



INSIDE OUT REENTRY COMMUNITY

FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER

WOMEN IN REENTRY FORUM

Inside Out is hosting a **virtual forum October 22nd from 12 pm - 1:30 pm over Zoom**. This forum will focus on women in reentry and explore the gender-based inequalities and challenges women face both within the criminal justice system and when returning to the community.

Featuring the voices, stories, and experiences of women directly impacted by the legal system, the speakers and panelists will emphasize the importance of services developed and led by those who have experienced reentry themselves. By sharing these stories and highlighting the need for increased support and accessible resources for women in reentry, the forum will also offer potential paths forward and opportunities for future growth.

This forum is made possible with funding from the City of Iowa City Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant.



The forum features a presentation from **Michelle Daniel Jones**, a founding member and chairwoman of the board of Constructing Our Future, a reentry alternative for women created by incarcerated women in Indiana, and a third-year doctoral student in the American Studies program New York University.

Register today at: bit.ly/IOWomen

BECOME A SUSTAINING MEMBER

Can you budget \$10, \$20, or \$50 to support a cause that is important to you? We recently launched a Sustaining Member Drive to reach out to community members who cherish our work supporting returning citizens!

What's a sustaining membership? It's an ongoing, automatic monthly gift that can be paid securely and conveniently via your bank account or credit card. Sustainers provide a dependable source of funding, which allows Inside Out to have a more consistent financial basis and keeps fundraising costs lower. It's an easy and efficient way to support our programs. Donate by clicking on this link: bit.ly/DonateInsideOut and select the monthly giving option.

You may not miss these manageable monthly donations, but you can know that those in our community find them invaluable. Thank you for your support!

"Inside Out Reentry is all about helping those that need help the most like myself. I returned home after 18 yrs and very few people extended a hand, but Inside Out Reentry was there and is still behind me amen, I would not have a roof over my head if not for them."

Eddie, Inside Out Member

GRATITUDE FOR REENTRY BACKPACKS: A VITAL GIFT TO RETURNING CITIZENS

Inside Out is grateful for the outpouring of support for our Reentry Backpacks. Upon release from incarceration, individuals start over with little. A jumpstart to successful reentry is a warm welcome from the community such as a backpack filled with personal care items. This provides those reentering more flexibility with their limited resources, and shows there is support in the community.

We are grateful for the 20 backpacks provided by Faith United Church of Christ, as well as the donations of hygiene products including shampoo, deodorant, soap, toothpaste etc., by multiple community members, and support from First United Methodist Church of North Liberty! And thank you to One Ancient Hope for donating enough items to fill over two dozen backpacks.

Enjoy the little things,
for one day you may look
back and realize they
were the big things.
-Robert Brault

If you would like to support this small but vital gift, contact the office to drop off your donations.

INSIDE OUT SPOTLIGHT : SUSAN SPEARS



We'd like to introduce Susan Spears, the newest team member at Inside Out. Susan joined us in July as our part-time Administrative Coordinator. Susan brings with her years of experience working with non-profit organizations.

An avid gardener, Susan assisted an Inside Out member with planting Fall vegetables and we can't wait to see what harvests. She also enjoys playing the ukulele. Join us in welcoming her!

Email: insideoutreentry@gmail.com
www.insideoutreentry.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ioreentry>
Instagram: @insideoutreentrycommunity

CONNECTING WITH INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

Inside Out corresponds with incarcerated individuals before their release to provide support, resources, and help with reentry planning. From July through September we sent and received over 486 messages with 64 individuals.

How to help? Inside Out is seeking volunteer mentors to provide social and emotional support over correspondence with incarcerated members. Contact us if you're interested!

IO REGULAR MEETINGS

Community Meetings Thursday evenings
6:30 - 8 pm, *Weekly group mentoring, allies welcome to attend*

Coffee and Connections Friday 11am-12pm,
Peer recovery group for individuals in all stages of recovery;