

*Maine*  
Cumberland **County**  
POSITION PAPER FOR AGENDA ITEM

<b>TO:</b>	Cumberland County Commissioners
<b>FROM:</b>	Kevin J. Joyce, Sheriff
<b>DATE:</b>	05-02-2023
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Donation from The Point Church, South Portland

**Requested Action:**

I recommend that the Cumberland County Commissioners accept the donation and place in a dedicated account within the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) grant so that the release planning staff and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Coordinator can utilize to secure temporary housing for qualified inmates upon release from the Cumberland County Jail.

**Background & Purpose of Request:**

Chief Deputy Naldo Gagnon approach me asking if it was legal for a church to donate to the jail in order to assist inmates in getting “back on their feet” upon release from the Cumberland County Jail. Reverend Jeff McIlwain had been approached by a volunteer at the jail, who is the Outreach Pastor at The Point Christian Church in South Portland, about donating the offerings taken during the Easter Sunday Services at The Point to go to benefit inmates being released back into the community. I advised the Chief that as long as we didn’t solicit, then a donation would be appropriate. Title 25 §3702-C, forbids law enforcement officers from solicitation.

On Sunday, April 9, 2023 as the result of several Easter related services, The Point Christian Church collected and wants to donate to the Cumberland County Jail, \$80,000.00+/- to be utilized for temporary housing for inmates released from the Cumberland County Jail. The expectations of how the donation will be utilized is as follows:

1. Used to fund sober living programs
2. Job placement
3. Any other way that would bolster the inmate’s reentry success

**Funding Amount and Source:** \$80,000.00 +/-

**Attachments:** Point Church Donation MOU