



MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION

Connecticut • Delaware • District of Columbia • Maryland • New Jersey • New York • Pennsylvania • Vermont

President's Message

I'm putting this message on MASCA letterhead to show members how we have adopted a new phrase as part of the MASCA identity. At the bottom of the page you will see the phrase "A Force for Positive Change". This was developed by APPA for use by any agency or organization involved in community supervision. It represents the efforts that community supervision professionals put forth every day and the successes that are the result of these efforts. Community supervision professionals, parole and probation agents and juvenile caseworkers, motivate supervisees to complete treatment programs, maintain a substance free lifestyle, complete their education, join the workforce, pay taxes and child support, and remain crime free. The result is a better quality of life for everyone in our communities.

When the MASCA Board of Trustees discussed how MASCA was a "Force for Positive Change" the obvious response was that roughly half of our membership is involved in adult or juvenile community supervision. When we discussed this further, the reality is that our members in the institutional settings, prisons, jails, detention centers, juvenile detention, and work release centers are also making positive changes in the lives of the offenders and their communities. Some inmates have the opportunity to do positive things while incarcerated that, unfortunately, they were unable to do on the street. Improving their educational level, treatment and classes like "Thinking for a change", learning a job skill, and actually working in the community while in custody are some examples. We decided that MASCA members are all "Forces for Positive Change" and will display this phrase on our letter head and other places.

One quick reminder of the 2009 Conference in Annapolis. Nationally known correctional expert, and author of Dreams From the Monster Factory, Sunny Schwartz will be a keynote speaker and she will conduct a book signing after her address. We have a strong line-up of workshops and other speakers that is being finalized now. The full details will appear on the website soon. I know the economy is playing havoc with many agencies' ability to fund conferences and other training events. If you have to pay your own way to a conference, attending the MASCA conference will be money well spent. The hotel rate and location in Annapolis all combine to make it a perfect site for a working vacation with your spouse or family. I hope to see you there.

Henry

MASCA is a regional affiliate of American Correctional Association and American Probation and Parole Association

A Force for Positive 
CHANGE.