

# IAHV PRISON PROGRAM

## Annual Report

Freedom from Within

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In collaboration with



## SUMMARY

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2020 was overshadowed by a worldwide pandemic that put every correctional institution nation wide and worldwide on lockdown that still has not lifted. The number of COVID19 cases were 4 times that of those outside of corrections. This has put an extra strain on all corrections staff and inmates. Not many know the stress on everyone involved or consider the importance of staff mental & physical health to rehabilitation and safety.

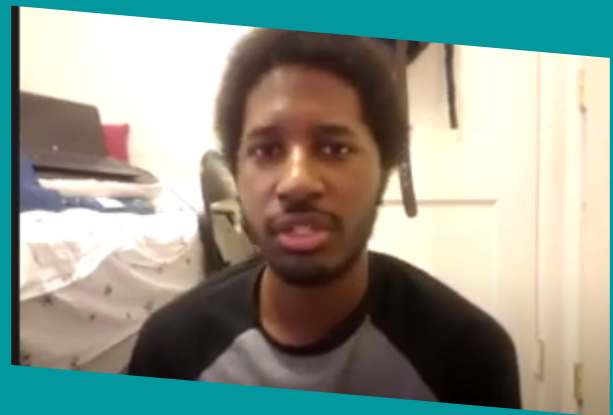
## STRESS MANAGEMENT TRAINING

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The IAHV & Art of Living Prison Program launched ONLINE sessions, that could even be done from home, immediately to corrections staff. Over 18 courses were taught at all hours of the day and night, several times a month, to reach as many people as possible.

A correctional officer shares his experience after doing the IAHV Prison Program online during COVID <https://youtu.be/bk6wBnmP8-Q>



The IAHV Prison Program looked to reach the many people in our communities that have been system-involved. We forged partnerships with organizations who assist these individuals and their families. We conducted online courses through You First Medical, the Women's Wing, and the Parole Project.

Testimonial from our Community Partners Program

[https://youtu.be/rCd2\\_Hlqmcs](https://youtu.be/rCd2_Hlqmcs)

## STRESS MANAGEMENT TRAINING (contd...)

Most facilities haven't gone virtual yet, so we found a way to do online programming for inmates. The IAHV Prison Program found 3 facilities that were able to arrange for inmates to do the program via Zoom, and we immediately started delivering. In all three detention facilities the inmates participated fully, and had immediate and extremely positive experiences of stress relief and hope for the first time since March.

Online Course Experience by an Inmate -

<https://youtu.be/d98BGKwG2Bg>



## COVID-19 PREVENTION

The IAHV Prison Program partnered to deliver 20,000 much needed COVID masks to US prisons and at-risk communities. The IAHV Prison Program partnered with the eShakti company to get donated masks to correctional facilities and community programs where many people don't have access to masks. In some facilities people were using home-made masks. So far, 12 different US prisons and organizations have gratefully received the mask donations, thanks to the partnership between the IAHV Prison Program and eShakti.



# LETTERS OF COMMENDATION



Office of the Sheriff  
Parish of Orleans ~ State of Louisiana

Marlin N. Gusman  
Sheriff

November 9, 2020

Gabriella Savelli  
IAHV Prison Program

Dear Ms. Savelli,

Early on in this pandemic, the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office implemented several measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, including, but not limited to, deep cleaning facilities, boosting the stockpile of personal protective equipment, testing all staff, contractors and inmates, and issuing masks to inmates.

We have completed 6 mass testing's of our staff and inmates. In our last mass testing, we had only one positive COVID-19 case out of more than 800 employees and contractors tested! We're continuing our efforts, but we must not let down our guard. I'm committed to mandatory mass testing and mask wearing at the Sheriff's Office.

That's why your donation of 1,400 masks is so important to our efforts. It helps us to sustain the fight against COVID-19 for the long haul. Thank you and your partners for thinking of the Sheriff's Office; and for being a valued community partner helping us to stop the community spread of the virus.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Marlin N. Gusman  
Sheriff

MNG/ps/dcb



October 8, 2020

eShakti

Dear Sirs;

On behalf of The Word Church, and its' Prison & Reentry Ministry, it is with overwhelming gratitude to eShakti for your thoughtful gift of 1,000 face masks in support of our "PROJECT 1000"!

Please accept this letter of acknowledgement of receipt of the masks today, October 8, 2020.

Each year, over 20,000 prisoners released from Ohio prisons and most with only the clothes on their backs and barely enough money for bus ticket back home.

Because of your gift "PROJECT 1000" will provide essential face coverings helping 1,000 returning citizens with a measure of safety during this unprecedented time of COVID-19.

The Word Church, Prison & Reentry Ministry relies on the generosity of donors such as yourself and is grateful for your support.

Continue to pray for us as we strive toward the worthy goal of the Gospel found at Matthew 25: 31.

Sincerely,

Darella E. Motley, Director  
Prison & Reentry Ministry

[wordcity.org](http://wordcity.org)



STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Claire DeMatteis  
Commissioner

November 2, 2020

Gabriella Savelli  
US Director Prison SMART  
International Association for Human Values

Dear Ms. Savelli,

The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) is writing to thank the Prison SMART Program of the International Association for Human Values and the eShakti company for its recent donation of cloth masks. These masks are being distributed to community based organizations in Delaware that serve individuals exiting the prison system. We are also providing a supply of these masks to each correctional facility to distribute to prison visitors and to the inmates who are exiting the facility. We are grateful for the generosity of eShakti and the support of your organization to coordinate the provision of the masks. This will be an important asset to the State of Delaware in mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you again!

Best regards,

Joanna Champney  
Chief of Planning



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Corrections  
Division of Rehabilitative Services  
Institutional Programs & Services

December 2, 2020

Gabriella Savelli  
US Director IAHV Prison Program  
International Association for Human Values

Dear Gabriella,

The purpose of this letter is to thank you, IAHV, and eShakti for your assistance in helping us combat the spread of Covid-19 within our department, and to acknowledge the delivery of 2,000 masks graciously provided by eShakti.

The masks were immediately provided to our women's facility for distribution to our entire female offender population. The facility's management, staff, and inmates all appreciate the thoughtfulness of this gesture and efforts especially in consideration of the situation we all face.

I look forward to continuing our relationship and working towards the common goal of eliminating the many barriers faced by our population allowing them to live free and productive lives.

Please feel free to contact if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Ken Findlay  
Interdepartmental Project Manager



## JUSTICE ARTS COALITION FEATURE

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The Justice Arts Coalition held a special event to feature the IAHV Prison Program's transformational work with women. It featured the world premier of a photo research project done with women in two separate prisons who participated in the breathing meditation program.



World Premier Photo Project

 **PRISON PROGRAM**  
STRESS MANAGEMENT AND  
REHABILITATION TRAINING

PRESENTS

# FREEDOM FROM WITHIN

INCARCERATED WOMEN  
PHOTO & VIDEO PREMIER

SPECIAL ONLINE EVENT  
THU, AUGUST 13, 2020  
4:00PM EDT

The **BEFORE** photo  
Join us to see the transformation

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!

CONTACT US:

888-673-8999

[info@prisonprogram.org](mailto:info@prisonprogram.org)