

# AFTERCARE

## Foundation of HOPE Aftercare Program

Helping People  
Successfully Re-Enter  
and Re-Connect with  
Their Communities



HOPE Aftercare Program  
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[www.foundationofhope.org](http://www.foundationofhope.org)

United Way Agency Code 12457222



*"My mentor will be able to keep me accountable on the outside, and be there to talk to if I feel tempted to go back to the familiarity of the streets."*

*~ Steve, an Aftercare participant*

*"HOPE was the first place I have been to, since leaving the Allegheny County Jail, that actually treated me with dignity and respect."*

*~ Mary, an Aftercare participant*

**The HOPE Aftercare Program provides comprehensive, supportive re-entry services helping people successfully re-enter and re-connect with their communities.**

## OUR IMPACT

**Recidivism** is measured by criminal acts that result in re-arrest, re-conviction, or return to incarceration. Supporting re-entrants after their release is critical to their successful reintegration into society. Without such support, many re-entrants will recidivate.

A recent study found that for every \$1.00 invested in support services, \$6.00 in recidivism costs were saved.

The Foundation of HOPE has demonstrated that re-entrants receiving appropriate support and resources experience a lower rate of re-incarceration.

*"The HOPE Aftercare program exceeded my expectations. First, we took care of some basic needs, like new clothes and a new PA State ID, and then we put together a stellar resume that helped me get a good job!"*

*~ Rick, an Aftercare participant*



# Foundation of HOPE Aftercare Program

*Helping people successfully re-enter and re-connect with their communities through:*

- Material support such as clothing, transportation, IDs, toiletries, and furniture;
- Supportive relationships through our one-on-one mentoring program;
- Assistance identifying employment opportunities including resume development, job fairs, and online search engines;
- Housing counseling, applications, and referrals; and
- PIRC (Positive Initiative to Reinforce Change) Support Groups which provide a safe and welcoming forum for sharing resources, networking, and addressing a wide range of social, intellectual, vocational, spiritual, emotional, environmental, and physical needs.



## ***Become a Mentor***

Successful mentors focus on developing a relationship of trust and respect with their mentees by being supportive, encouraging, and present. They strive to empower mentees to be successful in re-entry by offering support and care. **HOPE Aftercare** provides training and materials to equip mentors to be successful in this work.

Building relationships takes time, and requires commitment from both mentors and mentees. We expect mentors to recognize they are making a pledge to an individual who is counting on them to show up. Because of this, we ask mentors to commit to volunteer approximately four hours each month for a minimum of six months.

## ***What Should Mentors Expect?***

Mentors are matched with an individual who is either at the Allegheny County Jail or who has been released to the community from jail or prison. Mentors are required to:

- Meet with mentee consistently for at least 6 months;
- Be present and supportive in a way that builds trust;
- Be at least 21 years of age;
- Attend required trainings;
- Complete required paperwork; and
- If possible, continue meeting with mentee in the community after his/her release.

*"I am ready to start to give back to the community for a change. To help more than take."*

*~ Michael, an Aftercare participant*

*"I want to set myself up for success, and my mentor is there, ready, and willing to help me."*

*~ Diane, an Aftercare mentee*

*"I believe that it is each and every person's responsibility to reach out to someone and help them. If the individual is serious about change, then I willingly invest my time to help them through the process."*

*~ John, an Aftercare mentor*

## ***How You Can Help***

- Serve as a mentor with **HOPE Aftercare**.
- Donate bus passes, clothing, toiletries, and motivational books. Host a drive for these items at your faith community, school, or business.
- Host, facilitate, or help with a support group.
- Invite the Foundation of HOPE to speak and/or set up a resource table at your faith community, school, organization, business, or event.
- Volunteer at the HOPE Aftercare Office.
- Make a tax-deductible contribution to "Foundation of HOPE," 540 Suismon St., Pittsburgh, PA 15212, or donate online at [www.foundationofhope.org](http://www.foundationofhope.org).

