



345 N. Monmouth Ave.
Monmouth, OR 97361
Phone: 503-838-8912

April 19, 2006

Dear Contributor/Business Owner:

The Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice (CJ CJ) is a non-profit organization associated with Western Oregon University, Monmouth Oregon. Over 20,000 individuals are incarcerated in Marion County jail each year, and approximately 25 percent of those individuals (more than 5,000) are indigent and do not own even the necessities of life such as personal hygiene items.

The Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice and Western Oregon students are working on a project entitled *Project Backpack*. Project backpack's mission is to "empower indigent individuals transitioning from Marion County Jail into our communities by providing them with the essential tools needed in their struggle for a fresh start in life." Individuals releasing from the Marion County Jail will receive a backpack that includes daily hygiene products, small stationary items, basic clothing necessities, and listings of employment opportunities, social, medical and mental health resources, and first aid supplies.

Our goal is to provide backpacks with these basic essentials to all indigent individuals releasing from Marion County Jail throughout the year, and assist in their transitioning to become productive citizens within our communities. We want to empower these individuals to reach their potential physically, socially, and emotionally, and to contribute to the wellbeing of our community.

We are seeking financial contributions, backpacks, and supplies. Your donations are tax deductible (Federal Tax ID # 94-131-6811). You can help us make a difference and your donation will aid in the success and future of our community.

Thank you for your consideration. Please help us to help others.

Sincerely,

William B. Brown, PhD
Director
Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice-Northwest Regional office
345 N. Monmouth Ave.
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