

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.

RESTORING LIVES THROUGH THE REENTRY MENTOR PROGRAM:

Fear and Anger

By Rebecca Skinner

My Mom's health began declining in 1980, when she was diagnosed with cervical cancer. She was healed with high doses of radiation. In 1984, she had to have a partial hysterectomy.

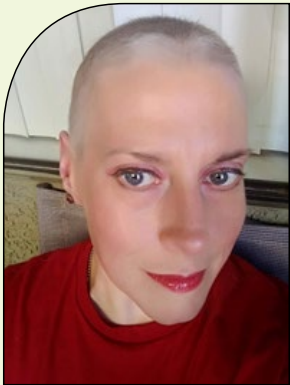
For many years, her health was fairly stable. Then in 1999, she was diagnosed with lung cancer from cigarette smoking causing her to quit. Chemotherapy and radiation treatments followed. Over the next several years, she was in and out of the hospital for kidney and other types of infections that plagued her. In 2018, she was again diagnosed with lung cancer after being in remission for 19 years. She was scheduled for another round of chemotherapy but suffered from a fall, went into rehab and never regained her full strength.

In 2018, my Mom passed away at the age of 74, not so much from cancer, but from her body giving up. Even so, she remained strong until her very last breath. As I was growing up, I witnessed my Mom, overall, to be a very strong, independent woman. No matter how much she suffered from her illness, she tried to remain positive.

I avoided medical checkups as much as I could because of what happened to my Mom; I did not ever want a doctor having to tell me, "you have cancer."

In April of 2019, my worst fear came true. After several years of dealing with an inconsistent menstrual flow, and towards the end, with non-stop, heavy bleeding, I had no choice but to go to the emergency room. I was given two pints of blood and they found my uterus was enlarged. The doctor and nurse were very concerned. I was then scheduled for a D&C. After my D&C procedure, my gynecological nurse gave me the results. I was diagnosed with endometrial cancer, (uterine cancer). She was very consoling. I cried a little bit, but I knew I needed to face all of my fears head on. I knew at this moment my life was on the line. I ended up with a wonderful medical team. My Oncologist explained to me that I had stage three endometrial cancer and that I had to have a full hysterectomy. After my hysterectomy surgery I went through six sessions of chemotherapy.

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As a result of this experience, I have completely changed as a person. First, I take one day at a time and have learned to dispel my fears and anger. I have a lot more **understanding** of what my Mother went through since I am now going through similar issues as she did. The picture is clearer now. I have learned through her example of strength and positivity to never give up.

Second, I met the man to whom I am engaged. If he had not genuinely cared about my health and pushed me to go to the hospital, I probably would only have gone until it would have been way too late.

Third, I found God. My parents never preached to me about God or religion. I spent many years floundering around with my own ideas, but God was just waiting for me to come on my own and accept Jesus Christ into my life. In June 2019, my fiancé and I started attending the Reentry Mentor Support Group and in July 2019, I got baptized. Through this, I found the power of prayer. Through prayer, I know God has healed me. And now I have complete faith in Him.

Finally, I have much more gratitude than I did when I was younger. I enjoy my moments and days that I am alive and with which I am blessed. Opening my heart up to Jesus Christ and allowing the Holy Spirit to lead me has strengthened my faith. I know I have a purpose here and look forward to seeing His plans for me unfold.

I say, "Amen!" to that!!!!

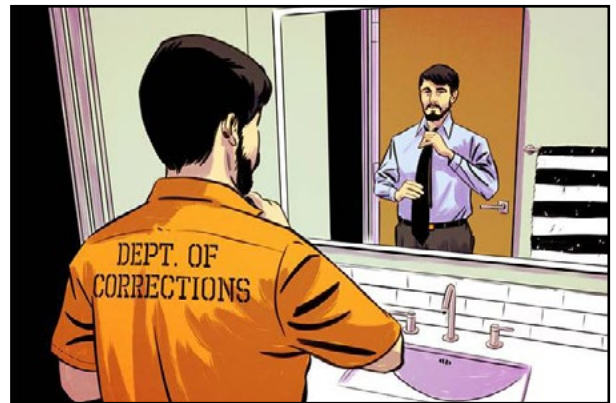
January 16, 2020, participants attending the Reentry Mentor Program received a certificate for successfully completing the required lessons designed to help them stand against the giants that seek to destroy them.

- Fighting Your Fear/Destroying Your Discouragement/Liberation from Loneliness/Winning Against Worrying/Guarding Against Guilt/Taming Your Temptation/Attacking Your Anger/Resisting Your Resentment/Disarming Your Doubt/ Postponing Your Procrastination/Facing Your Failure/Journeying Beyond Jealousy.

Congratulations to Brittney Brown, Melanie Cortea, Brenda Lopez, Alex Salas, Hector Teran, and Rebecca Skinner.

The next lesson is a Christ-centered 12-Steps of Recovery and Support: Making a Daily Choice and How to Overcome Life Controlling Issues.

If you are interested in attending a class, email us at bridgeprisonministry@gmail.com.



COMING SOON... Transitional Housing For Ex-Offenders New Journey | New Stories

Bridge Prison Ministry will be opening
a Bridge Transitional Home for men in Tucson.

SEEKING 150 DONORS TO MAKE A \$50 DONATION!

You can donate through our web site at
bridgeprisonministry.org/bpmfund/

(credit card or PayPal) or send your check or money order to:
Bridge Prison Ministry | 7320 N La Cholla Blvd, Suite 154. PMB 157 |
Tucson AZ 85741 (Be sure and indicate "Transitional Home")

YOUR GIFT WILL HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Chapel Service

David Estrada and Manuel Roca shared their testimony to the residents at the Center of Opportunity Wednesday, January 15, 2020.

David Estrada served a prison term of 32 years. He gave his life to Jesus Christ inside the prison walls. While incarcerated he shared the Gospel with other fellow inmates. David has a full-time job and lives with his wife Susan in Tucson AZ. David and Susan are faithfully serving the Lord.

Manuel Roca was homeless living out on the streets, parks, and under the bridges. After surrendering his life to Jesus Christ, Manuel shared how the Lord has healed and restored his life. He is no longer homeless, living in his own place, and attending Passion Church. His desire is to bring hope to the homeless by sharing his own story.

Many residents at the Center of Opportunity received prayer with seven surrendering their lives to Jesus Christ. It was a powerful night of restoration and healing!

The next chapel service at the Center of Opportunity is February 19, with Joe Banes as our guest speaker.

Letter Writing Ministry

Be part of the letter writing ministry team:

Here is a response from the inmate's first letter she received from a BPM volunteer.

"I'm very happy to get a letter from you! You are the first one I've heard from in over one and a half years... I want to thank you for writing and even making time in your busy schedule! We all appreciate you volunteers that make time for us... it's the saddest thing to watch the officer walk by with no mail. What great joy it gave me when my name was called out and your letter was given to me."

Letter writing provides valuable friendship, prayer, and discipleship through Bible studies or simply through regular written communication to inmates prior to their release. The letter writing ministry is a blessing to both the inmate and the pen pal volunteer.

For more information, email us at bridgeprisonministry@gmail.com.



PIMA COUNTY JAIL HEALING ROOMS AND PRAYER*

3rd Saturday of the month, 2-4pm.

*Healing Rooms is a collaborative ministry outreach with the Pima County Jail 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.

Contact Us

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