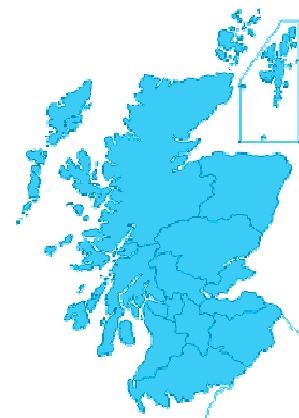


### FAMILY SUPPORT – SCOTLAND WIDE

#### *Families Outside now provides direct support to families affected by imprisonment throughout Scotland*

From November 2010, Families Outside will be able to offer direct support to families affected by imprisonment throughout Scotland for the first time. Our existing service, provided by only two staff, covers Lothian & Borders, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, North Strathclyde and South West Scotland Community Justice Authority (CJA) areas. An increase in funding to the Routes Out Of Prison (ROOP) project from The Big Lottery enabled us to allocate a second staff member to ROOP part-time, supplementing the family support work we already carry out for them. The other half of this post, funded by the Robertson Trust, provides Regional Coordination and Family Support in the South West and North Strathclyde CJAs.



This extension of funding also allows our staff to support families from a prisoner's entry into custody rather than after he or she signs up to ROOP. We will therefore strive to work more closely with other family support organisations to ensure caseloads remain manageable and that referrals are directed between organisations appropriately.

In Northern and Tayside CJAs, Charlene Kenny will take up post as Regional Support Coordinator. From November, Crossreach will contract her services part-time for the Perth Prison Visitors' Centre, with the remaining half of her post funded by the Robertson Trust and covering Regional Coordination and Family Support elsewhere in the two regions. Charlene has experience in clinical and forensic psychologist and is currently working at Rossie secure unit. She previously worked with Apex Scotland as an employment development advisor and for the NHS as an assistant forensic psychologist.

Families Outside has been striving to achieve Scotland-wide direct family support for the last two years, and we are delighted to have finally accomplished this. We also welcome Charlene to the team and look forward to working with her.

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/fo>



**EASYFUNDRAISING**



<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/fo>

Support Families Outside for free this **Christmas** when shopping online with over 600 retailers including Amazon, Ebay, Tesco, Argos, Next, M&S, John Lewis, Debenhams, HMV, Vodaphone, Play.com, The Body Shop, Interflora, Comet, DELL and more...

#### BY FAMILIES FOR FAMILIES

Families Outside recently appointed a new family member to the Board of Trustees. We would like to welcome Janice McGowan to the Board and very much look forward to working with her. Following this appointment, and in consideration of the number of applicants for the role, we have decided to look into setting up a Family Forum to ensure we do not lose any of the valuable input and experience of the other family members who applied.

Though only at an early stage, we would intend the Forum to be an open platform for families to discuss their experiences, using it as an opportunity to gain support and propose action for Families Outside to take forward. This would provide an avenue for peer support as well.

We hope to offer this service between two and four times a year. If you are interested in joining the Forum or know someone who may benefit, please contact us here at Families Outside.



#### NEW HELPLINE WORKER

At the beginning of September 2010, Families Outside recruited Judith Cramb as our new part-time Helpline Worker, working 20 hours per week.



Judith comes to us from Edinburgh City Mission, a role she will continue alongside her post with Families Outside. She brings with her a wealth of experience in counselling, social exclusion and addiction awareness, all of which make her an ideal addition to the current Helpline team.

We are delighted to welcome Judith to Families Outside and hope she will enjoy her time with us.

#### THE BIG DRAW

In recent months, Families Outside has been promoting The Big Draw in all of Scotland's prison establishments, with the theme 'Family Visits on a Budget'.



We are delighted with the enthusiastic response to the scheme from each prison establishment and their eagerness to involve the children of prisoners. With 9 of the 15 prisons taking part, we hope to encourage all the establishments to get involved in next year's family-focused event.



**WEBSITE HITS** (13/07/10 – 13/10/10)

**25,011**

## GIVING FAMILIES A VOICE

We are always looking for people who are willing to share their experiences of having a family member caught up in the criminal justice system. If this is of interest, please let us know - we are always ready to hear your story.

Tel 0131 557 9800 Email [admin@familiesoutside.org.uk](mailto:admin@familiesoutside.org.uk)

## TRAINING AND AWARENESS

The current financial year continues to be a positive one for Families Outside, and we work hard to sustain this success. We continue, for example, to provide training for new recruits at the Scottish Prison Service and Lothian & Borders Police as well as awareness-raising as part of the Life/Time project in Lothian & Borders secondary schools. In addition to these, training and awareness-raising has included the following:

- The joint SCCYP/Families Outside report on Child Impact Statements in Court resulted in a Parliamentary Members' debate on 30 June 2010 where the impact of imprisonment on children and young people was debated along with the Scottish Government's response to this. Along with ourselves, an alliance of child-focused organisations (Action for Children, Barnardo's, Children in Scotland, and the office of Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People) continues to meet to decide how best to support this work and to influence relevant legislation.
- Families Outside continues to be one of the organisations meeting with the UK Big Lottery Fund regarding development of a new funding stream to support vulnerable families, most recently meeting in Birmingham in September.
- Our Chief Executive chaired a public event as part of a six-session international conference at the Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Strathclyde (Women, Punishment and Community Sanctions: Human Rights and Social Justice). She has also been invited to speak at the opening plenary of the Scottish Parole Board's annual conference in November.
- We have been invited to deliver a number of workshops and presentations over the next quarter during the main 'conference season'.
- We addressed the quarterly meeting of the ACPOS (Association of Chief Police Officers for Scotland) National Community Safety Sub-Group on 14 October, linking us in with key contacts throughout Scotland.

Requests for input to reports and consultations in the last quarter have included:

- Commissioner for Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill;
- Selection of the new Chief Officer for Lothian & Borders Community Justice Authority;
- Feedback for the SPS Visitors' Survey;
- Feedback for the Scottish Veterans Prison In-Reach 'Veterans in Prison' survey;
- Feedback on revision of the SPS Core Screen;
- Case study published in the Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights report, *State of Children's Rights in Scotland 2010*; and
- Enquire (Children in Scotland) blog: article on support in schools for children affected by imprisonment.

## PRISONERS' WEEK (21 – 28 NOVEMBER 2010)

Prisoners' Week was organised initially as part of the work of the Joint Prisons Chaplaincies Board. Now, through an ad hoc ecumenical Planning Group comprised of Chaplains, the Chaplaincy Adviser and representatives from Prison Fellowship Scotland, HOPE and Families Outside, publicity material is offered together with support and co-ordination for a number of events.



Throughout the country events are organised by Prison Chaplains and local Churches seeking to engage in discussion with community groups and representatives about matters that concern prisoners, victims of crime and all who care.

If you are interested in taking part, come along to the Prisoners' Week Question Time:

7pm Monday 22 November 2010  
Scottish Story-Telling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SR  
or watch it live on the web.

You will find Prisoners' Week information on their website, [www.PrisonersWeekScotland.co.uk](http://www.PrisonersWeekScotland.co.uk), as well as a calendar of local events, contact details of organisations that offer help and advice, reflections and worship resources. Chaplains are available in every prison to offer spiritual care and the means for people to explore and practise faith.

## STENCILS - A FRESH APPROACH TO OUR SERVICE

At the suggestion of Lothian & Borders Police, Families Outside has developed a stencil with details about our Support & Information Helpline. This innovative tool can be used, for example, on the ceilings of police and court holding cells or prison waiting rooms.

Stencils are currently being piloted by Lothian & Borders Police, Edinburgh Sheriff Court, HMP Addiewell, The Salvation Army and HMP Edinburgh. We are also in discussion with each of the eight Community Justice Authorities in Scotland as well as the remaining courts and police constabularies about the project.



## FAMILIES OUTSIDE 'TEXT SERVICE'



In conjunction with the forthcoming launch of the 'Kids' section of our website, we will be offering a texting service to families. This will afford individuals the choice of texting requests for support which we will respond to by e-mail to their mobile phone. This is an important innovation in our service that not only provides privacy and anonymity but will also give young people the chance to contact us for support in a way likely to be familiar to them. Details of this service will be on our website soon.

**Families Outside**  
**Support & Information Helpline**  
Freephone 0500 83 93 83  
[support@familiesoutside.org.uk](mailto:support@familiesoutside.org.uk)  
answerphone if not available