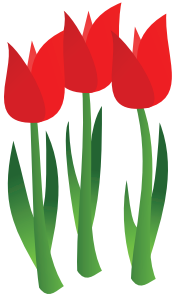


Summer Issue



To donors:

Summertime and the living is easy. Well, not for everyone. For those returning from years of incarceration, life is never really easy. But that doesn't mean that life can't be better. Yes, mistakes have been made and covenant with us has been broken by crimes that have been committed, but dues have been paid and second chances are needed if anything is to change. Your financial and prayerful support make life a little easier and success a little closer for those who work with Mission Behind Bars and Beyond (MB3). The summer sun casts new light as the darkness of life behind bars fades and MB3's mentoring program, life skills classes, counseling and employment readiness training breaks open new possibilities. And it couldn't happen without you. As the summer season brings joy and celebration, know that you have touched the lives of so many who are now smiling like the sun. Thank you and have a safe and fun-filled summer!

What a Night! Reveal 2018 a Resounding Success!

Your presence and your generous gifts made Reveal 2018 a night to remember. With over 200 registered guests, the tables were full of friends, supporters and those whom we serve. We are grateful for our partnership with The Table www.tablecafe.org and with Cup of Joy www.thehavenministries.org both of which provided delicious food and desserts. Please continue to patronize these amazing enterprises. Because of your generosity, we met our fund-raising goal which will empower MB3 to continue to offer a wide-range of services that assist those in community who are simply seeking a second chance as they return from places of incarceration.



Employment is a Key to Success

By all accounts, employment, particularly employment that leads to long-term financial stability, is a key factor in the reduction of recidivism. Through a generous grant from Anthem-Medicaid, MB3 has been able to assist those behind bars begin the process of finding stable employment upon their release from incarceration. Working with My Chosen People, another faith-based non-profit, MB3 is providing direct case management to the women at Dismas Charities-Diersen and equipping them in important areas of workforce development. Resume writing, interview skills, on-line job searches and actual employment interviews prior to release are all part of this innovative program. We are grateful to community partners like Anthem-Medicaid and My Chosen People for helping MB3 help those who are most in need.

What you are doing is working!

David's story...



David was incarcerated for over two decades. While in prison, he heard about MB3 and its mentoring program and sent in an application. Originally from Eastern Kentucky, David decided to start fresh and relocated to Lexington upon his release from prison. There, he was embraced by one of MB3's Nurture, Support and Accountability Groups which committed to work with him for the next year, meeting with him weekly and maintaining daily contact with him. David will tell you that it changed his life. Viewers saw David share his story briefly when he appeared on Dawne Gee's afternoon television show. Jessica, another guest on the show, also shared her remarkable success story. David is working full-time for a lumber company, has his own apartment and car and is doing so well. He attributes much of his success to his faith in God who never gave up on him and to the members of his mentoring group who believed in him

-continued

David's story (cont.)

and walked alongside him as he readjusted to life beyond the bars. David was one of the speakers at MB3's annual fundraiser, Reveal 2018, and wants to continue to share his and MB3's story whenever he can. Please know that your support of MB3 helps transform the lives of people just like David.

Motivating Mentors Luncheons

Trained mentors working with returning citizens is often what makes the difference between a successful reentry and recidivism. More mentors are needed, particularly from faith communities in west Louisville. Through a grant from the Reconciliation Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), MB3 plans to begin hosting a series of luncheons to introduce the concept of mentoring returning citizens as an important component of every faith community's mission and outreach. Each luncheon will target 20 people, have a guest speaker and work with an event planner who will help make these luncheon experiences memorable. As MB3 continues to grow and touch more and more lives, more trained mentors are needed. We are grateful for the Reconciliation Ministry's support and for recognizing the important work MB3 is doing.

Coming Soon! An Easy to Find Resource Guide for Returning Citizens

When we ask those returning to our communities from places of incarceration, one of the things many tell us is that they are lost. Often they are in a community in which they have never lived before. Some don't have identification or know where the Social Security office is located. Learning to use public transportation can be daunting. Where to get clothing or food or shelter. Coming from a place where everything was provided and structured to a return to freedom can be simply overwhelming. Thanks to a grant from The Community Foundation of Louisville and the expertise of Mike Nabicht of Creative Media of Learning, MB3 will soon be launch a new resource page for returning citizens. By going to the MB3 website, returningcitizenguide.com will be only a click away. Links to important resources and short instructional videos will help make the transition to a life beyond the bars easier and less stressful. The more successful one's reentry is, the safer our communities become.



Reaching Individuals Behind and Beyond the Bars Workshop



This 5th annual faith-based event focused on offender and re-entry ministry in Kentucky on Friday, March 2, 2018 at the Hotel Louisville. Our keynote speaker was Jessie Haladay, former Chief Policy Analyst for John Tilley, Secretary of the Justice & Public Safety Cabinet for the Commonwealth of Kentucky; and Current Special Advisor to the Louisville Metro Police Dept.

Mission Behind Bars and Beyond, The National Benevolent Association in partnership with the Greater Louisville Reentry Coalition, Catholic Charities, and the Kentucky Department of Corrections sponsored this informative and well-attended event.

Become a Mentor

Looking for a life-changing experience? Yours and someone else's? Then consider becoming a MB3 mentor, joining a Nurture, Support and Accountability Group and participating in one of the most impactful things you can do to help someone coming out of prison get back on their feet. Learn more about MB3's mentoring program by going to our website:

www.missionbehindbarsandbeyond.org
or www.mb3.website.

If you live in or near Kentucky, the next mentoring training is on **Saturday, July 14th** beginning at 9:00 a.m. at 3050 West Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky. There's more information about the training on MB3's website.

Become a MB3 mentor and help change lives.

Mission Behind Bars and Beyond
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Mission Behind Bars and Beyond
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