



Homeward Bound

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Volunteer Job Description 2nd Chance Mentor

Major Role:

To serve as a mentor to an inmate who is making the transition from incarceration to an independent lifestyle.

Major Responsibilities:

- To provide friendship, support and inspiration to the mentee with whom you have been matched.
- To work as a part of a team in conjunction with the 2nd Chance Program Coordinator, Case Manager, Prison Staff and representatives community agencies to help your mentee reenter society with as strong a foundation as is possible.
- To motivate and help your mentee learn how to help themselves.
- To encourage your mentee to make his/her own decisions and to walk he/she through the possible consequences.
- To assist your mentee in accomplishing and refining the tangible skills needed in daily living such as parenting, budgeting, maintenance; and apartment or job searching.
- To assist your mentee in the development of intangible skills such as problem solving and assertiveness as well as helping in the development of self-esteem and self-confidence.
- To be willing to share you experiences and ideals with your mentee.
- To be available to your mentee when a listening ear is needed.
- To be willing to commit yourself to a one year relationship with a person re-entering the community who has been incarcerated.
- To meet with or contact your mentee on a regular basis.
- To fill out reports needed by the 2nd Chance Mentoring Program Coordinator.
- To attend training, case manager meeting, and mentor/mentee social experiences.

Benefits:

- An opportunity to help and become friends with a person transitioning from incarceration to the Macon County area.
- An opportunity to become acquainted with the prison system.
- An opportunity to become more active in the network of helping social services.
- An opportunity to become acquainted with other volunteers.

Qualifications:

- To be an emotionally stable and mature person with a sincere interest in helping a person transition effectively into their communities.
- To be willing to learn and have time to invest in this program.

Training:

- An orientation will familiar to cover the basic of the program and the partner agencies, Homeward Bound, Illinois Department of Corrections, Richland Community College, Project Read and BI-Spotlight.
- A training program offered by Richland Community College to acquaint you with the program as well as the issues of incarceration and of women who have spent time within the prison system.
- Ongoing training sessions and events which have the purpose of allowing the volunteers the opportunity to delve deeper into some of the issues impacting on the inmates in question.

Time Commitment:

- A commitment to the program which will include initial and ongoing training and a background check waiting period.
- Mentor support meeting and on-going support reports.
- A one year commitment to a mentee which will include personal and telephone contact.