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Correction: Updated Amazon Smile Link - FDT feeds families, makes community connections during pandemic

The Center for Community Transitions [communications@centerforcommunitytransitions.org]

Sent: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 4:59 PM

To: Steve Johnston

The Center for
Community
Transitions

Building people, not prisons since 1974

A message to CCT friends and supporters from
Board Chair Marc Jarmosevich

Marc Jarmosevich
CCT Chairman of the Board

This month I've stepped into the role of board chair at CCT. I want to thank John Tate for his years of leadership, dedication to our clients and staff, and the impact he has made.

It is a great honor to begin this journey when CCT is on a solid foundation and under the strong leadership of [Patrice Funderburg](#). It's also a tremendous responsibility to do so now when there's an increasing spotlight on the systemic racism that's pervasive throughout our country and institutions. [Read More](#).

Sweet freedoms

When residents leave prison to continue the remainder of their sentence at the [Center for Women](#), the transition begins as soon as they step out of the state's van. They're allowed to be themselves and make their own decisions, starting with opening the door to the CCT van. The group then heads to Walmart to purchase essential items and eat lunch at the McDonald's located inside the store. For many residents, it's the first meal they've had that day as many are too nervous to eat on their transfer day. New resident April cried happy tears when she received a chocolate milkshake - the first one she's had in 16 years. And later that night she slept soundly on a real mattress, not a thin flimsy one. A milkshake and bed are everyday items that most of us take for granted. But for our residents, it's simple pleasures like these that bring them so much joy.

Care through COVID: Families Doing Time feeds families, makes community connections

Over the last several months, Ms. G's home in East Charlotte has been more

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7/6/20, 6:39 AM

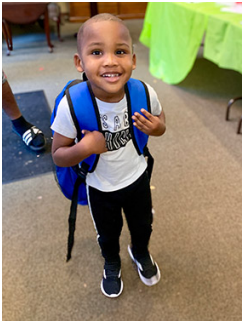
crowded than usual. The home health aide and longtime [Families Doing Time](#) (FDT) client is caring for 16 family members who've been affected by COVID-19, domestic violence and job loss.

Understandably, she's overwhelmed and frustrated at times. Yet through it all, she remains grateful and always has a smile on her face.

"I want to thank Ms. Ciara (Thompson) and Ms. Ilona (Alvarez) from Families Doing Time for thinking about families during COVID-19," she said. "The (Every Tuesday) food distribution program made it possible for me to feed my family during this difficult and uncertain time." [Read More](#)

Help CCT Pack a Backpack!

We're providing 150 backpacks filled up and ready for the 2020-21 school year. They'll be distributed to 150 elementary, middle and high school students who participate in CCT programs. Our goal is to ensure students return to school this fall feeling confident and prepared! Please help us fill backpacks by purchasing one or more items from our [Amazon Smile wish list](#). Thank you!



BIG thanks to Bank of America for \$25K grant



A \$25,000 grant from Bank of America will help support our [LifeWorks!](#) program, which provides clients practical training, employment seeking assistance and behavioral tools to help them reach their professional and personal goals.

It will also support the [Families Doing Time](#) program, which provides a continuum of services to families and children with loved ones in jail or prison, including family events, support groups, information sharing and training for professionals.

"Throughout the pandemic, we have continued to be deeply invested and filled with an unmatched passion about the work we do and the people and families in our community impacted by incarceration," said Patrice Funderburg, executive director. "We appreciate Bank of America's generous award and community support as it will help us provide essential support and services for our clients."

The grant is part of Bank of America's philanthropic giving efforts in local communities. Awardees were selected for their commitment to addressing basic needs and workforce development for individuals and families, in particular during the coronavirus pandemic.

"Our company is committed to ensuring opportunity for all, and workforce development plays an important role in that effort," said Bank of America Charlotte Market President Charles Bowman. "CCT provides a critical path forward for our residents with criminal records as well as their families."

[THANK YOU to CCT's other recent supporters listed here.](#)

Login for learning



Four Center for Women residents are attending [online employment readiness training](#). The virtual sessions are offered through our LifeWorks! program, which rolled out an e-learning platform in May to help clients learn and engage through technology.



or volunteering.

Our mailing address is:
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P.O. Box 33533
Charlotte, NC 28233

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