



Sisters Returning Home Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

September 2017

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHT

Parenting Classes

Sisters Returning Home has partnered with Dixon House to provide Parenting Classes in the Northwest Community of Philadelphia. The comprehensive workshop series runs for twelve (12) weeks and completers earn a credentials to show their works to improve parenting skills, strategies and understanding of how their behaviors impact their children. Partnering with the Philadelphia Dixon House, the women are now enrolled in a parenting class. The parenting class entails important building blocks for the women to embody so they will be considered to regain custody of their own children. These building blocks are:

- Ethnic and Cultural Roots
- Parent-Child Relationship
- Parent Modeling and Family and Community Modeling
- Parent Teaching Relationship, Discipline, Society
- Childhood Characteristics
- Violence Free, Healthy Lifestyles
- Various styles of Parenting

The workshop series is open to all female ex-offenders in the community

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CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

Satisfied But Never Content

A Story on Aqila Slade

When a mother is incarcerated, a child is incarcerated. Aqila Slade's top priority is and has been her daughter since being released. To keep her fed, clothed, sheltered and well taken care of Aqila's past actions might have been risky, but all in all her grit and passion for motherhood is what kept her going. Charged with possession and intent to deliver, Aqila went into prison with no fear or stigmas. Her only worry was her daughter's well-being and getting back to her family to resume her life. "I appreciate my freedom," said Aqila. "You never realize how easy it is to get into something until you're having a hard time getting out of it."

Once released, Aqila went into grind mode. Motivated by giving her daughter a positive life, Aqila never allowed herself to fear what was on the outside. Aqila enrolled in the Mentor Program with Sisters Returning Home when she was in transitional housing. With the support of Sisters Returning Home she was able to enroll in Culinary Arts training, secure employment and get her own apartment. Aqila said that in the next 5 years she sees herself with an associate degree in culinary. Times were and can be challenging for her, but she's doing what needs to be done to take responsibility and redeem herself. She also noted that she keeps all negative entities far away and just focuses on the things she loves most and appreciates. "I will never be content. I can be satisfied with my progress but there is always room for improvement, there is always a chance to do better and go further."



A Story on Paulette Carrington

When Paulette learned that she was going home, she stated that she didn't know how to respond. She knew that her re-sentencing was giving her the opportunity to be with her family and friends again and a chance at life but she still had some uncertainty. Upon parole Paulette was referred to Sisters Returning Home Mentor program. Sisters returning home taught her how to take public transportation, how to use a cell phone, supported her with personal items and transportation cost to get around. As the first Juvenile Lifer released on parole she has had a lot of people that wanted to talk to her and have her share about what happened that caused her incarceration and how she feels now that she is released; but Sisters Returning Home has been with her through everything.

She is now working with Uplift Solutions and Enon Baptist Church to secure employment with Shoprite. Paulette stated that she really likes stock because she likes to organize things and keep busy. She is so excited about the opportunities and all of the love and support she has had." No other company walked her through the process with me. They just said go here and be there by a certain time and that was very stressful, but Ms. Peggy or Ms. Anita answered the phone every time and helped me."

NEW COMMUNITY PARTNER

We are excited about the new partnerships with our local Career Link that have been an awesome experience for the women and our team.

Through our partnership with PA Career Link the ladies are getting the assistance they need with seeking employment. They have developed resume, meet with several employers and secured employment. The team at the Germantown Career Link has supported the ladies with professional dress attire and assisted with transportation to and from interviews. This has been an awesome start to a new relationship that we look forward to continuing.



UP COMING EVENTS

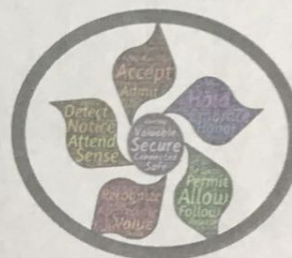
OCTOBER START DATES

FEMALE RETURNING CITIZENS 10 WEEK HOSPITALITY TRAINING & CERTIFICATION



Parenting Classes
Once a week for
12 weeks
12:00 – 2:00

Call today to Register

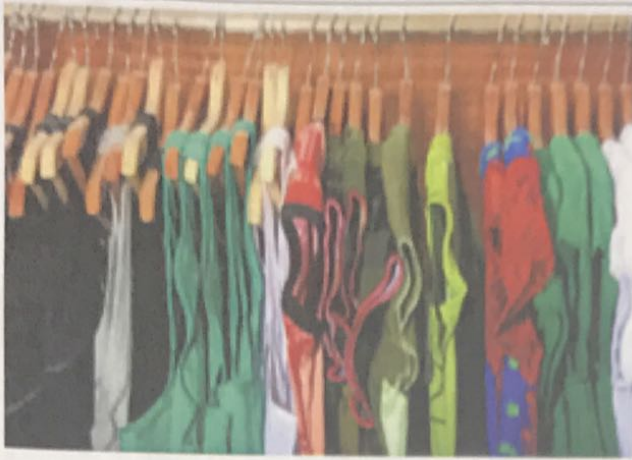


ANNUAL HELP FAIR

NOVEMBER 9, 2017

- Resources
- Employers
- and more ...

*Canaan Baptist Church
5430 Pulaski Avenue
Fellowship Hall*



**Clothing Closet at
Canaan Family Life Center**

Tuesdays – Thursday
10am- 1pm
302 W. Schoolhouse Lane
Philadelphia, PA. 19144
215-848-2290

Volunteer!

Sisters Returning Home is seeking
volunteers
with experience in the following fields:

Mentors

Retired Educators

Mentor Coordinator

Grant Writing

Please call (215.900-4202) or send an email
to: operations@sistersreturninghome.org

Sharing your experience and knowledge is
one of the greatest gifts you can give.

Road Not Taken

By Robert Frost

*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;*

*Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that passing there
Had worn them really about the same,*

*And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.*

*I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.*