
CPO FAMILY

Spring 2019

A Publication of The CPO Foundation

Vol. 29 No. 1

Organ Donation: "The Gift of Life"

**"Taking Care of Our Own" when it's
"Up Close and Personal"**

by Kim Potter-Blair



Aven, Kim, Myron and Chase.

In December 2008 my life, and my family's life, changed forever. I remember being in Lowes, shopping for supplies for our upcoming [Kentucky DOC] Probation & Parole audit, when I received a call from my husband, Myron. He was upset. He told me that he had just found out that he has a kidney disease and will need a biopsy to determine the specifics of the disease. I couldn't believe what he was telling me. At that time, our son, Chase, was five and our son, Aven, was one. There is no way, I thought to myself. Myron is too young. We have young children. It was like seeing your life flash before your eyes.

I am often asked what led to this. What symptoms did Myron have? Myron was a regular blood donor. I remember him being so happy when he reached the one-gallon blood donation mark. Myron's blood type is O positive, and he received calls for blood donations on a regular basis. However, the last time he went to donate, he couldn't give. Why? Before giving blood, the medical staff conducts a "mini" physical exam. During this, it was discovered that Myron's blood pressure was high. Myron then went to his family doctor who confirmed that indeed Myron had high blood pressure and put him on medication. I remember being

continued on page 4

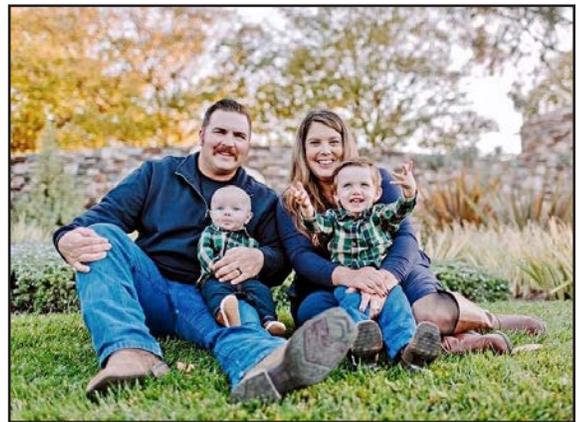
"Little did I Know ..."

by Andrew J. Steele, Fire Captain

CDCR FIRE at California Men's Colony State Prison

When I began my career with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, during Academy we were asked to volunteer to be put on the national list of bone marrow donors. Without hesitation, I volunteered. I knew the importance of being a donor because a member of my family was saved by bone marrow donation.

Little did I know that someday I *would* be asked to donate. Earlier this year I was contacted to be a bone marrow donor to a 17-year-old male with leukemia, and of course I accepted the opportunity. One of my co-workers told me to contact the CPOF, as they offer assistance to Officers and Officers' families in times of emergency, crisis or other needs. To say that the CPOF has taken care of me is an understatement. They definitely *take care of their own*, and my family and I are very grateful. Thank you, CPOF!



*The Steele Family: Andrew, Lynsi,
Maverick and Tucker.*

CPO FAMILY

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To request catastrophic assistance for a Correctional Officer or Staff at your prison, jail or office, email: char@cpof.org. Please provide your full name, institution, rank and cell phone number (or other phone number where you can be reached). Thank you for assisting us in "Taking Care of our Own."

Note: Many Representatives bring the CPO Foundation to one or more other States in addition to their home State.

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The Elias Family: Brianna, Morgan,
Lowe (dad) and Tanner

Tanner's inspiring organ transplant experience is included inside as one of our Cover Stories!

Back Cover:
Christy House and Rob Paster
are Wed!

Plan NOW for
PROJECT 2000 XXXI
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Thursday, June 11 - Sunday, June 14, 2020

This cover story is dedicated to those that have given “the gift of life.”

Over the past many years the Correctional Peace Officers’ Foundation has been involved with “the Gift of Life.”

On the cover is one of our CPOF Board of Directors that gave a kidney to her husband. Her story is detailed and very emotional as ALL such stories are. Andrew Steele, also on the cover, signed up in the Academy to give bone marrow and when approached just two months later, he said “**of course,**” with a one word answer: **when?**

In the first paragraph I said “past many years” for, in fact, the origins of this story do go back to late 1988 when I met Uriah Alexander. His dad, Correctional Sergeant Don Alexander, at that time worked at California Institution for Men. As it says in Uriah’s article (page 7) we were not able to find him a match, even though the cities of Pomona and Blythe and neighboring cities were determined, along with CPOF, to find Uriah a match. Yet, our hundreds and hundreds of bone marrow tests were not fruitful.

Reliving Uriah’s story still brings tears to my eyes, as I had hoped that out of 12,000 California C/O’s at that time, not to mention their spouses, a match would be found. So you can imagine my disappointment, as well as that of the Correction communities, when all our efforts failed.

HOWEVER, through those efforts the testing we were involved with saved many lives. For instance, four of those who had volunteered to be tested -- these potential “givers of life” (and again I’m going back to 1994) -- were Counselor 1 Tom Ramback, Correctional Officers Leslie Clark and Jimmie Lowe of Sierra Conservation Center, and Correctional Officer Dona Burke of Pelican Bay State Prison. All were contacted at some point to be an organ donor and all followed through.

Some recipients have been in remission for several years, like Nickey Brooks, a Nevada C/O at the time of her procedure, who recently hit the nine year mark. Nickey is now retired from Northern Nevada Correctional Facility.

Since 1994 we have had many of our Correctional Staff give the gift of life or receive the gift of life. Our Washington Representative, Bridgett Bolinger, tells her husband’s story on page 8. As in Randy’s case and many others, often additional treatments are needed that are very expensive, thus the CPOF steps in to assist.

In 2014 Correctional Officer Jesmer gave the gift of life to his uncle C/O Oscar Yonnie. Both were employed at ASPC Winslow in Arizona. Jesmer is retired from Arizona Department of Corrections and Yonnie also retired but developed a bad case of the flu and passed away. My thanks and appreciation to Warden Larson for this update.

In closing, if you are reading this publication and CPOF assisted you if you gave or received the gift of life, please send us an email and let us know how you are doing.

-- Char

extremely upset about the results of this appointment. After that diagnosis, Myron started urinating frequently, significantly more than the average person. He again went to his family doctor. The doctor thought it was a prostate issue. After multiple prostate exams, Myron was informed that he had a slightly enlarged prostate. He was prescribed a medication that did not help the frequent urination. His family doctor did blood work and a urine test. That is when the doctor discovered the big “P”: PROTEIN in Myron’s urine. He was referred to a nephrologist.

The nightmare begins.

On February 22, 2008, Myron had a kidney biopsy. He was diagnosed with Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis (FSGS). It is scarring in your kidney, and it is a rare kidney disease that can sometimes be fatal. This is the same disease that pro basketball player Alonzo Mourning was diagnosed with and eventually had a transplant. When the doctor was giving us the news, I remember only hearing the words “dialysis” and “fatal.” Everything else sounded like Charlie Brown’s teacher saying, “wah, wah, wah.....”

We traveled and got a second opinion from Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee. Same diagnosis. They also recommended that we *not* travel from Lexington, Kentucky to Nashville, Tennessee, when we have a great research hospital in our own back yard, at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. We were blessed to know someone who was able to get



“Good to go!”

us in with a nephrologist at the University of Kentucky. Myron had frequent appointments and was prescribed different medications in attempts to slow down the FSGS process. Some appointments would result in good news, some would result in terrible news.

Regardless, whenever it was time for another appointment, my heart

would fall into my stomach.

In November 2011, the doctor recommended that we attend an educational program to learn about dialysis treatment options, and possibly kidney transplantation. At that time, we were told that you had to be placed on dialysis first before being put on the transplant list. My prayer to GOD was for Myron *not* to have to go on dialysis.



“Thumbs Up!”

Over the years, Myron’s kidney function continued to decline and his frequent need for urination never stopped. Myron continued having to get up in the middle of the night two to three times, sometimes more, to use the bathroom.

In 2016, Myron was finally placed on the National Kidney Transplant List. We were told that we were looking at a minimum of four years before getting a kidney. I couldn’t believe that he was going to be placed on the list without having been on dialysis. As it turns out, the protocols were changing. Then they went on to say that a living donor is better than a deceased donor. In general, a deceased donor’s kidney does not last as long, and may not work as well as a living donor. Being placed on a National Donor List brings mixed emotions. You pray that you or a loved one gets a new kidney, but you do not want to wish any misfortune on another human being. It was tough. Myron and I hardly ever spoke about this disease to anyone, ESPECIALLY the children. We never told them until later on. I tried to keep everything as normal as possible for the family. I believe that sometimes, I even pretended to myself, or something akin to pretending, that this wasn’t even going on.

As I said in the beginning, when it was time for a doctor’s appointment, there would be a lot of anxiety for me, and I know for Myron as well. Myron’s kidney function continued to decline. The doctor told us it

COVER STORY

was time to start looking for a living donor. WOW! What a blow. How do you do that? How in the world do you ask other people if they would be willing to get tested to give away one of their kidneys?

On November 30, 2017, I filled out my own Living Kidney Donor questionnaire and sent it in. I never heard anything. I didn't press the issue at the time, because Myron was not on dialysis. To be honest, I had been scared to fill out the paperwork.

On June 11, 2018, I returned home to Lexington, Kentucky from our Correctional Peace Officers Foundation National Memorial Service in Houston, Texas. Myron picked me up from the airport. For some unknown reason, I knew in my gut that something was wrong. I remember it being an absolutely beautiful evening. The sun was setting and the sight of the horse farms near the airport was breathtaking. Then Myron dropped the bombshell on me. He told me that it was time after all for dialysis, and the doctor wanted to put the port in next month (July). I was speechless -- again. I had known deep down that this day would come, but like most people placed in a similar situation, are we ever ready for it?

When a person needs an organ, it is recommended that you get a "Champion," a person that will advocate for you. They are your voice. It is their desire and responsibility to help you procure an organ. We chose our close family friend, Allison Peevy -- and she did just that. She built a webpage, and named it "Myron's Superhero" page. It is very hard to "put yourself out there." But for anyone that is in this situation, do it. I couldn't believe the number of people that were interested. If someone says they are too old, or they have this problem or that problem, tell them to fill out the paperwork anyway. Let the transplant team make the decision.

I again turned in my Living Kidney Donor questionnaire. I went in to have blood work completed and had to do a 24-hour urine test. Here are the events that followed:

June 25, 2018 - Blood and 24-hour urine test;
June 29, 2018 - *Found out we were compatible*, and the technicians were waiting on the cross-match result;



Post surgery, Myron checks up on Kim.

July 12, 2018 – Cross-match was good!

July 22, 2018 - CT scan of my abdomen to look at my kidneys;

August 2, 2018 - Nuclear Medical Scan, due to one kidney being larger than the other, and to see how they functioned separately.

On August 14, 2018 I found out that the transplant team had given us a "thumbs up" to go through with the transplant. This was a very special day in other ways. It was our youngest son, Aven's, 11th birthday.

September 6, 2018 will always be near and dear to Myron and me. GOD was right on time and He knew what He was doing when He united us. After all the years, doctor visits, and all the wonderful people that volunteered, but didn't match, our match was found at home. Alluding to the motto of the CPO Foundation, "Taking Care of Our Own," I was able to attempt to fulfill that motto in a very personal way.

We had our surgery and it was successful!

None of this could have taken place as it did without GOD, first and foremost; the University of Kentucky Hospital transplant team; our transplant coordinators; family; friends; my church parish; and all the love and prayers. I am truly grateful, more than mere words could ever express. ■

How did the CPO Foundation become involved with the “Gift of Life” via organ donation?



It all began with Uriah. Uriah Alexander, son of Don and Mara Alexander, was born in July of 1982. Don was a Correctional Sergeant at California Institution for Men (CIM) in Chino, California. After suffering through a series of perplexing medical

problems, at the age of 14 months Uriah was finally diagnosed with leukemia.

Over the next few years Uriah underwent many treatments, none of which were effective in eliminating his blood cancer completely. It became apparent that a bone marrow transplant was Uriah’s only real hope of survival.

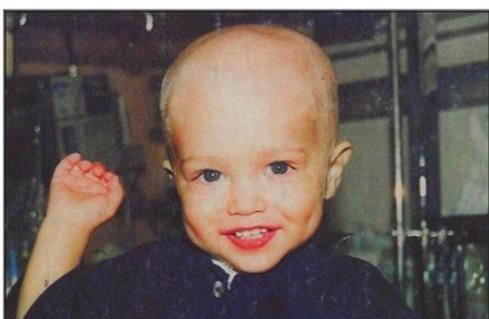
As Don was a Correctional Sergeant, we at the CPO Foundation were notified of Uriah’s condition and the urgent need for a bone marrow donor to be found for him. Thus, in 1988 we began a program in association with Heart of America, a national marrow donor registry, to sponsor bone marrow testing on

potential donors within the (then) CDC. Recruitment for this voluntary testing was done at conventions, conferences and institutions. About 2,500 CDC employees over the next few years volunteered to be tested.

Sadly, no compatible donor was ever found for Uriah, a brave and sweet little boy. He passed away on July 1, 1991. However, of the Correctional Officers and Staff whose test results were entered into the Heart of America registry, four were matched with patients in need of bone marrow transplants. We are proud to say that all four Officers stayed true to their commitment on behalf of Uriah and followed through with the transplant procedure.

Two years later, we assisted MTA Marie Gurule of CIM after the death of her daughter, Carrie, from cancer. Marie told us that Carrie had stated that she wished to be an organ donor, and indeed *both of her kidneys, and her liver, heart and “islet” cells from her pancreas* were successfully harvested and donated to patients in need.

Tanner’s Story



Not long after his first birthday in 1997, little Tanner Elias was diagnosed with MDS (myelodysplastic syndrome).

MDS is a rare cancer in which immature blood cells in the bone marrow fail to mature and therefore do not become healthy blood cells.

The search was on to find a bone marrow donor for Tanner. And, ultimately, the search was successful in a most remarkable way.

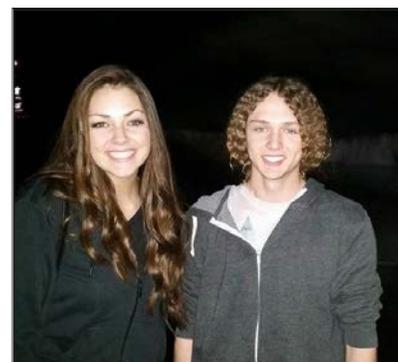
On October 22, 1997, Tanner underwent a bone marrow transplant using marrow from his father, C/O Lowe Elias, who was working at California

Correctional Institution in Tehachapi at the time. After the requisite testing, Lowe had turned out to be a match for Tanner, a father-and-son medical compatibility for which the odds of occurrence are, according to Tanner’s doctors, about a million to one!

We contacted Lowe Elias for an update on Tanner and received this wonderful reply from him:

“Tanner is now 23 years old and has been in remission for 22 years. His hobbies are skateboarding, working on his car and going shooting. In February he finished lineman school in Idaho and now works for Rokstad Power as a groundman.”

Tanner is pictured here with his sister, Brianna.



Randy and Bridgett Bolinger

My name is Bridgett Bolinger. I am a Corrections Officer at Airway Heights Correction Center in Airway Heights, Washington. My husband, Randy Bolinger, is a Sergeant at Airway Heights Correction Center. He started his career with Corrections in 1978.

Randy became very sick in 2008 and spent much of his time going to doctors when he was not working. In late 2008, Randy was placed on the Liver Transplant list. He had stage 4 liver disease (cirrhosis) and cancer of the liver. He had contracted Hepatitis-C many years prior. Randy became so sick from the disease that he went on a long medical leave from his work at the prison on July 4, 2009.

On May 17, 2011 Randy was blessed with a liver transplant. What a wonderful *gift of life* from a family who was suffering a great loss of a loved one! Randy was able to return to work at the prison six months after the transplant. His doctor said that Randy was a “different”



kind of man: Randy was his first patient over the age of 45 who wanted to go back to work rather than take a medical retirement. Randy truly loves his job!

Since the liver transplant, Randy was treated for the Hepatitis-C with a very expensive medication. The first treatment failed and Randy had to wait for a little over a year before he could undergo a new treatment. He went through that second treatment and is now free of the Hepatitis-C and

doing very well. I am happy to report that Randy leads a full life, enjoying family events, grandchildren, yard work, adventures and work. Praise God for our CPOF family who was there for us.

We love our CPOF family and, as the Eastern Washington CPOF Representative, I personally look forward to working with the Foundation as much as possible for a long, long time. CPOF truly does

Take Care of their Own!

Florida: Liver Transplant

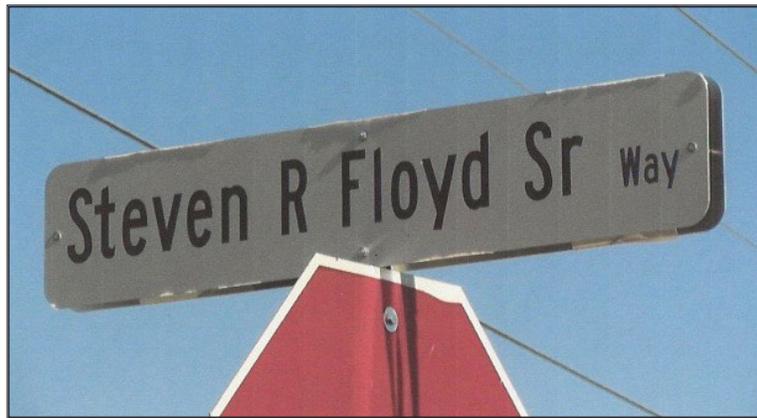
C/O Cynthia Etheridge is a Supporting Member at Okaloosa CI. Cynthia’s husband, Robert, spent considerable time at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, FL (310 miles one way from their home) recovering from a liver transplant. At right: C/O Etheridge (center) holding her CPOF assistance check. With her are Robert (second from left), Lt. Monique Merritt, Warden Michael Booker and Major Christopher McClellan.



Virginia: Kidney Transplant



At left: C/O Glenn Fore, Lt. Drew Fleming and C/O Clayton Phillips of Red Onion State Prison. C/O Fore, a Supporting Member, donated a kidney to his wife, Jessica, in November of 2018. At the recommendation of Lt. Fleming and CPOF Representative Wendy Baur, he received an assistance check to help with the many out of pocket medical expenses he incurred during the donation process. C/O Clayton Phillips was hospitalized on February 11, 2019 for a blood clot in his leg. He was scheduled to have surgery for removal of the clot. Lt. Fleming and Wendy Baur recommended C/O Phillips also for CPOF assistance.



Delaware's Department of Correction on Tuesday unveiled a new street sign along the road leading to the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center, honoring an officer killed during a 2017 inmate uprising at the prison. A service road off Paddock Road near Smyrna was renamed after Lt. Steven Floyd, a veteran correctional officer who died during a standoff after inmates seized control of the building he was working in and took hostages.

Delaware Correctional Commissioner Perry Phelps said renaming the road was a fitting tribute to a dedicated correctional officer. The sign was revealed during a sometimes emotional ceremony attended by correctional officers and administrators, state lawmakers, and Floyd's family.

"Every time they pass by, every time they use this lane to go to the facility, they'll remember Lt. Floyd and who he was and what he did here," he said.

The ceremony took place more than two years after the Feb. 1, 2017 riot, which touched off a massive amount of scrutiny on the Delaware Department of Correction and staffing levels in Delaware prisons.

A state report noted that staffing shortages and forced overtime to ensure staffing levels would be adequate in Delaware prisons were issues found at Vaughn prior to the riot.

Phelps said the agency is attempting more aggressively to recruit more officers.

-- WBOC 16 FM, Smyrna, Delaware

The story:

On February 1, 2017 inmates staged a fight inside the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center. Sergeant Floyd was ambushed and overpowered by numerous inmates. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Floyd radioed to other responding Officers that the disturbance was a trap. This action ultimately saved the lives of his fellow Officers. Nearly 20 hours after the siege began; the walls of the prison were breached by members of the Corrections Emergency Response Team. It was then that the body of Sergeant Floyd was discovered inside the prison. Sergeant Floyd had

suffered severe trauma at the hands of the inmates while he was held captive.

For his actions during the initial uprising, Sergeant Floyd was posthumously promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and awarded the Medal of Valor.

Lt. Floyd was honored at **Project 2000 XXIX**.





***A Word from CPO Foundation
National Honor Guard Commander
Steve Dizmon
Captain, Retired California DOC***



Greetings:

First, a very special thank you to all the Wardens, Superintendents, Directors and Commissioners, because without your support for the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation and the support for your staff the CPOF would not be able to function. Your continued approval for your staff to attend the CPOF **Projects** and Memorial Ceremonies when one of our own is killed in the line of duty is essential. Remember how earlier in your career when your “Boss” demonstrated strong support for you and your comrades, it built pride and morale and made you feel more professional in performing your duties? Supporting your troops will bring you a stronger, united group of people working “the Beat” in your prison, jail and/or department.

For the **Project 2000** Memorial Ceremony, Honor Guard registration and practice day is always Thursday. Honor Guards will practice that afternoon and attend, in uniform, the reception dinner that night. Come 0600 on Friday morning, all Honor Guards will get on buses to be transported to the Memorial Ceremony site. Once there, we practice some more -- and those of you who have been to practice before know what it is all about: Your professionalism and dedication to the cause, our “Fallen Officers.”

On Friday the Memorial Ceremony begins with marching in formation. With sharp uniforms and flags billowing in the wind, we will march with pride in our chosen profession and in remembrance of our Fallen Officers. The Memorial Luncheon follows the Ceremony where once again you shine by meeting the surviving families and showing them your love and support.

Without you -- the National Memorial Honor Guard -- **Project** would be only a shadow of itself. Praise our Father above, the CPOF does have you, and because of your dedication and professionalism the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation and the Honor Guard have grown and gained national recognition. With this growth we are all able to assist more Correctional staff and families that suffer the tragic loss of a loved one, or aid them in a catastrophic event.

Remember: You are the ones that make **Project** what it is and you know what it really means when you read or hear the motto, “**Taking Care of Our Own.**”



CPOF National Honor Guard is a Presence at the Grand Opening of the National Peace Officers Museum in Washington, D.C.



“We were very proud to represent the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation at the Grand Opening of the National Peace Officers Museum in Washington, D.C. on October 13, 2018,” said Commander Steve Dizmon of the CPOF Honor Guard.

In response, Mr. Craig Floyd, Founding CEO of the National Peace Officers Museum Memorial Fund (retired as of December 31, 2018) said, “Steve, we were extremely proud to have you and your other representatives of the CPO Foundation join us for the Museum opening. Visitors are loving the Corrections exhibition in the Museum!”



***To be Honored at the CPO Foundation Annual National Memorial Ceremony
Friday, June 7, 2019 at PROJECT 2000 XXX***



Sergeant Mark Baserman
State Correctional Institution - Somerset
Pennsylvania Department of Corrections
EOW: February 26, 2018



Deputy Sheriff Patrick Rohrer
EOW: June 15, 2018
Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office
Kansas



Deputy Sheriff Theresa King
EOW: June 16, 2018
Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office
Kansas



Correctional Officer Tawanna Marin
South Florida Reception Center
Florida Department of Corrections
EOW: June 18, 2018



Correctional Officer II Joseph Gomm
Minnesota Correctional Facility --
Stillwater
Minnesota Department of Corrections
EOW: July 18, 2018



Corrections Officer Kyle Eng
Las Vegas Detention Center
City of Las Vegas Department
of Public Safety
Nevada
EOW: July 19, 2018



Correctional Officer Armando Gallegos
Kern Valley State Prison
California Department of Correction
and Rehabilitation
California
EOW: September 14, 2018



Correctional Officer II Joseph Parise
Minnesota Correctional Facility --
Oak Park Heights
Minnesota Department of Corrections
EOW: September 24, 2018



Correctional Officer Lesa Zoerb
Okimaw Ohci Healing Lodge
Saskatchewan
Correctional Service of Canada
EOW: October 7, 2018



Corrections Officer
Rhonda Commodore
The Pas Correctional Centre
Manitoba Justice -- Corrections Division
Canada
EOW: November 6, 2014

California



C/O Wade Johnson of CHCF was diagnosed with cancer in March 2018. He is pictured at left with his wife, Mary; and their children, Nolan and Ainsley.

The CPO Foundation continues to keep C/O Wade Johnson in our prayers, as do ALL Correctional Staff not only at CHCF but at nearby facilities and Paroles as well.

CPOF was founded to “take care of our own.” Thanks to Staff who upgrade their their monthly contributions so we can continue to assist Staff in need of a “Hand Up.”

I would also like to thank Samantha Kissane for offering to be another CPOF contact at CHCF and to Louis Kissane for being a contact for Paroles.

CPOF contacts are appreciated! -- Char

Dear CPOF,

Thank you so much for the donation. My lovely wife of 34 years has had her surgery and is now getting ready for chemo and radiation treatments. So, as you can imagine, we are under a lot of mental and financial stress. This assistance will so help us with gas and travel and medical bills.

Thanks again for taking care of your own: this is why I donate to this organization.

Sincerely,

Randy Scruggs

C/O Randy Scruggs is a Supporting Member at Pelican Bay State Prison. His wife, Kim, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Randy and Kim had to travel frequently to Grants Pass, Oregon for Kim's treatments and surgery.



C/O Robin Barnett (center) is a Supporting Member at North Kern State Prison. Her adult daughter, Monica (32), was killed in an auto accident on October 7, 2018. C/O Barnett was responsible for the funeral services. With her in this photo are Monica and C/O Barnett's son, Jake.



Supervisor Fernando Gutierrez is a Supporting Member at Calipatria State Prison. His wife, Evelia, was diagnosed with Stage III ovarian cancer. Evelia was having chemo treatments three times a week. She and Fernando had to travel four hours round trip to La Jolla for Evelia to receive her treatments. At left: Fernando and Evelia.

California



Dear Christina:

My family and I would like to thank the CPO Foundation Board of Directors; Ms. Josie Gastelo, Warden; CPOF Foundation Field Representative Connie Summers; and yourself for your assistance. With all of your help my family and I will be able to eliminate some of the expenses that have come about due to medical issues that have prevented me to be able to do my duties as a correctional officer. We are very blessed to have CPOF there for us in this time. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you all.

Sincerely,

Joseph Cabrera

Correctional Officer, California Men's Colony

C/O Joseph Cabrera, a Supporting Member at CMC, was temporarily disabled due to left knee osteoarthritis and was off work for an extended period of time. He is pictured above with his son, Max, and daughter, Marissa.



C/O Alejandro Farinas, a Supporting Member at CSP Solano, died of a heart attack in late January of 2019. His widow, Evelyn, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check. At left: Alejandro and Evelyn during a past vacation.

Winter is over and spring is here, soon to be summer. Realizing time is effortless and waits for no one, CPOF is taking care of our own, and steadily undertaking numerous catastrophic illnesses, losses and disasters by the day. We are nationally the only support team helping our Correctional brothers and sisters get through hardships with easement.



I have seen plenty with my own eyes, I have listened with my own ears, and I have embraced with my heart. Through the heartbreaks and losses, I have realized to let things go that can no longer be fixed. However, be strong and leave a light burning for something special that can be.

"If God sends us on strong paths, we are provided with strong shoes!" (So true.)

I am so very thankful for the warmth and kindness to all who support CPOF, especially at the institutions and other events.

We welcome any comments or feedback from our CPOF members on ways to improve our organization.

Promote what you love!

Connie Summers, California Field Representative

In this picture, Connie is holding a plaque recognizing and congratulating her for 25 years with the CPOF.

NEW YORK



C/O Christoph Goodman of Woodbourne CF was experiencing substantial pain in his arm. He went to his doctor where it was discovered he had a detached bicep. He had surgery in May of 2018 to repair the bicep. Officer Goodman came close to exhausting all his accrued leave, thus he received a CPOF

assistance check. His return to work was to be on light duty status. Pictured: C/O Goodman and referring party Sergeant Suzanne Furman.

New York Representative Jay West presented a check to C/O Austin Gotham, a Supporting Member at Ogdensburg CF, whose son, Jaxson, was born three months



prematurely in late June 2018. The baby had a lung disease that required him to be in an NICU for almost two months. Also pictured: Mrs. Gotham (Jessica) and C/O Tyler Dvornski, one of the CPOF's contacts at Ogdensburg.

C/O Donald (Scott) Drew is a Supporting Member at Adirondack CF. He received an assistance check from Jay West after C/O Drew's four-year-old



granddaughter, Elise, was discovered in September 2018 to have tumors on her brain stem. Also pictured are Elise's mother and father, Aubrey and Matt.



Sergeant Steven Garrabrant, a Supporting Member at Riverview CF, was diagnosed with inoperable bone cancer last autumn. He will undergo chemotherapy for an undetermined period of time. Sgt. Garrabrant is

pictured here with Jay West and C/O Don Dietschweiler.



Jay presented a check to Sergeant Nick Tacti, a Supporting Member at Eastern CF, who suffered a stroke at the facility in early March of 2018. Also pictured are Sgt. Tacti's girlfriend, Ashleigh, and daughter, Emma.

C/O John Russell, a Supporting Member at Bare Hill CF, was hospitalized last autumn at the University of Vermont for back surgery to remove bone spurs. In this photo C/O Russell



has just received an assistance check from Jay.

NEW YORK



C/O Don McKeon of Cocksackie CF was diagnosed with cancer last year and underwent treatment. He is pictured here with Jay and C/O Todd Adams.



NYSCOPBA Treasurer Frank Gilbo presented a \$17,107.00 check to CPOF NY Representatives Jay and Ellie West, the proceeds from NYSCOPBA's 2018 Statewide Golf Tournament. Also pictured are NYSCOPBA VP Tammy Sawchuck and Executive Assistant David Viddivo. Many, many thanks to NYSCOPBA for this very generous donation!

12/10/18:
C/O Ian McNeill of Downstate CF and his family were in need of financial assistance due to many expenses incurred after his wife, Ashley, was diagnosed with lupus, migraines, PTSD, IBS and sev-



eral other ailments. Above: Ian, his wife, Ashley, and C/O Nicholas Laino.



C/O Joseph McGillicuddy is a Supporting Member at Upstate CF. His daughter, Caitlynn, went in to have an ACL repair and ended up with sepsis. She was hospitalized for over two weeks. Above: Upstate CF contact C/O Brandy Smith, Caitlynn (with a CPOF Lucy Lion), C/O McGillicuddy and Jay West.

Thank you to the CPO Foundation and my Superintendent, Ms. Elizabeth O'Meara, of Watertown Correctional Facility, NY. Your thoughtfulness in our time of need will always be treasured by our family. The gift you sent will be used for our mounting medical bills.

Thank you all again,

Sincerely,

Correction Officer Mark Armstrong
Belleville, NY

C/O Mark Armstrong is a Supporting Member at Watertown CF. In late December of 2018, his wife, Cassandra, was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy, ventricular tachycardia, ventricular fibrillation, and heart failure. She has had several extended stays in the hospital.

NEW YORK



Hi,

My name is Jeff Len. I have been a Correctional Officer at Wyoming CF for 34 years. I have a beautiful family: wife, Ann Marie; daughter, Chelse, age 24; and son, Kevin, age 22. We have been married for 25 years. We got bad news in November of 2018 that my wife had cancer. She had chemo and radiation for eight weeks straight. We finally got the good news: the chemo and radiation worked and my wife is cancer free! Thanks to the CPO Family for everything.

Love,

The Len Family, Cheektowaga, NY

C/O Len received a CPOF assistance check to help with expenses while he was intermittently off work helping his wife during her treatments. At left: Annmarie, Jeff, Chelse and Kevin.

Connecticut



C/O William Harrington of Bridgeport Correctional Center is pictured at left with Warden Amonda Hannah and Lieutenant Jason Cyr. C/O Harrington was first diagnosed with cancer in the spring of 2016. He had treatments for a considerable period of time. In mid February of 2019, Lt. Cyr reported that William's cancer had returned for the sixth time and that he was again undergoing chemo and radiation. He has been off work for months.

Hi, Kim,

I wanted to reach out and say thank you to CPOF for supporting one of my Officers. Officer Magdiel Villegas is assigned to the Connecticut Department of Corrections Central Transportation Unit. On Christmas Eve his house sustained massive damage from a Christmas tree fire. Upon hearing about this fire, CTDOC Lieutenant Sergio Perez asked me for some information about it which I sent him. A short time later a check from the CPOF arrived for Officer Villegas. CPOF showed what a quality organization it is by sending Officer Villegas this check during his time of need. Officer Villegas was extremely grateful for the assistance.

Thank you.

Captain Michael Pafumi



Lt. Sergio Perez, Officer Villegas and Captain Pafumi.

TEXAS

Dear CPOF,

On behalf of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Leblanc Unit and Sergeant Ruthie Guillory, I would like to thank the CPO Foundation for the assistance provided to Sgt. Guillory. Sgt. Guillory suffered a devastating home fire on November 21, 2018, resulting in severe damage and loss of the home's contents. The financial assistance provided by the CPOF will go a long way in helping Sgt. Guillory and her seven children back on their feet.

Sgt. Guillory expressed her heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the generosity and support she received in her time of need. I have enclosed a photo [at right]) of Major Derrick Broussard and myself presenting Sgt. Guillory with the assistance check.

In closing, I would personally like to thank the CPOF for continuing to support Correctional professionals throughout the TDCJ-CID in times of need. You truly are taking care of our own.

Warden James Danheim

Richard P. Leblanc Unit, TDCJ

Sergeant Ruthie Guillory is a Supporting Member.



At left: Food Service Manager Jammie Campbell, a Supporting Member at Telford Unit, suffered a stroke while attending Food Service and Sergeant Training Academy in Houston. She underwent surgery to remove a blood clot. FSM Campbell is pictured with Warden Garth Parker.

At right: C/O V Brandi Gray, another Supporting Member at Telford Unit, lost her home and belongings in a house fire last autumn. She is pictured with Assistant Warden Ralston Marshall.



At left: C/O IV Angela Mendez, also a Supporting Member at Telford, received a bereavement assistance check after her husband, Lorenzo, died from lung cancer in early November of 2018. Lorenzo had suffered from Stage III laryngeal cancer in 2016 and underwent two surgeries, including a total laryngectomy in October of that year. C/O

IV Mendez is pictured with Assistant Warden Michael Bates.

To the CPOF,

Each and every time I have called on the CPOF you have come through. I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Mary Parker, Huntsville, TX
LVN III Mary Parker is a Supporting Member at TDCJ Health Services. Her husband, Willie, unexpectedly passed away in November 2018. He had suffered major kidney problems and several surgeries in the past.



At left: Clerk II Carly Shed of Wayne Scott Unit lost her home and all belongings in a house fire. Clerk II Shed is pictured here (center) receiving her CPOF assistance check from Kelli Forrester, the CPOF's newest Representative in Texas. Also pictured is Warden Townsend.



At right: C/O III Nadia Board, a Supporting Member at Wayne Scott Unit, lost her home and belongings in an apartment fire. She is pictured at right with her CPOF assistance check. With her are Kelli and Warden Townsend.



Dear Ms. Barone,

On behalf of the staff of the Goodman Unit, I would like to express my appreciation for the support the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation has provided to the employees of this facility. Your organization has been very generous in assisting with the needs of employees and their families during difficult times.

I was pleased to present a CPOF check to Officer Paula

Downing [see photo above] to assist with the burial expenses of her husband, Kyle Downing. Kyle passed away on October 5, 2018, after a courageous battle with cancer. Officer Downing was very appreciative of the assistance received and the generosity of the CPOF.

Again, thank you for the support you provide to Correctional employees of the State of Texas.

Sincerely,

John McDaniel, Senior Warden, Goodman Unit, TDCJ
C/O IV Paula Downing is a Supporting Member.

Administrative Assistant Kelly Ebarb works at Holliday Unit.

On August 1, 2018 Kelly's husband, Joe, was diagnosed with prostate cancer. He had surgery six days later in Shenandoah, Texas, 76 miles from the

Ebarbs's home. At the same time, AA Ebarb's stepson was hospitalized and on a ventilator being treated for a medical condition.

Above: Cathy Stokes, Kelly Ebarb and Assistant Warden D. Booker.



TDCJ Payroll Dept. Administrative Assistant Joy Lawson received a bereavement assistance check after her husband, Donnie, died from a heart attack on December 1, 2018. At right: Jill Guinness, Joy Lawson and Cathy Stokes.

TEXAS

Ms. Barone:

On behalf of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Officer Jones, and myself, I wish to express our gratitude and appreciation for the money CPOF has provided for our Officer Jones.

Your office was very quick and generous with your response in helping Officer Jones during a time of difficulty. He was indeed surprised and felt some relief in the midst of his medical expenses after having multiple strokes within a day's time.

We are very grateful to be a part of an organization that is there to provide relief to Officers who have very difficult jobs and that CPOF is there in their time of need.

Again, we thank you and your organization for your help.

Sincerely,

L.E. Townsend, Senior Warden

Wayne Scott Unit

C/O V Gary Jones is a Supporting Member at Scott Unit. He suffered several strokes in September 2018 and was hospitalized and off work for a time.



28-year-old Sergeant Shelby Uribe, a Supporting Member at Ellis Unit, was involved in an auto accident on January 14, 2019. When she got out of her car to check on the other driver, she was struck by another vehicle and died at the scene. Sgt. Uribe's wife, Michelle, who is also a Supporting Member, is pictured at left receiving a

CPO bereavement assistance check. With Michelle are Warden Kelly Strong (left) and CPOF Texas Representative Cathy Stokes.



C/O Arthur Garrett's son, Jamarcus Briggs, was killed when he was ejected from his pickup truck in a one-vehicle accident. C/O Garrett is pictured here (second from right) with Warden Troy Selman, HR II Joan Wilkersham (who referred C/O Garrett for assistance), Cathy Stokes and Major Kevin Smith.

C/O V Timothy Hewitt of Skyview Psych Unit is pictured at right with Warden Audrey England. Timothy's wife, Vicky, died on September 29, 2018 from injuries she sustained in a car accident.



Assistant Warden Billy Steele, a

Supporting Member at Roach Unit, is pictured above receiving a CPOF bereavement assistance check from Sr. Warden Jason Williams. AW Steele's wife, Lisha, passed away from breast cancer on January 4, 2019. Lisha was first diagnosed in late 2017. Sr. Warden Williams remarked, "CPOF has been a blessing to many families at the Roach Unit and will continue to have our support in the future."

To All Concerned,

I would like to give a heartfelt thank-you for everything that you have done for my family and me in our time of need. I started with the TDCJ back in 1991, and I take pride in working for Offender Transportation and in the fact that we in this agency are truly a big family. In my time of need, my brothers and sisters were there for me, whether to give me a handshake, a hug or just coming by to check on me. Everyone from the top down has assisted me and ensured that I was taken care of.

CPOF, of which I am a Supporting Member, also stepped up with assistance. I have always seen them do great things for the employees of this agency. Now they have done great things for me personally as well. Like most men of my generation, it is hard to ask for help; thankfully, I did not have to ask, as the TDCJ and CPOF both

saw my need and assisted me accordingly.

Again, words cannot fully express my gratitude to the TDCJ and CPOF. C/O V Mark Duke, Offender Transportation, TDCJ
C/O V Mark Duke's wife, Bettye, died on February 8, 2019. She had been in hospice care prior to her passing. Photo: Assistant Warden Shawn Pinney, C/O V Duke and Warden I Michael Franks.



C/O V Jefferson Jacoway, a Supporting Member at Coffield Unit, was in an ICU from January 26 to February 1 for treatment for DKA, a life-threatening problem that affects people with diabetes. Above: Sr. Warden Stuart Calhoun presents an assistance check to Jefferson's wife, Officer Katherine Jacoway.



Lieutenant Raymond Newberry, a Supporting Member at Polunsky Unit, received an assistance check after he lost his home and belongings in a house fire. At left: Lt. Newberry and Warden Michael Butcher.

Dear CPOF Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to say how grateful I am for the generous donations to help me during my time of need. I am so thankful for your kindness and support. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mary Kelley, Rusk, TX
Food Service Manager II Mary Kelley, a Supporting Member at Hodge Unit, had surgery on her ankle in December of 2018. She was off work recovering for two months. Pictured: Warden W. Jones presenting FSM Kelley with a CPOF assistance check.



McConnell Unit Warden Sifuentes presented a CPOF check to Victoria Gonzalez, widow of McConnell Supporting Member John Gonzalez who died as the result



of electrocution at their home. Also pictured: CPOF Texas Representative Eileen Kennedy.

Georgia

We assist Georgia Correctional Staff hard hit by Hurricane Michael
Hurricane Michael was one of several powerful storms last year that caused great losses and property damage to many parts of the nation, particularly the Southeast. The CPOF issued 67 catastrophic assistance checks to Georgia Correctional Staff severely affected by Hurricane Michael for a total of \$27,900.

Below and on the next page are photos of “hurricane assistance” recipients at Decatur State Prison, sent to us by Warden Gordon Screen. Warden Screen is in each photo; in some photos CPOF Georgia Representative Rose Williams is also present.



Counselor Hall



C/OII Travis Carver



C/OI Tersea McCall



Lt. Anthony Strong



Instructor Janet Jaye



C/OII Benny Jest



Lt. Oddis Smit



C/OI David Parish

Georgia



Chief Counselor Burns



C/OII Charles Murphy



C/OII Owen Virgin



C/OII Darrell Fountain



C/OII Lester Porter



Lt. Herbert Rodgers

Hello Ms. Labio,

Enclosed is a picture of Tracie Wilson receiving her CPOF assistance check.

Thank you so much for all that you do for GA employees!!
Sincere gratitude,

Lee Arrendale State Prison Staff

On October 19, 2018, Nurse Tracie Wilson was on her way to work when she hit a large cow that was in the road. Her car rolled over and the injuries she suffered required three surgeries. The end result was that Nurse Wilson had to have her left arm amputated.



Dear CPO Foundation,

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the generous gift during my family's time of need. On behalf of Roderick, Mariah and myself, we thank you very much

Judith Hatcher, Albany, GA

Clerk II Judith Hatcher is a Supporting Member at Lee State Prison. Her husband, Roderick, was in an ICU for two months in the summer of 2018 and had four different operations. He underwent physical therapy in a rehab facility for one month. Judith received a CPOF assistance check to help with her many out of pocket expenses. At left: Roderick, with adult daughter, Mariah (left), and Judith..

North Carolina



C/O Timothy English, a Supporting Member at Craggy CI, was sent to the ER with chest pains on June 29, 2018. He underwent heart surgery on July 2. At left: C/O English with his children, Kennedy and Tyler.

C/O III Vernon Helms of Marion CI passed away from cancer in November 2018. At right: Sharon Helms, Vernon's widow, with her CPOF bereavement assistance check.



Probation Officer Rodney Bugielski of District 2 Probation and Parole passed away from a heart attack in December 2018. At left: Karen Bugielski, Vernon's widow, with her CPOF bereavement check. Also pictured: Karen's friend, Michelle Hagaman; Karen's son, Hunter Pope; and Destiny Starres.

Dear Christina,

My family and I would like to thank you and the CPO Foundation for remembering us at this difficult time. Your gracious monetary assistance is greatly appreciated. It really makes me proud to be part of such a great organization.

Blake's passing has been really hard on all of us. Please continue to keep my family and me in your prayers.

Sincerely,

Rex Allen Shirley, Jr., Hookerton, NC

Right: Shirley sons, Colby and Tyler; Sergeant Rex Allen Shirley Jr., a Supporting Member at Greene CI; and Blake, Sergeant Shirley's disabled son. Sadly, Blake passed away unexpectedly in his sleep in October 2018.



Ms. Labio:

I am writing to thank you for the financial gift I received on behalf of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. I am the Administrative Officer III at Pender Correctional Institution located in Burgaw, North Carolina. As such, one of my duties is serving as the coordinator for the CPOF at our medium custody facility. I make sure that applications are submitted for those who have suffered loss by way of a death of a family member, or of serious medical and weather related events.

On January 9, 2019, I was diagnosed with a large Meningioma Brain Tumor. On January 31, 2019, I had surgery to remove the tumor and was out of work for three months. The timing of your gift could not have been better. On the same day I received the CPOF check, I also received a medical invoice for out of pocket expenses not covered by my health insurance.

Thank you so much for the financial assistance during my recovery from brain surgery. I have been a member of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for a few years and never thought that I would be a recipient of the Foundation's Catastrophic Assistance Program. I truly appreciate the Foundation for the support both professionally and financially. With best wishes, I remain.

Sincerely

Catherine Whaley, Administrative Officer III
Pender Correctional Institution
North Carolina Department of Public Safety

We thank AO III Whaley very much for her volunteerism for the CPOF at Pender CI, and wish her "all the best" for a full and speedy recovery.

To the CPOF,

The Hartsell family would like to thank you for the donation in Brian's memory. It was very helpful in our time of need. Brian would have been very proud and honored. Thank you again for your kindness.

Denise Hartsell, Fayetteville, NC

On December 25, 2018, C/O II Brian Hartsell, a Supporting Member at Harnett CI, had a heart attack and a stroke. He was revived; however, he died two days later. C/O II Hartsell had been on a medical leave of absence since August 14, 2018 when he suffered his first stroke.

YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS: DO WE HAVE IT??

Was this magazine forwarded to you? Or, even though you're a Supporting Member, does the copy you're reading belong to a friend because you didn't get your own in the mail? If you answered yes to either question, it means ***we don't have your current and correct address!*** PLEASE email Alyssa Franchini -- alyssa@cpof.org -- at the CPOF's Sacramento headquarters and give her your current address.

If you are planning to move and know what your new address will be, likewise email Alyssa with the new information. This applies even if all you're doing is moving to a new unit in your apartment building.

THANK YOU for keeping us up to date on your current whereabouts, so that we can keep *you* up to date with the *CPO Family* and other CPO Foundation mailings.

We are pleased to share with our readers just a few of the thank-you notes we received from North Carolina Officers/Correctional Staff who suffered damages from Hurricane Florence:

North Carolina

To the CPO Foundation,

I would like to thank you so much for your generous gift. It really helped me out. I am so glad I belong to the CPO Foundation, so I can give back to brothers and sisters in Corrections when they are in need of assistance.

Please keep doing what you are doing – it means so much to know that “someone” cares about Correctional Officers and Staff, as the CPOF does.

From my heart, thank you so very much!
C/O Philip DeSmet, Supporting Member
at Pamlico CI

To the CPO Foundation,

If I could thank everyone individually who has made this assistance possible, I would. It has not only blessed us financially but emotionally. Knowing that there are individuals, Officers and a Foundation that care about our welfare means more than we can express.

THANK YOU ALL for your support and assistance.

Probation and Parole Officer Keeyana Knight, Cumberland County

Dear CPO Foundation,

I would like to express my deepest thanks to all of you for the wonderful check I received. When it arrived, it really brightened my day and touched my heart also. Your Foundation is awesome and I am proud to belong to it. This check will be of help throughout this difficult time.

Once again, thank you so much for everything. God bless you!
C/O Ingrid Ogle, Supporting Member
at Pamlico CI

Dear CPO Foundation, c/o Christina Labio,

Thank you very much for the money you gave my family and me after Hurricane Florence. It was very much appreciated and helped with (repairing) our damaged roof.

C/O Cindy Richardson, Scotland CI

Mrs. Labio,

Thank you and the CPO Foundation for the support you have given my family and me during this trying year, from the recent passing of my father to the damage caused by Hurricane Florence. In turn, I proudly support the CPOF be being a member. We Correctional Workers are a proud but often forgotten part of law enforcement in keeping the community safe.

I personally am lucky in my unit. We support each other, starting with our Administrator, Roderick Watson, and all of the Administrative and Custody staff.

Thank you,
C/O Charles Hines, Supporting
Member at Johnston CI

To the CPO Foundation,

Thank you for your thoughtful and generous assistance. It is truly a blessing. It really means a lot to be considered and thought of during this time. As we start to put our lives back together after Hurricane Florence, just knowing that my family and I were in your thoughts and prayers means more than words can express.

Counselor Ava Chavis, District 4,
Juvenile Justice Court

When Disasters Strike

Fires, Floods, Tornadoes and Hurricanes: *Be Prepared*

During the last few years we have had some of the worst hurricane seasons in recent memory. Sandy, Harvey, Irma, Maria, Florence, Michael all caused widespread devastation and destruction. The Georgia and North Carolina sections preceding this page contain photos and notes from just some of the Correctional Staff that the CPO Foundation assisted after Hurricanes Florence and Michael. In earlier issues we have shared information about Correctional Staff affected by recent catastrophic fires in California that we helped, and our 2018 Correctional Calendar (June) featured photos of Texas Department of Criminal Justice Staff being rescued from flood waters caused by Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

Are you prepared in the event of a natural disaster? Having fire, flood and hurricane insurance is extremely important. Please take the time NOW to see what insurance you currently have and then determine what you should have.

Flooding occurs frequently, whether in the aftermath of a hurricane, after heavy, prolonged rainfall or failure of a dam to hold. And concerning flood insurance, FEMA has available a Flood Insurance Claims Handbook. It's an excellent pamphlet to help you to be prepared if destructive flooding occurs. To obtain a copy via the Internet, do a search for "FEMA Flood Insurance Claims Handbook" and then click on "F-687 NFIP Flood Insurance Claims Handbook." Topics covered in the booklet are (1) What to do before a flood and (2) What to do after a flood.

Purchasing flood insurance is a wise decision for all homeowners and for renters as well. We hope you never have to use this insurance, but if you do you will have it.

As is true to prepare for any emergency, it's important to keep vital information and personal documents at home in a container that is water resistant and fireproof. Another wise move is to make a list of your valuable possessions and to have verifying documentation/photographs.

These actions may seem daunting and perhaps tedious but you will be glad you made them if a natural disaster wreaks havoc on your home, property and possessions. Most important, they may be instrumental in saving your and your loved ones' lives.

Be Prepared!

-- Char



Hurricane Sandy, 2012



A Dairy Queen in Atlantic City, NJ after Hurricane Sandy struck

Federal News

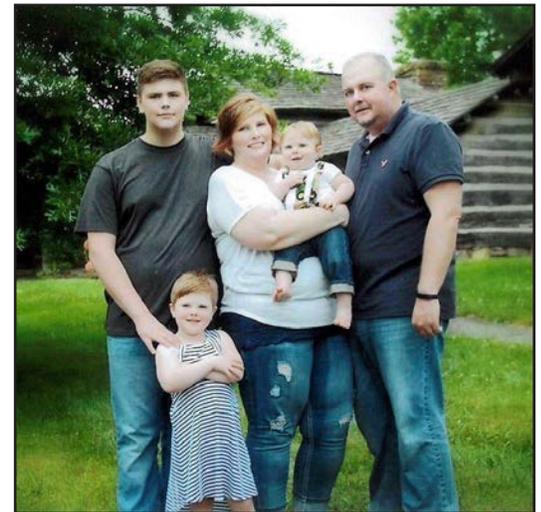


Teacher Tiffany Ford, a Supporting Member at FCC Victorville, was diagnosed with breast cancer in late 2018. She underwent chemo treatments in Pasadena, CA, 79 miles from home. At left: Tiffany holding her CPOF assistance check with her husband, Nicholas Ford (far left) and William Chandlee, CPOF Volunteer Liaison at Victorville.



SIA Fabian Galindo, a Supporting Member at FDC Houston, suffered a massive heart attack on August 13, 2018. He was hospitalized in ICU and passed away on August 24. Above: Fabian with his wife, Sulema.

Lieutenant Joseph Davis, a Supporting Member at FCI McDowell in West Virginia, passed away on September 24, 2018. He had spent 30 days in ICU. He had caught a cold and then had an allergic reaction to an undetermined agent. Finally, he developed fungal pneumonia. Mrs. Davis (Melissa)



received a CPOF bereavement assistance check. Above: Lt. Davis with Melissa and their children David, Riley and Joshua.

C/O Jason Delay is a Supporting Member at FCC Victorville. In February of 2018 his seven-year-old son, Damion (pictured), was diagnosed with



ALL/TCell leukemia, a rare form of leukemia in children. Damion had an adverse reaction to his treatments, which caused a brain hemorrhage that required emergency surgery. He has since been undergoing maintenance chemotherapy and is doing better.



CPOF:

I would like to thank you all for everything that you have done for my family. The love and support that you've shown have really helped us during this time.

Lisa Dancer and Family

Wilton, Arkansas

Lisa is the widow of Food Service employee Richard Dancer, a Supporting Member

at FCI Texarkana. Richard passed away at home after suffering a seizure. Richard and Lisa are pictured here.

Federal News



C/O Jeffrey Welch, a Supporting Member at FCC Oakdale, received an assistance check after his wife, Amanda, suffered complications from a medical crisis and was hospitalized for several days. David Woodham, CPOF Volunteer Liaison at

FCC Oakdale, presented the check.

Dear Kim,

Words cannot express my sincere gratitude for the generous contribution from CPOF to my family during these trying times. It was a great surprise and much needed. This is evidence that despite the turmoil that is running rampant in today's society there are still good people in the world working for a good cause.



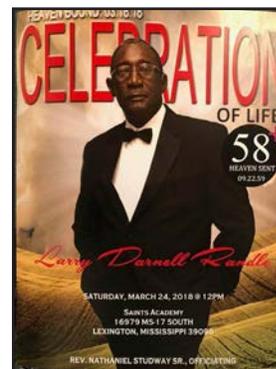
Continue to do the will of God by helping those in need. Larry would always say, "If I could help just one person then my life on earth would not be in vain." And that was the life he lived – helping others.

Respectfully,

Delores Randle, Yazoo City, MS

Case Manager Delores Randle is a Supporting Member at FCC Yazoo City. Her husband, Larry, passed away on March 18, 2018. He had retired in 2016 after 34 years with the Bureau of Prisons. He had also been a Supporting Member.

Above right: Delores and Larry. Left: Photo from Larry's funeral



Sr. Officer James Perry of USP Big Sandy received a CPOF assistance check after his home was completely destroyed in a house fire. Local 612 President Jerry Jackson Jr. made the check presentation.



Sr. Officer Kenny Smarr of FCI Gilmer is pictured here with his late wife, Nicole. Nicole passed away after a short illness at age 28.

Unit Manager Regina Williams, a Supporting Member at FCI Marianna, was diagnosed with breast cancer in April of 2018. She has been undergoing chemo and radiation therapy since then. She is pictured at right holding her CPOF assistance check with Jeremy Jenkins of FCI Marianna.



Federal News

FCI Marianna is located in one of the Southeastern parts of the country that Hurricane Michael hit very severely last year. Laura Phillips, CPOF Representative for Federal based in Georgia, sent us these pictures depicting CPOF's assistance to several FCI Marianna Officers who suffered great losses and property damage from the storm.



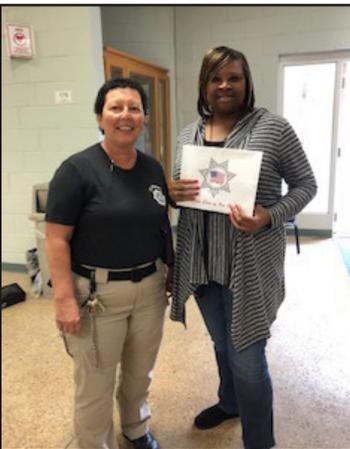
Left: Laura's husband, Vince, with the truck loaded with supplies destined for FCI Marianna



Right: Boxes of supplies and Staff sorting bags for FCI Marianna assistance recipients



Assistance Check Recipients



HR Specialist Angela Clay with AW Myra Lowery



Laura Phillips with Kimberly and Michael McCullough



Jeremy Jenkins, Jeff Lozano, Michelle Large, and Kevin O'Bryan



Food Service Foreman Jamey Goodwin with Vince Phillips



Laura with Lieutenant Greg Willis



Shawn Swanson, Monica Hogans-White, Jeremy Jenkins and Ladon Clemmons



Laura with Lock Shop Supervisor Steven Ontiveros



C/O Marceta Baker with Laura

COLORADO



GP IV Christine Richard, a Supporting Member with Colorado DOC Paroles, was diagnosed with thyroid cancer last year. She had surgery and subsequently received treatments. CP IV Richard is pictured here receiving a CPOF assistance check from CPOF Colorado Representative Guy Edmonds.

C/O Steve Giustino, a Supporting Member at Fremont CF had a heart attack on January 14, 2019 while at work. After treatment at a Denver hospital, he was tentatively to return to work on March 4. However, as of April 2, Steve still was unable to return to work and was undergoing physical therapy twice weekly. He is pictured at right with a CPOF check.



Mr. Edmonds,

I wanted to let you know that I received the assistance packet. This has been a really difficult time for me but it helps to know that there are so many good people who have been so understanding and supportive. Our family so appreciates your support as well as the extremely generous check.

I have also received wonderful support from my DOC family. We just had a very busy and emotional weekend of "firsts" without Lonny.

Thank you again for the assistance check. It was far more than I would have expected.

Barbara Mayhugh, Warden's Assistant, Sterling CF
Barbara is pictured here with her late husband, Lonny. He passed away unexpectedly at home on August 3, 2018.



C/O James Winder of CSP suffered major injuries to his left arm and his head in an accident last March. He was off work for six months. He had returned to work for a couple of months when, on November 2, 2018, he lost consciousness at work and was taken to the hospital. It was discovered that he had a brain bleed and he underwent emergency surgery. At left: C/O Winder in his hospital bed holding his CPOF assistance check.

C/O Raquel Vasquez is a Supporting Member at Sterling CF. Last June she was diagnosed with a rare genetic disease and had to have two surgeries to remove masses from her neck and abdomen. During Raquel's neck surgery she had 36 metal screens inserted which resulted in several complications. This increased her costs and forced her to be off work longer than expected.

Above: C/O Vasquez receiving a CPOF assistance check from Major Denny Owens.

COLORADO

Kim,

I cannot describe the deep appreciation Kay and I have for the CPOF. Your financial help is keeping us afloat, something I never thought would happen to us. My knee replacement was a success -- now for two months of rehab!!

Thanks again,

Phil Wright, Grand Junction, CO

Pre-Release Correctional Employee Phil Wright, a Supporting Member at Delta CF, had knee replacement surgery in August 2018. He developed an infection that required a second surgery; fortunately, as Phil says in his thank-you note, the procedure overall was a success!

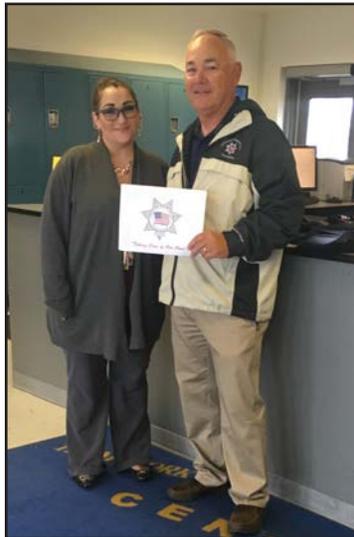


Sergeant Johnnie Robles is a Supporting Member at CMC. His five-month-old son, Carlos, was diagnosed with diabetic ketoacidosis in mid November of 2018.

Carlos was hospitalized for four days at Denver's Children's Hospital, 67 miles from the Robles's home.

CPOF Colorado Representative Guy Edmonds recommended assistance for the family with the out-of-pocket expenses they incurred. Above: The Robles family at Christmas 2018: Angelina (17), Mrs. Robles (Meighan), Sgt. Johnnie Robles and baby Carlos.

Administrative Assistant Deneille Solis-Jones, a Supporting Member at Centennial CF, was tested last October for meningitis through a lumbar puncture and suffered complications. The following day while at work she exhibited stroke-like symptoms. She was in the hospital for over a week. She had only recently returned to work from maternity leave and was struggling financially.



Above: AA Solis-Jones receiving an assistance check from Guy Edmonds.



Technician III Stephanie Walker, pictured at left with Guy Edmonds, is a Supporting Member at Colorado DOC Headquarters. She was diagnosed with breast cancer last July and during her mastectomy it was discovered that the cancer had spread. As a result, Tech III Walker had to undergo additional surgeries. .



CLS/Med Bonita Gurevitch, a Supporting Member at Buena Vista CF, underwent pituitary adenoma surgery on February 18, 2019 to remove a tumor in her brain stem. The hospital is 118 miles from her home. Bonita is pictured above with a CPOF assistance check, as recommended by Guy Edmonds.

COLORADO cont. next page

Rhode Island

Dear CPO Foundation,

On behalf of my family I would like to thank you for the check you sent to my husband, Jacob Crane. On Monday, June 11, 2018 Jake had a bad fall right at the end of his shift. At the ER they took x-rays and told him he could go back to work on Friday. However, two days later Jake had to return to the ER where this time he had an MRI. The MRI detected that Jake had sustained a very rare spinal cord injury called Cauda Equina Syndrome as a result of the fall. He had emergency surgery that day.

Jake is partially paralyzed from his waist to the top of his knees. He can use a walker for short walks but needs a wheelchair for anything else. He has been in a nursing home for months and suffers from many neurological problems including body spasms and frequent stabbing pains.

Again, thank you for the check. We will be putting it toward the things Jake will need.

Sincerely,

Robin Crane, Woonsocket, RI

C/O Jacob Crane, a Supporting Member at Medium Security, has been employed by the RI DOC for approximately 23 years. The Cranes's home had to undergo extensive and costly modifications to accommodate his wheelchair.

Pictured: Jacob (right), Robin and their son, Nathaniel.



C/O Jason Messier, a Supporting Member at Maximum Security, was assaulted by an inmate with a homemade shank in May of 2018.

He and his wife will be attending **Project XXX** in Louisville this year. Jason is pictured here with Manny Leander, CPOF Representative in Rhode Island.

COLORADO *cont. from page 32*

(March 2019)

Dear CPOF,

I have "almost" been back to work full time for one month. Reviewing the last six months was rough; however, a bright spot in that ordeal was Guy Edmonds and my fellow staff at Fremont Correction Facility checking on me. It was so encouraging and it touched my heart to have so much support. I can't say enough about my brothers and sisters in the organization: thank you billions of times over. Devoting time and lives to such difficult professions, yet giving so much to provide support to each other is nothing short of monumental. Extending thank you is like a drop of rain in a monsoon, yet thank you is all I can say. I would encourage everyone to support the CPOF -- it helps connect us all.

MHS J. D. Scollard

Fremont Correction Facility, Canon City, CO

Mental Health Supervisor Jerie Scollard is a Supporting Member at Fremont CF. Jerie was hospitalized on August 28, 2018 for an unknown ailment. She had eight liters of fluid taken out of her lungs and heart and has had a drainage tube inserted in her chest. Doctors do not know what she has and have deemed her a "medical mystery." They have been running several different tests but still cannot pinpoint what is wrong. We hope to have an update on Jerie's situation soon.

Missouri



From Cyndi Prudden:

The photograph at left shows Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe presenting me with a symbolic check to CPOF for \$20,803. This is the amount donated by MO Dept. of Corrections employees during the MO Charitable Campaign. CPOF received the 6th highest amount in donations of all charities during the campaign!



On July 27, 2018 OSA Molly Stiefman of Jefferson City Correctional Center (JCCC) was briefly held hostage by an offender who had escaped from an Ad Seg exercise cage. He was armed with a piece of chain link fashioned into a homemade “ice pick” weapon. He grabbed Molly, put the weapon to her neck and pulled her to the ground. Staff responded and the offender surrendered the weapon and released Molly. Fortunately, Molly’s injuries were minor considering the nature of the incident. At right: Molly with Warden Eileen Ramey.



C/O I Michael Hanafusa, also of JCCC, was assaulted and suffered two cuts to his face that required stitches. At left: Warden Eileen Ramey, Michael and Cyndi Prudden.



At right: Sergeant* Justin Mathis of Tipton Correctional Center (TCC) was assaulted when an inmate became combative and managed to pull Justin’s shirt over his head with one hand and start punching Justin with the other. Justin was taken to the hospital for outpatient treatment. He had several follow-up appointments. Pictured are: Cyndi Prudden, Justin and Warden Dan Redington. *Justin was a C/O I at the time of the assault. He had been promoted to Sergeant by the time of the check presentation.



C/O I Charley Homan, also of TCC, was assaulted and taken to the hospital for treatment. At left: Charley (center) with Warden Dan Redington (left) and Major Jeffrey Falkenrath.

Illinois

Dear Alyssa Franchini & CPO Foundation Board of Directors:

On behalf of my late husband, Jeffrey Wonders, our two daughters, and me, we would love to thank you so much for the check you sent after Jeffrey's passing. It helped ease some of our immediate financial burdens. Jeff loved his job as a Correctional Officer. Even while going through treatment he went to work! His Sheridan Correctional family and co-workers from former facilities have been so wonderful to us.

This Foundation is so great: it also helped earlier on in Jeff's cancer diagnosis.

Please accept this letter of appreciation.

Sincerely,

Julia Wonders and daughters, Maddy and Lilly, Streator, IL

C/O Jeffrey Wonders was a Supporting Member at Sheridan CC. He passed away on November 20, 2018 after a long battle with a rare form of cancer.

Nebraska



Corporal Debra Moat, a Supporting Member at NCCW, received a bereavement assistance check after her husband, William, passed away during the night while Debra was at work.

Above: Assistant Warden Angela Folts-Oberle, Corporal Moat and Recreation Manager Shar Most.



Above: Warden Christine Brannon, Lieutenant Jensen, Assistant Warden Robert Hamilton and Record Office Supervisor Angela Caudill.

Lieutenant Terry Jensen is a Supporting Member at East Moline CC. His wife, Linda, has had MS for over 20 years. She was independent until recently when it was discovered in the fall of 2018 that she had a golfball-sized tumor in her brain. She had a brain biopsy and while she was anesthetized half her body became paralyzed. She is suffering from memory loss and some fine motor skills. The doctors found that she has cancer that started in her GI tract and has spread; because she has MS she cannot undergo chemotherapy. Lieutenant Jensen was off work for five months providing 24-hour care. Eventually, he had to return to work and hire a caretaker, which cost is not covered by insurance.

CPO Foundation Representative* Wendy Baur Reports

Virginia - Welcome to Virginia

As we grow older it seems the changes come sometimes faster than we can process them. With my son graduating from high school and beginning college it was time for a change for me. While Ray Wagoner has worked the state of Virginia for many years he has had to cut back and focus on West Virginia, leaving the opportunity to work here open. After some discussion with Char it was settled that I would begin working as the new CPOF Representative for Virginia.

Through contacts established by Ray over his years of covering the state I had a place to start with making introductions. Those first contacts at Red Onion prison proved to be invaluable, aside from the Welcome mat they put out for CPOF. I was immediately treated like part of the family. I am very appreciative and give thanks to Warden Jeff Kiser who took the time to stop by one of our presentations to show his support for the Foundation, and to Captain James Blevins and Lt. Drew Fleming who show up for every presentation as they have been the points of contact at Red Onion for many years and have seen the impact CPOF makes on corrections Staff. Lt Shelly Potson and Sgt. Talbot who cover Staff training also have taken the extra time to promote CPOF through their contacts, leading to a meeting with the Director of Academy Randy Rasnake who, as a long time member of CPOF, welcomed us and will provide an opportunity to address Staff in the future.

Sgt. Karina Cullopp was the next contact I reached out to at Marion Correctional Center. Sgt. Cullopp has been the CPOF point of contact there for a number of years

and was thrilled to learn CPOF has a new representative for the state. Following our introduction meeting she immediately reached out to Lt. Samaniego who is in charge of training for the facility to set up a meeting for us with him. At that meeting we were again treated like family and have since been able to meet Staff at the prison to discuss the benefits of CPOF.

As I continue to grow and meet people across the state, if you're reading this in Virginia and would like to see CPOF at your facility please email cpowendy@verizon.net or call 724 812 1084 I will be more than happy to make arrangements to bring the CPOF mission to you!! Stay Safe !!

Here is a picture of a Virginia CPOF assistance check presentation:

Lt. Michael Sandstrom, a Supporting Member at Keen Mountain CC, received a CPOF bereavement check presented to him by Captain David Lee after Lt. Sandstrom's wife, Donna, passed away from cancer. Donna had also worked at KMCC.



Pennsylvania

To all of you who made donations to the family following the murder of Sgt. Mark Baserman, "thank you" doesn't do justice to the gratitude felt by this family. Adams County Adult Correctional Complex entrusted me to deliver a check to the Baserman family of funds raised during their Employee Appreciation Day activities. Nothing can prepare us for the devastation created when we send our families off to work behind the wall and they don't return. As well, nothing prepares us for the outpouring of love from Correctional Staff around the country. It's at these times I am immensely grateful for the CPOF and their mission to provide support to the family of a murdered officer. Many thanks to all of you from the Baserman family and CPOF for showing your support in this time of need.

Thank you to SCI Somerset Superintendent Eric Tice and the Staff for inviting the Baserman family to attend the one year Anniversary Memorial Service and for making them feel all the love from you guys!! Those moments remind the family not only of Mark's sacrifice but also of the love felt for him by his co-workers. In the moments when darkness occurs it is that love that brings the light.

**Wendy is the CPOF's Representative in Virginia and Pennsylvania*

Pennsylvania

To the CPOF,

Thank you so much for all you do.
Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and
safe New Year.

All our love and gratitude,
Ed and Marianne Nafus

*C/O I Edward Nafus, retired as of October
30, 2018, was a Supporting Member at
SCI Waymart. He suffered a stroke that
left him unable to use his left hand, arm
and leg. At the time of this note, Ed was
undergoing a lengthy period of physical
therapy. His wife, Marianne, works in the
Controller's Office at SCI Waymart.*

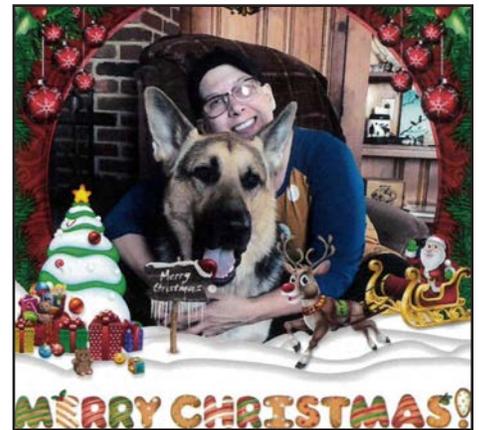
Dear Ms. Labio,

Thank you so much for the generous monetary
assistance that was recently presented to me on behalf of
my late husband, Christopher E Reed. Your kindness and
thoughtfulness are deeply appreciated during this difficult
time.

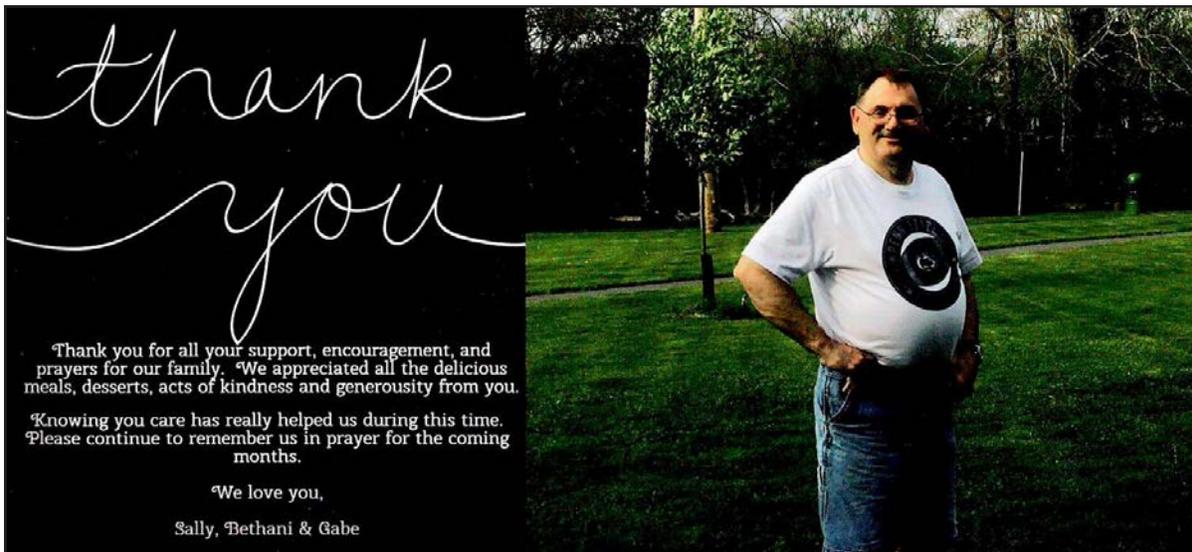
Best regards,

Lizette Reed, Phillipsburg, PA

*Supervisor Christopher Reed of SCI Houtzdale was diagnosed
with cancer last year after suffering a "mini" stroke. He passed
away on September 20, 2018 after fighting the cancer for
several months.*



Clerk Typist Tracey Spillman of SCI Huntingdon was diagnosed with
metastatic breast cancer and received treatments at a facility 50 miles
from home. When the weekly visits are completed Ms. Spillman
will have to follow up with 32 days of radiation and will have to take time
off without pay. On a lighter note, she sent us this fun Christmas
card of herself with her BIG German Shepherd Dog.



CGFS Tom Newman (above) of SCI-Smithfield was admitted to the hospital in
September 2018 for a viral illness. He was then life-flighted to a Hershey, PA medical
facility where he was put into an induced coma. Sadly, Tom passed away.

The first paragraph of the note refers to friends and co-workers who helped the
Newman family, as indicated, during their difficult time.

Oklahoma

Louis Harrison Jr. with Health Services at Northeast CC suffered a heart attack and passed away on September 23, 2018. At right: Louis's widow, Heather, with her CPOF bereavement assistance check. Also pictured are Warden Casey Hamilton and Deputy Warden Denaye Prigmore.



CSR III Shannon Reed of James Crabtree CC is pictured at left with her CPOF bereavement assistance check. With her are Captain Daniel Curtis, Deputy Warden Robert Denton and Warden Rick Whitten. Shannon's husband, Jimmy, a retired Captain from the OK DOC, suffered a fatal heart attack late last year.

Chaplain James Drawbridge, also of James Crabtree CC, was killed in a vehicle accident. His widow, Jo, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check. As with Mrs. Reed, Captain Curtis, Deputy Warden Denton and Warden Whitten made the check presentation.



In the photo above, CPOF Oklahoma Rep Debbie Moore presents CSO IV Kenneth Aldridge of Jackie Brannon CC with an assistance check. CSO IV Aldridge went through a traumatic time last

October when, first, his nine-year-old son, Brayden, had surgery to remove a brain tumor and, second, when two days after Brayden's admittance to the hospital his wife, Brigett, had an emergency appendectomy and, one week later, developed complications and had to be hospitalized for another week.



To the CPOF:

FSM I Peggy Burk was the heart and soul of the Food Service Department at Charles E. Bill Johnson Correctional Center. Her passing left a hole in the hearts of all the employees at BJCC. CPOF gave much-appreciated assistance that helped cover

Peggy's medical and burial expenses.

Becky Guffy, Warden, BJCC

FSM I Peggy Burk of Bill Johnson CC suffered a massive stroke on December 21, 2018 and was hospitalized. She passed away on January 1. Peggy was not married and had no children or family. The person responsible for her funeral was Ms. Shelly Bouziden who was appointed as legal guardian. Ms. Bouziden received a CPOF assistance check to help her pay Peggy's medical and funeral expenses.



CSO I Dusty Wright of OSP was in a motorcycle accident in March 2019 and suffered major injuries. He was in a medically induced coma due to brain swelling.

At left: Debbie Moore presenting Dusty his CPOF check. Also pictured are Dusty's wife, Julie, and Warden's Assistant Nanci Battles.

Minnesota

To: Mr. Raymond Gonsalves
National Honor Guard of the
Correctional Peace Officers Foundation

Dear Mr. Gonsalves:

As our heavy hearts continue through the grieving process for the loss of our Corrections Officer Joseph Gomm, it is with great gratitude I acknowledge and thank you for your expressions of sincere sympathy and sending your Honor Guard to be a part of Officer Gomm's funeral. We very much appreciate having bugle, drum and bagpipes as part of the day. Your show of support was a powerful statement to us and we are very grateful for your presence and participation.

Most important was the respect you showed the Gomm family and the honor you gave them. Please know it has made a difference that each of us will always remember.

Again, our most heartfelt thank-you for your role in helping us heal.

Sincerely,

Tom Roy, Commissioner

Minnesota Department of Corrections

Ray Gonsalves is Assistant Commander of the CPOF National Honor Guard.



Sergeant Charles Weyer Jr, of MCF Oak Park Heights was assaulted on June 27, 2018 by an inmate with a homemade weapon. He suffered severe injuries to his face, treatment for which required 107 staples and 90 stitches. Later in the year, Sgt. Weyer had plastic surgery to repair his face.

Above: AWO (Assistant Warden Operations) Dave Reishus, Sergeant Weyer and Connie Hartwig, CPOF contact at MCF Oak Park Heights.

Kentucky

Dear Ms. Barone,

On behalf of the staff here at Kentucky State Reformatory, we would like to thank you for your generous donation to the family of one of our own. Words cannot express how grateful we are that your organization is always willing to help Correctional families in need.

Sincerely,

Anna Valentine, Warden

Engineer Mark Banta of KSR was in a fatal auto accident on July 9, 2018. His widow, Shannon, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check.

Florida

To Stephanie Barone,

We would like to thank you for your assistance check. It came at a much needed time. Thank you again, and God bless.

Jose and Marie Fiala, Orlando, FL Detention Service Officer Jose Fiala, a Supporting Member at Orange County Corrections, was in a motorcycle accident in mid March 2019. He was off work recovering from his injuries for over a month.

South Carolina



Sergeant Tonya Pressley, a Supporting Member at Turbeville CI, was in a car accident in which she suffered several injuries including a pinched nerve in her back that required surgery. At left: Sgt. Pressley with her CPOF assistance check.

Analyst Jessica Edmond, a Supporting Member at the South Carolina DOC, is pictured at right receiving a CPOF assistance check from Donna Strong of Quality Improvement & Risk Management. In January, Analyst Edmond's house suffered extensive smoke and soot damage from a grease fire that started in the kitchen.



C/O II Stanley Gordon, a Supporting Member at Kirkland CI, underwent triple bypass surgery on January 2, 2019 and incurred considerable out of pocket medical expenses. Above: Deputy Warden Willie Davis, C/O II Gordon and CPOF South Carolina Representative Gary Evans.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank CPOF for ALL they do for South Carolina staff.

When I worked for SC DOC I had no idea so many staff would be in need. Now that I work for CPOF I have had the opportunity to visit all the state facilities and DJJ and offer assistance to those needing a hand up due to a recent catastrophic event in their lives.

-- Gary Evans



Postal Director Crystal Jones, a Supporting Member at Camille Graham CI, is pictured above with HR Manager Cheryl Fouche and Gary Evans. Crystal's 13-year-old son, Mukhi, was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma and as of mid April was scheduled to undergo 16-19 weeks of treatments.

Washington



Thank you so much for the check to help with the cost of Ken's medical expenses. The support we have received from the Correctional community has been overwhelming and inspiring.

We are so grateful for all of the assistance and love we have received. Thank you a million times over.

Ken and Andi Holmes, Lake Stevens, WA
C/O Ken Holmes, a Supporting Member at Monroe Correctional Complex, was in an auto accident on October 9, 2018. He suffered severe injuries and was hospitalized. It will take six to eight months until he is fit to return to duty. At left: Ken with Lt. Daniel Allen and his wife, Andi.

Sergeant Richard Carmody, a Supporting Member at CRCC, was off work for several months starting in November 2018 due to a foot injury.

At right: Sgt. Carmody receiving a CPOF assistance check from Lt. Richard Duncan



MEMORIAL DAY



I hope all of you enjoyed your Memorial weekend and spent time giving thanks to those that made the ultimate sacrifice so that we can stay a free nation.

I carefully watched the news and enjoyed looking at all the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the numerous parades as well. All the people, all the flowers, all the speeches and those that sang our National Anthem and "God Bless America" took my breath away.

If, like me, you visited a Veterans Cemetery this past Memorial Day, you likely saw a beautiful and awesome "sight to behold," with each grave graced with an American flag.

Regarding memorials, our Nation's capital is a wonderful city to visit and see beautiful monuments and memorials built to honor great Presidents of the past; to enjoy many outstanding national museums; and, of course, to visit sites and memorials dedicated to our fallen military service people. Of the latter, if and when you do visit Washington, D.C., take the time particularly to visit the World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknowns.

CPOF would especially like to honor and recognize our Correctional staff that each year take time from their Correctional duties to serve our country abroad. If you email char@cpof.org I would be happy to send them a copy of this magazine and our 2019 calendar with our deepest appreciation.

God Bless all of you and **GOD BLESS AMERICA.**

-- Char



**A Letter from Jim Noone, New York City Department of Correction and
Member of the City of New York DOC Pipe Band**



March 10, 2019

To the Members of the CPOF Board of Directors and Honor Guard,

*Today I received a package from the CPOF and inside was a beautiful plaque thanking me for my time and dedication to playing the bagpipes at the funerals and memorial services for the deceased members of the Correctional service. I am extremely honored to receive this plaque and I can assure you that it will be displayed in a prominent place in my home for all to view.**

As I have already conveyed to a few people in the organization, Louisville, Kentucky will be my “last call.” For the past 20 years, I have been a proud member of a unique organization whose main goal is to bring comfort and support to grieving families of Correction Personnel in their time of need. The motto, “We Take Care of Our Own,” is truly a worthy endeavor.

After witnessing firsthand at many funerals the grief and hardship endured by these families, it is so apparent that when the heavy burden is shared by many, it somehow seems to lighten the load for all involved. When the CPOF Honor Guard attends these funerals, it is a definite comfort to the grieving families. Correction Officers from all ranks and throughout the entire country coming together to show their support is just such an amazing thing.

Being part of the Honor Guard as a bagpiper with the City of New York Department of Correction Pipe Band has enabled me to meet and develop friendships with Correction Personnel across the country. I have derived great pleasure in being part of this fine organization. I have met many great people and have enjoyed the camaraderie we have all shared. I have always considered it a “Labor of Love.” When you enjoy doing anything worthwhile it is always very hard to give it up. I thank the good Lord for providing me with the good health and longevity for so long. Keep up the great work that you all do! After Kentucky, I will miss you all and keep you in my thoughts and prayers.

“It’s been one hell of a ride.”

*Thank you,
Jim Noone*

**The plaque was given to Jim by the CPOF National Honor Guard*

A Message from Glenn Mueller, Chairman of the CPO Foundation

Jim, I acknowledge your resignation and understand that after Kentucky you will no longer be participating in our Project events. You will be missed and ALL of us here at CPOF wish you well in your next “ride” of life.

For those who do not know, CPOF started at Folsom State Prison in the early 1980s. A group of five young Correctional Officers got together and created the CPO Foundation. Richard Waldo, Larry Corby, Don Novey, Sal Osuna and I had a vision that was to focus on the spouses and children of Correctional Officers and Corrections Staff who were killed or otherwise died in the line of duty. We knew then that Corrections constituted a relatively small part of the law enforcement community as a whole, yet our pain at the loss of a fallen Correctional colleague was just as great when a member of any other area of law enforcement lost his or her life in the line of duty. It took several years, a great deal of effort and the assistance of many others who championed our cause, but it was all more than worth it when the day came that the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc. was recognized by the IRS as a *bona fide* 501 (c) (3) national, non-profit charity.

In addition to the assistance we provide, financially and emotionally, to the surviving families of Correctional Officers killed in the line of duty, we have a very strong and active *Catastrophic Assistance Program*. Basically, if you know of a Correctional employee at your facility needing assistance as the result of a recent catastrophic event in their life, please send an email to mail@cpof.org and be assured that we will get back to you timely.

How do you become a Supporting Member? If this is the first time you are reading a publication about the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, I hope this *CPO Family* magazine has sparked your interest in learning more. To encourage you further, to date

the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation has assisted over 36,000 Correctional Families for over \$21,000,000.00 (yes, that is 21 million dollars).

How do we derive our monies? Well, in over 34 states and several dozen counties it's through convenient payroll deduction. You can go online at cpof.org and see if your state is one of them! We also have payroll deduction in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The minimum contribution is only \$5.00 a month. We are 90,000 Supporting Members strong. If you are not currently a Supporting Member, again, please go online -- cpof.org -- where you can download an application and support the ONLY National Charity for you in the Corrections Profession. If you have been a Supporting Member for a year or two, or for “years and years,” thank you. YOU are the reason we are the strong and effective organization that we are today.

Each year we formally remember and honor our Fallen Officers at the CPO Foundation's National Memorial Ceremony. This is the focal event of our annual gathering known as **Project 2000**. This year **Project 2000 XXX** is being held in Louisville, Kentucky where we will honor nine Fallen Correctional Officers, including two from our neighbor to the north. Next year for **Project 2000 XXXI** we will be in Minnesota, my home state.

Our **Project 2000** June event is for ALL in the Correctional Profession. I promise you, attend one **Project** and you will be “hooked.”

Stay safe -- GM



Privatization Policy: It is the policy of the Correctional Peace Officers (CPO) Foundation that we do not recognize privatization in the field of Corrections. The CPO Foundation adheres to the policies of the Federal Government's Department of Justice. These policies recognize only law enforcement Officers within the public sector.

LIFETIME SPONSORS **of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation**

We proudly present our Lifetime Sponsors and thank them all very much for their belief in the mission and goals of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation.

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 - AFGE Local 148, USP Lewisburg, PA
- AFGE - Local 171, FTC Oklahoma City/FCI El Reno, OK
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 - AFGE - Local 817, FMC Lexington, KY
- AFGE - Local 1007/3957, FCC Oakdale, LA
 - AFGE - Local 1405, USP Lee, VA
 - AFGE Local 2001, Fort Dix, NJ
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- * California Rehabilitation Center
 - Calipatria State Prison, CA
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- Massachusetts Correctional Officer Federated Union, MA
 - Mississippi State Penitentiary, MS
- South Mississippi Correctional Institution, MS
 - Montana State Prison, MT
 - Nebraska State Penitentiary, NE
 - Lincoln Correctional Center, NE

in Memory of Warden Fred Britten
- NCDPS-DAC Community Corrections, NC
 - NCDPS Honor Guard, NC
 - NCDPS Honor Guard, NC

*in Honor of C/Sgt. Meggan Callahan,
Correction Enterprises Manager Veronica Darden,
C/O Justin Smith, Maintenance Manager IV Geoffrey Howe
and C/O Wendy Shannon*
- NCDPS Honor Guard, NC

in Memory of Keith Smith, Harnett C I

 - NCDPS Western Region Office
- Alexander Correctional Institution, NC
 - Anson Correctional Institution, NC
 - Caldwell Correctional Center, NC
 - Catawba Correctional Center, NC
- Community Corrections District 17, NC
- Community Corrections District 19A, NC
- Community Corrections District 23, NC
- Community Corrections Division III, NC
- Community Corrections District 22, NC
- Community Corrections District 20, NC
- Community Corrections District 19B, NC
 - Craggy Correctional Center, NC
 - Foothills Correctional Institution, NC
 - Mt. View Correctional Institution, NC
 - Rutherford Correctional Center, NC
- Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women, NC
 - Wilkes Correctional Center, NC
 - Attica Correctional Facility, NY
 - Livingston Correctional Facility, NY
- Wyoming Correctional Facility Honor Guard, NY
 - Gowanda Correctional Facility, NY
 - Chillicothe Correctional Institution, OH
 - Snake River Correctional Institution, OR
 - Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, OR
 - Oregon State Penitentiary, OR
 - Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution, OR
 - Powder River Correctional Institution, OR
 - Oregon State Correctional Institution, OR
 - Warner Creek Correctional Facility, OR
 - Mill Creek Correctional Facility, OR
 - South Fork Forest Camp, OR
 - Oregon DOC Transport Unit, OR
 - Philadelphia Prison System, PA
 - Curran Fromhold Correctional Facility, PA
 - House of Correction, Philadelphia Prison System, PA
- Industrial Correctional Center, Philadelphia Prison System, PA
 - Detention Center, Philadelphia Prison System, PA
 - Riverside Correctional Facility,
Philadelphia Prison System, PA
 - Perry Correctional Institution, SC
 - Shelby County Sheriff's Office, TN
 - Turney Center Industrial Complex, TN

in Memory of Marshall Sanders

continued next page

LIFETIME SPONSORS of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation

Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Lifetime Sponsors

- Allred Unit
- Beto Unit
- Boyd Unit
- Briscoe Unit
- Byrd Unit
- Central Region Transportation
- Choice Moore Transfer Facility
 - Clemens Unit
 - Clements Unit
 - Coffield Unit
 - Cole State Jail
 - Connally Unit
 - Crain Unit
 - Dalhart Unit
 - Daniel Unit
 - Darrington Unit
- Dominguez State Jail
 - Duncan Unit
 - Eastham Unit
 - Ellis I Unit
 - Estelle Unit
 - Ferguson Unit
 - Formby State Jail
 - Ft. Stockton Unit
- Garza East Transfer Facility
- Garza West Transfer Facility
 - Gist State Jail
 - Glossbrenner SAFPF
- Goodman Transfer Facility
 - Goree Unit
- Gurney Transfer Facility
 - Halbert Unit
 - Hamilton Unit
 - Havins Unit
- Hightower Unit
- Hilltop Unit
- Hobby Unit
- Hodge Unit
- Holliday Transfer Facility
 - Hughes Unit
 - Huntsville IPO
- Huntsville Pardon & Parole Office
 - Huntsville Unit
- Hutchins State Jail
 - Jester I SAFPF
 - Jester III Unit
 - Johnston SAFPF
- Laundry & Food Service Division
 - Lewis Unit
 - Lopez State Jail
 - Luther Unit
- Lychner State Jail
 - Lynaugh Unit
- Marlin Transfer Facility
 - McConnell Unit
 - Michael Unit
- Middleton Transfer Facility
- Montford Psychiatric Unit
 - Mountain View Unit
 - Murray Unit
 - Neal Unit
 - Pack Unit
 - Plane State Jail
 - Polunsky Unit
 - Powledge Unit
 - Ramsey Unit
- Region I Director's Office
- Region II Director's Office
- Region VI Honor Guard
 - Roach Unit
 - Robertson Unit
- Rudd Transfer Facility
 - Sanchez State Jail
 - Sayle SAFPF
 - Segovia Unit
 - Skyview Unit
 - Smith Unit
 - Stevenson Unit
 - Stiles Unit
 - Stringfellow Unit
- TDCJ Correctional Training
 - TDCJ Department of Classification and Records Staff Development
- TDCJ Western Region Transportation
 - Telford Unit
 - Terrell Unit
 - Torres Unit
- Travis County State Jail
 - Vance Unit
 - Wallace Unit
 - Ware Unit
- Wayne Scott Unit
- Wheeler SAFPF
- Woodman State Jail
 - Wynne Unit

Important Information regarding Lifetime Facility Sponsors: A Lifetime Facility Sponsorship does not equal or replace Supporting Membership in the CPO Foundation by an individual Correctional Officer or Corrections Professional employed at the Facility in question.

Lifetime Individual Sponsors

- Mrs. Lucile G. Plane
- The Eric Autobee Family and Ms. Yolanda Floyd
- David & Ruthie Reeves
in Honor of SSG Jason A. Reeves
- Mr. Eric Spierer
- Mr. Dan M. Reynolds and Family
- Ms. Pamela Omelson
- The Garcia Family
in Memory of
Correctional Officer Eligio Garcia, Jr.
- Donna Davis
in Memory of
Correctional Officer Christopher Davis
- John and Carey Mendiboure
- Ms. Jessica Duran
in Memory of
Sergeant Iris Smith
- Brenda Ewing
- Carolyn and Makayla Kelley
in Memory of
Correctional Officer Rodney Kelley

Correctional Officers' Creed

To speak sparingly ... to act, not to argue ... to be in authority through personal presence ... to correct without nagging ... to speak with the calm voice of certainty ... to see everything, know what is significant and what not to notice ... to be neither insensitive to distress nor so distracted by pity as to miss what must elsewhere be seen ...

To do neither that which is unkind nor self-indulgent in its misplaced charity ... never to obey the impulse to tongue lash that silent insolence which in times past could receive the lash ... to be both firm and fair ... to know I cannot be fair simply by being firm, nor firm simply by being fair ...

To support the reputations of associates and confront them without anger, should they stand short of professional conduct ... to reach for knowledge of the continuing mysteries of human motivation ... to think; always to think ... to be dependable ... to be dependable first to my charges and associates, and thereafter to my duty as employee and citizen ... to keep fit .. .to keep forever alert ... to listen to what is meant as well as what is said with words and with silences ...

To expect respect from my charges and my superiors yet never to abuse the one for abuses from the other ... for eight hours each working day to be an example of the person I could be at all times ... to acquiesce in no dishonest act ... to cultivate patience under boredom and calm during confusion ... to understand the why of every order I take or give ...

To hold freedom among the highest values though I deny it to those I guard ... to deny it with dignity that in my example they find no reason to lose their dignity ... to be prompt ... to be honest with all who practice deceit that they not find in me excuse for themselves ... to privately face down my fear that I not signal it ... to privately cool my anger that I not displace it on others ... to hold in confidence what I see and hear, which by the telling could harm or humiliate to no good purpose ... to keep my outside problems outside ... to leave inside that which should stay inside ... to do my duty.

-- Bob Barrington

Rikers JATC's entrance hall features a 1995 mural of the CO Creed authored by the late Prof. Robert Barrington of North Michigan University. The creed was widely distributed by the International Association of Correctional Officers. The above New York Correction History Society recreation uses the antique scroll from an image of the inmate-painted mural to frame the text that as been adapted by various correctional agencies.



CPO Foundation

P. O. Box 348390, Sacramento, CA 95834-8390

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Happy News!

Christy House married Rob Paster on Friday, May 10, 2019 on Sunken Meadow State Park Beach, New York.

Christy is the daughter of Fred House, EOW January 28, 1988. Rob Paster is a Correction Officer at Rikers Island and is the newest member of the City of New York DOC Pipe Band. We enjoy and appreciate the Pipe Band every year at our **Project 2000** June event.

Fred House was a Lieutenant with the Utah Department of Corrections when he was killed.

Christy and Rob met in 2016 at **Project 2000 XXVII** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

We at CPOF wish Christy and Rob “all the best” in their life together.