

CMCA HOPE Virtual Conference

Workshop Descriptions

Workshop Session 1

Working with Justice-Involved Women Inside and Out

Ilinda Jackson | This workshop will identify challenges and solutions to work with incarcerated women and help them successfully reintegrate back into society. **Ilinda** is the pastor of the Secret Place Community Church, a church with a heart for the surrounding community, including hurting women and their children. She is the founder and CEO of Raising the Standard Ministries, Inc. which offers faith-based transitional services for women and their children. Ilinda is also a chaplain and works with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections as the Agency Volunteer Services Coordinator.

Leadership: What your Staff and Volunteers need from you

Evelyn Lemly | Keeping staff and volunteers engaged, involved, and active through normal times, crisis, or change can be challenging. Discussion on key leadership tips for leading and best practices to optimize your team. Focus on how to improve commitment and quality of carrying out your ministry work through your people. Self-care and people care and how it all works together to enhance your ministry for the short term and the long term. **Evelyn** serves as CEO of Kairos Prison Ministry International which is in over 500 communities in 10 countries utilizing over 30,000 volunteers. She holds an MBA in leadership of organizations, marketing, and finance and she has trained around the world in fundraising, management, and leadership. Evelyn serves as President on the Executive Board for CMCA.

Motivational Interviewing Basics

Karen Swanson | Motivational Interviewing is an evidence-based practice that fosters change by helping a person explore and resolve ambivalence. Rather than trying to “fix” a person’s behavior, MI looks for ways to access internal motivation for change through conversations that are empathetic and respectful. Participants will be able to name and demonstrate the basics of MI. **Karen** is Director of the Correctional Ministries Institute at the Wheaton College Billy Graham Center and oversees the Charles W. Colson Scholarship Program. She has served in higher education for more than 25 years and has developed training curriculum. Karen is an author, conference workshop speaker and co-founder of CMCA.

Workshop Session 2

Redemption and the Christian Response to the Criminal Justice System

Chelsea Friske | Criminal justice reform is a topic that is sweeping across the nation. Do you have questions about what a Christian response should be? We will explore criminal justice issues including parole, earned time and good time credits, to provide practical resources and ideas for how you can bring about change within the criminal justice system. **Chelsea**, as Legislative Research Manager, serves Prison Fellowship’s advocacy team by managing the tracking of criminal justice trends, authoring technical writing pieces, and producing resources that raise the profile of values-based criminal justice reform.

Funding the Reentry Non-Profit

Bradley Janowski | To be successful, a non-profit organization must secure funding from year to year. Diversifying funding leads to organizational confidence to plan strategically for the future. This workshop will review eight non-profit business models and review examples, revenue profiles, management challenges, and management focus of each model. **Bradley** is a non-profit executive with many years of successful fundraising experience. Raising almost \$5 million for reentry operations, he has managed public and private funding models with great success. This workshop will share those experiences and give attendees information and tools to enhance their fundraising confidence.

Philosophy of Ministry and Crisis Response--FAQs

Ken Schlenker | Chaplain Ken who has over 25 years of experience with public safety chaplaincy. He currently serves as the chaplain for Montgomery County Sheriff Department Criminal Investigations Division, District Attorney Office, and Precinct One Mental Health Unit. He is the Director of Chaplaincy for [Grace School of Theology](#) and the National Chaplain for [The PTSD Foundation of America](#) serving our combat veterans with PTSD, TBI, Addictions and Suicide Attempts. He is a US Navy veteran and formerly served with the Orange County Sheriff Department and Coroner Unit in California. Chaplain Ken is an author and contributor to various podcasts. Ken has his Master of Divinity from Talbot School of Theology, BIOLA University. He is a CPE Supervisor Level I with Clinical Pastoral Education International and is the President and Founder of [RKM Crisis Team dba CAREForce](#).

Workshop Session 3

Unleashing the Power of God through Spiritual Warfare Prayer for Inmates and Correctional Staff

Dwight Anderson | A key foundation for effective prison ministry is Prayer. Learn how to unleash the power of God in prayer using spiritual warfare praying for the lost, how to pray for inmates and correctional staff. This praying has helped us reach over 17,000 new inmates in the last 6 years. This is a ministry ALL churches can do that will make a huge impact! **Dwight** is executive director of Prison Mission Association (PMA), one of the fastest-growing prison ministries, with the goal of developing leaders within prisons to plant churches behind bars. Dwight speaks around the country & overseas. Since becoming director of PMA, they have added over 17,000 new students. He is co-host of Prison Transformation Radio.

Creating a Culture of Discipleship and Multiplication

John Thomas | Developing a multi-generational network of self-initiating, reproducing disciple-makers in the correctional setting. Watch men transform, disciple other men, change the trajectory of their families, step into leadership while still incarcerated, and most importantly “walk with Jesus”. Every man learns written quiet times, memorizes scripture, and prays. **John** is the global prison ministry director for Every Man a Warrior, a men's ministry of Trans World Radio. John, a former warden, worked in the PA DOC for 25 years, full-time with Every Man a Warrior in October 2017. Recent implementation in Kenya.

Starting a Reentry Program--FAQs

Joseph Williams & Jerry Blassingame | Joe and Jerry represent more than 50 years combined of reentry experience. Hear their answers to the most frequently asked questions by those starting in reentry ministry and seasoned reentry leaders. Bring your questions and learn how to maximize your ministry effectiveness. **Joe** has created and implemented several innovative approaches that have helped thousands to experience total restoration. Joe currently serves as Senior Training and Technical Assistance Consultant for the National Reentry Resource Center where he oversees adult community reentry providers of justice-related services in urban and rural areas under the Second Chance Act, Mentoring and Community Based Adult Reentry track. **Jerry** is founder and CEO of Soteria Community Development Corporation in Greenville, South Carolina. He mentors and trains previously incarcerated individuals as they reenter communities, acting as a catalyst for mutual understanding, respect and cooperation. As a survivor of the criminal legal system, Jerry provides tools to enable access and opportunities for individuals and families impacted by the legal system.

Workshop Session 4

Family Reunification

Vanessa Gardner | Incarceration effects the entire family. Those incarcerated are disconnected from their families. Family reunification works to restore communication, heal trauma, and prevent the cycle of incarceration. This workshop will include ministries and resources that focus on the entire family of those incarcerated. **Vanessa** is founder of Reentry Consultants of America, LLC and is a consultant for Discipleship Unlimited. She has a wealth of knowledge and experience in Correctional Ministry and as a Community Liaison which helps her to oversee 7 Faith Based Dorms and 2 Reentry Dorms within prisons for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Ministry with Justice-Involved Youth—FAQs

Steve Lowe | Come with your questions for Chaplain Steve Lowe with over 50 years-experience working with juveniles inside detention centers and in aftercare. **Steve**, a co-founder of CMCA, has provided professional institutional service in southern California counties, including supervising the Protestant Chaplaincy Ministries for the Orange County Juvenile Justice Complex's multiple institutions for 51 years and continuing to facilitate juvenile ministry at national sites. As Founder, President, and Executive Chaplain for Pacific Youth Correctional Ministries, Steve also assists Christian organizations and penal agencies as a consultant in program development and implementation.

No One Leaves Alone: Reintegration Project Research Study

Raymond Robyn | For the past three years, the Government of Canada funded the No One Leaves Alone -Reintegration Project. This workshop will reflect the process, development and results of this research project. **Raymond** has been the M2W2 Association- Restorative Christian Ministries, Executive Director since 2014. Raymond is committed to M2W2's mission to empower and equip volunteers to build practical mentoring relationships with people affected by incarceration.