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CCT updates and how you can help during the pandemic

Center for Community Transitions [pfunderburg@centerforcommunitytransitions.org]

Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020 3:54 PM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)
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Building people, not prisons since 1974



Dear Steve,

We hope that you are staying safe and healthy during these unprecedented times.

Now more than ever, it's critical the Center for Community Transitions (CCT) continues our work of helping formerly incarcerated individuals and their families. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we've temporarily postponed most of our programs like [LifeWorks!](#) (employment readiness and retention classes) and [Families Doing Time](#) (in-school support groups, monthly dinners etc.). Like many, we are rapidly adjusting and thinking of innovative ways to ensure we can continue to fulfill our mission.

We postponed our Build People, Not Prisons fundraiser to a future date, and hoped to hold the auction portion of the event online this week. However, we decided to not auction vacations and other entertainment items at this time of great uncertainty. [So, now more than ever, we need your help and support.](#)

Here's an overview of CCT's current status:

- Many of our Lifeworks! (LW) clients were laid off from jobs in industries that have already experienced the first wave of negative economic impact. Our clients and their families - most living at or below poverty before COVID-19 - are now struggling even more to get and keep basic needs such as rent and food.
- Our [Center for Women's](#) work release program was suspended by NC Department of Public Safety (NCDPS). This means our 30 residents will be out of work and living at the facility 24-hours a day and will need additional food

for meals and snacks.

- For our Families Doing Time program, we're providing limited Empowering Kids With Incarcerated Parents (EKWIP) support groups virtually. But we have temporarily suspended our Third Tuesday dinners and enrichment institute activities, so our families need help with basic needs.

Each of us is struggling in our own way right now, but if your circumstances allow, here are a few ways you can help:

1. [Make a donation of \\$25, \\$50, \\$100 or more to CCT online](#) or send a check to CCT | PO Box 33533 | Charlotte, NC 28233. These dollars will go directly towards providing clients with most basic needs of food, hygiene products etc. A donation also will provide operational support so CCT can be "digital but not distant" and offer some virtual services to clients.
2. Send gift cards to our PO Box from local restaurants, grocery stores (like Walmart, Food Lion, Harris Teeter, etc.).

Thank you so much for your past support and current consideration. Together, we will help our clients through these challenging times. Everyone please stay safe and be well!

Sincerely,

Patrice Funderburg, Executive Director



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