



February 10, 2015

Dear Joe:

I am pleased to endorse the efforts of *Rise Up Industries* to assist men who are exiting incarceration with their challenges to re-enter society in a positive and productive manner. As you know, I have long been involved in prison ministry and, consequently, I am impressed and encouraged by the mission and strategic plan of *Rise Up Ministries*.

Your goal to be self-sustaining by utilizing social enterprises is a prudent path. More importantly, men leaving the prison culture will no doubt be assisted to transition successfully back into society by the life and job skills which involvement in these enterprises will provide.

As I see it, the full array of services which you offer truly responds to many of the needs of these men at a critical moment in their lives, from tattoo removal to programs of anger management and NA or AA counseling. Above all, I am confident that your manifest understanding and love for them will bear good fruit.

I encourage and applaud your bigger vision to develop a prevention and intervention program directed at the gang population and those who are prime candidates for gang involvement. This will be a blessing for the entire community of San Diego.

As I endorse your work, I assure you of my prayers for you and those with whom you will minister. Please let know if I can be of spiritual and pastoral assistance to you.

Sincerely in our Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert H. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Bishop Emeritus of San Diego

Joe Gilbreath
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