

Valentine's Issue



Your Gifts Melt Hearts

So many of those who are incarcerated and return to our communities feel forgotten, lost, isolated and unloved. Yes, they have made mistakes but they remain a part of the fabric of our communities and yearn for a second chance. Your generous gifts to Mission Behind Bars and Beyond (MB3) of time, money and support help mend broken hearts and equip so many to re-enter our communities in positive and healthy ways. Those who benefit from your gifts, receive the best Valentine ever: hope for a better life, introduction to employment opportunities, support in reunification with family, direction to safe and affordable housing, and simply being loved and remembered. Happy Valentine's Day from all of those whose lives you have touched in such a special way!



MB3 Opens Office in West Louisville: 3050 West Broadway

We are excited to be sharing office space with Robert Jamison Ministries in west Louisville where so many of the those working with MB3 reside. This gives us an opportunity to offer more services once folks are released from prison and jail, and to partner with other great agencies who are already providing services.

Come and visit if you are in the area, but please call first (502-396-3543) as we are often out and about!



What you are doing is working! Shannon's story...



Shannon proudly at work!

Shannon is a quiet young woman who found herself at wits end. She was residing in a woman's detention facility in Louisville, Kentucky, in a substance abuse program. All she knew was that she wanted a second chance to do things right. At Dismas-Charities-Diersen, she began going to church every Tuesday where New Life in Christ Christian Church, affiliated with MB3, is an active congregation. Every week she attended worship services and soon, through Pastor Carol Wieger, Shannon learned about MB3's mentoring program. Working with Shannon while she was still incarcerated, Pastor Carol connected Shannon with one of MB3's Nurture, Support and Accountability Groups (NSAG) in Lexington where Shannon would be living upon her release.

Shannon's life has changed. She has recently been promoted to a shift manager's position with McDonald's and remains clean and sober. She has met with her NSAG weekly and is about to "graduate" from our program. Here's what Shannon says about her experience, "My name is Shannon Hepperle. I am a 33 year old woman who has made a lot of mistakes and, also, has been through a lot in life, as well. When I left prison I was paroled out to Dierson Women's Center in Louisville, Ky. That is where I met Pastor Carol and Pastor Dean at New Life in Christ. These are the two people who really introduced me to Mission Behind Bars.

At first, I wasn't sure about joining Mission Behind Bars but after I learned all about it from Pastor Carol and Pastor Dean I decided to join. I do believe it was one of the best decisions I could have ever made. I have grown to love each and every NSAG member that I have. They truly are incredible people and inspire me to be the best person that I can be. All in all this program has helped me in ways that I couldn't have imagined and it is truly a blessing. From the

-continued

Shannon's story (cont.)

time I left Louisville, KY to now, things have been on an upward slope and that will continue. Through all this, my group was there for me and will continue to be a part of my life after I finish the program. I never really had a family who could offer me support and guidance...but I have all the support and guidance I could hope for from my Mission Behind Bars family."

We are proud to have Shannon represent the many successful individuals whose lives have been positively impacted through the programs at MB3.



MB3 is a Louisville Bar Foundation Grant Recipient



MB3 fundraising committee chair, Vince Patton, receiving a check from attorney Chris Coffman on behalf of the Louisville Bar Foundation.

Training mentors is at the very heart of our work. MB3 has trained over 200 mentors. But the demand for more of our trained mentors grows. We have a waiting list of those in prison who want to work with us. The Louisville Bar Foundation awarded MB3 a generous grant to help with the costs of our training sessions. Our hearts are full!



Thanks to the Louisville Fund of the Community Foundation of Louisville and Mike Nabicht of Creative Media for Learning!



Mike Nabicht

Through a generous grant from the Louisville Fund of the Community Foundation of Louisville, MB3 has partnered with Mike Nabicht of Creative Media for Learning to develop a communications infrastructure that will not only better serve our clients and provide important information for those recently released from prison, but also offer ongoing information and training to our mentors. Our hearts are bursting as MB3 continues to grow and we are so thankful for Mike for sharing his gifts and knowledge.



FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018

2ND ANNUAL REVEAL

7-9 pm

at THE TABLE

1800 Portland Avenue, Louisville

Save this Date!

April 20th 2018 for The Reveal II

at The Table

MB3's second annual fundraiser will once again be held at The Table located at 1800 Portland Avenue in Louisville.

The Table is a non-profit, social entrepreneurship that serves locally grown, fresh food and operates under a pay-what-you-can model. We are excited about this event and hope our friends, volunteers and supporters can join us for this celebration. More to come!

Mission Behind Bars and Beyond
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Mission Behind Bars and Beyond is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

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