show your support or opposition to bills affecting prison and criminal justice issues. Please call your State Senator and Delegate to arrange for a meeting after 9 a.m. on January 19th. For more information check: Virginia C.U.R.E.'s website: www.vacure.org; email: vacure@cox.net or call: 703.272.3624. ▲

General Assembly in Brief

Carla Peterson

A **Legislative Committee** was established for the 2009 General Assembly to research issues and provide talking points for testimony and meetings with legislators. Information and legislative updates will be posted on VirginiaPrisoners@yahoo.com. Virginia C.U.R.E. is partnering on bills with Virginians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (VADP), the Virginia Catholic Conference, and Social Action Linking Together (SALT). The 2008 General Assembly saw Senate passage of bills from the Governors Reentry Policy Academy recommendations to the Joint Subcommittee on Reentry to Society. Most reentry bills were approved by the Senate, but defeated in the House of Delegates, some in subcommittees with unrecorded votes. Below are bills supported by C.U.R.E. that were signed into law:

HB651, SB200: Requires the Department of Corrections to develop and implement a comprehensive reentry plan for each person committed to the supervision of the Department.

SB 451, HB 682, HB 1205: Allows a probation and parole officer

to determine suitability for those who score “incarceration” on the probation violation guidelines to participate in the Diversion Center Incarceration Program.

SB 633: Requires the Department of Corrections and the Division of Child Support Enforcement, to identify prisoners with child support obligations and determine the amount of support required and the total amount owed upon intake, and regularly thereafter.

HB 1258: Requires clerks destroying juvenile records to obtain an order requiring all law-enforcement agencies, social services offices, correctional facilities, and Commonwealth attorneys’ offices to destroy their records as well.

HJ 113: Directs the Virginia State Crime Commission to continue their study of the juvenile justice system pursuant to House Joint Resolution 136 (2006)

For details: Access C.U.R.E.’s Final Legislative Report on the website, www.vacure.org.

The 2009 session, convenes Jan 14
Below are 2008 bills that may be re-introduced in 2009. Bill numbers will change.

HB 700 Child support; responsibility of incarcerated obligor.

HB 704 Residential community programs.

HB 906 Prisoners Earned Sentence Credits.

HB 1407, HB 1374 Restricted permit issuance for license suspension for nonpayment of fines and costs.

SB 296, SB 642-TANF Eligibility for TANF and food stamps; drug-related felonies.

SB 628-629-630-633-A group of bills to alleviate some of the financial pressures prisoners face upon reentry.

As we go to press, few bills have been listed. Those listed include:

HJ 623, 628 and SJ 273: Constitutional Amendment (first resolution), restoration of civil rights; sponsored by Del. Dance, Del. O. Ware, and Sen. Y. Miller

HJ 632: Study: Housing First, JLARC study of the feasibility of housing people first and then providing services (a new trend in housing the homeless). ▲

Proposed Amendments to 2008–10 State Budget

House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees Regional Public Hearings on the Governor’s Proposed Amendments to the 2008–10 Biennial State Budget

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Hearing begins at 10:00 a.m.

Alexandria

Northern Virginia Community College
Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Hearings begin at 12:00 noon

Newport News

Christopher Newport University
Performing Arts Center

Charlottesville

Piedmont Virginia Community College
V. Earl Dickenson Humanities
and Fine Arts Building

Friday, January 9, 2009

Hearings begin at 12:00 noon

Lynchburg

Central Virginia Community College

Monday 19, 2009

Hearing begins at 1:00 p.m.

Richmond

General Assembly Building
House Room D

It is important for prisoner advocates to sign up early to testify at these public hearings. (Contact Virginia C.U.R.E. for talking points)

House Rules Change

Republicans in the House of Delegates have agreed to record votes in subcommittees, a practice that was discontinued in 2006 when the Republicans gained control of the House. Republican leaders in the House claimed that unrecorded voice votes made the subcommittee process swifter and more efficient. Unrecorded votes, however, make it difficult to track a delegate’s position on issues. This is especially important since many bills are defeated in subcommittees with no record. This situation has caused concern in the GA and among citizen groups. Virginia C.U.R.E. is in full agreement with this move back to transparency. ▲

Parole Policy Working Group Seeks Reform of Parole Process

Bill Richardson

Because there are still roughly 9,000 prisoners eligible for parole due to offenses occurring before the abolition of parole in 1995, a major 2008–2009 Virginia C.U.R.E. initiative is promoting reform of Virginia Parole Board standards and procedures in reviewing applications for parole. The problems are well known: Many “old law” prisoners’ hefty sentences were based on the assumption by judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys that defendants would receive a realistic shot at parole if they demonstrated suitability for release after becoming eligible. However, that assumption proved misguided. After 1995, the parole grant rate began to drop precipitously, now hovering around 5% (the lowest it has ever been) and the lowest grant rate of any state.” Parolees are often at the very end of their mandatory sentences. Ironically, many old law prisoners serve far longer than they would have before the 1995, tough-on-crime, “truth in sentencing” regime.

Based on Parole Board data, around 44% of all parole denials have no explanation other than “serious nature and circumstances of the crime.” Excluded is any mention of factors like age at the time of the offense, prior record, compliance with rules during incarceration, academic and vocational training and other work, family support, and employability on release. Equally troubling, the Board has reduced opportunities for family members and advocates to bring relevant information to the full Parole Board’s collective attention, dispensed with Board meetings in Richmond to discuss parole cases, and eliminated risk assessment tools used by most other parole boards (and required by the General Assembly for post-1995 offenders). Unlike 70% of parole boards in other states, Virginia Parole Board members never see or take the opportunity to question any of the people whose files they review.

At a 2007 Parole Forum held by Virginia C.U.R.E., Virginia Parole Board

members made clear that they did not believe it was appropriate to revisit their existing policies. Following that forum, Virginia C.U.R.E. established a Parole Policy Working Group to try to reform the parole process, with principal members being Jean Auldridge, Carla Peterson, Jae George, and Bill Richardson. Early on, it was determined that, while the problems could and should be addressed by the Governor without legislation, it was also essential to alert Virginia’s legislators in order to gain bipartisan support for reform. So far, we have met with over 30 of the 40 members of the Senate, and more than half of the 100 members of the House of Delegates. Through her “Exodus Project,” Jae gave us a critical link to hundreds of old law inmates and their families, some of whom share their experiences by accompanying us in visits with their legislators. Local leaders of the Virginia C.U.R.E. chapters, particularly in Hampton Roads and Southwest Virginia, have also provided us with invaluable support. Finally, we are meeting with other groups supporting parole reform efforts.

This has been a long and difficult campaign and we are not at the stage where results can be reported. However, so far we have widespread

support for several points. First, legislators uniformly recognize that a real opportunity for parole was a critical part of sentencing under the “old law” system that cannot be satisfied by just going through the motions. Second, many are troubled by the absence of procedural protections in the parole process that safeguard against rubberstamping of denials. Finally, with a potentially \$3 billion budget deficit over the next two years, they recognize that we can no longer afford unnecessarily warehousing prisoners—particularly older prisoners whose costs of incarceration are the highest. While legislators uniformly recognize needs for toughness on crime, they also tell us Virginia should follow other states in being smart on crime as well.

We will keep you posted. Meanwhile, please tell us if you have experienced any of these problems, particularly when parole is repeatedly denied based solely on the “serious nature and circumstances of crime,” notwithstanding model prison records, lack of prior records, and good release plans. We are also interested in information about those denied geriatric release, and those revoked for purely technical reasons. ▲

Bill Richardson is a retired attorney from Arlington.

Governor Proposes Changes in Corrections Practices

Governor Tim Kaine declared that “Old Virginia is dead” after Barack Obama carried the state in the recent election. He presented a number of budget proposals on December 18, including proposals that would affect the prison industry in Virginia.

The Governor stated that he hopes to provoke a statewide discussion of incarceration rates and in the process, save money with the early release of some prisoners. He gives the Director of the Department of Corrections the authority to release nonviolent offenders 90 days before their sentences end, contingent upon good behavior. “I am not proposing this to be controversial, I am proposing this to be smart” Kaine said.

The Governor explained that he also wants to “slow the growth” of the prison population by making it harder for a technical violator of probation or parole to be returned to prison for violations such as missed appointments with a probation officer. Legislators caution, however, that gaining approval for these proposals in the General Assembly will be difficult, especially in the House of Delegates where several powerful conservative Republican legislators will most likely maintain strong opposition. ▲

Virginia Reentry Update

Jean Auldridge

Being part of the Governor's Reentry Policy Project since 2003 has been a learning experience for me. Recommendations from this group were introduced as bills in the 2008 General Assembly by Senator Linda T. "Toddy" Puller and others. Many bills that were approved by the Senate, failed in House subcommittees with unrecorded votes, never reaching the full committee. This indicates that Virginia C.U.R.E. advocates cannot expect good things to happen automatically, but must speak up when legislation is being considered.

In 2003, when Governor Mark Warner was chairman of the National Governors Association (NGA), Virginia and six other states were named to participate in a Reentry Policy Academy to develop effective strategies to reduce recidivism by improving pre-and post-release services. Georgia, Idaho, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey and Rhode Island participated. The 18-month program included an in-state workshop, meetings, and customized technical assistance.

Beyond improving inmate skills, a more immediate and tangible issue was the number returning to prison. Although crime and arrest rates have been declining in Virginia, recidivism rates have remained relatively constant and the state prison population continues to grow, in significant part because of a measurable increase in the number of returns to prison for technical violations of probation or parole.

Virginia's first step was bringing together agency representatives, including the Secretary of Public Safety, Virginia Departments of Corrections, Correctional Education, Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, Health, Social Services, Housing and Community Development, Criminal Justice Services, Juvenile Justice, the Parole Board, and the Virginia Employment Commission. Others participated from the General Assembly, the Virginia Sentencing Commission, the state's non-profit pre- and post-incarceration services providers, and representatives

of prisoner and family support organizations. Subcommittees were established based on broad categories of need or barriers to successful reentry, including:

Family & Community Reintegration
Health, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse
Financial Obligations, Housing, and Financial and Community Resources
Employment and Education

Each subcommittee identified roadblocks to successful reintegration, and proposed actions to address them. Committees met to adjust strategies as new data became available. Five pilot programs were established by the Department of Social Services (DSS), in DSS Districts of Culpeper, King George, Norfolk, Richmond and Emporia. The success of these pilots led to the addition of two new sites in Southwest Virginia in 2008. ▲

Budget Reductions for the Department of Corrections

The Department of Corrections is the largest of state agencies, employing 11% of all state employees. In response to the serious budget crisis, the department is reducing the number of employees as well as non-personal services. The reduction target for the current fiscal year is \$22, 699, 520.00. According to Director Gene Johnson, the Department is implementing various strategies, some of which are listed below.

Close Facilities including: Chatham Diversion Center, White Post Detention Center, Tazewell Field Unit, Pulaski Correctional Center, Dinwiddie Field Unit (maintain Agribusiness Activity, Southampton

Main (maintain Agribusiness and Power Plant)
Abolish 5 Re-entry P & P Officer Positions (not yet established)
Abolish Drug Court Positions
Reduce Community Corrections Drug Testing Funding
Reduce Psychologist Positions
Reduce Treatment Staff at Indian Creek Correctional Center.
Reduce funding for Sexually Violent Predator Population
Abolish One Counselor Position at Every Major Institution
Eliminate Day Reporting Sites and Abolish Positions- Offset by Electronic Surveillance
Eliminate Therapeutic Transitional Community Contracts

Reduce Regional Positions
Return to DOC Operated Food Service at Greensville, Sussex I and Sussex II
Increase Overall Agency Turnover and Vacancy Rate
The Department of Correctional Education is also losing some positions.

These are cuts that have been announced publicly. Other cuts may come. We have been assured that food portions will continue to adhere to ACA standards and medical services will continue to be provided at normal levels. Virginia C.U.R.E. appreciates any information from prisoners or families that could document other cutbacks. ▲

TANF Welfare Ban Opt Out

John Horejsi

SALT joins C.U.R.E. in believing that America is the land of second chances, including for the 10,000 Virginians released each year, seventy five percent of whom are parents. That's why SALT and C.U.R.E. urge an end to the lifetime ban on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits for otherwise eligible individuals who have been convicted of *drug-related* felonies. SALT, joined by C.U.R.E. and the Virginia Catholic Conference (VCC), believe that lifting this lifetime ban is critical since it has the effect of punishing the ex-offender's family and hindering the person's successful re-entry into society.

The ban unfairly punishes persons

already having paid their debt to society, and punishes their families as well.

TANF denial to parents rebuilding families is counterproductive; preventing benefits needed to reunite their families, pay rent, and buy food, clothing, and other necessities.

The ban undermines substance abuse treatment that relies on TANF benefits to help cover living expenses.

The ban interferes with ex-offenders finding work, returning to school, or getting job training.

The ban severs a lifeline for women and children escaping domestic violence, a frequent feature of life for women with drug-related convictions.

SALT and C.U.R.E.'s proposal in the

2008 Virginia General Assembly, patroned by Del. Vivian Watts and Senators Patricia Ticer and Linda T. Puller, was to lift the ban on TANF. The bill passed the Senate via budget amendment by Sen. Charles Colgan before being killed in the Appropriations subcommittee in the House. SALT and C.U.R.E. will again advocate passage of this much needed legislation in the General Assembly, and support Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA) in HR 5802 (Fair Act) that repeals nationally this unjust policy. We urge all advocates to join in making it happen. ▲

John Horejsi is Director of Social Action Linking Together (SALT)

Recent Reports on Criminal Justice

In the past two years, several reports concerning criminal justice and prisons have many people talking. Last year the Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons published the report titled **Confronting Confinement**. The report emphasized "what happens in prisons does not stay in prisons." After considering numerous conditions of confinement, such as violence, medical care, and segregation as a practice, and also considering such attributes as lack of oversight and accountability, the report made some of the following recommendations:

Violence: reduce crowding, promote rehabilitation, use objective classification and direct supervision, support community and family bonds, use force as a last resort

Health Care: partner with community health care providers, screen test and treat infectious disease, end co-payments for care, extend Medicaid and Medicare to eligible prisoners

Segregation: Make this a last resort, end isolation, protect mentally ill prisoners

Oversight and accountability: promote a culture of mutual respect, recruit and retain qualified officers, demand independent oversight, increase court access by reforming the Prisoner Litigation Reform Act, develop meaningful internal complaint systems, encourage visits, and strive for transparency

The report concludes, "We all bear responsibility for creating correctional institutions that are safe, humane and productive. With so much at stake for our citizens' health and safety, with so many people directly affected by the conditions in our prisons and jails, this is the moment to confront confinement in the United States."

The Pew Charitable Trust has published two important reports in the last two years. First published is the report titled **Public Safety, Public Spending: Forecasting America's Prison Population 2007–2011**. The report notes that we have had a 700% increase in prison populations between 1970 and 2005. This report "provides forecasts for prison populations and incarceration

rates for all 50 states". It also states that the number of prisoners is governed by two factors: how many come in and how long they stay. Indeterminate sentences, lack of parole, lowered parole grants rates, three strikes laws and other trends in the past decade are responsible for this great increase. The report provides many statistics concerning this problem and allows states to compare themselves with other states.

A more recent Pew Charitable Trust Report titled **One In One Hundred** continues in this vein, studying the high growth of prisons and its costs. Prison growth in California, Florida and Texas are examined in detail. More importantly, new programs to slow this growth in Kansas and Texas are also described. The report concludes, "No policy maker would choose this path if it meant sacrificing public safety. But gradually, some states are proving that deploying a broad range of sanctions can protect communities, punish lawbreakers and conserve tax dollars for other pressing public needs." ▲

Virginia Needs a Piece of PIE

Tom Petersik

Prisoners could gain real job experience with real firms, earn market wages, pay some of their own expenses, send money home, and save for release. It could happen in Virginia with PIE. "Prison Industry Enhancement" or PIE is a Federal program authorized in Virginia allowing private firms to operate inside Virginia correctional institutions and engage incarcerated Virginians in private sector jobs for civilian pay.

In 2007, 5,400 inmate workers in 42 state and local PIE programs earned \$40 million dollars paying \$4 million in taxes, \$13 million in board and room, \$5 million in victims compensation, and \$3 million in family support; workers must be allowed to keep at least 20 percent of their gross earnings. In 2007 they kept 38 percent, about \$16 million dollars. PIE workers typically earn the Federal minimum wage (now \$5.85) or slightly better, working about 30 hours per week about 22 weeks a year.

At year's end 2007 Maryland PIE

engaged 7 inmates, North Carolina 37, Tennessee 73, and South Carolina 1,414, indicating a wide range of success among nearby states in PIE.

However, Virginia currently has no persons working in PIE. Reasons vary, including lack of space and lack of business interest. Others also cite difficulties in operating profitably inside correctional institutions.

For the past two years, Virginia C.U.R.E. has been communicating with Virginia Corrections, particularly Correctional Enterprises, to resurrect and aggressively build PIE employment. Virginia's 4.0 percent unemployment rate is among the nation's lowest, and its economic growth among the strongest in the nation. Virginia needs willing and able workers to maintain and accelerate economic growth, and struggling C.U.R.E. families certainly know that they, their children, and their incarcerated loved ones sorely need job skills and additional income.

C.U.R.E. is encouraging Correctional

Enterprises to aggressively build a test PIE program engaging 150 workers within three years, generating \$1 million dollars annually—about \$6,600 per year per PIE worker—reducing taxpayer costs by more than \$300,000 dollars board and room, add \$150,000 to Social Security Reserves (including employer contributions), \$100,000 for victim compensation, \$25,000 to Virginia unemployment and workers compensation funds, \$40,000 for family support, and leave \$450,000 dollars to the inmates—about \$3000, per year per PIE inmate.

C.U.R.E. recognizes that success takes effort and community support. Virginia C.U.R.E. welcomes and needs your assistance in getting PIE successfully restarted, especially by working with your legislative representatives. To help, please contact Virginia C.U.R.E. 703.272.3624 or vacure@cox.net. ▲

Tom Petersik is a member of C.U.R.E.'s Board of Directors.

Two Days at OAR Arlington

Gail C. Arnall, Ph.D.

A few weeks ago I was driving to work along Rock Creek Parkway and I saw a man by the creek taking a "sponge bath." It was 40 degrees, but he had his shirt and shoes off, splashing water on himself to get clean. I was listening to WAMU-FM's report on the the debate about whether or not those making \$250,000 a year should be expected to pay higher taxes. The juxtaposition of what I assume was a homeless man washing himself in the cold creek water and the thought of others making over \$250,000 and concerned about paying more taxes was jarring.

That same day, a man arrived at OAR Arlington with \$20 in his pocket. He had been in prison 22 years. He had no family and no place to stay. We made a pallet for him on the floor in

a back room so he could sleep while we tried to find a place for him. In the afternoon, a Board member, took him to dinner, bought him clothes and paid for a hotel room. The next day we were able to find a 90-day shelter and started working on helping him get his birth certificate. A local restaurant has hired him as a dishwasher.

That same day Will Wilson, our Director of Reentry and Outreach, came back from spending two days visiting four prisons in southern Virginia. He had spoken to a room of 1600 men one morning, telling them about reentry services in Northern Virginia as well as other places in the state. While we were talking, a middle-aged man dressed in standard issue beige pants and shirt (no coat) walked in the office. Will

recognized him immediately. This man had heard Will speak at his prison two months before, remembered, and came seeking a friend's help. All of these stories, and more, in just a two day period at OAR Arlington. ▲

Dr. Arnall is Executive Director of Offender Aid and Restoration, Arlington/Alexandria

For Up-To-Date Info

Join C.U.R.E.'s Yahoo Group
virginiaprisoners@yahoo.com

We also maintain an email news list
virginiacure@cox.net

Visit our web site
www.vacure.org

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*Today's prisoners
are tomorrow's neighbors*

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Use form for new memberships or to renew your membership for 2009

Membership in Virginia C.U.R.E.

Join Virginia C.U.R.E. today and become a part of the effort to work for criminal justice reform and safety in our communities. Send dues payment to:

Virginia C.U.R.E., P.O. Box 6010, Alexandria, Virginia 22306–0010

name _____

address _____
street/or p.o. box apt. no.

_____ city _____ state _____ zip

e-mail _____ prisoner birthday _____

phone day (____) _____ evening (____) _____

fax (____) _____

Involvement: prisoner family friend professional volunteer

other _____ Institution _____
please specify

Dues are payable January 1 on a yearly, non-prorated basis for current year. Prisoner members need to include state number on all communications to C.U.R.E. Remember to send address changes.

Check type of membership

- Prisoner* \$ 2.00
- Individual \$ 15.00
- Family \$ 25.00
- Sustaining \$ 50.00
- Organization \$ 100.00
- Life \$ 100.00
- Renewal

Please make checks payable to **Virginia C.U.R.E.** Contributions are tax deductible under the provisions of 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code.

*Prisoners may send five stamps.

Please feel free to reproduce this application

Virginia C.U.R.E. invites prisoners to submit original articles, poetry and artwork for consideration for publication. VA C.U.R.E. reserves the right to edit submissions accepted for publication.

VA C.U.R.E. will not return submissions unless prior arrangements are made. Send submissions to: Newsletter Editor, Virginia C.U.R.E., P.O. Box 6010, Alexandria, Virginia 22306–0010.

InsideOut is published by Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants–Virginia, Inc., P.O. Box 6010–0010, Alexandria, Virginia 22306. Phone and fax: 703.765.6549.