

Re-entry Support for Ex-Offenders

Resource Center Without Walls

Through a network of community partners, we work with men and women in prison, former prisoners, people in transition, and their families through our "Resource Center Without Walls". We provide small group trainings and individual mentoring in general life skills, leadership, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and areas related to transitioning back into family and community life.

We also convene gatherings that provide the opportunity for people with life experience with the criminal justice and prison systems to network with each other, exchange knowledge and resources, and solve problems. These gatherings usually take the shape of family sessions to strengthen family relationships as well as support and empowerment groups for prisoners and former prisoners. We also collaboratively convene roundtables for people to learn more about the criminal justice and prison systems from people with real life experiences, and organize advocacy efforts around related issues.

We identify appropriate community resources and broker relationship building between individual ex-offenders and the needed resources; we will specifically inventory and connect people to:

- businesses that may hire ex-offenders, work-release inmates, and youth.
- training programs that enhance the participants opportunities of obtaining a good job with opportunities for advancement and career development.
- housing programs
- family counseling programs
- substance abuse counseling and recovery programs
- mental health counseling

Re-Entry Curriculum

REENTRY ORIENTATION

- * Initial Interview
- * Orientation sessions

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- * 15 Principles of Personal Growth and Development
- * Goal Setting
- * Cognitive Behavioral Training and Workshops
- * Spirituality
- * Mindfulness

JOB EDUCATION

- * Job Readiness Training
- * Resume Prep
- * Interviewing Techniques
- * Career Assessment Tools (ex. Work Keys)
- * How to Use Job Link Center
- * Employer Incentives, Bonding, Work Tax Credit (WOTC)
- * Dressing for Success Classes
- * Entrepreneurship Workshops

EDUCATION

- * GED
- * Community College Partnership
- * St. Augustine College Gateway Program
- * Shaw University Cape Program
- * Career Readiness Certification

HOUSING

- * Ready to Rent Certification
- * Homebuyer Workshop
- * Transitional Housing

HUMAN SERVICES

- * Family Support (Fatherhood Initiatives, Therapy Group/Individual Sessions, Wake County Human Service Partnership)
- * Anger Management
- * Medical
- * Substance Abuse
- * Mental Health

MENTORING

- * Mentor Orientation
- * Connecting Mentors to Mentees
- * Ongoing Recruitment

FAMILY/CHILDREN ISSUES

- * Reconnecting With Family
- * Family Counseling

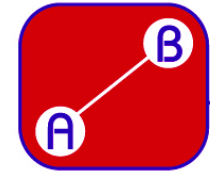
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- * Reentry Resource Roundtables
- * Networking
- * Exchanging Knowledge and Resources

CIVIC EDUCATION

- * Ex-offender Right to Vote
- * Engagement in the electoral process

COMMUNITY SUCCESS INITIATIVE



HELPING INDIVIDUALS & COMMUNITIES MOVE FROM WHERE THEY ARE TO WHERE THEY WANT TO BE

www.communitysuccess.org

Contact

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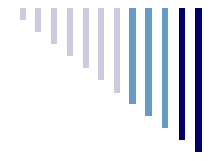
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Dennis W. Gaddy, Executive Director





Overview of Our Work

The hub of Community Success Initiative's trainings consist of inspiring people to discover their potential, set worthy goals for their lives, and take action in a positive way. A program consisting of the **15 Principles of Personal Growth and Leadership to Take You From Where You Are to Where You Want to Be** is utilized as a core part of these trainings and serves as a common thread to all of our work. Trainings are conducted one-on-one or in groups.

Our programs include:

- Personal development and leadership skills training
- Entrepreneurial training
- Youth development and enrichment
- In-prison, ex-offenders, people in transition and advocacy
- Building just and caring communities

Testimonials

"I met a friend and mentor Dennis Gaddy on the inside who stoked the flame of enlightenment I had been tending with an unparalleled enthusiasm and generosity of spirit. He shared his collection of classic personal development material dutifully, and I soaked up the pages as if my very life depended on it. Funny how that works, for I believe that in some ways, it did."
- Peyton Myrick

"Dennis has been an aid and enlightener in dark and desolate times. Apart from his words, his works speaks volumes, and I am pleased to call him my mentor." - Rodney Talley

15 Principles of Personal Growth and Leadership to Take You From Where You Are to Where You Want to Be

1. You become what you think about
2. Maintain character and integrity at all times
3. Discovering your spirituality and putting it into practice
4. Develop and maintain a positive mental attitude and pleasing personality
5. Establish worthy goals and review them daily
6. Spend quality time with family and those that mean the most to you
7. Establish a sound financial plan
8. Take care of your body and overall health
9. Read daily and increase your knowledge, skills and vocabulary
10. Learn to laugh and have a sense of humor
11. Be a giver
12. Establish and maintain the habit of self-control
13. Always look for ways to improve
14. Understand the principles of leveraging and compounding
15. Take time to measure your activity and progress

"From the beginning, I have watched this program grow and develop into such a wonderful and enriching program. The potential is limitless, and I personally believe that Dennis' approach is both effective and innovative."
- Werner Matthews

Our Story

Community Success Initiative, (CSI) was created out of a desire to fill a need to see personal growth and development, and leadership principles become a recognized strategy for achieving success in the lives of everyday people.

CSI was officially incorporated in May 2004, and was the inspiration of Dennis W. Gaddy, founder and Executive Director. Due to some very unwise financial choices made in the late 90's, Dennis found himself serving a five year, eight month prison sentence. Prior to prison, Dennis had spent 20 years in the direct selling industry, where he helped grassroots folk build home base businesses.

While incarcerated, rather than becoming overcome with either the successes or failures of the past, Dennis had time to study both, and out of this prison experience, he wrote the preliminary outline of what would later become the "**15 Principles of Personal Growth and Development to Take You from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be**", a core set of principles that serves as the hub of CSI's work. Starting with an inmate who wanted help in getting his GED and later incorporating the help Chaplain James Hales, Dennis was able to test these principles through a leadership class that he was allowed to facilitate while still incarcerated, a class that about 100 inmates took over a two year period.

During the summer of 2001 while on a prison community volunteer pass. Dennis met John Parker, Executive Director of Good Work, a Durham NC nonprofit organization that helps low wealth-low income folk start or strengthen a small business or nonprofit organization. After several meetings with Dennis at the prison, John invited Dennis to come to work at Good Work as a leadership coach to the entrepreneurs. As a result of this invitation, Dennis was able to complete his work release assignment.

It was during the Good Work experience that Dennis began to realize how little attention was being given to personal development and leadership skills training as a vital part of success. Although he had gone to school for 19 years, (1979 graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, and a 1982 graduate of the Campbell University School of Law), Dennis had never had a class on setting goals. This stimulated his thinking about the formation of an organization where people from ordinary backgrounds could learn success principles. As a result, Community Success Initiative was formally incorporated in May, 2004.

CSI has expanded its' work into the following 5 program areas: 1) personal development and leadership skills training; 2) Entrepreneurial training; 3) Youth development and enrichment; 4) Serving people in transition, people in prison, and ex-offenders; 5) Building just and caring communities. Since its beginning, CSI has reached well over 500 people.

At the end of the day, CSI's work is really about helping other people discover their untapped potential, and inspiring them to take action in a positive way.