

# THE CENTER FOR WOMEN

The Center for Women is one of three major programs at The Center for Community Transitions (formerly known as ECO), a nonprofit in Charlotte, NC serving people with criminal records and their families. The Center for Women has been in operation for 30 years. We are a 30 bed residential transition unit that is part of the NC Department of Public Safety. Females in NC who are completing the final 12-36 months of their prison sentences come to the center to begin the reentry process and adjust to returning to the community.



## OUR FACILITY

The Center for Women is a family-friendly building set up much like a dormitory. We have 15 bedrooms and 30 beds. There is an industrial kitchen and a large dining room, a small salon, two commons areas with TVs and games, an elliptical, basketball hoop, and a furnished porch for relaxation and conversation. There is a computer lab onsite for education and job searches.

## VISITORS

Family and friend visitations are welcomed at The Center for Women. Our residents may reserve either commons room for visitations or may share a meal with visitors in our dining room. Visitors are allowed to bring (preapproved) food and gifts. We have games available for kids, and families are also welcome to use the basketball hoop together!

If you have children who live too far away to visit, our Families Doing Time program may be able to help set up video call sessions so that you can enjoy a virtual visit.

## FAMILY DAY

Each year some of our fabulous volunteers coordinate one or two family days. Family Days are usually carnival-like outdoor events where our residents and their families can enjoy a fun day of activities together including face painting, nail art, games, food, and more. It is a great opportunity for family bonding.





# OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

## Work Release

All residents are required to find full time employment and participate in our work release program. Many of our residents continue to work at the same place when they are released, often receiving promotions. Other residents have the skills and work experience they gained during work release to start their own businesses or begin a career.

## LifeWorks!

All of our residents are required to also go through CCT’s employment readiness program at LifeWorks! prior to beginning work. This program will assist you with developing your professional and personal brand, give you practice at interviewing and answering questions about your record, resume assistance, job search assistance, and much more.

## Family Assistance

If you have minor children residing in Mecklenburg County our Families Doing Time program has a variety of activities they and their current caregivers can participate in for support, enrichment, and fun. Families Doing Time can also assist with case management for your family if they are in need.

## Financial Literacy

You will have the opportunity to take financial literacy courses while at CCT. You can also begin paying restitution and fines, get help with restoring your credit, and obtain a state ID.

## Education Assistance/Study Release

If you would like to take classes to work towards a new degree or boost your skills we have an education fund that can assist with paying for classes and you will be allowed to attend classes locally. Several residents have obtained advanced degrees.

## Community Volunteer Sponsors

Our CV Sponsors are dedicated volunteers who will take you out into the community for religious services, AA/NA meetings, shopping trips, museums, and more.

## Support and Counseling Services

You are more than your past! We recognize that in addition to finding employment and all of the logistics of reentry, you may have personal issues that you want to address. We have community partners that provide counseling free of charge. We also have an in house support group called Seeking Safety to help cope with trauma and substance abuse. Additionally, our supportive staff is available to lend a listening ear and help you with problem solving and difficult situations.

*If you would like to apply, please see your case manager for an application.*

# ACTIVITIES

There’s always something going on at the Center for Women whether it be a holiday party, game night, or a special volunteer activity. We’ve had book clubs, movie nights, arts and craft lessons, and so much more on site. We also have a couple of off-site events every year that residents can sign up for and attend.

# RESPONSIBILITIES

Part of being a resident at CCT is accepting some responsibilities. They include:

- Monthly per diem
- Must find employment (we’ll help you!)
- House chores
- Respect towards housemates and staff
- Follow house rules and attend monthly house meetings
- Good conduct in the community while on work release and study release

# ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST

- ☐ Minimum III & work release approved
- ☐ Social Security Card on file
- ☐ Medically cleared by facility & acuity 1a
- ☐ Between 12 & 36 months of PRD
- ☐ 6 months infraction free
- ☐ Case plan compliant
- ☐ No chronic conditions that are not self-manageable
- ☐ Not a sex offender
- ☐ Has GED/diploma/equivalency
- ☐ Complete application/case manager referral
- ☐ No detainers/pending charges