



## **MoDOT/reStart Partnership Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***Why is MoDOT doing this program?***

It just makes sense to reach out to the community. We are always looking for new ways to work, and this partnership helps everyone and gives back to the community. Taking care of the roadsides takes many hours of labor, and we are always looking for ways to accomplish this work better, faster, and at a good value to tax payers.

### ***When did the program start?***

The partnership was implemented in April 2010 but has been two-years in planning.

### ***How many people are participating?***

Six to nine homeless persons have the opportunity to go to work every day and earn minimum wage (\$7.25) that will help them reestablish independence and potentially regain a home and security. They received their first paycheck April 30, 2010.

The goal is to eventually expand the program to 8 members of the crew with a possible addition of another crew as resources become available.

### ***What do the workers do?***

The workers pick up trash and beautify state-run roadways in the city's urban core. If successful, the program may be expanded to other areas. MoDOT provides transportation to and from the work site. Workers receive safety equipment, training, and are covered by reStart's insurance on the work site.

### ***What is reStart?***

reStart Inc. is an interfaith ministry that shelters and supports homeless men, women, youth and families. reStart's mission is to help homeless persons move toward independence and self-sufficiency. In 2009, reStart served 7,501 homeless persons.

Kansas City has the seventh largest homeless population per capita, 56 percent of which are mothers and children. Missouri has the fourth highest percent of homeless veterans

### ***How did this partnership begin?***

The idea began about 18 months ago when MoDOT employees were discussing means and methods to reduce the litter on right of ways within Jackson County. The department is an active participant in community groups, which is how contacts were made with the reStart program.

Once final agreements were made, reStart and MODOT we were ready to start our crew picking up litter in the down town loop. reStart provides the administrative support for the program while MODOT supervises the actual activities.

### ***Does MoDOT have any other faith-based partnerships?***

This is not the first faith-based partnership success for MoDOT. In 2009, MoDOT joined "A Call for Oneness" and hosted a three-day job-skills seminar on the CDL exam.