

# CONSTITUTION OF GM Community Outreach Center

## **ARTICLE I**

### NAME

The name of the organization will be GM Community Outreach Center (*also stated GM-COC*) and is a Faith-Based organization.

## **ARTICLE – II**

### OFFICE

The registered office of GM Community Outreach Center shall be located at 1111 California Avenue, Bakersfield, CA. 93304- (*Corner of California and “N” Street.*)

## **ARTICLE – III**

### OBJECTIVES

GM Community Outreach Center of Bakersfield, CA. shall be a non-profit and non-governmental organization established for the development of persons with general life-controlling problems who need direction and guidance in discovering their purpose in God in order to lead productive lives. The objectives to accomplish this are:

**SECTION I** To provide food boxes at least once a month to the low-income and poverty stricken individuals in a supervised and safe environment. To provide meals to those who are hungry at least twice a week.

**SECTION II** To assist those who feel lost or unproductive in the course of their life and help them discover their purpose and direction through bible teaching, education, customer service classes, job searches, expo classes, and counseling with the goal of developing strong families.

**SECTION III** To provide communities with preventive education about drug and alcohol abuse, sexual transmitted diseases, AIDS, and nutritional eating habits through literature, seminars and public meetings.

**SECTION IV** To provide letters to those who are incarcerated in hope of developing a more positive attitude that will encourage and prompt them to grab hold to a new lease on life, and acquire better social interaction, and while eliminate a desire for criminal behavior.

**SECTION V** To provide marital consultation from the biblical standpoint only for those who are considering entering into a marital partnership.

**SECTION VI** To offer GMCOC participants opportunity through education to develop life skills by:

Providing a structured program that encourages faith in God through prayer, fasting (*with approval of personal doctor*) bible reading and study. We believe these factors help develop a strong spiritual life and give the strength to live free from drug and alcohol addiction. We believe that in the up building of one's faith in God helps one to discover one's purpose, and obtain sustainable goals.

a) To help search for an established program and facility that would best serve the participant both spiritually (*teachings of Jesus Christ*) and physically (*exercise and diet*) who suffer from substance abuse.

b) To submit resources that deal with counseling in order to help addicts understand the causes of addictions and how to live drug and alcohol free.

c) Developing adult literacy classes so that participants may have greater opportunities for advancement, employment, and chosen vocations.

d) Assisting former addicts in fully reintegrating into their families and communities as productive citizens by offering assistance in securing gainful employment.

e) To provide assistance to participants in the completion of resumes and interview skills.

f) To pass out literature that will stimulate mental awareness of the different challenges that affect the community and offer alternatives to combat these problems,

g) To teach domestic skills that will assist in the upkeep and survival of the living conditions of those who are considered low-income and poverty stricken.

## **ARTICLE - IV**

### **MARRIAGE, FAMILY, AND HUMAN SEXUALITY**

**SECTION I** Because we are a faith-based organization who support the teachings of Christ as a guideline to develop a productive marriage, we do not support same gender marriage ceremonies and are prohibited from giving any services such as consultation and wedding services for the promotion of this act. We believe and support that marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime.

**SECTION II** The facilities owned or rented by GM Community Outreach Center or Goodness and Mercy Ministries of Bakersfield, CA. will not allow any same gender marriage ceremony to be performed on the premises owned, rented or operated by GM Community Outreach Center or Goodness and Mercy Ministries. Clergy officiating marriage ceremonies at the GM-C.O.C. whether or not employed by the organization, shall affirm their agreement with the Constitution and the Bylaws set forth by the GM Community Outreach Center and Goodness and Mercy Ministries of Bakersfield, CA.

**SECTION III** The clergy assigned by the GM Community Outreach Center or Goodness and Mercy Ministries to implement the procedures contained in this Marriage Policy may, in his sole discretion, decline to make the center facilities available for, and/or decline to officiate at, a ceremony when, in his or her judgment, there are significant concerns that one or both of the applicants may not be qualified to enter into sacred bond of marriage for theological, doctrinal, moral or legal reasons.

**SECTION IV** The couple (man and woman) planning to get married must be willing to go through (10) ten sessions of marriage consulting developed by the GM Community Outreach Center and Goodness and Mercy Ministries before entering into the sacred bond of marriage conducted by GM Community Outreach Center.

## **ARTICLE – V**

### **PREROGATIVES**

**SECTION I** To elect its own officers and committees and arrange for its meetings and programs. To govern itself in accordance with its' constitution and bylaws.

**SECTION II** To establish and maintain departments and institutions as deemed necessary to accomplish its stated purpose.

**SECTION III** To acquire, purchase, secure, rent and own grounds, buildings, equipment and any and all other property real or immovable, or personal that may be donated or bequeathed, or in any manner conveyed to or acquired by the organization under the limitations of the laws of California.

## **ARTICLE – VI**

### **RELIGIOUS SUPPORT**

**SECTION I** GMCOC does not support the worship or ceremonial practice of no other religion that is contrary to the belief of Christianity, nor allow the use of its premises to be used for the purpose there of.

**SECTION II** GMCOC does not support the use of the facility for starting a church, however facility may be use to promote programs that are used for up building spiritual, physical or educational growth. Process must not conflict with biblical scripture.

## **ARTICLE – VII**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**SECTION I** There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the President of GMCOC, the Director, Administrator and not less than five nor more than fifteen duly elected members. The President will be allowed to serve as the Director if he deems necessary. All participants shall be approved by the President and the Board of Directors with the exception of those serving by virtue of their office.

**SECTION II** The Board of Directors shall establish policy, serve as trustees, select participants, instructors, and employees who will serve in and with the entire program.

**SECTION III** Fund raising for GM Community Outreach shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors, the Director, and Administrator.

## **ARTICLE – VIII**

### **OFFICERS**

The Executive Officers of the Corporation shall be the President, Director, Administrator, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors from its membership and ratified by the President.

## **ARTICLE – IX**

### **MEETINGS**

**SECTION I** The annual meeting of the organization shall be held in the second quarter of the calendar year at a time and place designated by the Executive Officers.

**SECTION II** Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or Director by written request from a majority of the Board of Directors, providing notice by certified mail is sent to each member at least seven (7) days before the special meeting.

## **ARTICLE -X**

### **PROPERTY**

**SECTION I** All property of the Corporation shall be held in the name of GM Community Outreach Center or Goodness and Mercy Ministries, which is a non-profit, non-governmental organization, and shall be dedicated to drug recovery, education, public health and humanitarian purposes.

### **POLICY**

**SECTION II** No part of net donations private or public, given to GM Community Outreach Center shall be for the benefit of Board members, their families, friends, business, or political contacts. The exception would be for reasonable compensation paid for services rendered.

**SECTION III** In the event of the dissolution of the organization, the Board of Directors is authorized by GM Community Outreach Center to distribute all real or movable properties to those individuals who contribute the majority amount of funding for the purchase of the equipment within the Goodness and Mercy Ministries whose goals and philosophy are the same as GM Community Outreach Center.

## **ARTICLE - XI**

### **LOAN OBSERVATION**

SECTION I GMCOC is not a loaning facility. We do not give or loan money for motels, utilities, groceries, bus tickets, etc. There are entities through Supportive services that provide those needs. We are a facility that is here to teach, train, and assist people in searching out their purpose through God. However, there will be times we will give out food and clothes depending on the circumstance.

## **ARTICLE - XII**

### **AMENDMENTS**

The Constitution may be amended at any properly called meeting of the Board of Directors by a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the Board providing the proposed amendment has been sent in writing by certified mail thirty (30) days in advance to all Board members and Goodness and Mercy Ministries. The government of California shall be immediately notified of any change.