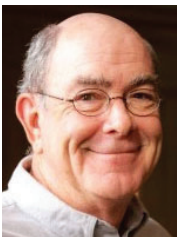




Spring Issue



A message from Dean Bucalos, Executive Director of MB3

Spring is here! After a long, gray and often very wet winter, it is with great joy that we welcome chirping birds, budding trees and blooming flowers. New life abounds! Longer days. Lighter jackets. Lush lawns. It's springtime!

Spring also is the time when the church celebrates new life. On Easter Sunday, baptisms are often included in the worship service. Flowers adorn the altars. And families gather to rejoice as we are reminded that resurrection follows death. God is faithful and loving. And the enduring message is one that shouts out to us that death and darkness do not have the final word.

Because of the support of so many of you, a message of possibility of new life is brought to those who are behind bars who then continue upon their release to live in our communities. Mission Behind Bars and Beyond (MB3) brings into reality the gracious second chance awaiting those who seek it. Just as the resurrection story reminds us that the past doesn't have an inescapable hold on us, MB3 reminds those behind bars that what brought them into incarceration doesn't have to hold them back forever. Your gifts and your faithfulness bring a message of hope that soon becomes a reality as jobs are found, families are reunited, decent housing is located and people are respected, loved and encouraged. At MB3, springtime comes all year round thanks to your generosity!



Click on the link below to watch and hear how you made a difference in Anita Barrera's life through MB3.

[Anita Barrera Testimonial Video](#)

Reveal 2019 a Resounding Success!



Close to 200 people gathered at The Table in Louisville for an evening of inspiration and celebration at MB3's third annual Reveal fundraiser. The tables were buzzing with good conversation only to pause to hear uplifting testimonies delivered by Anita Barrera, one of MB3's many success stories, and by Dr. Jennifer Ortiz, who kept those present spellbound by her moving story of her life and the life of her husband, both of whom overcame significant challenges on their pathway to success.



Music from the Dismas Charities-Diersen choir added to an evening of joyful celebration. MB3 was blessed by the participation of so many and the generous hearts of those who continue to provide financial support. If you missed an opportunity to do just that, you can click this Donate link and make a donation:

DONATE



MB3's Board of Directors Continues to Be Strong



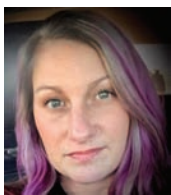
Josh Farley



Jennifer Ortiz

We are grateful for the time and talent shared by Rev. David Charlton and Chris Coffman as MB3 board members. As they rotated off the board, Josh Farley, an attorney with Bubalo Law, and Dr. Jennifer Ortiz, Assistant Professor of Criminology at Indiana University Southeast joined MB3's board. Both Josh and Jennifer have a passion for the work in which MB3 is involved and will be great additions to an already strong and dedicated board.

They will be joining the fundraising and the program committees and bringing their expertise and enthusiasm to those working committees. We are delighted to welcome them to the MB3 Team.



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

Suzanne Holder was on parole and residing at Dismas Charities-Diersen, a women's detention facility in Louisville, when she began attending and joined MB3's affiliated church, New Life in Christ Christian Church, located inside this facility. The church's pastor, Rev. Carol Wieger, introduced Suzanne to a Volunteers of America representative who is helping Suzanne gain access to safe, affordable and decent housing. While incarcerated, Suzanne began working with one of MB3's mentoring groups. She was released from incarceration on December 23, 2018. She is now working as a caregiver for her nephew and grandmother and meets weekly with the Nurture, Support and Accountability mentoring group assigned to her by MB3.

Here are Suzanne's heartfelt words describing the difference MB3 and its church have made upon her release from incarceration:

Mission Behind Bars and New Life in Christ have taught me to love myself and believe in myself again. I have an awesome support and nurture group that I meet with weekly. They walk along the side of me to help me with any resources I need or just to lend an ear and a heart. These wonderful people do not judge me; they support me in all of my decisions and give me a shot of hope. New Life in Christ is my family and with these gifts, I am truly blessed to be a part of this wonderful family.

Sincerely, Suzanne Holder

Reaching Individuals Behind and Beyond the Bars Conference a Huge Success



John Tilley

MB3 once again co-sponsored the 6th annual Reaching Individuals Behind and Beyond the Bars statewide conference on March 1st at Hotel Louisville. With the largest attendance yet of over 150, those in attendance heard Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary John Tilley open the conference with a compelling keynote address. Workshops in the morning and afternoon, along with a panel of justice-involved individuals and a presentation about The Bail Project and The Bingham Fellows' Opportunity Network capped a full day of networking. With the support of so many, MB3 continues to help provide opportunities for community education and advocacy on important issues of justice and reentry.

Some of the Faces of Those Helped by MB3



Your support can help us add more pictures to this group.

Become a Volunteer, Advocate, Mentor or Donor and help change lives.

Other Ways To Support MB3



- Shop on **Amazon Smile** and set MB3 as the non-profit to receive a percent of your purchases from Amazon.
- Create a **Facebook fundraiser** for MB3 in honor of special events such as your birthday.
- Have a lasting impact on MB3 with a **Monthly Recurring Donation** by checking the recurring donation box when you make your donation.

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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