

Lifelines Model

A faith-based program for justice
involved women

CMCA 2014

Presenters and Ministries

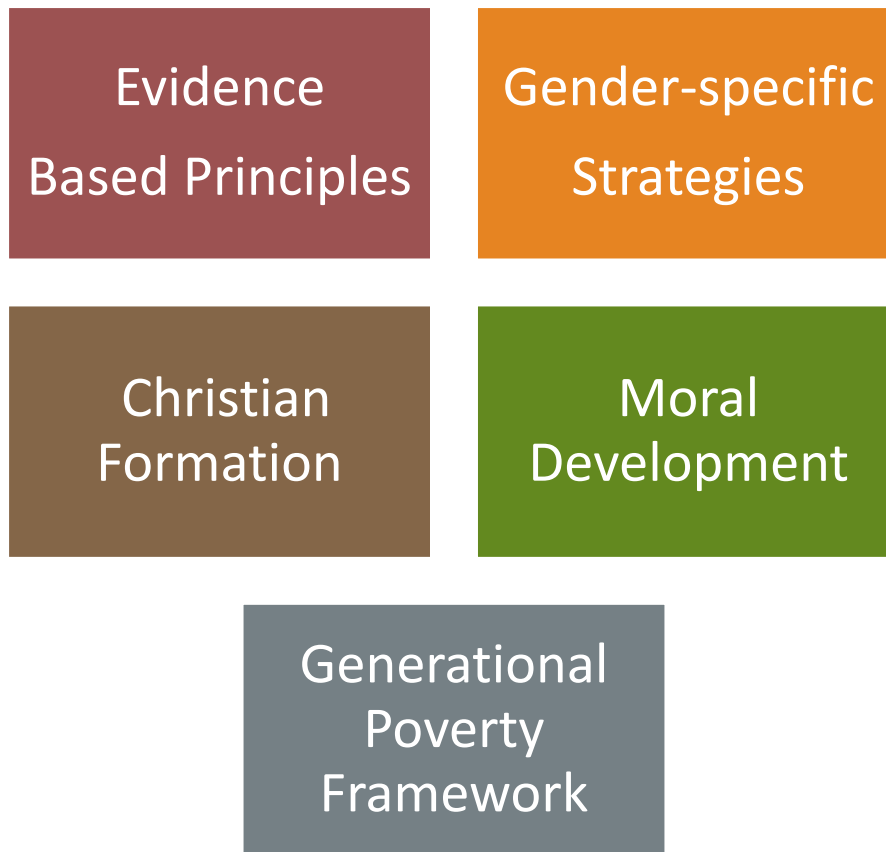
- Dr. Karen Swanson, Director
Institute for Prison Ministries,
Billy Graham Center, Wheaton College
- Chaplain Joy Stevens, Omaha, NE,
Good News Jail & Prison Ministry

The Need

- Current Inmate Programs
 - Often disjointed/compartmentalized (silos)
 - Lack goals and focus
 - Unbalanced
 - Male oriented
- LIFELINES Program
 - Coherent/Collaborative
 - Goal driven
 - Holistic
 - Female oriented

Program Development Process

- Step 1: Explore relevant research



Relevant Research

- Evidence-based principles
 - Target interventions (need and responsivity)
 - Increase Positive Reinforcement
 - Certificates, Life Recovery Bible
 - Engage in ongoing support in natural communities

Relevant Research

- Gender-specific strategies
 - Gender makes a difference
 - Pathway to crime
 - Gender specific risks and needs
 - Environment (safety, respect and dignity)
 - Relationships (promote healthy connections with others)

Relevant Research

- Christian Formation
 - Faith and crime (inverse relationship)
 - Women have a high degree of spiritual depth
 - Spiritual Formation (Preventing “jailhouse religion”)
- Moral Development
- Generational Poverty Framework

Relevant Research

- Moral Development (Gilligan)
 - Ethic of care and responsibility (female) vs. justice and rights (male)
 - Caring for self and others without hurting self and others
- Generational Poverty Framework

Program Development Process

- Step 2: Identify demographics of your female population
 - Ethnicity, Age, high school education
 - Needs/Issues (addiction, victimization, mental illness)
 - Population (daily, annually)
 - Length of stay

Program Development Process

- Step 3: Identify Existing Programs and Services and Facilities
 - What programs are offered to women?
 - What services are offered to women?
 - What space is available?
 - What times are available for programming?

Program Development Process

- Step 4: Identify Existing Resources
 - What are existing financial resources?
 - What are existing staffing resources?
 - What are existing volunteer resources?

Program Development Process

- Step 5: Identify Program Goals
 - Research informed
 - Holistic - What will women who complete the program be able to:
 - Know (Cognitive)
 - Do (Skills)
 - Feel (Affective)

Program Development Process

- Step 6: Create Program Model
 - Program description
 - Program requirements
 - Program components - Curriculum and services align with program goals
 - Feasibility
 - Length of stay of inmates
 - Facility space and time needs (Schedule)
 - Staff and volunteer needs
 - Resources

Program Development Process

- Step 7: Identify Supporting Materials
 - Orientation/program brochure
 - Curriculum
 - Job descriptions
 - Volunteer training materials

Program Development Process

- Step 8: Provide Training
 - Expectations – job descriptions
 - Training (research used to inform the model)
 - Skills

Program Development Process

- Step 9: Assess and Modify
 - Feedback
 - Program Evaluation
 - Modify program based on findings

Comparison of female and male offenders

Females

- 33% violent offenses
 - (mostly simple assault)
- 56% nonviolent crimes
 - property 29%, drug 27%
- 57% report abuse
- 73% mental health issues
- 68% substance abuse
- 66% have custody of children

Males

- 52% violent offenses
- 39% nonviolent crimes
 - property 20%, drug 19%
- 16% report abuse
- 55% mental health issues
- 53% substance abuse
- Less likely to serve as primary caretaker of children

Douglas County Jail, Omaha, NE

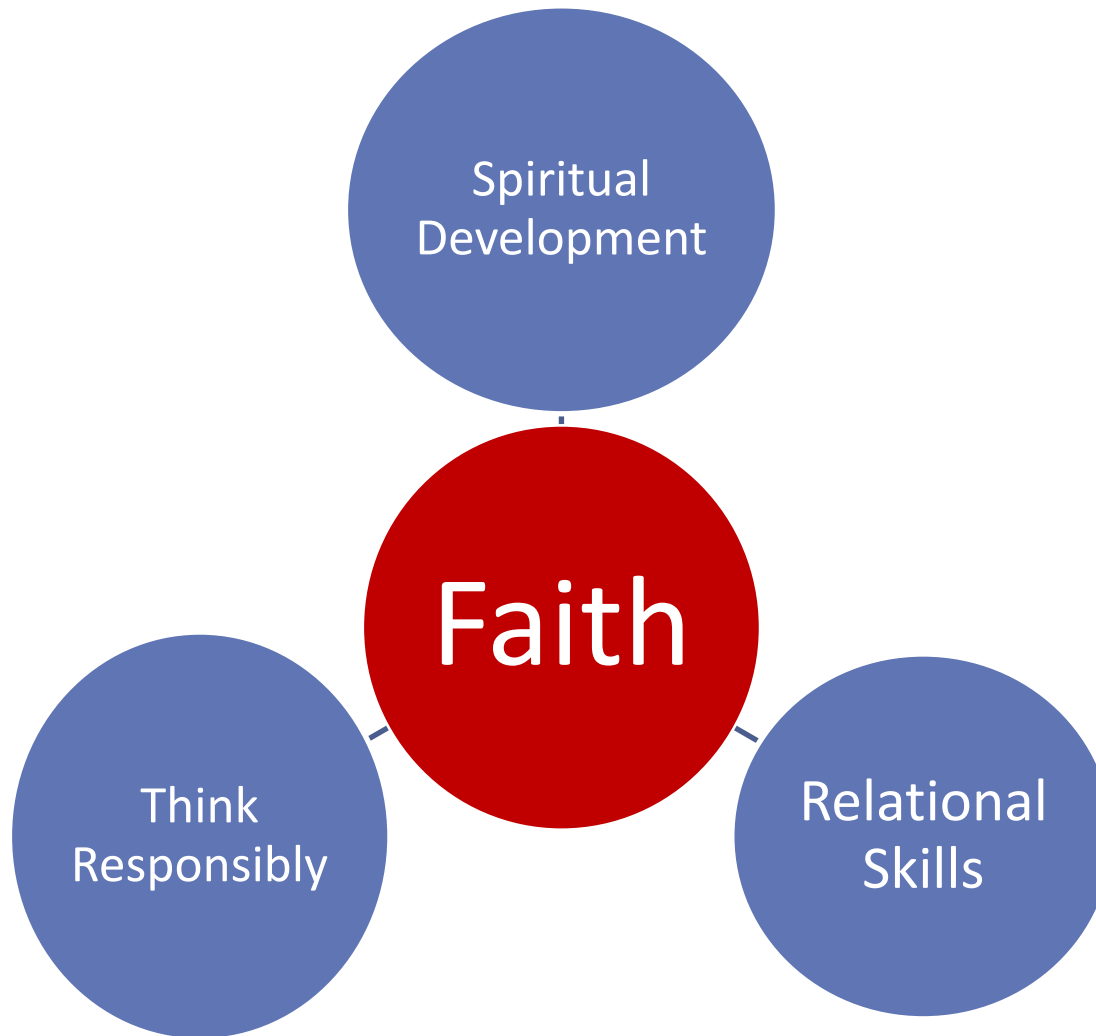
- Female Population (127 daily average)
 - Whites 52%
 - Blacks 39%
 - Hispanic 6%
 - Indian 2%
 - Asian < 1%
- Length of stay (average)
 - 11 days, 1 hour and 1 minute
- Age (average)
 - 31.36 years

Source: 2013 stats, Douglas County Jail

Program Model - Description

LIFELINES is a faith-based, relational, rehabilitative program for incarcerated women.

Lifelines Program (Inner circle)



Lifelines Program Goals

- Spiritual Development
 - Explore Christianity
 - Explain the tenants of the Christian Faith
 - Describe the Christian life
 - Engage in spiritual practices
 - Take responsibility for her own spiritual growth
 - Get connected to a local church

Lifelines Program Goals

- Think Responsibly
 - Identify thinking errors
 - Identify responsible thinking
 - Apply responsible thinking
- Develop Relational Skills
 - Able to forgive
 - Express anger in a healthy way
 - Develop healthy relationships

Lifelines Program Expanded

Mentoring

Faith and
Moral Dev

Relational
Skills II

Domestic
Violence

Motherhood

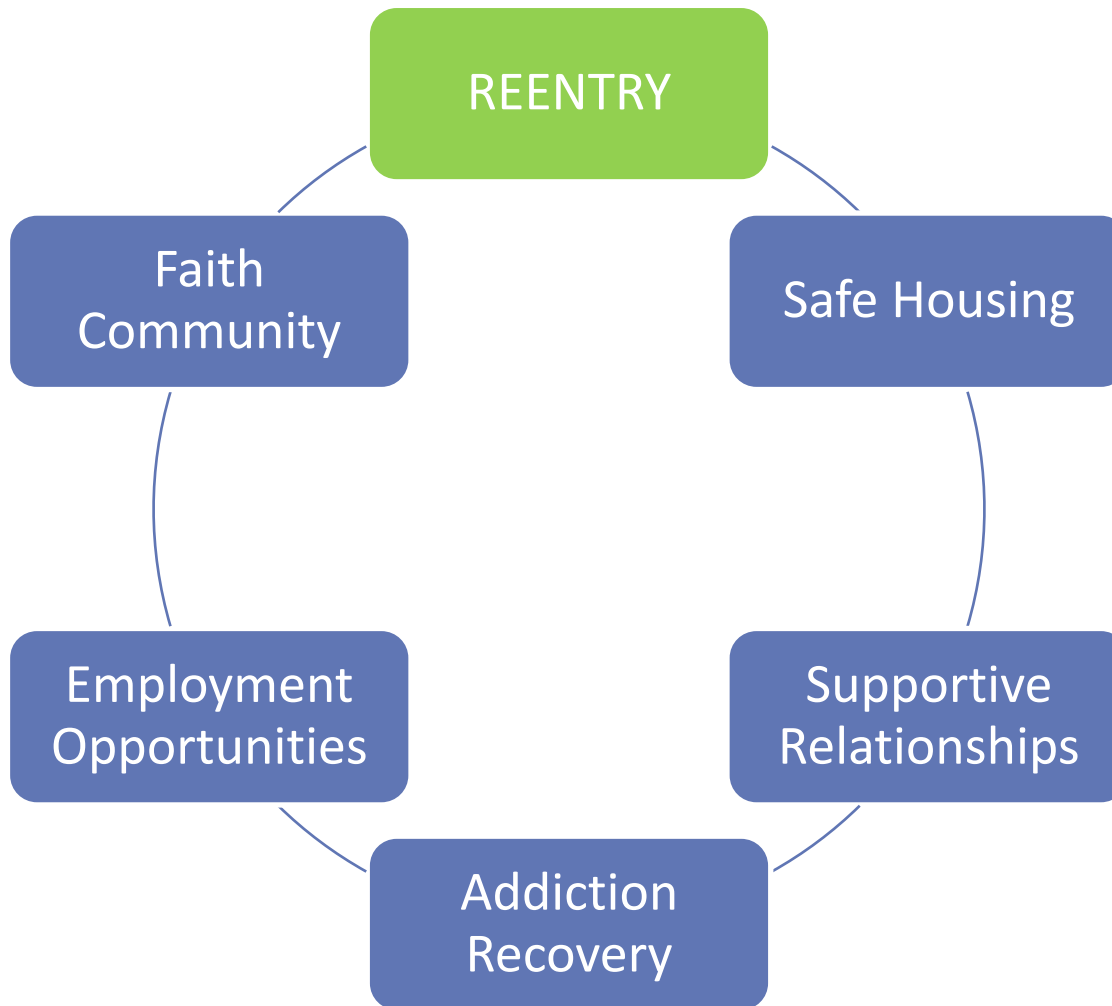
Addiction
Recovery

Trauma/Abuse
Healing

Employment

Life Skills

Lifelines Program (Second ring)



Lifelines Program Goals

- Reentry - Case management (facilitate)
 - Find safe housing
 - Connect with a church member
 - Create spiritual practice plan
 - Identify healthy, supportive relationships
 - Access addiction recovery services
 - Connect with employment opportunities
- Sentenced
 - Connect with a mentor for discipleship through letters

Reentry Programs

- Renewed Women (Caring Community)
 - Meets on Wednesdays at Church
 - Cook and share a meal and short devotional
 - Celebrate birthdays, sobriety milestones
 - Pray for one another
 - Apply biblical truths

Reentry Programs

- Renewed Women (Caring Community)
 - Program Leader
 - Volunteers
 - Transportation to bring women to church
 - Church and kitchen space

Sentenced Programs

- Sentenced
 - Letter Writing Ministry

Orientation/Participant Recruitment

- Orientation/program brochure
 - Inmates are given a copy of the orientation/program brochure
 - Chaplain goes over the brochure every other week in the pod and shares the Gospel
 - Inmates can sign up then
 - The Gospel is presented for those who want to hear it.

Program Model

- Requirements
 - Attend an orientation class
 - Sign up for the program
 - Comply with program requirements
- All faiths are welcome

Classes/Curriculum

- Spiritual Development
 - What We Believe
 - Your Spiritual Journey
 - Worship Services
- Responsible Thinking
 - Cognitive Renewal
- Relational Skills
 - Fresh Start
 - Lessons

Volunteers

- Job descriptions
 - Project Director
 - Volunteers
 - Worship Volunteers (CAP Program)
- Training
 - Materials (program, research, skills, etc.)

Evaluation

- Reporting Mechanisms
- Student Learning
- Program Evaluation (content and delivery)

Library - Resources

- Gender-specific
- RBC Ministries booklets