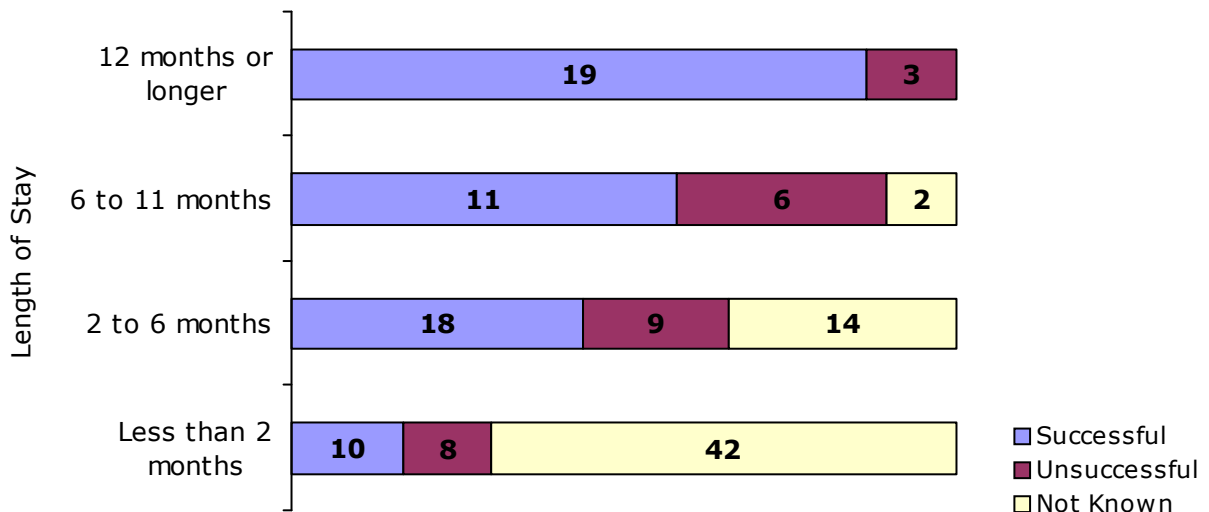




Helping Dysfunctional Men Bridge the Gap to a Productive Life

Success of Students in The Bridge Ministry Program

November 2000 through February 2005
Based on 142 Students



By February 2005, after more than fifty months in operation, The Bridge Ministry's Buckingham program had served 142 men. Those who have completed at least the initial twelve-month program have evidenced an 86% rate of success. Though applicants are told in advance that the program places high expectations on them, many do not remain with the program longer than two months. Among those who do not complete the program but who make it past the two-month period, almost half have demonstrated a successful transition back into the community.

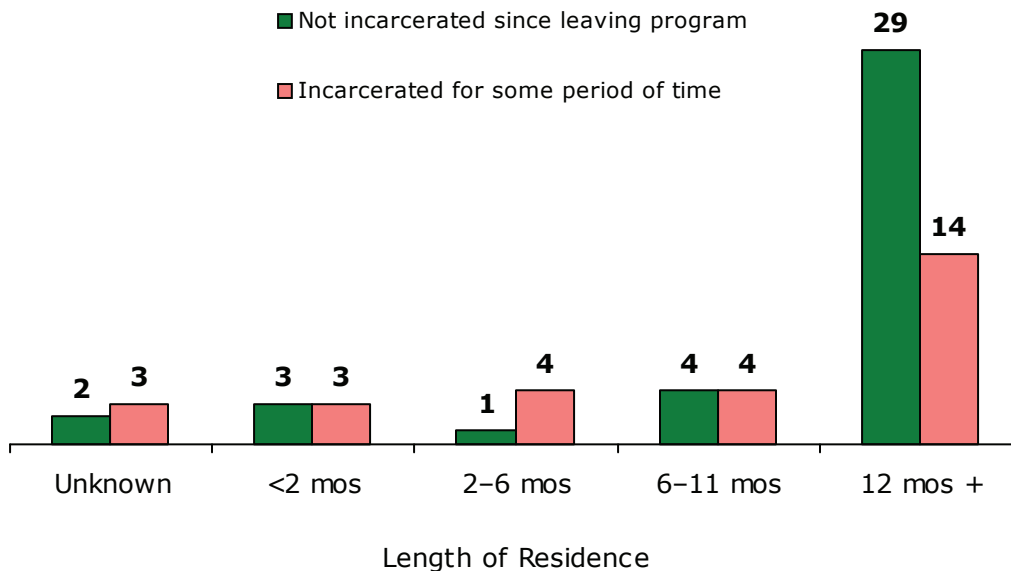
To receive a copy of our most recent annual report or our updated guide for legal professionals, contact our Charlottesville office at 434/293-0499.



Bridge Graduates Show Marked Improvement

Decline in Recidivism for Bridge Ministry Students

Based on 67 Previously Incarcerated Students, 2005–2010



Two out of three previously incarcerated Bridge Ministry graduates (students who have stayed in the program for at least twelve months or longer) surveyed have not been incarcerated since finishing the program. A total of 34 out of 67 previously incarcerated residents have not faced any jail time after being out of the program and on their own for an average of about two years.

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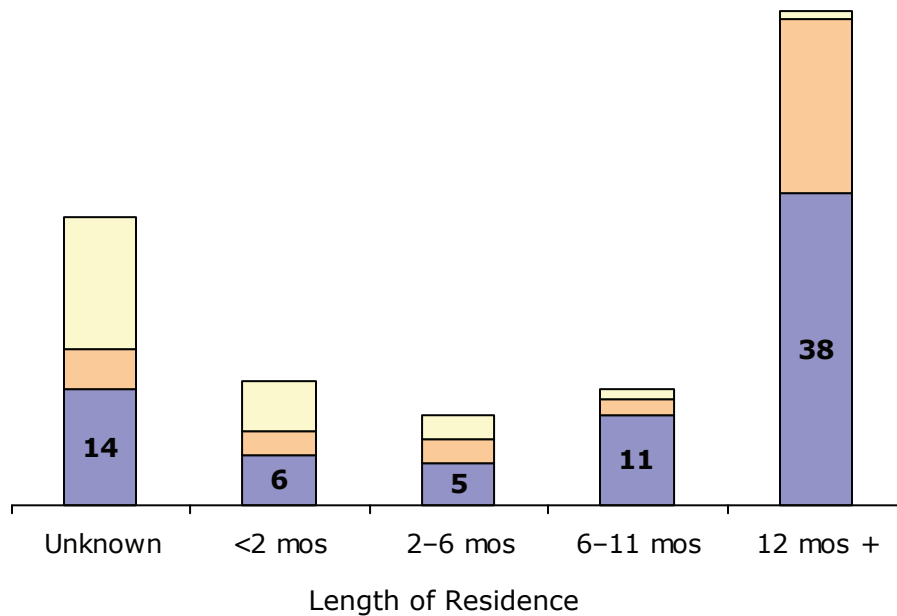


New Survey Indicates Dramatic Program Growth

Students Not Using Drugs or Alcohol

Based on 135 Bridge Ministry Residents (2005–2010)

■ Free from Addiction ■ Not Free from Addiction □ No information



Almost seven out of ten students who participated in the Bridge Ministry program for six months or more report they are free from addiction. More than half of all students entering the Bridge stay for at least that length of time, almost double the percentage from our first survey five years ago. About four out of ten students who begin the program stay at least twelve months, triple the proportion from our earlier years.

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2010 Survey Results Summary

In the summer of 2010, we conducted an informal phone survey of 135 former Bridge Ministry students who participated in the program during the previous five years. The former student or a close relative was asked a series of questions designed to ascertain their success in transitioning from the program back into life in their community. For those students who were unable to be contacted by phone, anecdotal information was supplied by the executive director when he had recent knowledge about them.

There were several encouraging findings:

Stability

At least 60 out of 135 students had stayed in the Bridge Ministry program for twelve months or longer, a period of time in which many students can be considered graduates of the program. This rate of retention was triple the rate found in our 2005 survey, indicating a greater stability in the program as a whole, which potentially offers a greater chance of success for all students who participate in the program.

Recidivism

Two out of three formerly incarcerated graduates of the program had not been re-incarcerated since finishing the program. Thirty-four of these men had been out of the program for an average of about two years, and some had been on their own more than twice that long.

Sobriety

Almost seven out of ten students who participated in the Bridge Ministry program for six months or more report that they are free from addiction. Overall, 74 out of 135 students reported they were no longer using drugs or alcohol, a one-third increase from our first survey.

We find these results encouraging, but are also striving to see where we might continue to make improvements. Though more than twice the number of graduates were maintaining sobriety compared to those surveyed in 2005, there were still several students who had been in the program twelve months or longer who still indicated they were struggling with their addiction. One of our next challenges is to seek additional ways we might be able to help this group of people make a successful and lasting transition back into the community.