May 2011 Newsletter

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Annual Lecture
We are delighted that our second Annual Lecture will be delivered this year by Clare Short, former Secretary of State for International Development. She will explore the topic, No Forgiveness: Without Justice there can be no peace. If you have been disappointed by two of our previous speakers who will share their own personal journeys, with The Independent newspaper acting as our media partner, we’re also delighted that Dr Jamal Hanifi has agreed to chair this event.

Date: Thurs 18th October 2011
Time: 6.30p.m., L Worter Chapel, King’s
For ticket information please check our website from June 1st.

Diploma Course
From September this year and based in London, The Forgiveness Project will be running a one-year part-time intensive Diploma Programme in Group Facilitation, Conflict Resolution and Counselling Skills. The course prepares trainers for national accreditation with AFPP and runs from October 2011 until September 2012. The course is relevant to our work because of the high level of facilitation we require to run our prison programme. The diploma is open to anyone working or wanting to work in this area.
Click here to obtain more details or email Afppinfo@theforgivenessproject.com

Website & New Stories
There are several new stories on the website, among them Mark Henderson who is in 2003 was held hostage in Colombia and then six years later met one of his kidnappers, and Trevor Ford whose son was murdered in London in 2007.

Prison Programme
We are re-launching our prison programme: RESTORE (Restoration-Education-Storytelling-Teambuilding-Openness-Respect-Empathy) in order to more accurately reflect what we do, as sometimes prisoners turn up expecting us to teach “them how to forgive.” We are now running the programme in 5 UK adult male prisons and one YOI. We’ve also recently commissioned the Forensic Psychological Services at the University of Middlesex to undertake an evaluation of our work in prisons.

The workshop, which is best delivered as an early-intervention, helps to motivate people into making different choices. One prison member of staff recently commented, “Feedback from learners is always complimentary and many participants have said that The Forgiveness Project workshops is without doubt, the best, most powerful and useful course they have ever done in any prison.”

Schools
Finishing sufficient funds to develop and implement our Education Resource Pack for young people has not been easy as we think we are nearly there: “Exploring Conflict Transformation: an inquiry into forgiveness and reconciliation” will be an on-line tool as well as comprising a DVD and a written Teachers’ Guide. Alongside the experiences of young people and TSP story-tellers, the resource will offer creative teaching activities to demonstrate ways of incorporating themes of conflict and reconciliation into different curricular subjects.

USA
The Forgiveness Project has hired a new US Exhibition Coordinator. To hire the exhibition for North America please email Stacie Edis.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sophie Levy, the previous coordinator for the US, for her dedication and hard work over the past few years.

Fundraising
Six months ago I could barely swim – let alone do the crawl, or even put my face in the water! But I’m about to take part in one of the Bath Touch Great London Swim on Saturday 29th July at Royal Victoria Dock to raise money for a story telling project we’re undertaking in Sierra Leone with Farm International – an organization which makes a pioneering, community-led approach to post war reconstruction. If you are interested in training me – or donating – here’s the link.
http://www.justgiving.com/Mariana-Canzonieri

The Forgiveness Project is now fully registered with Just Giving, making it easier for people to raise money for us. If you are embarking on a sponsored activity and would like to raise money for The Forgiveness Project, we would, of course, be especially grateful.

Media
The Archbishop of Canterbury’s words suggesting that forgiveness can be given too easily prompted much interesting debate before Easter and as a result I was invited to speak on several different radio stations. I have reflected on this issue and written about it on my Huffington Post blog.
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/Mariana-Canzonieri/forgiveness-project_b_565149.html

Finally
If you are based in London don’t miss Synergy Theatre Project’s exciting new venture at the Soho Theatre running from 9-14 May. We collaborated with Synergy in 2008 over The Long Roadplay. This festival of plays celebrates the work of 15 compelling new playwrights – all of whom are prisoners or ex-prisoners. http://www.sohobite.com/2010/03/29/00/00

With all good wishes,
Marina Cantanzaro, Founder & Director
Find us on Facebook | Twitter | Youtube
www.theforgivenessproject.com | The Forgiveness Project | Regent Court Charity No: 1126693

Powered by YAPC