

**TO: Workforce Investment Board**

**DATE: 01/14/10**

**FROM: WIB Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: California New Start Prison to Employment Sub – Grant Update**

**PROPOSED OUTCOME(S): For Information Only**

**DISCUSSION: The purpose of the New Start funds is to enhance employability of parolees and their access to employment opportunities.**

**The Department of Workforce Investment has met with partners to plan, develop, and implement the New Start Program. An initial planning and an implementation meeting were convened and subsequent meetings are planned with the local and regional parole officers, Life-Line Community Developments and Love, Inc. These are the key entities that participate in the Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings and they have individuals with experience and expertise in working with the parolee population.**

- Participants will be provided with an orientation of the program to include expectations of the personal commitment. In addition, they will be provided with an orientation of the program to include expectations of the personal commitment.**
- Services to be provided: Services that participants may be provided will be as follows: Career Skills and Interest Assessments, Job Search Assistance, Occupational skills training (short term), On-The-Job Training, and skill upgrading may be made available.**
- The career coaches will assess needs and provide supportive services as they are deemed appropriate; such as DMV printouts, physicals required for training or employment, GED testing fees, expungement of records, referrals for medical physicals or prescribed medications, temporary shelter information, and food bank referrals.**
- Estimated number of participants that Merced County Department of Workforce will serve is forty (40) participants at an estimated cost per participant of \$2,440.44.**

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**