

# *HOPE*

## *ADDICTION PRISON MINISTRIES*

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### *THE BELIZE and ALLENDALE PRISON PROJECTS*

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#### *THE BELIZE PROJECT*

The **BELIZE PROJECT** consists of initiating 12 Step Recovery Programs (Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, and Emotions Anonymous) to inmates at the Belize Central Prison in the country of Belize, Central America. The 12 Step Program is a spiritually based recovery program leading the individual toward physical, mental, and spiritual recovery from addiction. The second phase of the project is to expand 12 Step Programs to communities thru the help and support of local churches, the community, and the government. The final phase (final only because of financing needs) is to establish an "After Care" program where inmates upon release would matriculate for skill learning, continued 12 Step support groups, Bible Study and discipleship, and advanced education in order to return back into society as a recovered, productive individual. Five to six trips are made each year consisting of 7-10 days.

This ministry began in 2004 and now has the total inmate population of over 1500 inmates (male, female, and youth) exposed to addiction awareness training with 400 inmates involved in daily volunteer 12 Step Recovery Programs conducted by the inmates. A Rehabilitation Center has also been built on the prison grounds and houses 150 inmates who are under intensive recovery programs for three months and then either released or returned to the general prison population. If released, it is hoped these inmates will set up further 12 Step Recovery Programs in their local communities and help prevent addicts from becoming incarcerated. If returned to the general prison population, they are used as leaders of 12 Step Programs within the prison.

Further 12 Step Programs are being conducted by the National Abuse Control Council (NDACC) under the direction of the Ministry of Health who I am involved with in

the teaching and training of addiction awareness, behavior, and recovery programs.

Belize is the second most incarcerated country in the world and number one in the Caribbean with drug, alcohol and emotional addictions being the major cause. The recovery programs are aimed at reducing addiction, improving recovery, and preventing individuals from incarceration.

### ***ALLENDALE PROJECT***

In 2007 a second recovery ministry was established at the Allendale Correctional Institute in Fairfax, SC. The same template, program objectives, and procedures used in Belize were followed. Allendale has 1600 inmates with a large population of addictive inmates. Addiction awareness programs are made available to all inmates and volunteer 12 Step Meetings are conducted weekly but now expanding.

A new program of establishing one complete prison dormitory as a special CHARACTER BUILDING UNIT (CBU) which inmates volunteer to enter under a “contract” of behavior governed by inmates with oversight and review by prison management quarterly. The purpose is to provide a transition between structured prison life and life in the “outside world” upon release. Twelve Step Programs and Addiction Awareness are a major part of this program as are general life learning skills needed to operate in the world outside prison. Hope Ministry has been a major contributor to this program by supplying volunteers to teach and instruct. We now have 10 volunteers with more interested who volunteer their time and resources to the CBU program. This program began October 1, 2011 and is off to very successful start and hopefully will continue to expand into more such units. I travel to Allendale 6 times a month ministering these programs with the other volunteers traveling weekly, monthly, or quarterly. .

### ***FUNDING***

All materials literature, DVD's, and training aids are supplied by HOPE. The biggest cost is the cost of the books for the 12 Step Programs for Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Emotions Anonymous (EA). These three books have an average cost of \$10.00 each with the need in Belize for each book to be in English and Spanish. We try to provide one book for each participant in the meetings since each individual participates in the reading and sharing on the reading. Of course, the more successful we are the greater the needs for materials. The budget for 2012 for materials is \$10,000.

Hope Addiction Prison Ministry is under the 501c of St. Luke's Church Foundation. All funds collected are turned over to the Foundation and are disbursed only upon receipt of a fully detailed and receipted Expense Report. An annual audit is conducted. All donations and gifts are requested to be sent to:

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Upon receipt, funds are recorded and forwarded to St. Luke's Foundation. This enables a cross check of received and disbursed funds. Checks should be made payable to: ST. LUKE'S FOUNDATION OF HILTON HEAD with HOPE ADDICTION PRISON MINISTRY noted in the "Memo" section.

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