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Lancaster San Diego Soledad Vista

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PRESS RELEASE

Amity Foundation announces a contract with the New Mexico Department of Corrections to provide substance abuse treatment services for 48 men, most of whom will be paroling from correctional institutions throughout New Mexico. Services will be provided at historic Ft. Stanton (http://www.zianet.com/snm/ftstant.htm), located in the mountains of Southern New Mexico, near the town of Ruidoso. Comprehensive services will be offered similar to those offered at Amity's residential facility at Vista (http://www.amityfoundation.com/svc/svccavista.htm). The Fort was originally established in 1855 to control Apache raids; was briefly evacuated during the Confederate invasion of New Mexico during the Civil War; has functioned as a Merchant Marine Hospital, a tuberculosis sanatorium, a war internee camp during World War II, and a minimum-security prison. In the past year the Fort has been closed. Amity has now reopened the Fort, using several of the many buildings on the 640 acre site. The project will be administered by Rod Mullen, Amity's President and CEO. The Project Director is Pamela Jay, who has worked at Amity's Circle Tree Ranch (<u>http://www.amity-center.org/</u>) in Arizona for over ten years; the Supervising Counselor is Gerard Hernadez, who has worked at Amity's Vista facility for the past four years.

Amity also announces the implementation of a 50 inmate program at the Minimum Security Facility at the R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility near San Diego, California. Amity has been providing services at this institution for the California Department of Corrections since 1990(http://www.amityfoundation.com/svc/svccarjd.htm). The new project, long anticipated by the former Warden, John Ratelle, and current Warden, Tom Hornung, will target minimum security inmates who provide support services to the main institution. Services will be provided at night and on the weekends to allow these inmates to continue their work activities, which are vital to the institution. Current Director, Regina Slaughter, will supervise the new project, along with rest of Amity's San Diego services. Amity's services were the first of their kind in California and the documented success of the program has led to the largest implementation of drug abuse services in history. California aims to implement 10,000 drug treatment beds in the Department of Corrections based upon the "Amity model."

See Amity Foundation of California's web site, <u>www.amityfoundation.com</u> for further information.