

SERVING PRISONERS, EX-PRISONERS,
AND FAMILIES OF THE INCARCERATED

BRIDGE PRISON MINISTRY

MISSION STATEMENT

Bridge Prison Ministry is a faith-based charitable organization that serves inmates preparing to transition from incarceration to successful restoration into the community, family, and reconciliation to God.

BPM is impacting the lives of prisoners, ex-prisoners, and their families in miraculous ways.



We are living in uncertain times. No one knows exactly how or when this coronavirus pandemic will end.

Though these days and months have been challenging due to COVID-19 and with the correctional facilities being closed to volunteers and families, men and women behind bars need encouragement and hope now more than ever.

Bridge Prison Ministry continues to bring hope to the incarcerated through letter writing and by providing support services to the reentry population. After 3 months, due to COVID-19, BPM re-started the weekly reentry mentor support group. The men and women are excited and working hard to establish and maintain a substance free and faith-based lifestyle. They are living up to their full potential and transitioning successfully into our community.

As of September, Bridge Prison Ministry will resume the reentry mentor support group and chapel services for the residents at the Center of Opportunity. We are blessed to continue our partnership with the Center of Opportunity Gospel Rescue Mission.

Together we are working to restore the formerly incarcerated and homeless to God, their families, and our communities. Nothing can bring us more hope than the Word of God and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

THANK YOU!

Louie Brown, BPM volunteer relocated to Phoenix AZ, April 2020. Louie started volunteering with Bridge Prison Ministry October 2013. He served in the Advisory Board, volunteered at the Pima County Jail, Federal Bureau of Prisons, provided mentoring services to the reentry population, met returning citizens at the gate and was a letter writer/pen pal to the incarcerated. Louie has impacted many lives including the lives of the volunteers, prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families.



Thank you for your faithfulness and for impacting the lives of many.

“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.” – Romans 12:10-11

SECOND CHANCE

Dennis Shroyer released from ASPC-Tucson and is currently living in a transitional house, in Tucson AZ. During his incarceration at Whetstone unit, Dennis attended and completed the one-year faith-based Reentry Program. He graduated from the Reentry Program July 30, 2018. Welcome home Dennis!

Dennis was blessed with a care package and hygiene products.



Pete Quinonez, BMP Director, and Dennis Shroyer

RESTORING AND REBUILDING BROKEN LIVES:



The men and women from the reentry mentor support group are continuing to build new and healthy relationships with one another as well as growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ. They are experiencing a life change and sharing it with their children and families, often leading to healing and restoration.

On a quarterly basis the facilitators and participants have a BBQ in celebration of all their hard work and great accomplishments.



From Incarceration to Community Reentry

REENTRY MENTOR SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Meetings: Thursdays 6-8pm
Location: 1212 S. Palo Verde Ave.

There is a great gap between institutional life and living in the community. The Reentry Mentor Support Group is designed to be a bridge between in and out. But most of all, the group offers friendship and Christian fellowship.

Studies have shown that if people don't find a new set of friends and revert to their old companions, they invariably recommit and find themselves back incarcerated. Making new friends and developing healthy relationships is not easy. BPM is bridging the gap!

Breaking away from gangs, criminal influences, and negative associations

Building relationships and maintaining prosocial friendships and associations (mentors, sponsors)

Establishing and maintaining a substance free, faith-based lifestyle

Getting a job and keeping it

Reunification with positive family members

Learning and utilizing healthy communication

Maintaining a schedule of activities balancing between work, family, church, and probation/parole requirements

Completing probation/parole and lowering the levels of IPS

Raising self-esteem and self-worth

PASSION CHURCH

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SUCCESSFUL STORIES:



Mario Sanchez is a former resident from the Center of Opportunity Gospel Rescue Mission. He successfully completed the one-year reentry mentor program with Bridge Prison Ministry and GRM's long-term program, while he was at the Center.

Mario is working towards obtaining certification as a Peer Support Specialist. His desire is to give back to the community by helping others who are struggling with addictions. He purchased a vehicle, reinstated his driver's license, and living on his own. Mario continues to attend the reentry mentor support group and maintaining positive and healthy relationships. God has brought healing and restoration between Mario and his family.

Prescription drugs took Derric from successful business owner to jail and homelessness.

In 2004, Derric walked away from a car accident he should not have survived. The accident left him with bulging disks in his spine and intense constant nerve pain in his neck, back, and hip. The doctors prescribed powerful pain killers for him. His tolerance for the pills got higher and higher but the doctors couldn't prescribe more. He thought he was invincible and couldn't see that he was addicted, but his family could.

In August, 2015, when his wife left him, he lost his drive, identity, his house, and family. He just gave up on everything. Overwhelmed, Derric turned to the one place he knew could numb the pain. He went to the streets for some heavier drugs and became a heroin and meth junkie, bouncing around from one drug dealer's house to another.

After years of homelessness, afflictions, criminal activity, overdosing not only once but twice from heroin, losing his life yet to be revived, being stabbed, mauled, and maimed in ways hard to relive. Derric was incarcerated at the Pima County Jail for 5 months. However, this time was far different than the previous 4 other pain stacking restless, hopeless, sleepless, and lonely times he was incarcerated. Derric finally had enough and realized God had other plans for him. Jeremiah 29:11 is clear and bold of this*



"I met a brother in Christ by the name of Pete who visited me inside those walls during a chapel service and impressed on my heart the salvation that was given to me by our Savior. I was shown hope in the goodness and grace of the Lord through Pete's efforts and commitment to me when I was in such a self-defeated state."

Derric was released from the Pima County Jail, September 12 2019, on conditions of IPS (Intense Probation Supervision) for a 3-year period. The Honorable Judge had grace on Derric, since he was looking at 10-17 years in prison. Derric completed 32 courses before his release, led bible studies, and was a witness for Christ upon his fellow inmates. Fortunately, the courts did take notice of the change in Derric.

Derric's probation officer drove Derric to the Gospel Rescue Mission. Once again, Derric and Pete reconnected during a chapel service at the Center of Opportunity.

"Pete continues to lead me in ways that will allow me to be a blessing to my children. The same, in some way, as how my grandparents ministered to the prisoners and others. Their grace and blessings have imprinted the love of our Lord on my heart."

In the past year, Derric has been blessed in every way and continues to lead others to Jesus Christ. He wants to share how different life here on earth is when it is Christ centered.

Derric has made amazing progress. He's reduced his intensive probation level two ranks. A process that usually takes years. He found a new job in renovation, is living on his own, has reinstated his driver's license, has his own vehicle, and continues to attend the reentry mentor support group with Bridge Prison Ministry. Derric's desire is to go back and volunteer his services at the Center of Opportunity Gospel Rescue Mission. He will be sharing a testimony of God's grace with the residents at the Center. Derric is currently assisting as a co-facilitator in the reentry mentor support group at the Center, under the leadership of Bridge Prison Ministry.



“I was in prison and you came to visit me” Matthew 25:36

BPM is committed to building on these accomplishments and ask you to partner with us by giving a monthly donation or a one-time gift to BPM at www.bridgeprisonministryaz.org.



When you shop at <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose Bridge Prison Ministry as your charitable organization Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase. Your donation will make a difference in the men, woman and children we serve.

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