

Place  
Stamp  
Here



3968 E. Main Street

Whitehall, Ohio 43213

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY SERVICES PRESENTS:



TEACHING OPPORTUNITY UNITY BY CONNECTING HEARTS

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# Beauty from Pain

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY SERVICES PRESENTS:



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## Women's Mentoring Program

T.O.U.C.H. | 3968 E. Main Street | Whitehall, OH 43213

Ph: 614.338.8733 | Fax: 614.338.8743

# T.O.U.C.H. Mentoring Program

**TOUCH** offers a uniquely designed mentoring program for recently released individuals. The mentoring aspects include 12 curriculum-based **TALK SESSIONS** dealing with issues (in discussion format) which ex-offenders must learn to conquer.

**Nine of the issues to be addressed include:**

- Productive Time Management
- Dealing with Difficult People
- Redeveloping Social Skills
- Family Relationships
- Overcoming Stereotypes
- Self-Esteem and Confidence Building
- Maintaining Focus
- Communication Skills
- Reality Check

## Other TOUCH projects and services

- Each year, TOUCH holds a **Back to School Block party** at its offices. In 2010, they were able to provide over 300 children in the Whitehall area with free school supplies.
- TOUCH began a **Pilot Recycling Employment Program (PREP)** in April 2010. Not only does this program provide participants with employment training, it also helps move the Whitehall community forward in efforts to "Go Green" by collecting and recycling unwanted electronics.
- TOUCH participants, staff, and volunteers participate in **Giving Back projects** to stay connected in the community. Two of the bigger projects they've done have been to assemble furniture at MAP Furniture Bank of Central Ohio and to team up with The Village Network to serve a Thanksgiving lunch to foster families.
- TOUCH offers a **Clothing Bank** for participants and their families.
- On Thursdays, TOUCH hosts **Computer Literacy classes**

## TOUCH Program Background

- TOUCH operates under the non-profit umbrella of Metropolitan Community Services (MCS)
- TOUCH became an Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections Reentry Approved Program in March 2010.
- TOUCH is one of three agencies to gain Reentry Approval that is not a drug and alcohol rehabilitation agency.

“We’re breaking the chains and breaking the cycle.”

## TOUCH Accomplishments

- As of September 2010, TOUCH has served 115 individuals and graduated 65 participants. Of the graduated participants, only 3 have returned to prison/jail resulting in an extremely low recidivism rate of 4.6%.
- While participating in the TOUCH program, approximately 8 participants have enrolled in higher education.
- Approximately 32 participants have found employment. Twelve of these participants become employed as a result of our partnership with the AARP Foundation Worksearch.
- Through a grant opportunity at COWIC Job Leaders, TOUCH provided 150 low-income 18-24 year olds with summer internships in 2010. Of the 150 served, 22 youth were permanently hired on by employers after the program's end.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Cell): \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

Inmate #: \_\_\_\_\_ Release Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Institutional Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Level/Skill Training

H.S. Level \_\_\_\_\_

Certifications: \_\_\_\_\_

College Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Degrees: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Community Support Sponsor (Name, Address & Phone #)

## OPTIONAL MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

The signature(s) below represents our (ex-offender & Sponsor) agreement and commitment to fulfill my (ex-offender) responsibility as a member of "TOUCH." Further, I (ex-offender) agree to accept a community Support Sponsor whom will submit the one time optional charitable gift donation of \$75 or 3 monthly payments of \$25 which will be used toward "TOUCH" sanctioned program expenses. Which are mission to effectively reduce my ability of returning to prison. Furthermore, any incompleteness of the 12 week "TOUCH" program will cause the ex-offender to be responsible for completing all incomplete talk sessions before receiving an annual "TOUCH" membership.

Ex-Offender

Support Sponsor