



The Center for Community Transitions
building people, not prisons since 1974

2022

Annual Report



A Part of Something Greater...

2022 Reflections

Patrice L. Funderburg, MS
Executive Director

*"We are each other's harvest;
we are each other's business;
we are each other's magnitude
and bond."*

~ **Gwendolyn Brooks**

If there was one thing that stood out during FY22, it was a profound realization that CCT is a part of something much bigger than our strategy,

action plans, or day-to-day programming. Of course, these things are a necessary part of running the business of CCT. Our ability to make an impact is equally linked to the people and families who enroll in our programs, our staff who make it possible, and our supporters and partners that invest in the agency. Each reminds us that we are a part of something much bigger.

If we are each other's harvest, we nurture one another, and being a part of something bigger in FY22 meant nurturing partnerships and cultivating new ones that connect our work to the growing network of change makers who are creating momentum to shift systems of inequity at the intersection of lived experience and successful reentry for the formerly incarcerated and those impacted by the criminal legal system.

- ▶ We nurtured our relationship with NC Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) to expand **behavioral health** services to prepare 47 women for release from our Center for Women.
- ▶ We nurtured our partnership with **Newell Presbyterian Church**, to radically reimagine the way Families Doing Time (FDT) delivers programming to over 150 children and families affected by incarceration.
- ▶ We nurtured our new partnership with **SHRM Foundation's Getting Talent Back to Work** initiative to help 299 LifeWorks! employment readiness graduates find employment while also encouraging Charlotte businesses to become more active in second chance hiring.
- ▶ We pioneered a new partnership with 'leading with lived experience' partner, **Freedom Fighting Missionaries**, to provide resources and assistance to CCT clients navigating barriers to affordable housing.
- ▶ We nurtured new partnerships that allowed CCT to become a more active voice in the **national dialogue** on criminal justice reform.

Indeed, we are each other's harvest. What resonates most about Brooks quote above is that she, a Black woman in America, understood the power of one raised voice to challenge inequity and speak truth to power affects everyone else and vice-versa.

FY22 reminded us that we are quite literally "each other's business" and by nurturing collaborations rooted in collective oneness, we are on the right path to Charlotte becoming a best practice city for second chances.





Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health provides Center for Women residents personalized support through client-centered treatment grounded in compassion and personal accountability. Based on the individual needs and concerns throughout a resident's stay at CCT, the program seeks to offer mental and emotional healing with a focus on preparing for a successful transition.

- 400+** Individual therapy sessions
- 150+** Case management sessions
- 93%** Residents attended individual therapy
- 29** Residents completed five or more sessions
- 83%** Reported at least one goal met and/or mood improved
- 79** Children benefited

"Miss Joanna has been a true blessing while I have been at CCT. I will never forget the impact she has made on my life. It is because of her support and guidance that I have reconnected with my children after years of no contact. Thank you, Miss Joana."

~ **Melanie Gordon**
Center for Women Resident



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Joanna Patcha, LCSW
Director of Behavioral Health

Tool: Mood Meter

The mood meter, created by Yale professor Marc Brackett, PhD., consists of four quadrants representing different emotional states. To download the mood meter, [click here](#).

LOW PLEASANTNESS ←				
DISGUSTED	GLUM	DISAPPOINTED	DOWN	APATHETIC
PESSIMISTIC	MOROSE	DISCOURAGED	SAD	BORED
ALIENATED	MISERABLE	LONELY	DISHEARTENED	TIRED
DESPONDENT	DEPRESSED	SULLEN	EXHAUSTED	FATIGUED
DESPAIR	HOPELESS	DESOLATE	SPENT	DRAINED
↓ LOW ENERGY				

Click on the video to learn about Joanna's journey from volunteer to Director of Behavior Health.

"The mood meter has been a strategic starting point to support residents in understanding their moods. Once they are aware, we explore what is driving their mood and if it is where the person wants to be. If not, we develop a plan to move out of it?"



The goal is to make this tool and practice a part of "every-day life."

"I love what I do at CCT. My work at LifeWorks! allows me to help motivate and restore hope in people who oftentimes have stopped believing in themselves because they feel like the world doesn't believe in them. When I don't feel like getting up to come to work, I remember the look on a client's face as they begin to accomplish their goals. Seeing that look again and again makes me grateful to be a part of..."

~ **Sherina Richard**
Program Director
LifeWorks!

"First off, I want to thank all the team and staff with CCT and LifeWorks! for understanding the need for a second chance at life. The time I had was amazing and fun. It really served me well in my process. Much gratitude and you all are truly a blessing to me. I can't thank you guys, and ladies enough for the support and constructive criticism to help me in this process.

Life is amazing I must add. I'm actually happy for once in this life. The utmost respect with blessings for all of you."

~ **Draper Laney**
LifeWorks! Client



LifeWorks!

LW! provides people with criminal records the resources and tools necessary to reach their personal and professional goals through second chance employment trainings and opportunities.

299 Men & Women	 Graduated	 Employed
178 Employment Readiness Participants	76%	80%
140 Working Smart Participants	73%	94%
Soft Skills Training		
146 Networking Participants		
98% Did Not Recidivate		
22 Formerly Incarcerated Transition (FIT) Program Participants		
FIT connects those with chronic disease and mental health challenges to healthcare and re-entry services.		



Dr. Evan Ashkin, Director of NC FIT, talks about the partnership with CCT and the program. To learn more, read the SAMHSA Gains Center article [here](#).

Second Chance Employer Spotlight

ALSCO *"Working with CCT has been a delightful experience. Paul Torres has assisted AlSCO in our recruiting/hiring efforts by presenting us with many qualified candidates who have sustained a career with us. On behalf of AlSCO, we are thankful for the ongoing professional relationship that has been established with The Center for Community Transitions. We look forward to further success!" Learn more about AlSCO [here](#).*

~ **Hannah Manu**, AlSCO



Families Doing Time

FDT improves social emotional learning and reading literacy of children affected by incarceration, and strengthens family resilience through caregiver support groups.

315 Third Tuesday Participants

Men, Women and Children attended monthly family gatherings from October to May. Third Tuesday offers families resources and social emotional support to strengthen families and decrease social isolation. Families enjoy a night of bonding, arts and culture, great food, community building, and family-friendly fun.

39 Average number of attendees per event

"I'm thankful for the Families Doing Time Program. When my birth family was in danger of being separated, my Mom's friend stepped in and kept us together. If Wendy wouldn't have picked me up that night, I wouldn't be with my siblings today. When I go to the Third Tuesday events, my family spends so much time together and we feel a part of an even bigger family. I am happy to be a part of a program that works to keep families together because my family is everything to me."

~ **Deyanira Cruz**
Program Participant



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Matthew D. Conner, Pastor
Newell Presbyterian Church

Pastor Matt Conner of Newell Presbyterian Church, talks about their partnership with FDT.

"My journey in this agency began when I did my University internship. Then, I had the opportunity to work hand to hand with Hispanic families. During these years, I have realized that speaking the same language the family speaks is beneficial for them. First, because they can access our activities and services; second, they are comfortable asking questions and comments; third, they know that language is not a barrier to being part of our program. I feel happy to be part of something bigger, part of the programs that CCT is doing in the city of Charlotte."

~ **Erika Osorio**
Program Assistant
Families Doing Time



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Shaheedah Jackson
Center for Women, Resident

Shaheedah Jackson talks about how FDT helped her family.



Center for Women

The Center for Women provides women, with 3 years or less left of their prison sentences, the supports and resources to successfully transition back into our community.

- 47** Women served from
- 30** Different counties in NC
- 13** African-American
- 30** Caucasian
- 02** Multi Ethnic
- 46** Average age
- 42** Mothers of **94** children (26 younger than age 18)

"The last 12 years of my life at CCT have gone by fast. I believe it's because working for CCT does not feel like a job and this kind of work fills my cup. Being a part of a mission that provides support and resources for those impacted by incarceration has changed me more than it has changed my clients."

"Our clients are a walking miracle with all that they have endured in their lives. It's not just about the criminal background, it's about the story behind the story that landed them in prison. I'm proud to be a part of an organization who cares to listen and learn from their clients."

~ **Delilah M. Montalvo**
Program Director
Center for Women

"I'm proving that I am more than what my crime was."

~ **Kory**
Resident, Center for Women



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Delilah M. Montalvo
Program Director, Center for Women

Delilah M. Montalvo, Center for Women Program Director, talks about the program and how it is part of something greater.



The Center for Community Transitions
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I'm proving that I am more than what my crime was.

~ Kory



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Kory
Center for Women

"We are transitioning to where we are free."

~ **Yanaula**
Resident, Center for Women

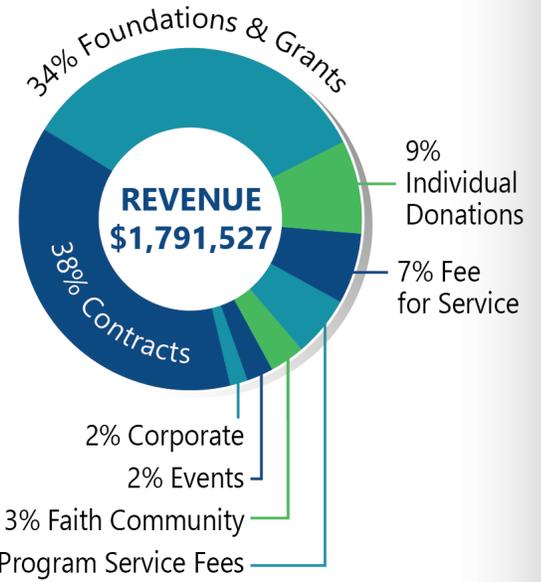
Kory, Deb, Yanaula and Veronica, Center for Women residents, talk about rebuilding their lives



building people, not prisons

Administrative Office
 P.O. Box 33533
 Charlotte, NC 28233
 (704) 494-0001

Fiscal Year 2022
 (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022)



LifeWorks!

LifeWorks! provides people with criminal records the resources and tools necessary to reach their personal and professional goals through second chance employment trainings and opportunities.

Families Doing Time

Families Doing Time strengthens family resilience, improves social-emotional learning and reading literacy of children affected by incarceration

Center for Women

Center for Women provides women, with 3 years or less left of their state prison sentences, the supports and resources to successfully transition back into the community.

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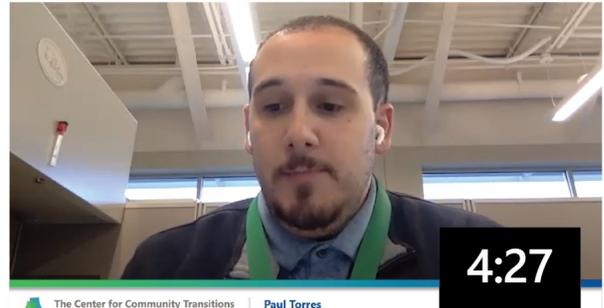
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Erika Osorio
Families Doing Time Program Assistant

Erika Osorio, Families Doing Time Program Assistant, talks about ensuring that Spanish speaking families can participate in programs.

A Part of Something Greater!



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Paul Torres
LifeWorks! Job Developer

Paul Torres, LifeWorks! Job Developer, talks about the importance of getting talent back to work through second chance employment.



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Deborah Rose, LifeWorks!
Community Health Worker & Certified Peer Support Specialist

Deborah Rose, LifeWorks! Community Health Worker, talks about moving beyond the stigma of incarceration.



(704) 494-0001 P.O. Box 33533, Charlotte, NC 28233 centerforcommunitytransitions.org