



"Nothing Stops A Bullet Like A Job"

Board of Directors

Michael Hennigan, Pres.
David Adams
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Anjelica Huston
J. Mario Molina, M.D.
Fr. Al Naucke, S.J.
Gabriela Ortiz
David Price
Rey Rodriguez
Rob Smith
Carlos Vasquez

Amita:

*Many Thanks for your
extraordinary kindness.*

Services

Job Referral
Tattoo Removal
Counseling
Case Management
Community Service
"Release" Aftercare
Training Curriculum
Voices of Youth

Homeboy Industries

Homeboy Silkscreen
Homeboy/Homegirl
Merchandising
Homegirl Cafe
Homeboy Maintenance

*Please see that the
First Lady gets this
letter and the folks there
know of our gratitude.*

- G



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November 3, 2005

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Mrs. Laura Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Bush:

I want to thank you for including myself, Gabriel, Gus, and Herbert in "Helping America's Youth" White House Conference. It was a powerful day and clear in its guiding principles, articulated challenges and strategic plan.

Above all, I am deeply appreciative to you and your fine staff in their truly exquisite kindness shown to my three "Homeboys"! I suppose you always expect people to be nice. You and your staff chose to treasure these three guys and by your valuing them, they left D.C. feeling "valued". You all seemed to just pull the beauty and goodness right out of them and they got on that plane to L. A. and the three of them, felt "favored". Gabriel told a flight attendant - "Last night, we made history - 3 ex-gang members ate dinner at the White House". And then he told her his story and about Homeboy Industries. "I made her cry, G - I hope that's okay?" "You just showed her that you are somebody, son - and sometimes people will cry when they see it."

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It seems to me there are two essential truths. One is that God is compassionate, loving-kindness. And two, we are asked to do only one thing: to be in the world who God is. You, Anita McBride, Elizabeth Herald, Maria Miller, Sonia Medina and Ron Clark did nothing short of resemble God's own heart to the four of us. In the process, Gabriel, Gus and Herbert - used to being easily despised and readily left out - recognized that they are the shape of God's heart - favored and valuable. Your kindness really did this to them.

2.

I thank you in advance for communicating that message to your above-mentioned staff members. May you continue to be a remarkable sign of the God who loves us without measure and without regret.

With great respect,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Greg Boyle S.J.", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning and a large, looping "S" at the end.

Fr. Gregory J. Boyle, S.J.
Executive Director