

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



*Ministering to
Women in
Corrections*



Introduction

Charles Freyder

Chaplain

Mabel Bassett Correctional Center

Before We Get Started

- How many of you have visited a prison?
- What was your first impression?
- What did learn from your experience?

Ministry Approach

People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

What does a Chaplain do?

- ❖ *Visitation*
- ❖ *Crisis Intervention*
- ❖ *Counseling*
- ❖ *Planning of Activities & Services*

A Days Work

Grief

Fear

Divorce

Parenting

Relationships

Suicide

Terminal Illnesses

Loneliness

Peer Pressure

Rage

Anger

Restoration

Bitterness

Depression

Molestation

Suicidal

Abuse History

Delinquent Children

I have a Dream

Martin Luther King

- ❖ *What have you dreamed about doing in life?*
- ❖ *When did you stop dreaming?*
- ❖ *Get you dream back.*
- ❖ *Start working towards that dream.*
- ❖ *Teach them to persevere.*

Statistics

- Did you know: No country incarcerates more women than the United States.
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About Statistics

- Statistics can tell us a lot about life in any given society, yet they can paint only part of the picture.
- Statistics can tell us that more than 110,000 Japanese Americans were herded into relocation camps during WW II but they tell us little of the lives lived in those camps or of the repercussions years later from having done so.

About Statistics

- Statistics tells us that everyday four women die in this country as a result of domestic violence, but they cannot convey what it means to live abusive relationship.
- Statistics can tell us a story with numbers, but they cannot translate those numbers into lived experience.

About Statistics

- For that, we must turn to the stories about peoples lives.
- When you meet and speak with an individual who has been or is incarcerated it is a way of putting flesh and blood around the bare-boned statistics.

Real Stories, Real Lives

- Dawn's Story of addiction and abuse in two pages.
- Elizabeth's story of addiction to prescription drugs.

Real Stories, Real Lives

- Nina, after release the transitional home she paroled to helped her find a job in a warehouse utilizing computer and office skills she learned working in the chapel.
- Alisha, 10 years later became an associate minister in her church. Last year she completed her Masters in Social Work, her dream is to serve as a Chaplain in Corrections.

Thank You

Questions?

