

Support Strategies

1. No surprises!!!!
 - a. Get approval ahead of time & make sure you keep your boss informed
 - b. Keep custody staff informed of schedules, changes, substitutions
 - c. Keep all program staff informed and working together so the program office presents itself as a unit
 - d. Keep inmates informed of program changes and cancellation so attendance levels stay up
2. P.R.
 - a. Speak in community & to organizations
 - b. Articles in local papers about programs and volunteers
 - c. Have volunteers go through training before starting and part of that training is meeting custody staff
 - d. Advertise upcoming programs with the inmates
3. Get people inside the jail
 - a. Community tours
 - b. Bring community groups in
 - c. "Open Houses"
 - d. Recruit volunteers
 - e. Inform local volunteer coordinator of needs in the jail
 - f. Place ads in local newspaper
4. Media positive
 - a. Invite media in to observe program
 - b. Encourage inmates to write letters about positive experiences
 - c. Give media information about money saving program and the use of volunteers
 - d. Show media positive benefits of programs
5. "Adopt a Program"
 - a. Get community organization to adopt a program for a year
6. Salesmanship
 - a. Be positive and emphasize benefits of jail programming to jail administration, sheriff, staff, and community
7. Schmoozing, networking with colleagues, peers, etc.
8. Gather, include support
9. Investment – personal, \$\$, etc.
10. Document program stats
 - a. Amount of program hours
 - b. Amount of volunteer hours
 - c. Amount of inmates attending programs
 - d. Number of volunteers
 - e. Use percentages to show: money saving, staff time saved

11. Recognize and award volunteers
 - a. Yearly awards banquet
 - b. Send birthday card
 - c. Send yearly thank you with amount of hours volunteer helped