

2016 Annual Report

INTERFAITH PRISON MINISTRY FOR WOMEN

Building Bridges of Hope



Building bridges of hope for women in prison before and after release through chaplaincy programs and services, transition education and reentry support.

WHO WE ARE

IPMW walks alongside incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women as they prepare themselves for new and better lives. Since our inception in 1980, thousands of women have received services through our organization. The overarching goal of our ministry is to provide a long-term solution to helping women stay out of prison. Data indicate that the 3-year recidivism rate for women who significantly participated in our chaplaincy programs may be as low as 7-9% as compared to a statewide average of almost 29%. Ultimately, we believe that whole and healthy women can lead whole and healthy lives. That is why we strive to offer a depth of relationship, programs and services that equip women not only with new skills and knowledge but also the capacity to undergo the transformation of heart and mind necessary to thrive on the outside.

Organization-Wide

Sought to encourage leadership in women before and after release through employment, board service, speaking engagements and other volunteer opportunities.

175 opportunities for leadership provided
205+ volunteers
184 donors, almost doubled from 2015

Transition

Assisted incarcerated women as they prepared themselves for release.

19 women participated in JobStart, an innovative, intensive transition program
34 women participated in JAGS, a pre-release transition planning program

Chaplaincy

Offered a holistic of programs and services that addressed the spiritual needs of incarcerated women.

410 women served by Chaplaincy Services
1,207 sessions of pastoral care offered by Chaplains
3,306 books checked out from the Hope Center Library

Reentry

Provided nurturing support as women transitioned back into society.

170 women provided with Hope Bags, packages of reentry resources
12 women attended JobStart Reunion

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Our Chaplains oversee 30+ hours of core programming each week and coordinate volunteer groups and individuals to provide religious services and activities. They're also responsive to the unique needs of the women they serve, dignifying the women's passions by customizing programs based on their interests and needs. In 2016, we created new programs, including:

Chaplaincy

Silver Magnolias

In May, we organized a group of incarcerated women who designed, developed and implemented a spiritual support group for women 55+. They named themselves "The Silver Magnolias" and met regularly to offset the myriad additional challenges that incarcerated senior citizens must navigate.

Singing A New Song

This trauma-informed Spiritual Formation class was led by local pastor-musicians. Eight women completed the course, writing and composing 25+ songs that told stories of how and why women come to be incarcerated as well as their spiritual response to the reality of imprisonment.

Forgive For Good

This evidence-based Spiritual Formation class was based on a curriculum designed by a Stanford University professor. The class read his book, worked on forgiveness exercises and engaged in small group discussion. One resident stated, "It should be an absolute requirement for all inmates."

"I was incarcerated several years ago, and during that time, I was really focused on building a spiritual foundation and exercising a new way of living. I was able to find comfort and serenity by engaging in activities held at the Hope Center. It became my place of refuge feeling encouraged and victorious. It was truly a blessing to me, and recently I've become a volunteer there with IPMW."
-Donna

Transition

JobStart

The evidence-based Houses of Healing curriculum provided the backbone of JobStart Fridays, for which IPMW staff provided leadership and instruction. Sessions included establishing healthy boundaries, navigating group dynamics, finding enlivening spiritual applications, and practicing yoga. We also trained and coordinated mentors and provided financial and logistical support for the overall program.

JAGS (Job Accountability Group Support)

Through monthly sessions, we continued to walk with JobStart graduates as they worked to implement individual transition plans pre-release through JAGS Transition Night. Staff provided relevant instruction and resources on transition issues.

"The Chaplaincy program played an important part in my life during my incarceration. Because of the Chaplains, I am now in the Chaplaincy program at the University of Mount Olive and would like to minister to incarcerated women myself."
-Kaye

Reentry

Limited Case Management

IPMW provided limited case management to more than 20 formerly incarcerated women. This work included practical assistance for help with licenses, fees, bus passes and other supports and laid the groundwork for expanded reentry services in 2017.

Hope Bags

The first days and weeks after release can also be overwhelming. Hope Bags contain items like a handmade quilt, gift cards to a restaurant and retail store, a book of daily inspirational quotes, a journal and pen, socks, beauty wipes, an array of toiletries, reentry resources and more, intended to support a woman's first days and weeks after incarceration.

JobStart Reunion

In 2016, we helped to organize the first JobStart Reunion, which included a powerful inspirational keynote speaker and a panel entitled "Finding Our Voices." The day offered a fun opportunity for alums and former mentors to come together again and continue to learn.

FINANCIALS

2016 Annual Revenue \$223,092



i. Individuals and Businesses
\$121,533 - 54%



ii. Grants
\$70,900 - 32%



iii. Faith-Based Institutions
\$30,659 - 14%

Total Expenses \$217,972



i. Programs
\$146,041 - 67%



ii. Management and General
\$41,415 - 19%



iii. Fundraising
\$30,516 - 14%

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." -Matthew 25:35-36

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Board of Directors 2016

Ron Aycock, PRESIDENT
Rev. Sam Stone, VICE PRESIDENT
Rev. Sallie Simpson, TREASURER
Boyd Devane, SECRETARY
Rev. Willem Bodisco Massink
Becky Brown
Margaret Gayle
Shannon Morrison
Ann Petro
Dr. Stephanie Helms Pickett
Kim Stone
Frances Turner

Staff 2016

Jennifer C. Jackson
Executive Director
Bernadine Anthony
Duke Divinity School Summer Intern
Rev. Willie Brazil
Chaplain
Rev. Sarah Jobe
Chaplain
Amy Otto
Director of Mentoring and Transition
Casey Stanton
Duke Divinity School Academic Year Intern
Transition Educator
Kaye Ward
Office Assistant

LEADERSHIP LETTER

Dear Friends,

Each day, approximately 2,819 women in North Carolina prisons are readying themselves for a successful transition back into the community. More than 400 of them were housed at the minimum-security Raleigh Unit of the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women (NCCIW) in 2016. It was primarily with and for them and their families that IPMW focused our work.

Since nearly 95% of all incarcerated individuals will be released one day, this work takes on a particular sense of urgency and importance, as we hope to see them thrive, not just survive, on the outside.

Looking back on 2016, we're grateful that in collaboration with our many partners, IPMW was able to reach almost every woman at the Raleigh Unit. Some were impacted through receiving a packet of greeting cards each month to keep vital connections with loved ones.

Others received pastoral care during a life crisis. Still others engaged more significantly by participating or taking on a leadership role in one of our classes, workshops or services.

With the help of generous donations, we also were able to provide all 170 women who were released after April with a reentry "Hope Bag" to help meet some of their immediate practical needs in their transition. Through this new initiative and work with the Capital Area Reentry Council, we aim to let them know they're not alone and that we're committed to helping ensure welcoming support and accountability are available once they begin their journey out of prison.

We thank all of those who make our work possible and joined us in making 2016 a year of growth and renewal. Organizationally, we were able to bring our Executive Director up to full-time, hold a board/staff retreat and meet an ambitious \$25,000 challenge grant, among other outcomes. We hope this annual report illuminates the issues and our work in a way that piques your interest to learn more and become involved.

With gratitude,

Ron Aycock Jennifer C. Jackson
President Executive Director

DONORS AND PARTNERS

We are grateful . . .

To the 180 individuals, churches and businesses that contributed in 2016.

To the Bob Barker Company Foundation, the A.J. Fletcher Foundation, the John William Pope Foundation and the W. Trent Ragland, Jr. Foundation for their support of this work.

To First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh for its generous support.

To our strategic partners, including our JobStart partners: the NC Department of Public Safety, NCCIW, Wake Tech and First Presbyterian Church – as well as our many mentors and volunteers – for their advocacy, work and commitment.

Most of all, to the more than 400 women who allowed us the privilege of service this year.

HELP US MAKE AN EVEN GREATER IMPACT

<http://www.ipmforwomen.org/get-involved.html>