

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SUMMIT

Second Chances

MARIA MORRIS



Could this be YOU?

Transitional & Recovery
Coaching Coordinator



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RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
SUMMIT
2021

21 April
10:00am - 11:15am

Zoom Platform

www.centerforcommunityjustice.org

Location

121 South Third Street,
Elkhart, IN-46516
Tel: 574 295 6149

MESSAGE

FROM DON FRENCH

DONATE



Let's Give Them a Chance . . . As Often As It Takes

In a long list of National Observances there are multiple designations in the month of April. Some, like National Fresh Celery Month, might not be on your list for celebration. Yet, something as significant as National Cancer Control Month gives us each an opportunity to reflect on the extent of this disease and to perhaps evaluate our own lifestyle choices in the hope of minimizing personal risk to cancer's destructive nature. There are far too many observances during the month of April to list them all here; however, one that I believe to be immensely important to us all is Second Chance Month.

I, for one, need to be reminded of how important a second chance can be. Without question, I have led a privileged life. There has never been a time when I can remember someone giving up on me – and I have made some pretty foolish choices in my lifetime. However, I have never been defined by my worst choices in life. Sadly, I talk with men and women, every day, who have not been afforded that same privilege. Not only have they experienced a friend or loved one who has given up on them, they have attempted to navigate society with the specter of a criminal conviction attached to their every move. Employers, landlords, and even

various service providers have defined them by their worst choices, and they will remind them of those choices every time they sit down to fill out an application or answer questions in an interview.

Unfortunately, what many people in society do not realize is that these men and women have the potential to be some of the most stable, productive, and immensely creative members of the community. All they need is for someone to give them a chance to get it right. In over fifteen years of working with justice-involved individuals, in various capacities, I have never heard anyone tell me that they can't wait to return to incarceration. Although, I have heard more than a few tell me that they believe the best place for them is prison – because too many doors close in their face – and they give up on themselves.

How about you? Have you ever been given a second chance? Are you willing to give another chance to a returning citizen in your neighborhood? Will you rent that apartment to someone just getting out of prison? Will you give that job to a justice-involved woman who desperately wants to secure employment so she can begin the process of getting her children back? I can't guarantee how a person will respond to your giving them another chance. But, I do know that they are worth being given the opportunity to get it right, no matter what month it is. Aren't you?

DONATE



The Reentry Cycle

THE TRANSITION FROM INCARCERATION TO COMMUNITY

I did the crime
I did the time
My lesson learned
To home I return
I'm trying to cope
But, I'm losing all hope
I don't need a song and dance
Just give me a chance
My offer spurned
My plans are burned
I have no voice
So I make my choice
Old options remain
I know them by name
I'll do the crime
I'll do the time

By Don French

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending." - C.S. Lewis

PRESENTERS



MARIA MORRIS,

entrepreneur and owner of Carabelle's Eats & Treats, is a woman who knows the power of a second chance. Read, in her own words, what inspires and drives her passion to see all justice-involved women get a second chance as well:

"My mission for Carabelle's Eats & Treats is to encourage, inspire, and strengthen women who have experienced loss to pursue holistic health through the culinary arts, while providing premier quality baked goods and catering services to the community. This social enterprise was created to build resilience in women who have been justice-involved, by offering employment freedom, transferable skills, and cooking therapy through culinary skill mastery. I myself have been justice-involved and know how having a charge can feel like many doors of opportunity are closed. Carabelle's Eats & Treats was created to let these women know that our past does not have to be our future; we are still valuable, we are still capable, and we can still go on to do GREAT things."

DONATE



ROBERT EUTZ



is the Project Director for the Miami Accessible Media Program. A prison Braille Program which began in May 2008, its goal is to provide low-cost, quality Instructional Material to Indiana's school age children k-12 in a timely and efficient manner while providing a skill set to those incarcerated at the Miami Correctional Facility that will increase employment opportunities thus reducing recidivism, all while providing the second chance these men so desperately need. Hear what a mentee of Robert's has to say:

"Robert has played a significant role in my life as a Mentor in the professional field. He surpasses any task that is set before him with high quality, competence, and the passion to see it through. He regularly continues to accomplish yet another higher standard and skill level, which to me, indicates that Robert truly believes in being an asset to anyone he works with, as well as, to himself. One can only rise to a higher level if they follow in the steps of Robert Eutz."

CORY MARTIN

is the Senior Chaplain at the Elkhart County Correctional Complex. As such, he oversees hundreds of volunteers who, in turn, serve hundreds of incarcerated individuals who are longing for a second chance and the type of support his team provides. Hear what a colleague of Cory's has to say:

"I have known Cory Martin as a community colleague for about seven years now in my role as President of Goshen College. I remain deeply impressed by his passion for people, especially those whom society often overlooks or considers irredeemable. He is a person of deep faith and integrity, practices what he preaches like few others I know! He is wise beyond his years and a great communicator. . . He is a role model worthy of imitation by us all."



SECOND CHANCES

PERSPECTIVE FROM LOCAL ELKHART WOMAN



MARIE CLEMENTS

Pastoral Care and
Communications
CoOrdinator at College
Mennonite Church

Everyone needs a second chance sometime in their life, but second chances are especially needed for those re-entering society from prison and jail. Society stereotypes those who have been incarcerated as bad people who don't deserve another chance at freedom and life. Far from the truth, many of those incarcerated are good people who will be of benefit to the community into which they're released...if only given a chance.

Generally, prison and jail releases have few employable skills, no medical coverage, limited education, nowhere to live, and have little-to-no support group. Help is needed from various agencies to help them get on their feet. Many are recovering addicts, who require special help to avoid relapse. Stress is a crucial factor in relapsing. If the stressor of employment, health concerns, education, and housing are reduced, then those recovering from addiction can avoid the road to relapse and concentrate on what they need to make it in the free world. Educators, employers, landlords, and medical and mental healthcare providers can offer a second chance in many ways to help overcome the barriers to success.

The struggles faced by the formerly incarcerated are many and very real. The little everyday things we do and take advantage of and do in our daily lives are immense hurdles for reentrants, especially after a long period of incarceration when so much in the world has changed. They can be set back, or "sent" back to prison/jail, at every turn. Normally, cultural progression, other than seeing it pass by on TV and in magazine ads. After release, they have a very steep and fast learning curve in order to catch up with the "new" world culture they enter. A reentrant who was incarcerated for 10 or 20 years has 10 or 20 years of progress to catch up in a matter of months.

Reentrants need to feel welcome. The stigma of incarceration, whether emotional or legal, follows reentrants for the remainder of their lives. Second chances are a tangible way of welcoming them into the community. Their lives have been full of struggles and issues that sent them to prison and jail. Alleviating the basic struggles upon their release goes a long way in helping them acclimate and become contributing members of society

Marie Clements

DONATE



ORDER OF EVENTS

21 April

10:00 AM

Don French

Introduction to the Event & Introduction of Keynote-

10:05 AM

Keynote Speaker Maria Morris

on Incarceration & Women Why Second Chances are Critical

10:30 AM

Cory Martin

Local Second Chance Advocate

10:40 AM

Eric Eutz –

Message - Impact of Second Chances (Where it starts)

10:45 AM

Q & A

RAY HUNSBERGER

MESSAGE FROM BOARD MEMBER



Here's how you can add to this impact

My involvement as a Board member has provided an ideal opportunity to learn about the many services of CCJ and their commitment to restorative justice in our schools, employment sites, families, and our community. I am particularly impressed by their over 40 years of developing and providing services to individuals re-entering our community after serving their time and who are working hard to earn a Second Chance.

One of the programs you will learn about today is the Jail Tattoo Removal Ministry which assists incarcerated individuals in removing tattoos that connect them to a lifestyle they are determined to leave behind. I suggest we also consider how the community at large continues to 'tattoo' these men and women with prejudices, profiling and preconceptions which also unfairly connect them to a life they are leaving behind.

I challenge each of us to actively commit to and engage in activities to adjust our preconceptions and instead participate in opportunities to assist these individuals as they re-enter our communities and demonstrate their capacity to be contributing members of businesses, communities, and families. You can do this by giving to the TRC Hiring Project for a woman to support other women in need of a second chance. Or you can give money to support the Welcome Center Project. Thank you so much for the Second Chance you are providing.

Ray Hunsberger

HELP SUPPORT



SECOND CHANCES

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Center for
Community Justice

RESTORE - REPAIR - RECONCILE

We're Hiring

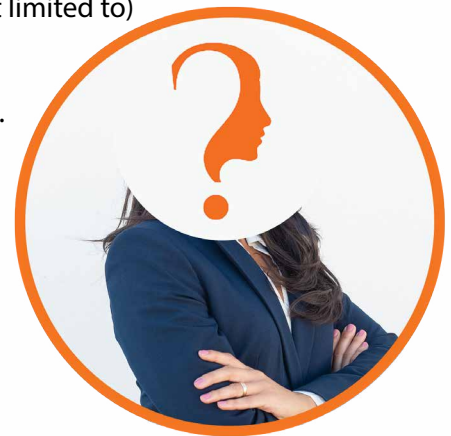
TRANSITIONAL & RECOVERY COACHING PROGRAM: COACHING CORDINATOR

The TRC Coaching Coordinator is primarily responsible for the oversight of all phases of coaching, with a specific focus on coaching justice-involved women; which includes, but is not limited to, direct coaching of program participants, and the development and training of volunteers with an emphasis on peer support.

PRINCIPLE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES:

Program Management and Coordination

- Manage IDOC and local jail inmate referrals.
- Maintain community awareness and support including (but not limited to)
 - a. IDOC
 - b. Criminal justice community
 - c. Service agencies such as housing, food, addictions, etc.
 - d. Religious Community
 - e. Service Clubs
- Keep up to date contact information for community resources.
- Oversee matching of coaches and coachees.
- Meet weekly with program coordinator for program review.



Volunteer Management

- Recruit, train and approve volunteer coaches.
- Coordinate training for volunteer coaches.
- Assign program participants to volunteer coaches.
- Supervise volunteers, to include regular evaluations of volunteer coaches and their teams.
- Create and maintain a pool of possible peer support from program participants.

Program Promotion

- Promote the program in public speaking engagements
- Present to universities, religious organizations, service clubs and other agencies as requested to maintain ongoing Volunteer coach recruitment and financial support.
- Collect success stories whenever possible

Perform other duties as assigned by the Program Coordinator or the Executive Director.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Currently possess, or be willing to obtain, a certification in peer recovery support
- Person-centered, not program centered
- Positive attitude
- Strength's focused
- Goal oriented
- Equipper, not a problem-solver
- Willing to provide positive support to someone, regardless of their current or prior convictions
- Willing to meet with people while still incarcerated (additional requirements imposed by various correctional facilities)
- Not currently under IDOC or court supervision (parole or probation)

The Welcome Center

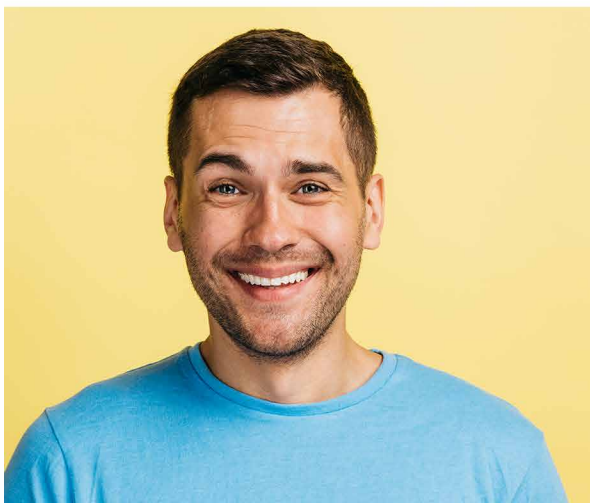
The Center for Community Justice (CCJ) is making a new resource available for men and women returning to Elkhart County following an Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) commitment - The Welcome Center.

It is basically a clearinghouse of resources and information that may be relevant to their reentry and/or recovery needs (grand opening 4/30/21). Not only will we provide the information, but we also have a volunteer in the role of Transitional Navigator (TN). The TN is vetting every agency, employer, landlord, etc., to provide hands-on information for anyone who is in need of it. Basically, providers will be assessed for "user-friendliness" with the intent to minimize obstacles - as much as possible. Something as simple as a wrong phone number can look like a brick wall to someone who has been incarcerated for an extended period of time.

Statistics show that when a person is incarcerated for a minimum of five years, they are susceptible to becoming institutionalized to their environment. This phenomenon can increase the difficulty a person has in adapting to life outside of prison, and it is the primary reason that successful reentry alludes so many people.

The term "institutionalization" is used to describe the process by which inmates are shaped and transformed by the institutional environments in which they live. Sometimes called "prisonization" when it occurs in correctional settings, it is the shorthand expression for the negative psychological effects of imprisonment. The process has been studied extensively by sociologists, psychologists, psychiatrists, and others, and involves a unique set of psychological adaptations that often occur in varying degrees in response to the extraordinary demands of prison life. In general terms, the process of prisonization involves the incorporation of the norms of prison life into one's habits of thinking, feeling, and acting. - (Haney, 2001)

In addition, we will minimize the "transportation" obstacle by providing one-day bus passes to anyone who lacks transportation. And, as a way to tangibly say "welcome back" for those who have been down five years or longer, we will give a \$10 gift certificate for a restaurant of their choice (reminding them that their stomachs may not be as ready for restaurant food as their taste buds are).



On average, 400 men and women return to Elkhart County, from the IDOC, on a yearly basis. Every returning citizen is invited to take advantage of what The Welcome Center has to offer; however, not everyone will have been incarcerated for extended sentences (5-year minimum), nor will everyone be in need of public transportation. Therefore, the Center for Community Justice has budgeted this project at \$2400/year (200 gift certificates @ \$10 each and 200 one-day bus passes @ \$2 each). CCJ is inviting investors to consider funding this project.

The Welcome Center is just one more tool meant to increase the success rate of returning and/or recovering individuals. Their success translates into increased stability and safety in our communities. If that is something you can invest in, then contact the Center for Community Justice.

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/basic-report/psychological-impact-incarceration-implications-post-prison-adjustment>

FROM PRISON TO HOME: THE EFFECT OF INCARCERATION AND REENTRY ON CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
The Psychological Impact of Incarceration: Implications for Post-Prison Adjustment
Craig Haney University of California, Santa Cruz
December 2001

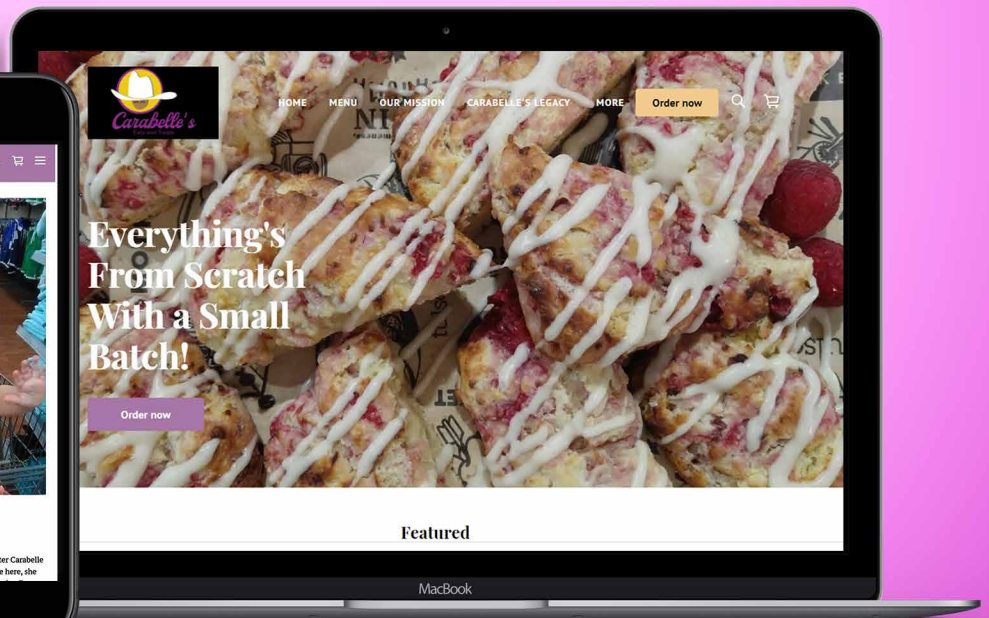
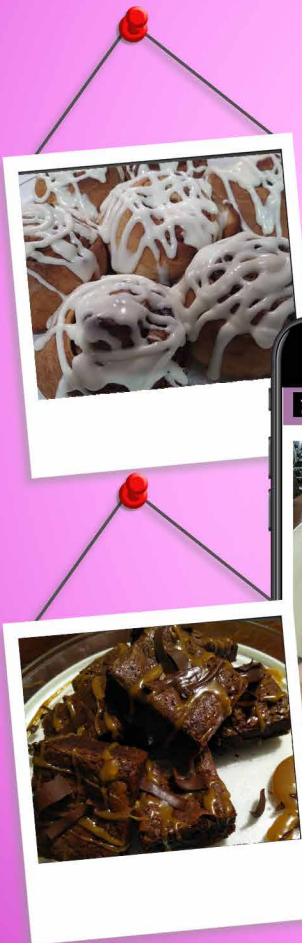
DONATE





Supporting CARABELLE'S

A Woman Run Project for
Justice Involved Women

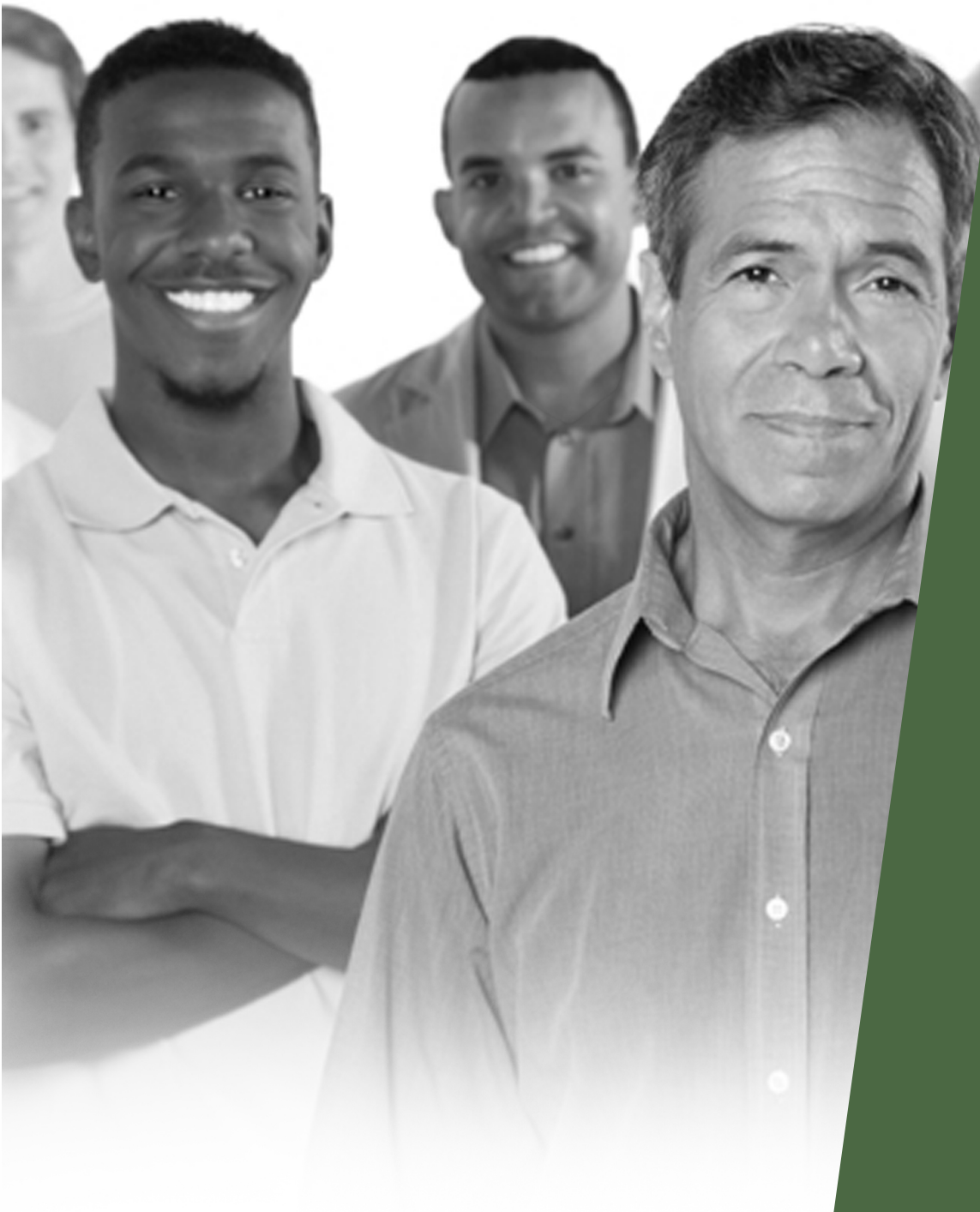


www.carabelleseatsandtreats.com



SECOND CHANCES

A MALE PERSPECTIVE



CASEY MADDEN

INCARCERATED MAN ON SECOND CHANCES

My name is Casey Madden and I'm currently incarcerated for dealing methamphetamine and I have been given a second chance in life as well as the justice system. I could on for days about my journey and where I've been and the struggles and changes I've made in my life but, I will save that for another day.

I think second chances play a huge part in the recovery of an addict. Anytime someone messes up or doesn't do what they say they are going to do, it puts a negative image of that person in the minds of others and society. And in return, people will treat others accordingly. But if one can bring themselves to forgive and to offer a second chance, it could be paramount in the recovery of an addict. It shows the addict that they aren't alone and that someone does care about them. It shows them that someone wants them to succeed. It provides hope where there might not have been any before. From the addict's point of view, it says "Everyone messes up at times, but it doesn't define you as a person and you can better yourself." All this coming from the point of view of an addict. As an addict, I have lied to my family and friends. I have used people for selfish gain. And I have stolen from innocent people. These things ultimately led to dealing methamphetamine to support my habit, which led to being sentenced to 20 years in IDOC. A lot of people look at these things as unforgivable or acts of someone who can't be fixed or helped. So, most people don't even try, much less get to know me or my story. But I have been forgiven and I have been given a second chance at life and for that I'm grateful.

DONATE



GEORGE JOHNSON

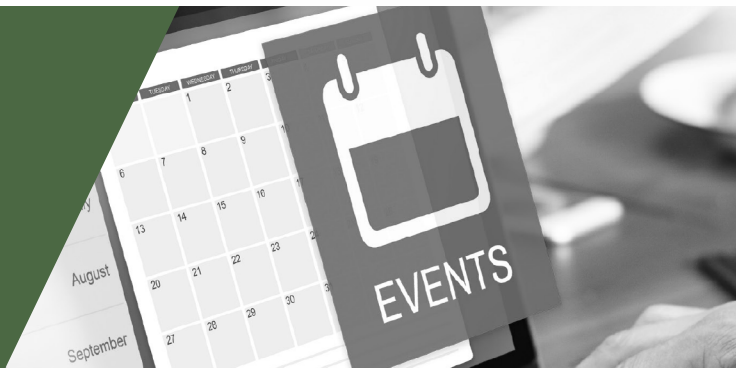
INCARCERATED MAN ON SECOND CHANCES

Life is about second chances. Second chance to turn wrongs into a right. Second chance to be set free from whatever thing that is holding you in bondage. I am on my 4th, 5th and hell I am probably on my 6th chance in having control of my addiction. The nice thing about second chances or whatever chance you are on it shows what type of fight you have in your soul. I have not given up on myself like family has and like some of my close friends has. Chances are opportunities, and opportunities are chances. With every opportunity in life there is a opportunity for love, happiness and greatness. As I sit in this prison boiling on the inside from all the pain I have caused I see the opportunity down the road for second and third chances for things in my life. Sit in prison not having your family and some of your close friends not write you or answer your phone calls. To be under this rock bottom is a pain that takes your breath away. But I keep fighting. I keep pushing through whatever I am dealing with. Through all that I am dealing with there is a chance of putting things in its right order. I admit a lot of things I have treasured in life will not ever be back in my life the way I want it to be but "I" have the chance to make things right. I am looking forward to my next chances on whatever. I will embrace these next chances. I will use my next chances as a platform towards love, happiness and greatness in my life. So, don't get too down on yourself because you are faced with 2nd, 3rd, or 4th chances on whatever. Be thankful for when or if you have those chances because everybody in this world won't get those chances.

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UPCOMING

RJ SUMMITS



June 7, 2021

Restorative Justice
Summit- Mediation &
Facilitation*

Time TBD

August 3, 2021

Restorative Justice
Summit -Youth &
Education*

Time 6:00 PM - 7:30PM

October 12, 2021

Restorative Justice
Summit – Victim
Impact Panel
(Changing Lanes)*

Time 6:00 PM -7:15PM

November 30, 2021

Giving in the Middle
of a Crucible*

***10:00am - 5:00 PM
(Online)***

*****All event will be online***

SECOND CHANCES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM



**Commissioner
Brad Rogers**
Sheriff, Retired (2011-
2018), Elkhart County,
Indiana

The Criminal Justice System and our society, by their very nature, is wrought with barriers or at the very least, perceived barriers, for the previously incarcerated person after being released from jail or prison. Often the previously incarcerated person returns to the same people, places and things (sometimes barriers in and of themselves), often with good intentions, but finds themselves in the midst of peer pressure and/or desperation to continue down a path of destruction. Reducing recidivism and removing barriers means increasing public safety, reducing victimization and stopping the cycle of the revolving jail door. The goal is for the previously incarcerated to become productive citizens; a noble and lofty goal, but a goal worth trying for, even if the concept is successful with a few percent.

As a Sheriff, it is easier to merely warehouse inmates and not be concerned with recidivism. In 2011 jail inmates' recidivism rate was 49%. However, the Sheriff's office, then as is now, has evidence based programming which results in a recidivism rate of anywhere from 15-27%, depending on the program that the inmate graduates from, showing the positive nature of investing in your captive audience. But there are still the barriers upon leaving incarceration.

The Center for Community Justice and their Transitional Coaching program collaborates with the jail and prisons to develop networking relationships with inmates who are about to be released. This program is what the name infers: Transitional=temporary and not for life; Coaching=on the sidelines calling out plays and encouragement and strategy, but the previously incarcerated is living their life with the coach nearby and ready to guide, as needed. Transitional Coaching has shown to be successful in helping persons overcome the barriers they experience, whether real or perceived.

It's all about Second Chances. We all need them. Let's give it a try. Will you partner with the Center for Community Justice and their Transitional Coaching program?



**COMMUNITIES
IN THE CRUCIBLE**
Tools for Living United Today

121 South Third Street, Elkhart, IN-46516

Tel: 547-295-6149

info@centreforcommunityjustice.org

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