

Dear Friends,

As Mother's Day approaches Let's Start invites you to remember the children who will not have their mother with them on this special occasion because their mother is in prison! Roosevelt Roberts remembers that reality very well. Now, however, at the age of 24, he writes the following about his experience:

"My mother was in prison and it bothered me. I was disappointed that she wasn't there for my childhood. Most people that have been incarcerated think they can buy love. They don't realize that the absence of love is the ultimate price."

It's for families like Roosevelt's that we are inviting you to be one of:

100 donors to give \$100 in 100 days.

Let's Start, a non-profit community based organization, supports families impacted by the criminal justice system and offers them the following services:

- Weekly group sessions where over 30 women gather to share experiences, develop leadership skills and foster self-confidence and personal accountability.
- Parenting sessions for mothers to discuss ways of developing healthy relationships with their children.
- A micro-lending program so women can ease their financial challenges.
- Six bus trips each year for children to visit their mothers at the Vandalia Women's Prison.
- Personal counseling, tutoring and in-depth case management for some families with an incarcerated mother.
- Group sessions in a local school for children with a parent in prison.

Your donation of \$100 can:

- Support a field trip for a family with a mother in prison.
- Support a school based group session for children with a parent in prison.
- Assist a Let's Start participant with a utility or rent bill.
- Provide educational materials for children who are being tutored.
- Support a talk or a performance of "Stories of Hope".

Please know that Let's Start along with the many Roosevelt's in our lives, is most grateful for your generosity. In advance, we say "Thank You!" for being one of:

100 donors to give \$100 in 100 days.

(Donations can be made by mailing a check to Let's Start, 1408 South 10th St., St. Louis, MO 63104 or by going to the Let's Start web site: www.letsstart.org and donating through PayPal.)

Save the Dates:

- June 18, Let's Start Day at City Coffee House, 36 N. Brentwood Blvd. Clayton, MO
- July 17, Let's Start Luncheon, 1408 South 10th Street, St. Louis, MO
- September 18, Let's Start the Movie: *An Evening With Denise Williams*