

Did You Know?

- 95% of inmates will return to society and, without help, over 60% will return to prison.
- Women inmates are being incarcerated at a rate of twice the number of men.
- Prisons, welfare case loads and courtrooms are overloaded.
- Children of incarcerated parents are 82% more likely to develop criminal behavior and become incarcerated, maintaining a pattern of criminal behavior.
- Available community resources are difficult to identify with few solely directed toward women.
- The current cost is approximately \$35,000 to \$45,000 per year to house a single inmate.



Here's Where You Can Help!

Our after-care community of support is dependent upon our community partners who help provide for their immediate needs and ongoing support.

Would you like to help us love and care for those who are reentering society from incarceration?

- I can help with job training and placement.
- I can help with housing issues.
- I would like to be part of a support team.
- I would like to support HAC with a gift of \$_____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail _____

Send this form and donations to:

HOPE-Net Ministries
P.O. Box 281
Council Bluffs, IA 51502

(402) 321-1313
www.hopenetministries.org
facebook.com/ilovemysequels



HOPE AFTER-CARE
A women's reentry
after-care ministry
committed to shaping
lives and renewing minds



HOPE After-Care
Council Bluffs, Iowa

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God's Heart for Prisoners

There is a soft spot in God's heart for those who are incarcerated and in bondage. He has charged us to not forget them.

Currently, women are being incarcerated at a rate of 2 to 1 over men and it doesn't look like that is going to change any time soon. Often, when a woman is "locked up," her children are equally incarcerated.

Who is caring for them?

Of those in prison today, 95% will be released back into society. Will they be in a position to succeed or fail upon re-entry?

We believe it is necessary to network with individuals, churches and service agencies in the community so we can surround the individual with the necessary physical, emotional and spiritual support they need to successfully integrate back into society.

This Community of Support will identify the individual's needs and then work together to meet those needs in a loving and caring manner. The person should know they are loved by God and should never feel alone or isolated. Such a community would include (but not be limited to) government officials, the medical community, legal assistance, law enforcement, businesses, financial institutions, churches, counselors and those involved in addiction counseling.

We believe this community can help lower the rate of re-offense!

Three Phases of Support

Phase One—Inside

HOPE After Care will work with existing jail and prison ministries to assess program applicants and will determine which women are best suited to benefit from our support. Together, we will determine what are each woman's barriers to successful re-entry into society. These barriers may include housing needs, employment, transportation, child care, etc.

Our staff will meet with each woman before she leaves jail to begin our relationship and discuss re-entry logistics.



Phase Two—Transition

From the moment a woman walks out of jail/prison, she will be met by a member of the transition team. This team will know and be prepared to meet her immediate needs and will guide her through the first few hours of re-entry. That may include taking her to a doctor, getting her driver's license, seeing her family, moving her into transitional housing, etc.

The transition team (3-5 people) will support each woman during her first two months out of prison/jail. They will assist her to get back on her own two feet.

Phase Three—After-Care

We attempt to surround her with opportunities to help her stay connected, clean, and out of trouble. Some of our support includes:

- Circles of Support dinners
- Winner's Circle—support group
- OverComers in Christ
- The Ultimate Journey—counseling
- Sequels Thrift Store vouchers
- Bicycles for those who need transportation
- Helping them make new friends

Circles of Support are regular gatherings where members of the community and former inmates come together to learn and provide support for one another. The meetings focus on positive life changes and often include education about a specific issue such as stress management or nutrition.

Winner's Circle, OverComers, and The Ultimate Journey are weekly support meetings designed to encourage, disciple and challenge the ladies to remain clean and sober and crime free. They also provide a safe place to process past mistakes and learn new coping skills and make new friends who can help them walk out their new life.

Can we count on you for help?

Please prayerfully consider becoming part of the HOPE After-Care support team!

Complete the form on the back and mail it in.

You can also reach Jean at jstephen-shopeaftercare@gmail.com to talk about