With a mission to support indigent West Virginians in their journey to reintegrate into society productively and in the spirit of compassion and community, we are seeking your support through donations to provide essential resources and assistance to those facing significant challenges.

Your contribution can make a profound impact on the lives of individuals striving to rebuild and contribute positively to our community. By extending a helping hand, your church can play a pivotal role in fostering a sense of belonging and empowerment among those in need.

We appreciate the opportunity provided to present to your church leaders and your consideration in supporting this initiative. Any contribution, big or small, will directly contribute to providing vital support services, including the willingness to take on individuals who are on their path to recovery and in need of guidance and mentorship. Together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our fellow West Virginians.

We understand the importance of responsible stewardship, and we want to assure you that your donations will be used with the utmost care and diligence. We recognize the trust you are placing in us and want to assure you that every contribution will be thoughtfully allocated to provide essential resources and assistance.

The Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Public Defender Corporation (Mon Defenders) is a Non-Profit, Tax-Exempt Organization dedicated to developing and implementing a holistic defense approach to address each client's needs. Our interdisciplinary team approach increases clientcentered services. Holistic defense recognizes that an advocate who is better able to relate to their client, by having spent time in their neighborhood and with members of their community, will be more likely to provide authentic and effective representation.

By bringing this model of defense to indigent individuals in our community, we will be more able to provide authentic and effective representation that will be more likely to positively impact lives beyond the courtroom. Any donations you graciously provide are eligible for tax deductions. Our commitment to transparency and responsible stewardship extends to ensuring that your support not only makes a tangible impact on our community but also offers tax benefits in acknowledgment of your generosity.

Please let me know if any of the interested parties are interested in any education, training, and resource materials. I will be more than happy to help give back to the churches in any way that I can.

List of Supplies Needed:

- Cell Phone + Cellular Plan (TracFone/Straight Talk, etc.)
- Bus Passes (Monongalia County, Marion County, & Preston Counties)
 - Please reach out to Tonya Helmick for Preston County questions & needs (304-698-7659) she provides professional peer services in Preston County, is a Preston County native, and assists the population we serve as well. She is also a very active member of our reentry council.

Backpack Needs:

- Backpack
- Reusable Water Bottle
- Snack Bag with non-perishables
- Hygiene/Care Pack
 - Shampoo/Conditioner
 - Toothbrush/Toothpaste/Floss/Mouthwash
 - Body Soap
 - Deodorant
 - Wet Wipes
 - Chapstick
 - Tissues
 - Comb/Hairbrush
 - Wash Cloth
 - Mylar Blanket
 - Hot hands
 - Gloves
 - Ponchos and or small umbrella
 - Mini Flashlight
 - Feminine hygiene products

- Pocket Bible or Tracts
- Notebook & Pens
- Form of Activity (coloring book, something to read, etc.)
- Interested in adding Jill Poe's band-aid kits to bags or other kits she has

<u>Clothing Needs:</u>

- Clothing for men & women (sizes small, medium, large, xl, 2xl)
 - Underwear
 - Socks
 - Solid color T shirts (unisex or mens)
 - Sweatpants (unisex or mens)
 - Shoes for men and women all sizes needed
 - Dress clothes for court (mostly in need of men's size medium/large –(size 30 waist, 32, 34, 36, 38)

Additional Need:

- Gift Cards \$10 (McDonalds, Sheetz, Subway, etc.)
 - Sheetz Cards would be useful for individuals on their way to successful reintegration who may need assistance with gas to get back and forth to an appointment.
 - Food cards are helpful for them to have ease of access to eat, without restrictions of location, timing, etc. for the nearest soup kitchen or food pantry

General Resource Information For Churches Included

GENERAL GOALS & NEEDS OUTLINED

Reentry Support BACKPACKS (with supplies)

Goal 1: To have 10 completed backpacks each month able to be donated to the 17th Judicial Public Defenders to assist community members reentering the community

Goal 2: To have additional backpacks available for churches/church members who are willing to provide one-on-one mentorship to individuals who are ready for successful reintegration into the community and on their journey through recovery. As well as some additional backpacks available for professional peers.

Goal 3: Interested in adding Jill Poe's band-aid kits to bags or other kits she has available.

Willing to collaborate with churches on the best way to help with bags and open to any suggestions/ideas.

Why are these bags important:

Having a backpack can be immensely helpful for someone reentering society, particularly if they are facing economic challenges. Here are several reasons why a backpack can be beneficial in such situations:

1. Portability:

• A backpack provides a portable and convenient way for individuals to carry their belongings, making it easier for them to move between locations, seek employment, and attend appointments.

2. Storage and Organization:

• It offers a secure space to store personal items such as identification documents, resumes, hygiene products, a change of clothes, and other essentials. This helps individuals stay organized and ready for different situations.

3. Professional Appearance:

• For those seeking employment, a backpack can contribute to a more professional appearance. It allows individuals to carry resumes, job applications, and necessary documents neatly, giving a positive impression during interviews and job searches.

4. Hygiene and Self-Care:

• A backpack provides a discreet and portable way to carry personal hygiene items, enabling individuals to maintain cleanliness and self-care, which is essential for confidence and well-being.

5. Access to Resources:

• Individuals can use the backpack to carry resource materials, such as pamphlets, brochures, or information about local services, shelters, and community support organizations.

6. Comfort and Convenience:

• Carrying belongings in a backpack is more comfortable than using plastic bags or other makeshift solutions. It allows individuals to distribute the weight evenly, reducing strain on the body.

7. Privacy and Security:

• Having a backpack offers a level of privacy and security for personal items. This is especially important for those who may be in transitional housing or temporary living situations.

8. Community Integration:

• Carrying a backpack facilitates participation in community activities, such as attending support group meetings, educational programs, or recreational events. It becomes a mobile resource for engagement.

9. Weather Preparedness:

• A backpack can protect belongings from the weather, keeping important documents and personal items dry during rain or adverse weather conditions.

10. Empowerment:

• Providing individuals with a backpack contributes to their sense of empowerment and self-sufficiency. It gives them a means to take control of their personal belongings and navigate daily life with dignity.

11. Versatility:

• A backpack is versatile and can be used in various situations, whether someone is navigating public transportation, walking to interviews, or participating in community events.

In summary, a backpack is a practical and versatile accessory that can significantly assist someone reentering society, especially if they are facing financial constraints. It serves as a portable storage solution, enhances organization, and contributes to a person's overall wellbeing and preparedness for daily life challenges.

CELLPHONES & 1 MONTH SERVICE CARD

Goal 1: Have a total of 50 phones & 1 First month service card to go with each phone (total of 50 service cards) able to be donated to the 17th Judicial Public Defenders Corp.

Having access to a cell phone empowers individuals experiencing poverty by providing essential tools for communication, accessing resources, and navigating the challenges of daily life. It is a critical element in promoting community reintegration and ensuring that basic needs are met in an increasingly digital and interconnected world. A cell phone serves as a versatile and indispensable tool for individuals without transportation, providing solutions to various mobility challenges and offering alternatives that enhance their independence, connectivity, and access to essential services.

Here are key aspects highlighting the importance of cell phone access:

1. Communication and Safety:

- **Emergency Situations:** A cell phone provides a lifeline for individuals in emergency situations, enabling them to quickly call for assistance, whether it's medical help, law enforcement, or community support.
- **Personal Safety:** In precarious situations, having a cell phone allows individuals to stay connected with friends and family, enhancing their personal safety and security.

2. Employment and Opportunities:

- Job Search: A cell phone is essential for job seekers, facilitating communication with potential employers, responding to job offers, and conducting remote interviews.
- Access to Opportunities: Many job opportunities and resources are shared through digital platforms. A cell phone enables individuals to access online job portals, educational opportunities, and career development resources.

3. Access to Services:

- **Social Services:** Many social services are coordinated through digital platforms. A cell phone enables individuals to access information about available services, apply for assistance, and communicate with service providers.
- Healthcare: Access to healthcare information, telemedicine services, and appointment reminders can be crucial for individuals in managing their health and well-being.
- 4. Community Engagement:

- Social Connection: A cell phone provides a means for individuals to stay connected with their community, reducing social isolation. This is particularly important for mental well-being and community reintegration.
- **Community Resources:** Many community resources and events are communicated through digital channels. A cell phone allows individuals to access information about local initiatives, support groups, and community programs.

5. Information Access:

- Educational Resources: Access to educational materials, online courses, and learning platforms can be vital for individuals seeking to acquire new skills and improve their employability.
- News and Updates: Staying informed about local news, weather updates, and community developments is essential for making informed decisions and navigating daily life.

6. Financial Inclusion:

• **Banking Services:** Mobile banking allows individuals to manage their finances, receive payments, and access financial services without the need for a physical bank presence, promoting financial inclusion.

7. Transportation and Navigation:

• **Public Transit Information:** A cell phone can provide real-time information about public transportation schedules and routes, assisting individuals in navigating their community and accessing essential services.

A cell phone is a powerful tool for individuals without transportation, offering numerous benefits that enhance their mobility, access to resources, and overall quality of life:

- Accessible Transportation: Mobile apps for ridesharing services like Uber and Lyft provide a convenient and accessible means of transportation. Individuals can request rides, track the arrival of their driver, and pay for services directly through their cell phones.
- Public Transit Information:
- Real-Time Updates: Many public transportation agencies offer apps that provide real-time information about bus and train schedules, delays, and route changes. This allows individuals to plan their journeys more efficiently and avoid unnecessary wait times.
- Navigation and Directions:

• Efficient Routing: GPS-enabled smartphones with navigation apps assist individuals in finding the most efficient routes to their destinations, whether by walking, biking, or using public transportation. This can save time and reduce the complexity of navigating unfamiliar areas.

• Delivery Services:

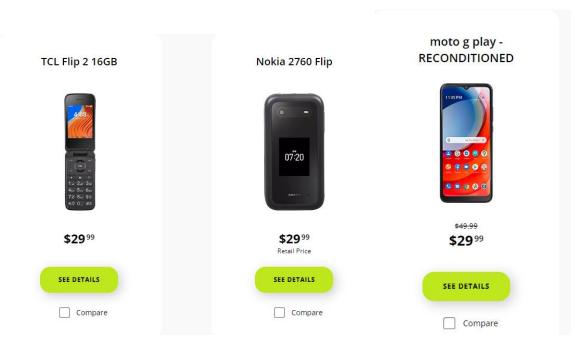
• Access to Goods and Services: Mobile apps for grocery delivery, food delivery, and other essential services enable individuals to have goods brought directly to their doorstep. This is particularly beneficial for those who face challenges in physically reaching stores or services.

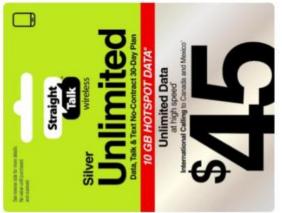
• Telecommuting and Remote Work:

• Work Opportunities: A cell phone allows individuals to explore remote work opportunities and telecommuting options. This flexibility can open up new job prospects and reduce the reliance on physical commuting.

• Medical Appointments:

• Telehealth Services: Individuals can attend medical appointments virtually through telehealth services, reducing the need for physical transportation to healthcare facilities. This is especially valuable for routine check-ups and non-emergency consultations.





Links:

https://www.straighttalk.com/all-phones

Note- cheaper reconditioned phones can be purchased online from straight talk

Phones can also be purchased from local retailers such as Walmart

Additional Guides:

YouTube Tutorial on Straight Talk Phones: (note that donated phones do not need to be activated upon donation, however, they will need a minute card to go with them in order for the person receiving the phone to have the phone activated for them and be able to use the phone)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_QMKokO0cs

https://blog.straighttalk.com/your-guide-to-straight-talk/

Once an individual has a phone and plan card, they can obtain other necessary services and then sign up for the ACP (Affordable Connectivity Program)

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a federal program aimed at ensuring that eligible households can receive affordable data service to stay connected!

You can keep your smartphone and phone number while saving money with ACP!

Also, note that most cell phone providers are eligible for the ACP, and if anyone in your church could benefit from ACP services, they can sign up for the ACP (let's help your congregations too!) (<u>https://www.fcc.gov/acp</u>)

ACP PLAN INFORMATION FOR YOUR CONGREGATIONS

Who Is Eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program?

A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the <u>Federal Poverty Guidelines</u>, or if a member of the household meets at least *one* of the criteria below:

- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income internet program;
- Participates in one of these assistance programs:
 - Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, including at U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Eligibility Provision schools.
 - SNAP
 - Medicaid
 - Your Medicaid eligibility may be up for renewal. Learn more about <u>how to</u> <u>renew</u>.
 - Federal Housing Assistance, including:
 - Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program (Section 8 Vouchers)
 - Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA)/Section 202/ Section 811
 - Public Housing
 - Affordable Housing Programs for American Indians, Alaska Natives or Native Hawaiians
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - WIC
 - Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits
 - or <u>Lifeline;</u>
- Participates in one of these assistance programs and lives on <u>qualifying Tribal lands</u>:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribal TANF
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
- Tribal Head Start (income based)

Two Steps to Enroll

Apply Now

- 1. Go to <u>GetInternet.gov</u> (<u>AccedeaInternet.gov</u> en español) to submit an application or print out a mail-in application.
- 2. Contact your preferred participating provider to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

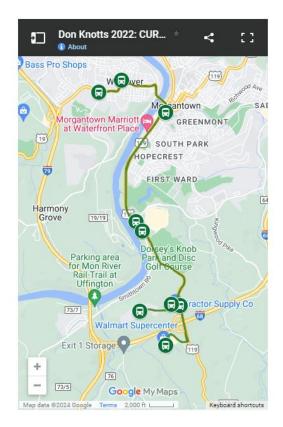
BUS PASSES

Goal 1: A donation of 100 one-way trip bus passes for Monongalia County to the 17th Judicial Public Defender Corp.

Monongalia County: https://www.busride.org/



Bus Maps & Schedules: <u>https://www.busride.org/Maps-Schedules</u> Mon County Free Bus Line: <u>https://www.busride.org/50-don-knotts</u>



Preston County: https://buckwheatexpress.com/

TDD: 304-329-0464

Toll-Free: 800-661-7556

108 Senior Center Drive Kingwood, WV 26537

Fax: 304-329-2584

rider@buckwheatexpress.com

Please follow up with Tonya Helmick on further details and information for Preston County needs and transportation details and how to best assist with meeting the needs in Preston County.

Marion County: <u>https://fmcta.com/</u>

Fairmont-Marion County Transit Authority 400 Quincy Street Fairmont WV, 26554

(304) 366-8177 FAX: (304) 366-2308 contact@fmcta.com

Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Saturdays 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m

Ticket Zones

Zone	Price	Ticket color	Price/10 tickets	Area Served
1	\$0.50	Yellow	\$4.50	City Limits, Dakota, Westchester
2	\$0.75	Pink	\$6.75	Barrackville, Mall, Monongah, Katy, Rivesville, Millersville/Kingmont, Mt. Harmony
3	\$1.00	White	\$9.00	Worthington, Katy, Baxter, Farmington, Enterprise
4	\$1.25		\$13.50	Rachel, Gray's Flats, Shinnston
5	\$1.50	Blue	\$13.50	Mannington, Fairview, Hepzibah
	\$1.75			Gore
	\$2.00	Green	\$18.00	Clarksburg, Morgantown, Meadowbrook Mall, East Point Mall

General Resources & Information For Churches

- I. Peer Services pg. 15
- II. Reentry Simulation pg. 17
- III. Treatment Facility Information
- IV. Mon County Property Tax Bus Pas Guide
- V. Transportation Info (remember there is not any transportation to be picked up from incarceration, nor any initially set in place for immediate required appointments once you released from incarceration, treatment, or hospitalization)
- VI. Traumatic Brain Injury Information
- VII. Expungement Services
- VIII. DUI Services
- IX. General Resource Guide
- X. Peer Recovery Trainings
- XI. WV Reentry Guide
- XII. Key Terms Guide
- XIII. Social Security Card Application
- XIV. Application For Drivers License or Photo ID Card
- XV. Birth Certificate Application
- XVI. Enabling vs. Helping

PEER SERVICES

Who are WV PEERS?

- <u>WV PEERS</u> are a cadre of individuals with lived experience concerning substance use disorder recovery. Peers receive more than 50 hours of didactic evidence-based training on interventions such as motivational interviewing, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, transtheoretical model of change, and daily supervision from substance use disorder professionals.
- Our cadres of staff include a network of certified peer recovery support specialists and peer recovery coaches in the community, working to help connect individuals to the services they need to live a healthier and more fulfilling lives.

What WV PEERS Do

Peers are able to connect individuals with the following resources:

- social services (birth certificates, access to healthcare insurance, emergency housing, etc.),
- healthcare connections (dental, vision, primary care)
- infectious disease management [HIV, Hepatitis C treatment], etc.)
- behavioral healthcare (harm reduction, detoxification, outpatient, residential, and MOUD services)
- legal help through COSSAP
- and linkages to support services (SMART recovery, NA, AA, Refuge recovery, Celebrate Recovery, peer support services, supportive employment, etc.)

WV PEERS continues to engage consumers due to needs changing over the course of time.

Additional Services

WV PEERs also works closely with **the Monongalia County Quick Response Team**, which is comprised of a collaboration with WV Peers, first responders, public health, and others to provide quick and longer-term assistance to individuals and families affected by substance misuse. The action team is supported by a multidisciplinary team of advisors from various community partners in emergency health care, law enforcement, the court system, recovery programs, behavioral health services, harm reduction programs, and residential care facilities. The primary goal of a QRT is to reduce morbidity and mortality rates. Additional services offered by this QRT include: Provide Naloxone Training and access to Narcan

- Respond to overdose survivors
- Assist families with supportive care
- Connections to resources

COSSAP (Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program) – Utilizes peer recovery support services to engage individuals within the justice system. There are two primary focuses of this project.

1. To assist individuals during pre-adjudication or post-adjudication acquire treatment in lieu of incarceration.

2. To assist individuals with comprehensive transitional plans during the parole process. A dedicated line has been created for this project (Call <u>304.602.3306</u>) to allow prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, correctional counselors, families, and individuals to engage our support services. Some services may include:

- Case management
- Linkages to court ordered treatment
- Securing post-incarceration housing
- Employment support services
- Linkages to social service

• Return to use prevention strategies

WHAT IS A REENTRY SIMULATION

The Reentry Simulation simulates the struggles and challenges faced by individuals who are transitioning from incarceration back into society.

The goal of this simulation is for participants to gain an understanding of the significant obstacles faced by men and women attempting to navigate the system upon their release from incarceration and returning home to their communities. To walk in the shoes of one who is returning home gives invaluable insight for professionals who are tasked with helping those individuals achieve a successful reentry.

Over the course of about 2 hours participants experience the first month of post-release life. Each participant assumes the identity of an ex-offender and receives a packet of materials, including a "Life Card." The "Life Card" explains the reentrant's criminal background, current living situation, current job situation, and the specific weekly tasks that must be accomplished in order to avoid the risk of being sent back to prison for non-compliance with the requirements of his or her supervised release. The simulation begins with an explanation and instructions from the facilitator and the reentrants then set out to try and navigate their new lives. Each week takes place in a 15 minute segment.

In between each of these segments (at the end of each "week") reentrants return to their housing locations, which can be home, the halfway house, homeless shelter or jail, depending on how successful they have been in satisfying the conditions of their release and accomplishing their assigned tasks. They then engage in a guided discussion with the event facilitators debriefing them with regards to their experiences and helping them reflect on their successes and failures.

The room is set up with approximately 15 stations. Each of these tables represent the many places a returning citizen must navigate when they are first released. Each table has random elements which produce real life uncertainty when dealing with each of these agencies and organizations. Some of these stations include DMV, Probation, Court, GED, Bank, Employer, Social Services, Church, Pawn Shop, Landlord/Rent, Transportation, Health Clinic, Treatment, etc. Additionally, there are "monitors" and "officers" who check "Life Cards" to aid Probation Officers in assessing each reentrant's level of compliance. They also identify those who may need increased levels of supervision.

Successful Reentry back into society is something which is difficult. It is a complex and unpredictable process. Since each person has different individual needs, resources, and histories, we find that each person's life path is different. "Successful Reentry" is not something that happens automatically upon release from prison, but is something which has a greater chance of occurring if planned for accordingly.

This simulation gives us visibility into the perspectives of the returning citizens who we are tasked to help. Our aim is to represent a realistic landscape of what these individuals face when coming home. By experiencing these complex obstacles and barriers that these individuals must navigate, we not only gain visibility into the individual's perspectives but also discover innovative ways to help these individuals succeed. The simulation is applicable to all groups who are trying to reenter society and can accommodate the training needs of other agencies and organizations.