

# Madison County Sheriff's Department Chaplaincy Program

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Rev. Benjamin Santiago, Sr. Chaplain  
QUE PASA? (WHAT'S HAPPENING?)

Chaplaincy Program Newsletter, January Edition

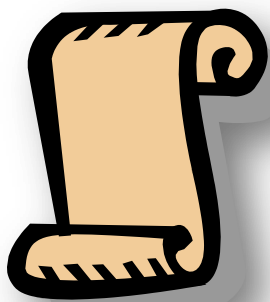
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## **The Sheriff's Chaplaincy Conference**

The Fourth Annual Sheriff's Chaplaincy Conference Training was held on October 12 & 13 of October 2009. This conference was held at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Training Center. Several classes were offered to the chaplains who attended from a tri-state area. These included: Stress Management, Burn Out, Legal Liability Basic CISM, Cyber Crime, Preparation/Response to a disaster, Crisis Response/Critical Incident, Officer injury & Death, Ethics, Ride-Long with officers, Police Work & the Occult, Child abuse, & Gang Activity in jail.

What began in 2003, with several chaplains from various counties in Indiana desiring to start yearly training conferences as a way to develop better skills for the staff and volunteer chaplains in all aspects of chaplaincy, has now evolved into a conference covering three states and training over 70 chaplains in the 2009 conference.

It takes two years of classes and a lot of hard work to qualify for testing to receive a certificate for a basic level Chaplain in this conference. There are three levels one can train for over a period of about six years. Level one is Basic Certification, level two is Senior Certification and level three is Master's



Certification. My Administrative Assistant and Chaplain for the women at the Detention Center, Connie Dailey and I have received a Masters' Certification and we helped put this event together.

One of our Volunteer Chaplains for women, Evang. Edwina Smith, has a Basic Certification she earned in 2008. She is currently working on her Senior level certification. Two of our Volunteer Chaplains, Rev. Anthony Harris and Archie Cotton, attended the conference in October and received a certificate for their training in CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management). They will also be eligible for Basic Level Certification next year.

Our very own Sheriff, Ron Richardson, attended the October 2009 Conference and began his journey to become a certified Chaplain as well. We are very blessed to have a sheriff who loves the Lord and supports the Chaplaincy Program to the fullest. We look forward to presenting him with his basic certification in October 2010.

## **Our Fifteenth Annual Golf Outing**

Our Fifteenth Annual Golf Outing will be held on July 31, 2010. It will be at Grandview Golf Course and will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start. We need hole sponsors and players.



The cost again this year is still \$50.00 per player and \$200 for a team of four. The cost for hole sponsors are \$100 and beverage cart is \$150. We also need corporate sponsors for Gold--\$500 and Silver--\$250.

## The Chaplaincy Program needs your help!



We closed the books for the year 2009 facing a deficit in our finances. We are asking you to pray about you or your church or business increasing your giving for this year. We are asking for your financial support as we all face a downturn in our finances and our ability to give to the ministries in our area. This is not an easy request for us to make. Our donations were down by 10% from 2008. If you can increase your giving amount from last year or if you have never given to this ministry before, won't you take time now to sit down and write us out a check? God has changed the lives of literally thousands of men and women and youth since He placed a burden on my heart to start a Chaplaincy Program at the Sheriff's Department. Some of these men and women have even gone on and become ministers of His Grace as well. They tell their testimony of how God reached down in a lonely jail cell when they were in such despair and poverty of spirit and there was no hope left in their hearts and touched them. They tell of His forgiveness and love and the vision He gave them for a new life and a new future full of hope and grace a future.

Even 10 or 20 dollars makes a difference when you add them up each month. We buy Bibles at least four (4) times a year which adds up to almost \$2000. This is in addition to the normal everyday expenses of running an office and a ministry that serves over 5,000 people per year. In these difficult times we are trusting God to meet our needs through the generous giving of His people. Please pray about what you can give and help us to continue this ministry.

### Sheriff Ron Richardson speaks out about the value of the Chaplaincy Program in the Sheriff's Department.



There were several occasions this year when the value of having a Chaplaincy Program here at the Madison County Sheriff's Department became even more apparent to me. The Chaplaincy Program brought strength, comfort and spiritual counseling when we needed it the most. They were instrumental in helping the officers through several difficult circumstances in their lives and in the lives

of their families. The Chaplaincy Program also performed marriages and even funerals for our employees and their families. If food was needed for an event they were there to help out and serve in anyway that was needed. Everyday someone from the chaplaincy program ministers to the needs, problems and overall well-being of our staff. They have visited and prayed with many of our staff as they found themselves undergoing treatment in the hospital

The chaplaincy program also performs a vital ministry for the inmates housed here at the Detention Center. They make death notifications, suicide interventions, birth announcements, hospitalization notices and offer spiritual counseling to those who ask for it. They arrange and schedule chapel services for the men and women that is made up of several churches all over Madison County.

I am both blessed and very thankful to have the Chaplaincy Program work alongside the Sheriff's Department.

### Chaplain Connie Dailey Is Retiring!



My administrative assistant and Chaplain for women at the jail will be retiring this year. I have been blessed to have Connie serve alongside me for the last ten years. Connie is leaving to take a position with a new ministry in Madison County that she and Bonita Cox founded in 2008 called Sister2Sister Ministries and Outreach. This new ministry is part of a vision she has had for 8 years that provides professional and supportive services for women coming out of jail or prison and reentering the community. Sister2Sister has been named "A New Initiative" in Madison County by Weed and Seed. Over the course of the last year several other volunteers and one staff person have been added to this Program. Connie will still be a volunteer chaplain and she will help with the ministry in that area.

I am currently praying and looking for someone to take Connie's place later this year. If you or someone you know would be interested in applying for this position please contact me in my office at 765-646-4077 for an interview. This position requires a working knowledge of Excel, Microsoft Word, Publisher, Power Point Presentations, Outlook Express and good relational skills. I am preferably looking for a woman who could also help with the ministry to women.