



30 Year Anniversary

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday
September 18, 2010

~
7:00 PM

~
Monroe
High School

17001 Tester Road

Monroe, WA 98272



Pete McLeod
Comedian, Singer, Speaker

Matthew House

30 Year Anniversary Fund Raiser

Come celebrate with us on our **30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY** and hopefully get a chance to meet you face to face to let you know how much we love and appreciate you.

Please plan on coming and bring a friend to celebrate 30 years with a Fund Raiser. Meet the Staff, Board and learn more about what we do!

We would love to meet with you personally!!

Pete McLeod's act is more than just stand-up comedy, it's an entire variety show! His show features amazing sleight-of-hand tricks with hilarious stand-up, side-splitting musical parodies and hysterical audience involvement. Pete's skills in storytelling, songwriting

Watch for more information coming!

A night of food ... fun ... fellowship ... fund raising!

From my heart to yours.....



For the first time in U.S. history, more than one of every 100 adults is in jail or prison, according to a new report documenting America's rank as the world's No. 1 incarcerator. It urges states to curtail corrections spending by placing fewer low-risk offenders behind bars. Using state-by-state data, the report says 2,319,258 Americans were in jail or prison at the start of 2008 — one out of every 99.1 adults. Whether per capita or in raw numbers, **it's more than any other nation.** By DAVID CRARY, AP Posted: 2008-02-28 22:20:03

More than seven million, or one in ten of the nations' children, have a parent under criminal justice supervision-incarcerated, on probation, or on parole. In some neighborhoods, the numbers are so high that children will tell you just about everyone on their block has seen a mother or father locked up at one point or another.

Record-High Ratio of Americans in Prison ...

~ Parents in Prison: Children in Crisis ~

When that happens, statistics show that **over 2.5 million children get left behind.** As a result of parental incarceration, many of these children experience disrupted and multiple placements, decreased quality of care, financial hardship and lack of contact with their parents. The emotional damage is significant and undeniable. Ultimately, these children are at risk for many behaviors including poor academic achievement, substance abuse, delinquency, and even intergenerational incarceration.

Children who experience parental crime, arrest and incarceration are profoundly affected physically, mentally and emotionally. When a parent is arrested, little attention is paid to the needs of that parent's children.

Children experience a broad range of emotion when their parents go to prison. Initially, they feel tremendous fear and anxiety. They worry that they have been abandoned or that they will never see the parent again. They may worry that the remaining parent or caregiver will also disappear, or that the parent or caregiver cannot protect them or prevent other bad things from happening. The separation anxiety may cause nightmares, fear of strangers, fear of being alone, or "clinginess" to a person or object. Children worry that something terrible has happened to the parent in prison. Children also feel sad or alone. They believe they did something wrong that caused the parent to leave or that they could have prevented the crisis by behaving better or trying harder. These sad feelings contribute to a sense of isolation. People may not know or understand what children are experiencing, and the sadness and isolation may go unrecognized as children withdraw. Other common reactions include anger and guilt.

On the other hand, children may feel ashamed of, and angry at, the parent. They may feel intense loyalty and may fight to defend the parent. ***The stigma of incarceration makes it hard for children to seek help because they feel embarrassed and fear rejection of themselves and of their parents.*** Children always know something is going on and that deception only compounds the emotional trauma experience. The stigma of incarceration is significant. Children may be teased and taunted about their parent's situation, or they may be avoided and isolated for being part of a "bad" family. Child Welfare League of America

This is where the work of Matthew House steps in. *We are there right from the beginning of the incarceration to provide HELP and HOPE to families...* We provide, food, clothing, counseling and referral, transportation for visitation all over the state of Washington. We provide shelter, sleeping accommodations, a food bank and clothing room.

Matthew House is a "little House with a big heart," the heart of love and compassion ... the heart of Christ to the "forgotten victims, the women and children of prisoners."

Thank You For The Spirit of Our Van Drivers ~



VANS STATS

We drive 2,400 Families a year.
We Drive every Saturday, Monday
We drive once a Sunday
We drive to seven prisons.
We drive over 30,000 miles a year.
Our drivers are all volunteers!!!!

I just wanted to tell you what an incredible spirit you all have at Matthew House. I take the van trips and the drivers are the most wonderful people I have ever met. You would think they are getting paid lots of money to drive us not volunteering. They smile all the time and really act like they love driving us and we know it's long trips. You would never know it by the way the drivers act. When I call Matthew House, everyone is so nice and polite and helpful. They never act mad or short tempered and I know they are really busy as well. You know I live in Seattle and people are so cold and mean but everyone at Matthew House is different. They all have the real spirit of Christ in everything you do. I sing your praises everywhere I go and I am always telling people to use your services and support this ministry. You can tell today who has the real spirit of Christ and Matthew House has a "True Spirit."

Thank you all for all you do! You are truly doing the work of the Lord! Sincerely, GK

How You Can Help.....???



We serve Hundreds of Families a year by providing Food To Families. We are always in need. I tell people "imagine you had 2,000 walk through your house and use your bathrooms...WHERE DOES ALL THE TOILET PAPER GO!!" WE HAD OVER 2,00 PEOPLE COMING THROUGH GETTING, WATER, COFFEE, USING THE BATHROOMS, OVER 1,700 STAYIED IN THE APARTMENTS UPSATIRS AND THE STORIES GO ON AND ON....

You can help in a number of ways:

1. Have your church, business or organization do a work day for us.
2. Collect items for the auction for our 30 year fund raiser in September.
3. Volunteer to help with your special gift for the auction: Call Andrea at
4. Donate a service to auction to auction off from your business.
5. Come clean my house / do my yard work. Just kidding! Wondering if your reading this :)
 1. Donate twin sheet sets/ towels/washcloths /pillows for the beds in the apartments.
 2. Donate a ***Special Financial Gift*** to help with our expense to keep Matthew House open.
 3. Donate fruit snacks/juices/ finger foods individual wrapped for kids to have.
 4. Donate some TOILET PAPER :) / cleaning supplies for the three apartments.
 5. **Pray for all our wonderful families, incredible children, volunteers and staff!!!!!!!!!!**

Matthew House 30 Years of Ministry

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Providing HELP and HOPE to Families of Prisoners/Simon of Cyrene Society, Inc.

Your Donation Does Makes A Difference in Children's Lives ...

YES! I want to support **Matthew House**
which has been "**Keeping The Miracle Alive**"
giving **HOPE** to children and families for
30 years. Here is my gift of love!
Enclosed is my "special donation" in the amount of

\$ _____
(Or donate by Credit Card)

Name:

Card #

Expiration Date: _____/_____/_____

Cardholder Signature:



Call Rev. Linda Paz to come speak to your group or church today! 360-794-8720 or
Find us on Facebook: Linda Waddell-Paz or Matthew House