

## Brush of Kindness mentoring and community service program

Through this program, we are seeking to utilize the many skills folk attain while in prison to both "give back" to communities they helped to destroy 30-40 years before and fulfill their most ardent desire, to work with youth. We have many community members in need of services they are incapable of doing on their own and/or unable to afford. In some cases, these will be folk where there is a disconnect between them and community youth. The program will begin to create a bridge of understanding. Additionally, the program will make contact with city, county and state representatives from the area with the proposal to do community clean up in their districts.

Mentors and mentees will meet bi-weekly over a meal in modified Life Changers sessions where issues leading to violence and prison will be addressed. Many formerly incarcerated persons went through Alternatives to Violence programs while inside and are well suited to lead the discussions. They will additionally be used to educate participants on the workings of city/state government. They must be in a position to advocate for change.

Experience has shown us that folk coming home from prison are in need of a means to survive and the success of our program will depend on being able to offer them some remuneration for their work. We are proposing to do 3 sessions a year. Each session will consist of 3 months and include 4 formerly incarcerated community members and 6 community youth.

### Budget

Mentors (\$15 per hour x 7 hrs per week x 8 weeks = \$840 x 4 mentors)  
3,360

Mentees (\$10 per hour x 7 hrs per week = \$70 x 8 weeks = \$560 x 8  
mentees) \$4,480

Cost (for 2 months 7,840 x 3 times over a one year period) \$23,520

## BRUSH of KINDNESS BoK Volunteer Application

If you wish to volunteer for the BoK project, please answer the questions below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have skills or have you had experience in carpentry, electrical work, plumbing, painting, etc? If yes, in which areas do you have skills or interest?

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your time availability? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you free evenings and weekends? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have transportation? \_\_\_\_\_ What kind? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you speak a language besides English? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, which language? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you formerly incarcerated? \_\_\_\_\_ How many years? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been out? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to work with folks from different ethnicities, gangs, political & sexual persuasions? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you express in a few words why you're interested in the Brush of Kindness project? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What goals do you hope to obtain by working with Brush of Kindness?

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Brush of Kindness (BoK) is a community project where formerly incarcerated people and community volunteers provide cleaning, moving, gardening, minor repairs and other household jobs for the elderly, infirm or needy people without funds to pay for such services.

This 'free' care is a way to 'give back' and help rebuild the communities that former prisoners once menaced and harmed. These volunteers have skills in painting, carpentry, electrical wiring as well as other household related skills

To qualify for this community service our volunteers need only be skilled of hand and mind as well as generous of heart and spirit.

To qualify for this community service our clients must simply demonstrate that they are unable to perform the task on their own.

We also have a BoK Street Team available to clean and beautify our neighborhoods.

If you are a candidate for Brush of Kindness, please contact Mark at 323.845.2156 or 323.920.7124

Brush of Kindness is a project of  
Fair Chance Project

## Brush of Kindness



**BoK Street Team working the area around Augustus Hawkins High School with Councilman Curren D. Price**



**BoK coordinator, Lorenzo Robinson (right) BoK volunteer Johnny Willie (left) after a days' work at 93 year old Florence Davis' yard. It was an act of love and respect**