

CIF/Sandstone Prison Partnership Helps Local Families

Communities Investing in Families (CIF) is excited to announce a new partnership between the Sandstone Prison VT Auto repair class and the CIF Car Donation Program.

According to CIF program coordinator Julie Barstad, the Car Donation Program was in need of people and places to repair donated vehicles. Jay Eiffler, VT Auto Instructor at Sandstone Prison, was in need of vehicles to repair. “It’s a win-win situation for both programs,” says Barstad. “Many people might not even know about the VT Auto program in this county.”

The VT Auto Program at FCI Sandstone offers inmates opportunities to gain knowledge about inspection, maintenance, and repair in the automotive industry. The facility provides a well-rounded automotive training program for inmates interested in pursuing a career in automotive repair.

The VT Auto Program is also an approved testing site for Automotive Service Excellent certification examinations conducted twice a year. The program is affiliated with Meineke Car Care, offering job placements for inmates who are serious about entering the automotive industry after their release.

Jay Eiffler said, “I am really glad to have this opportunity to be involved with Communities Investing in Families as a community service project. It is an outstanding chance for these inmates to get hand-on experience, along with contributing something back to society. The inmates are all very excited as well.”

Donating your used vehicle to CIF supports local families in need, improving their employment opportunities, *and* it will now help prison inmates prepare for their future employment. Donations to CIF are tax-deductible. For more information, you may call 320-384-6373, or visit the CIF website at www.investinfamilies.org.