



# Choose Freedom

"Keeping Youth On The Right Path"

August 8, 2011

To Prospective Partners,

The Georgia Department of Corrections is pleased to announce the re-launch of our prevention awareness program, "Choose Freedom." This program targets at-risk youth across the state. We want to encourage youth by educating them on the consequences that come from making bad decisions.

This program gives students the opportunity to speak with an inmate and ask them questions about their experiences in prison. The students will also view clips from our National Geographic "Hard Time" series. The DVD includes scenes that depict the first day in prison, youth in a boot camp program, and a 17-year-old inmate that is serving time in an adult prison.

A growing prison population affects all Georgians, whether we live in one of the top ten areas contributing to the prison population or not. One in every 13 adult Georgians is under the supervision of state corrections. Many teenagers entering juvenile facilities and adult prisons are there because of peer pressure, academic failure, truancy, and other socioeconomic factors.

You are in a key position to assist us with this unique community program. Partner with us and become a presence in the lives of the youth who need us the most. Working together, we can change lives one student at a time. If you are interested in partnering with us, please contact Gwendolyn Hogan at 478-992-5247 or send her an e-mail at [hogang00@dcor.state.ga.us](mailto:hogang00@dcor.state.ga.us).

Sincerely,

Gwendolyn Hogan  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Corrections