



# Community

## *Healing & Transformation*

### *Center*

5/20/2019

TCRC Philly is planning to open the Community Healing and Transformation Center at 3609 N. Broad St Philadelphia Pa. July 1, 2019. The focus of this Center will be to address the needs of the formerly incarcerated community and attempt to bring a measure of healing to the trauma that has been caused by mass incarceration, unjust probation practices, separation of families and collateral damage.

TCRC has been working in this capacity since its incorporation in 2013. The mission has been supported by Goodwill Industries of Southern NJ & Philadelphia and various religious communities. Through small grants and donations from individuals who value the effort, TCRC has been able to do intense work in the North Philadelphia community and across the city.

It is necessary to expand the scope of this work and address specific needs of the communities being served. To do this as an organization TCRC seeks to generate revenue that will seriously supplement grants and philanthropy. The revenues generated by TCRC will sustain operations that focus on the following issues;

1. ***Healing the trauma*** that has impacted those who have been incarcerated. This is accomplished by first acknowledging that the trauma is real and exists. There is untreated trauma that occurred during the incarceration, prior to the period of incarceration and the trauma that is incurred during the transition back to society. There is trauma that is endured by the family while one is away. All these aspects must be acknowledged and dealt with. Often the entire family may need some measure of services. Children of incarcerated parents suffer from untreated trauma. Family members are traumatized by a system they often are in conflict with. Many former prisoners can find

the necessary help via mental health and psychological services, stress relief techniques, education, atonement, forgiveness from those they injured and reconciliation with those who have harmed them. Healing also can occur through seeking to build a life that has value and worth. Families must be helped to heal from an experience that has had overwhelmingly negative impacts on their lives.

2. ***Pre-entry and Probation services.*** Assistance for those who are out on bail with open cases, looking for employment and necessary services prior to dealing with hearings, eventual trials, plea bargains, alternatives to incarceration programs, and those who receive actual sentences. Also assisting individuals seeking to avoid technical violations, transition successfully while dealing with the Probation Department.
3. ***Aiding Children of incarcerated parents*** to successfully navigate the impact and trauma of arrest and incarceration. It is the goal of the TCRC Kidz Program to provide a safe space for children of incarcerated parents to talk about their experiences, address their issues, minimize the trauma, examine their concerns and craft workable coping mechanisms. In conjunction with Rutgers University, Ann Adalist-Estrin and the National Resource Center on Children and families of the Incarcerated the TCRC Kidz will develop a pilot program that is the first of its kind in the country with measured outcomes establishing evidence-based practices. <https://nrccfi.camden.rutgers.edu/> ***Rutgers University and the TCRC Kids Program*** would coordinate ;

A 12 week support group for Children of Incarcerated Parents. Individual sessions will be available for those with ongoing problem specific situations. Referrals to psychological services and family counseling available .

The training of participating elementary, middle and high school staff to deal with the day to day problems of children with incarcerated parents.

Outreach to the Caregiver family which is struggling to hold the family circle together while dealing with the trauma of incarceration

Education to the Community which would inform families that this help is necessary and available

The planting of seeds of awareness that spread and grow in Phila. Communities so that negative concepts of incarceration are lessened, children are nurtured to express their emotions and families are not stigmatized.

4. ***Finding employment, vocational and educational opportunities*** for those who are transitioning, those who are in pre-trial and those who are still suffering the effects of mass incarceration regardless of the length of time they have been freed. Employment at living wage jobs that encourages returning citizens to maintain their course and not deviate back into criminal patterns due to necessity. Training in fields that allow growth and development while providing stipends to function on. Apprenticeships in union positions which are not just jobs but careers. Promotion of higher educational opportunities while linking service , tutors, childcare and all the essentials for success.
5. ***Providing mentoring and support services*** for formerly incarcerated individuals and families in conjunction with a network of responsive organizations. Mentoring by formerly incarcerated men and women who are dedicated to freedom and pledge to never live in cages again. Support services for the entire family so that all those who were harmed by mass incarceration can heal and move forward as a family and community.
6. ***Provide case management and support*** for persons on probation and defend them against probation agents, judges and courts who do not understand the difficulty of transition, often do not care about each individual, and are insensitive to reality. Defense needs to be provided against all those who seek to limit freedom and impact the transition of Returning Citizens. The TCRC Healing and Transformation Center will provide skilled assistance in all areas of the struggle to sustain freedom.
7. ***Provide documented outcomes*** of the work in progress. Employment, education and vocational training results, referrals to necessary services, documenting of the progress of children of incarcerated parents, at risk youth and all program participants with analysis of performance, and measurement models to secure additional funding from local , state, and federal levels.

TCRC Philly has been a dynamic mechanism for change from its inception, encouraging support within the community and advocating for criminal and for probation reform. As an organization we would like to partner with the entities that are supporting this effort and include the work of the TCRC Healing and Transformation Center in the process. There are definite needs that exist in communities across Philly. Probation Reform is an

essential part of the equation. In Philadelphia DA Krasner has begun the process by seeking to limit it to three years in all cases. Legislation in the PA house and Senate must be pushed that spreads this across the state, creates change and fosters awareness of the damage the current system causes. This will begin to lay the foundation. Yet to create change, conditions must be attacked at the street level, the community level. It is not enough to talk about what needs to be done, or push laws that say what should be the reality, it is important to create the reality. That is what TCRC is doing on a daily basis and seeks to expand via the Community Healing and Transformation Center.

The purpose of this document is to begin a collaboration of finance and philosophy, resources and reality based work. It is to present the City of Philadelphia and the allies who wish to create change; a blueprint. This presentation is a solid proposal, a budget, a project that truly impacts Philadelphia, which is not only sustainable but can be a model of Criminal Justice Reform across the country.

*Alternative Funding Development Plan to sustain Operations*

This proposal is for a three year period in which alternative forms of revenue are established in order to fund the TCRC Healing and Transformation Center wholly independent of outside resources.

These revenue streams are outlined in additional Documents.

1. ***Family Journeys***: Transportation System For Families to visit incarcerated loved ones in Pa. DOC facilities. (56 Passenger Bus)
2. ***Goodwill Industries Clothing Collection Program***. Placing of computerized clothing bins that will signal TCRC when full, for pick-up at 10 Church locations across Philadelphia, Montgomery, Bucks & Delaware Counties. More locations to be added as program expands. Goodwill Industries compensates TCRC collection program at the rate of .20 per lb. Truck Delivery to NJ collection site.
3. ***TCRC Movers*** In between the pick-ups and clothing collection drop offs TCRC Movers will utilize the 26 ft Hydraulic lift truck to do commercial and residential moving.
4. ***TCRC Healthy Living Food Market and Lunch Carts***. In conjunction with “Get Healthy Philly” development of prototype food market in North Philadelphia to encourage nutritious, healthy food consumption patterns for impacted communities. Soul food carts featuring low sodium halal-friendly menus @ high density North Philadelphia locations ( Broad & Erie Broad & Lehigh Temple: Broad & Cecil B Moore

Peace Power & Respect

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