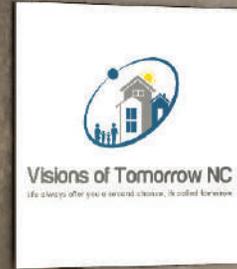




Visions of Tomorrow NC
Life always offer you a second chance, its called tomorrow



FORESIGHT MAGAZINE

Visions of Tomorrow NC

We focus on assisting inmates transitioning back into the community by providing specialized job training upon release, as well as help with resume writing, housing, family support and activities for the children.

Supporting our cause is as important as ever as we help our state's incarcerated build lives anew outside of prison with their loved ones by their sides.



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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Visions of Tomorrow NC is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization and we are passionate about what we do! Our vision is to support those who are incarcerated in NC prisons, are pending release, or who have recently been released back into society. Our holistic approach enables previously incarcerated individuals to live productive lives and make positive contributions to their families and communities.

When a family member is incarcerated or sentenced, it can be incredibly difficult on a family, especially on the children. Visions of Tomorrow NC is here to help, we act as your advocates, guiding you through the complex criminal justice system. We are here providing support to the family and friends of incarcerated individuals by keeping them informed as to the whereabouts of their loved ones during the processing period and throughout their incarceration. We provide consultancy on how to handle issues that may arise during this period such as transferring money, arranging visitation, programs, health issues as well as concerns on prison conditions.

Visions of Tomorrow NC provided the children of inmates' new coats and toys at two of the local prisons. So far, we have placed several inmates in jobs and housing. Your support is as important as ever as we help our state's incarcerated build lives anew outside of prison with their loved ones by their sides.

If you are an employer, we can help you locate the talent you need! We work closely with rehabilitated ex-offenders ready and eager to re-enter society and fill jobs. If you have a heart for helping these often mistreated and neglected members of society find meaningful employment, please share your job vacancies with us. We will promote available employment opportunities in the magazine or on our website. There are also tax incentives for hiring inmates. Depending on the type of opportunity you offer your organization may qualify for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) and other incentives.

I'm excited to share that we will be launching a new bi-annual magazine that shines a spotlight on the many issues and challenges faced by ex-offenders and their families, as well as the work we are doing to transform lives. The magazine, called Foresight Magazine, will also cover changes in laws pertaining to incarcerated people, issues surrounding recidivism, the impact incarceration has on children, information about our work as an organization and on programs offered to inmates from our partners, donor spotlights, and much more.

On behalf of our organization, I invite you to consider reserving advertising space in the inaugural issue of Foresight Magazine! Advertising in our new publication will allow you to promote your products and services to our loyal and motivated readers. The magazine will be distributed electronically to our extensive mailing list of donors and partners as well as in print. The print edition will be placed in medical offices, business offices, churches, local shops, and other places with a high level of foot traffic in Durham, Raleigh, Chapel Hill.

Ad space is available in quarter, half, and full-page ad sizes, for more information contact us at **INFO@VISIONSOFTOMORROWNC.ORG**.

A limited number of ad space will be available in each issue; please let us know if you would like to participate by the end of Sept 2020. The deadline for ad artwork is October 30, 2020 for the December 2020 issue.

Visions of Tomorrow NC is a registered nonprofit organization, so all donations for magazine ads are tax-deductible and sincerely appreciated by the individuals and families whose lives we help transform.

Brenda Miles
Executive Director
Visions of Tomorrow



PRISON ALLIANCE

Through our faith-led prison coalition, we educate, instill hope, and alleviate loneliness amongst inmates. We're here to fight **in** your corner before and after your release, because basic human rights should never be optional.

OUR MISSION

Through a strong partnership with our faith-based community, we can offer a platform for criminal justice advocacy, education, and raising awareness to help end the human carnage taking place inside our prisons.

FAITH ALLIANCE

Churches have a large following of individuals who can also help to bring immense change in our society through their beliefs and service. With this in mind, it is crucial to have the backing of the faith institutions in this fight against behavioral change. The collaborative approach with churches is welcomed, since positive change within our communities can be promoted by members of each congregation. Strong advocacy from the church can undoubtedly force a quicker change of policy within the correctional facilities.

CONTACT

Foresight Magazine will be issued bi-annually. There is no cost to offenders. All copies can be downloaded from our website. You can reach us at Visions of Tomorrow NC for more information, sponsorship or inquiries, or to even join our community.

We look forward to hearing from you; and since service to humanity is service to God, why not contact us today and let us make humanity a better place?

Phone

984-227-2167

Email

info@visionsoftomorrownc.org

Mailing address

PO Box 72822
Durham, NC 27722

RECENT RESULTS OF COVID-19 IN NC PRISONS

Facility	Tests			Data as of: Friday 05/08/2020 03:00 PM
	Performed	Positive	Negative	
Albermarle CI	3	0	3	
Alexander CI	2	0	2	
Anson CI	2	0	2	
Avery-Mitchell CI	2	0	2	
Bertie CI	41	10	31	
Burke CRV	0	0	0	
Caldwell CC	2	0	2	
Caledonia CI	26	17	9	
Carteret CC	0	0	0	
Caswell CC	9	9	0	
Catawba CC	0	0	0	
Central Prison	42	3	39	
Columbus CI	1	0	1	
Craggy CC	3	0	3	
Craven CI	7	0	7	
Dan River PWF	0	0	0	
Davidson CC	0	0	0	
Eastern CI	3	0	3	
Foothills CI	1	0	1	
Forsyth CC	0	0	0	
Franklin CC	0	0	0	
Gaston CC	0	0	0	
Greene CI	19	0	19	
Harnett CI	0	0	0	
Hyde CI	2	0	2	
Johnston CI	17	3	14	
Lincoln CC	0	0	0	
Lumberton CI	6	0	6	
Marion CI	1	0	1	
Maury CI	7	0	7	
Morrison CI	0	0	0	
Mountain View CI	3	0	3	
NC CI Women	214	90	124	
Nash CI	1	0	1	
Neuse CI	702	467	235	
New Hanover CC	0	0	0	
North Piedmont CRV	0	0	0	
Orange CC	1	0	1	
Pamlico CI	2	0	2	
Pasquotank CI	49	19	30	
Pender CI	49	17	32	
Piedmont CI	14	0	14	
Polk CI	6	0	6	
Randolph CC	1	0	1	
Rutherford CC	0	0	0	
Sampson CI	2	0	2	
Sanford CC	0	0	0	
Scotland CI	21	3	18	
Southern CI	3	2	1	
Swain County	0	0	0	
Tabor CI	18	0	18	
Wake CC	1	0	1	
Warren CI	0	0	0	
Wilkes CC	0	0	0	
Statewide Totals	1283	640	643	

<https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/adult-correction/prisons/pr>

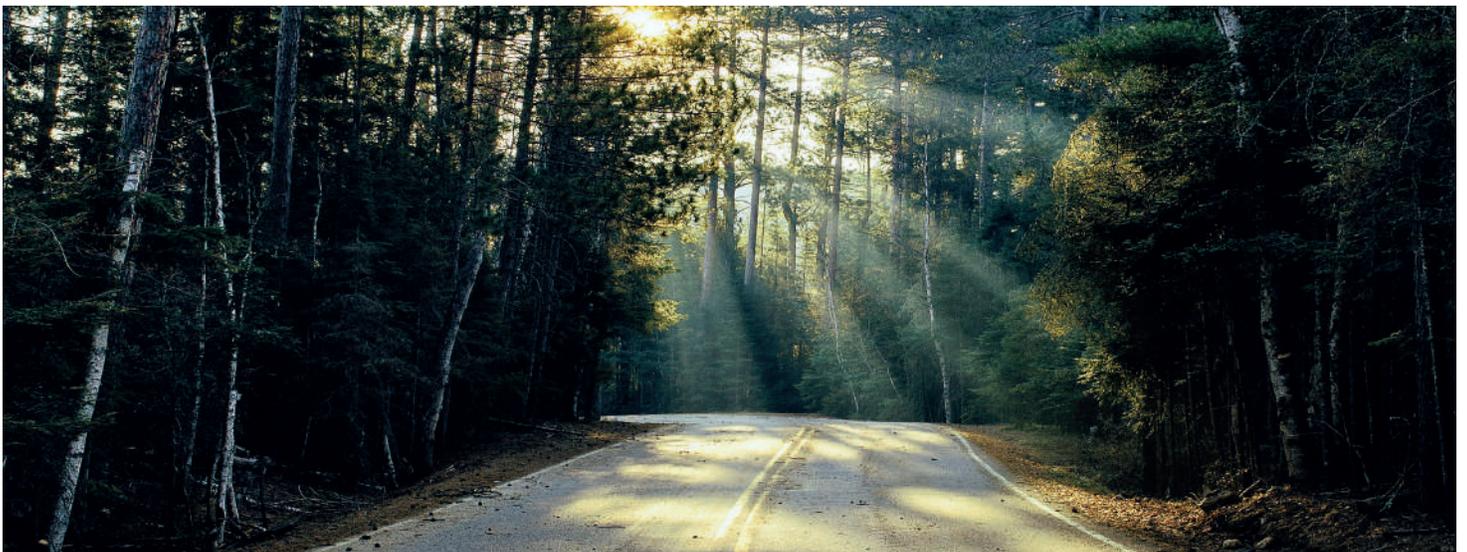
Confirmed COVID-19-Related Deaths by Facility	
NCCIW	1
Neuse CI	3
Pender CI	1

LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE FOR YOUNG DEFENDANTS IN NORTH CAROLINA NC LAW

The Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional to sentence young offenders who have not attained the age of 18 to life without parole. This ruling was made in the year 2012 in the case of Miller v Alabama. Another decision in the case of Montgomery v Louisiana affirmed the first ruling and entrenched the legal backing for this declaration. These two rulings prompted North Carolina to amend its statute (G.S. 15A-1340.19A through to -1340.19D) to conform to the national regulations.

The changed laws stated that defendants who have not attained the age of 18 could not be sentenced to life without parole. Even when a young defendant is imprisoned for life, there is an opportunity for early release after serving for 25 years. Thus, for any young defendant who is sentenced for life, there is always a chance for parole instead of LWOP. In 2018, in the case of State v James, the Supreme Court again upheld the new regulation that any defendant under the age of 18 is entitled to parole. The 2018 ruling further made the regulation to be recognized, and it prompted more than 93 young defendants to apply for a rehearing of their case in a bid to qualify themselves for parole.

The amended law was to be applied after 25 years from the day the changes were made, given that the new Act stated that judicial review for parole would be acceptable after serving 25 years. The Act (G.S. 15A-1380.5) was passed in 1994, and therefore the amended version of the Act is yet to be utilized since most courts have not put in place structures to implement the reviews.



THANK YOU, CORRECTIONS OFFICERS!

As you know, the COVID-19 crisis has caused a huge amount of angst and distress for millions of our citizens, across the nation, and this also applies to the many inmates who are currently within our prison system. It is against this backdrop that I want to publicly recognize the fantastic job that is being done by the **many** correctional officers at this very difficult time.

While many of our citizens have been asked to stay home from work, our wonderful correctional officers have been classified as essential employees and have continued to come to work. This, they have done with good grace, even though this has, in many ways, compromised their own safety as they have had to continue to mix with so many others at a time when we have been told to practice social distancing.

However, they have continued to carry out their duties, all the while demonstrating a commendable level of care for all of the inmates and their co-workers. In addition to this, they have been careful to follow all the safety measures put in place to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 within the prison system, while continuing to carry out their regular duties even though, in many cases, they have been short-staffed.

Ultimately, we feel it is important to acknowledge what our correctional officers are doing and to thank them for taking care of those within the prison system who are unable to change their current situation. It's good for all of you officers to understand how important and valued your positions are, so to underline this let me share an illustration which may help.

Imagine, for a moment, being locked in your bathroom with no way to get out for food or water - unless someone was to come and open the door for you. That would be an awful situation in which to find yourself, regardless of who was responsible for you being locked in there in the first place. Although you are able to go home every day; it is conceivable that door could easily be locked on the other side, for you or for someone else in your family. Considering this fact should make us reflect, and appreciate the fact that we have a job that allows us to care for those who are less fortunate, and who need our help.

At this challenging time, which has highlighted our vulnerability, let us remember that we are all human, and very much in need of others. Let that be reflected in how we treat each other.

CIRCLE THE WORD AND FIND THE PHRASE

E N Y C N F J S Q B T M
Z L O B F A R E K U O P
A C U J T X F A Y D N V
R W M O A B E F I L M S
X J R U A L O N E W G H
B G E I S C M K Q B T F
I T R H G E O I S J R A
O Z W H A R W C I F S S
C T Z E C A X H M N A X
K H B L O N E E R U T K
F W X E V R S T K I G N
J A P S I H T L Q U I T
R E R Z O J S X A R P W
E T O G E T H E R V N E
P U W C A S M T G H J L

WORD SEARCH

NOT TOGETHER
WE YOU'RE
THIS ARE
ALONE IN

Phrase answer on page 12



CORONAVIRUS

NCDPS BEGINS RELEASING SOME INMATES EARLY DUE TO COVID-19

North Carolina prison officials announced on April 13 that they have begun releasing some inmates early – an “extraordinary measure” designed to reduce the prison population and stem the spread of COVID-19.

Under state law, the state Department of Public Safety has the authority to let certain inmates serve their sentences outside of a prison, provided they are supervised by community corrections officers.

DPS said that none of the offenders being considered under that program have been convicted of a violent crime, and that all are scheduled to be released this year. Among the roughly 500 inmates who DPS said it is considering for early release are offenders who are:

- Age 65 and older with underlying health conditions
- Females age 50 and older with health conditions and a release date in 2020
- Age 65 and older with a release date in 2020
- Already on home leave with a release date in 2020
- On work release with a release date in 2020

Six inmates were released from prison on April 9 to complete their sentences in the community, DPS said. All are women who are either pregnant or are 65 or older. Those who are let out of prison early under this program

will continue to be supervised, often with electronic monitoring equipment, state officials said. “If they fail to carry out the program successfully, they will be returned to the facilities,” DPS Secretary Erik Hooks said at a news conference Monday afternoon.

In a separate effort to reduce the prison population, DPS has been awarding time credits so that some inmates can be released ahead of schedule. In March, more than 300 offenders originally scheduled for release in April, May or June, were released under that program. Those offenders completed their minimum sentences and are now under post-release supervision.

The North Carolina Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission is also reviewing offenders under its authority for possible release. Over the past week, the commission has released more than a dozen pregnant women to community supervision, DPS said.

“We do not take these new measures lightly,” said Tim Moose, Chief Deputy Secretary of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice. “Our staff are working in accordance with CDC guidelines, while being mindful of adult risk management, as well as reentry best practices in



COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

We know how difficult it is for all of you at this time, given the stress caused by the current COVID-19 outbreak, and all of the worry and uncertainty that this has brought. Washing your hands properly is one of the most important things you can do to help prevent and control the spread of COVID-19.

Hands carry lots of germs and should be washed:

- after coughing or sneezing into your hands
- after visiting the toilet
- before handling food
- when visibly dirty

order to identify and transition adult offenders into our communities in a safe and efficient manner.”

In early April, a coalition of civil rights groups filed a lawsuit asking the state Supreme Court to immediately release vulnerable inmates. The suit, filed by the ACLU of North Carolina, Disability Rights North Carolina and others, argues that Gov. Roy Cooper and the state Department of Public Safety have a legal duty to take action before a large-scale outbreak results in deaths inside the prisons and in surrounding communities.

Inside state prison manufacturing plants, inmates are now making face masks, gowns, disinfectant and hand sanitizer. Prison officials say all inmates and staff members will receive a face mask once enough are manufactured.

<https://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/coronavirus/article241977711.html>

It is important to wash your hands thoroughly. Make sure that you wash both of your hands, including the tips of your fingers, the palms of your hands, and your thumbs.

Although being incarcerated limits your ability to distance yourself from others, doing something as simple as pulling your t-shirt over your nose and mouth when talking to or standing near others can make a difference. If possible, alternate head and foot positions on adjacent bunks for sleeping. Please take whatever precautions you can to protect yourself, whenever possible.

LAUGH A LOT

A man is talking to God. “God, how long is a million years?” God answers, “To me, it’s about a minute.” “God, how much is a million dollars?” “To me, it’s a penny.” “God, may I have a penny?” “Wait a minute.”



ARE OFFENDERS BEING RELEASED OR PUT ON PROBATION?

What does Extending the Limits of Confinement (ELC) mean?

North Carolina General Statute §148-4 gives the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety the authority to extend the limits of confinement in limited circumstances for certain incarcerated offenders. Extending the limits of confinement allows individuals to continue serving their sentence outside of correctional facilities.

Is this an early release or commutation?

This is not a commutation, nor is it an early release from a sentence. Offenders on ELC are serving part of their active sentence outside the confines of a correctional facility, and are under the supervision of community corrections officers and/or special operations officers. If an offender fails to remain within the extended limits of confinement or fails to otherwise follow the conditions of their community confinement, they will be returned to a correctional facility to serve the remainder of their active sentence. Offenders who willfully fail to remain within the boundaries of their alternate “confinement” in the community may also be charged with escape.

In addition, depending on an individual offender’s unique circumstances, the crime for which he/she was convicted and other factors, the offender may have additional security measures put in place while on ELC, such as:

- Electronic monitoring
- Curfew
- Drug testing

What’s the difference between being on ELC and Post-release/Probation?

- ELC allows individuals who have not completed their minimum sentence to transfer outside of a correctional facility to continue serving their active sentence. This is not a release from custody.
- Post-release is a period of structured supervision after completion of an active sentence in a correctional facility. Not every offender is sentenced to post-release supervision.
- Probation is a period of community supervision imposed by the courts instead of an active prison sentence. A violation of probation could result in an active sentence.

ABOUT VISIONS OF TOMORROW NC

LAUGH A LOT

There was a preacher who fell in the ocean and he couldn't swim. When a boat came by, the captain yelled, "Do you need help, sir?" The preacher calmly said "No, God will save me." A little later, another boat came by and a fisherman asked, "Hey, do you need help?" The preacher replied again, "No God will save me." Eventually the preacher drowned & went to heaven. The preacher asked God, "Why didn't you save me?" God replied, "Fool, I sent you two boats!"



HOPE

There are joys in life but there are also sorrows. Sometimes these sorrows are of the everyday kind; sad but survivable. Other sorrows affect us so profoundly, so significantly and indelibly that we instinctively know life will never be the same. We wonder how we can make it through another day.

I have been through such times. I have also walked with children, adults, and families through such times. That is how I know that hope can be found in even the most difficult seasons of life.

At the most painful moments in our lives, when everything is peeled away and stripped bare, when it seems that nothing is left, I know that there is hope. Even the smallest amount can make the greatest difference.

Hope and resilience are what help us set goals and affect change, to persevere in the face of life challenges and thrive. So, no matter what you're going through, know that you are not alone. You'll get through this.

VOLUNTEERS

Our team is dedicated to providing a holistic approach to meeting the needs of incarcerated people who are at a fragile period in their lives and their families. We believe in the growth of our vision, and hope that this will become widespread within all prison homes around the globe. As a result, we want to solicit all well-meaning lovers of humanity to join us. It doesn't matter which area you come from; our widespread operations require the input of a larger team to ensure that all previously incarcerated people under our program are cared for.

Through you, we can empower others, and positively impact the community, while also changing attitudes toward those who are or have been incarcerated. From emotional to economic support, we give inmates and their families the helping hand they need during their time of incarceration and after they are released as well. We provide a holistic approach to our re-entry and prison coalition programs, which have the whole family in mind.

A sane society that is able to cohesively live together with each individual supporting one other can be achieved through everyone being a part of the change.

CHILDREN

Sadly, those who are incarcerated are very often forgotten by so many people, since a lot of people think of them as being completely deserving of whatever terms they are serving. Usually, the resultant effect is on the children, as they are at higher risk of child criminal involvement, antisocial behavior, psychological strain, economic hardship, and criminal activity. To make matters worse, these children often stand the risk of being intimidated and ridiculed by the society to which they belong, which takes an inevitable emotional toll on their mental health.

At Visions of Tomorrow NC, we provide recreational activities to engage such children throughout the year. These activities are designed by the best possible psychologists and experts, and are tailored towards engaging these children in productive activities, in order to curb repeated negative behavioral patterns or antisocial activities.

The strength, or weakness, of the parent-child bond, as well as the quality of the support system, play a significant role in children's ability to overcome

challenges and forge ahead with a positive outlook. Therefore, we hope parents/caregivers will participate in the activities when possible. At Visions of Tomorrow NC our focus is not only on the inmates, but on families as well. This is because we believe that by applying a holistic approach to supporting and meeting the needs of families, as well as the inmates during their period of incarceration, we will be giving them the helping hand they need, (even after their release) to help them fit back into their families, and society at large.

ALL PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19.

THE TRIP TO GREAT WOLF LODGE WILL BE RESCHEDULED AS SOON AS PERMITTED.

LAUGH A LOT

Two factory workers are talking. The woman says, "I can make the boss give me the day off." The man replies, "And how would you do that?" The woman says, "Just wait and see." She then hangs upside down from the ceiling. The boss comes in and says, "What are you doing?" The woman replies, "I'm a light bulb." The boss then says, "You've been working so much that you've gone crazy. I think you need to take the day off." The man starts to follow her and the boss says, "Where are you going?" The man says, "I'm going home, too. I can't work in the dark."



N.C. JUDGE TO DECIDE IN LAWSUIT SEEKING STATEWIDE PRISONER RELEASES

By the end of the week, a Superior Court judge is expected to issue an order in a lawsuit that calls on North Carolina officials to approve a significant number of prisoner releases in response to the spread of the new coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

The decision will regard only a temporary restraining order related to the case and not the overall lawsuit. A temporary restraining order is a legal tool to seek a rapid, but not final, ruling from the court in cases that have high urgency.

The case is over whether the state is doing enough to protect the 33,300 people incarcerated in state prisons from potential illness or death as a result of COVID-19. The plaintiffs in the case, represented by the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina, argue that the only way to create safe — and therefore constitutional — conditions in the state’s prisons is to release a significant number of people. Though the state has undertaken a long list of mitigation and prevention efforts to keep COVID-19 out of prisons and to keep it from spreading, the ACLU argues that those efforts are inadequate, as evidenced by the continued spread of the disease in prisons across the state.

As of Tuesday afternoon, DPS reported 596 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in 11 of 51 prisons. The experiences at Neuse Correctional Institution, where cases ballooned from 29 to 453 in two weeks, and at the N.C. Correctional Institution for Women, where cases grew from nine to 81 in a week, show that once the disease is inside a prison, it can spread rapidly. The state has reported three deaths of people in state custody to date.

Brennan argued that the state is already decreasing the state’s prison population by releasing people at a more rapid rate than is usual and by refusing to accept new entries into the prison population, displacing those people to county jails. To release people at an increased rate and to have its hand forced by the courts could pose a threat to public safety, according to the state’s arguments.

“These individuals have been convicted of crimes, and it is in the public interest to do the releases in a way that accounts for safety factors, considers the inmate’s safety net and minimizes chances of recidivism,” Brennan said.

Releasing people from prisons and back to their homes around the state would also pose a risk to public health, Brennan argued, presumably because they could have been exposed to COVID-19 while they were incarcerated.

The state also argued that to release any more people than it is currently would overwhelm the probation and parole system.

Leah Kang for the ACLU replied that the state’s measures for protecting people in prisons are not only insufficient but also mischaracterized. For example, Kang challenged the idea that people in prison were being “cohorted” in groups akin to families in quarantine together. Since social distancing is impossible inside prisons, people in prison are cohorted in groups, and those groups are supposed to be kept isolated from one another.

In response to claims that the state is already releasing people to decrease the prison population, Kang cited a Sentencing and Policy Advisory report stating that, due to understaffing, the state is still above capacity in its prisons, even before considering the additional stresses caused by COVID-19.

The releases issued so far, Kang argued, are minimal and slow enough to be insignificant.

The ACLU’s suggested remedy is to release over 2,000 people already scheduled to be let out of prison in the next 60 days. After that, the ACLU asks the court to consider for release people already scheduled to be let out in the next year.

The rate of spread of the new coronavirus in North Carolina’s prisons is itself a public safety threat, Kang said. The ACLU did not offer a strategy for releasing several thousand people given the state’s limitations for post-release supervision.

“The types of arguments that defendants are making about administrative hurdles are arguments that almost always get made when a state is ordered to cure a constitutional violation,” Kang said. “But administrative difficulties do not excuse constitutional violations.”

The ACLU asked the court to order the state to submit a detailed and prospective plan about how it will release a significant number of people from the prisons and improve prison conditions. If the plan is inadequate, the ACLU suggested the court appoint a “special master,” or a supervising expert, to guide the state’s actions going forward.

<https://qcnerve.com/n-c-judge-to-decide-in-lawsuit-seeking-statewide-prisoner-releases/>



"ARE WE IN THIS TOGETHER"

All of us commit mistakes in life. Some stick to petty errors, others commit serious crimes. Among them, some get caught and some walk away scot-free. Those who get caught are typically penalized in different ways to suit their misdemeanor. They get a slap on the wrist, are put on probation, put in prisons, or the lucky ones get to become the president of the United States or work in other political spheres.

The imprisoned ones have it the toughest, since their one blunder, big or small, subjected them to reside in an area that is usually half the size of an average bathroom. They cannot eat, bathe, talk to family or perform several other basic activities unless they are explicitly permitted to do so. The prison system also employs people who enjoy being in control and exert power over the offenders, restricting them from becoming better people and making their life very difficult. In such a system, it becomes easy for those people to forget that nobody has the right to harm other people or take away others' belongings.

Those who are incarcerated are put in there for a reason, regardless of the motive or the lack of it, thereof. However, some serve more time in comparison to others, despite committing the same crime. For example, I have encountered four inmates who were charged with second-degree murder within the same state, and all of them played a mitigating role.

OUR COMMITMENT TRANSLATES TO CHANGE!

Through you, we can empower others around us, impact the community positively, and change attitudes towards those who are incarcerated. This will translate to a transparent and stable community, which can be achieved through:

1. Providing support to the children of those who are incarcerated.
2. Providing employment opportunities for those released from prison.
3. Providing education to members, families, and prisoners.
4. Sponsoring an inmate in a local prison and taking him or her out to church.

Contact Bishop Luther K. Brooks at info@visionsoftomorrownc.org if you wish to be a part of our prison ministry.

Two inmates were white and two were black. The white men were sentenced to imprisonment for 6 and 7.2 years; the black men were sentenced for 132 years, 11 months and 17 days and 86 years and 9 months. All of these punishments were doled out within three years. So the question arises: why won't a black man be disheartened and enraged? The system does not provide him with a fair opportunity to become better. Furthermore, when talking about prisoners, most people believe that they got what they deserve. But right now, in the middle of a pandemic, these prisoners have no one to turn to. Since thousands of prisoners stay in one small prison, the transmission process becomes very quick. People sentenced for even one year could die, if medical attention isn't provided on time.

How is this a fair system where people who committed petty crimes are put at a greater risk of catching a fatal virus? Would you be willing to recite the same mantra of justice, if your loved ones are given a sentence? Imagine this scenario: someone locks you up in your bathroom and provides you with food whenever they feel like it. Now imagine yourself in that situation with a virus and no medical treatment. Not a pleasant feeling, is it? These people are human too and must be feeling worse. Just because you weren't caught committing blunders, doesn't make these punishments right. So, I ask you again. Are we in this together?

DONATIONS

Visions of Tomorrow is a nonprofit organization, fueled by the passion of compassionate individuals who give themselves in a labor of love to the course of ensuring a safe re-entry of people who have been previously incarcerated. Our vision largely depends on its members to make this course a reality, as well as on their voluntary donations which help in making our services a reality.

Therefore, we must solicit your support in order to make this reality sustainable. By donating your gift to this honorable cause, you will be supporting the children with school supplies, clothing or Christmas gifts; or you will be assisting offenders who are transitioning back into the community, with housing support to ensure that newly released people stay off the streets, occupational placement, job placement, or continuous education.

We seek to help those who have been previously incarcerated in ways the government has failed to do so, therefore ensuring a soft landing and eliminating all forms of toxicity that often affect ex-offenders. Together, we can make our communities safer!

LAUGH A LOT

A child asked his father, "How were people born?" So, his father said, "Adam and Eve made babies, then their babies became adults and made babies, and so on." The child then went to his mother, asked her the same question and she told him, "We were monkeys then we evolved to become like we are now." The child ran back to his father and said, "You lied to me!" His father replied, "No, your mom was talking about her side of the family."



IDENTIFICATION

DRIVER'S LICENSE OR ID REQUIREMENTS

First Time Issuance: Must have Birth Certificate and Social Security document (Card, W2 or 1099), proof of current address, or pay a \$2.00 Affidavit fee

Driver's License: You will be required to take a vision test, traffic signs and written test of 25 questions with a passing score of 80 (20 of the questions) and take the road test. Proof of Insurance will be required at time of road test.

Learner's Permit: You will be required to take the written test only and pass with a score of 80.

A learner's permit authorizes unlicensed drivers to drive a specified type or class of motor vehicles while in possession of the permit. While operating a motor vehicle, a permit holder must be accompanied in the front passenger seat by a licensed adult.

NCDMV might not license an individual who suffers from a mental or physical condition that might keep them from driving safely. A person with a disability might be issued a restricted license, provided the condition does not keep them from driving safely.

If you have been previously issued a driver license and it has been less than 2 years (one year for learners' permit), you can just renew. Some form of ID required (prison ID accepted).

If it has been more than two years (or one year for Learner's Permit), you will be required to retake the written test and pass with a score of 80 and/or take the road test for driver's license. Proof of Insurance will be required at time of road test.

Fees

Identification Card No Charge
Learners Permit \$20.00 (U.S. citizens)
Driver's License/ \$40.00 (65 and under)
Renewal \$25.00 (66 and over)
Duplicate DL/Permit \$13.00 (us citizens)

If you need a NC Driver's License Book to study, please contact us by mail or have someone go by any DMV office to pick one up.

REAL ID

Real IDs are required if you plan to fly domestically after Oct. 1, 2021. This deadline has been extended by one year due to the national emergency declaration for COVID-19. To obtain one you must present the following documents:

PROOF OF IDENTITY

- **One** document with full name and date of birth from the list below:
 - Certified birth certificate provided by a county Register of Deeds or state Vital Records Office
 - U.S. Report of Consular Birth Abroad
 - Valid, unexpired passport from the United States
 - Valid, unexpired passport from any nation

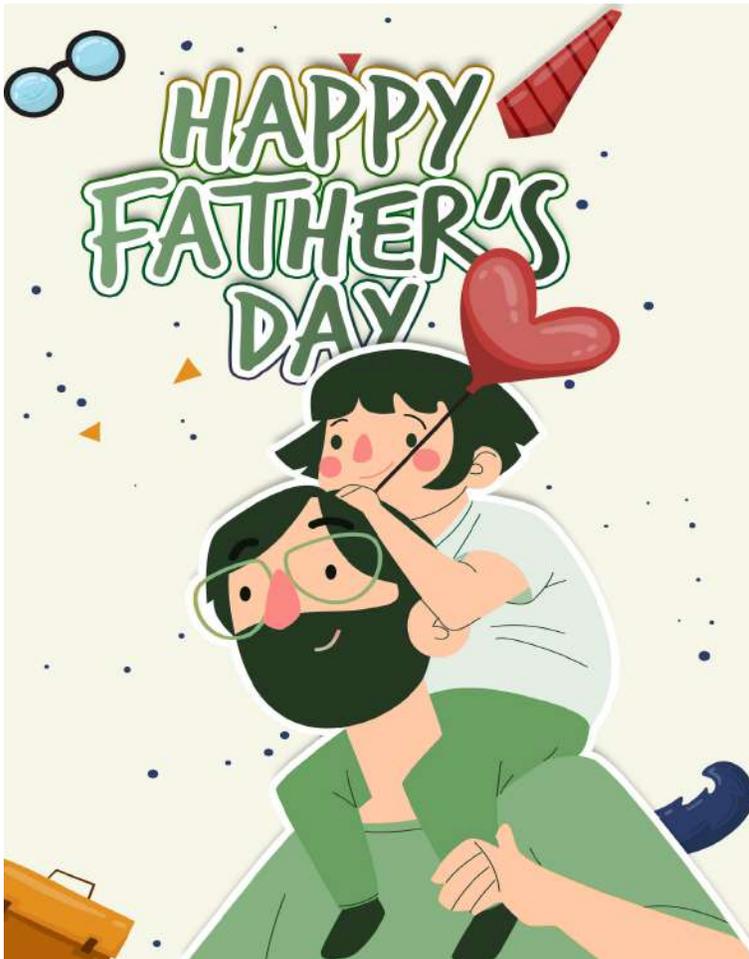
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

- **One** document with full name and full Social Security number from the list below:
 - Social Security card (photocopies not allowed)
 - 1099 tax form with name and FULL Social Security number
 - W-2 form with name and FULL Social Security number
 - Payroll record with name and FULL Social Security number

NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENCY

- **Two** documents with current physical address proving North Carolina residency from the list below:
 - Any document issued by the state of North Carolina or a county or city in North Carolina or the federal government
 - North Carolina Vehicle Registration Card, insurance policy or title
 - North Carolina Voter Precinct Card
 - Military orders or military documents
 - Utility bill or cable bill
 - Housing lease or contract, mortgage statement, property or income tax statement
 - Preprinted financial statement
 - School records
 - Letter from homeless shelter

www.myncdmv.gov



... DAD...

If I could write a story It would be the greatest ever
told of a kind and loving Dad like you who
has a heart of gold
I could write a million pages but still be unable to say,
just how Much I love and miss you every
single day
I think about you and all the moments we've shared
here or there
I'm sad that you aren't here with me but I understand
that everyone makes mistakes When I start
missing you, I always tell myself that this too shall pass

Hugs, I love you Dad



Happy Father's Day!!

LEGAL PRESENCE/LAWFUL STATUS (FOR NON-U.S. CITIZENS)

- One document with full name proving legal presence/lawful status from the list below:
 - Consular Report of Birth Abroad (Form FS-240, Form DS-1350 or Form FS-545)
 - Valid, unexpired Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551)
 - Unexpired Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766 or I-688B)
 - Valid, unexpired foreign passport (must be accompanied by an affixed valid, unexpired U.S. visa and I-94 Arrival/Departure Record)
 - Certificate of Naturalization (Form N-550 or N-570)
 - Certificate of Citizenship (Form N-560 or N-561)

NAME CHANGE

- **One or more** documents from the list below if the name is different from the name on the birth certificate, passport, another REAL ID or other U.S. government documents. **Note: Multiple name changes require multiple documents to trace each name.**
 - Certified marriage license/certificate (with a raised seal or ink stamp with initials of individual certifying the document) from an issuing authority in the state, county or city
 - Divorce decree (with a raised seal or ink stamp with initials of individual certifying the document) from an issuing authority in the state, county or city
 - Document from the courts or Register of Deeds
 - Original or certified international marriage licenses (with a raised seal or ink stamp with initials of individual certifying the document) accompanied by a Name Change Affidavit

Judge denies lawsuit to free prisoners during pandemic

<https://carolinapublicpress.org>

A Wake County Superior Court judge has denied an emergency lawsuit filed by civil rights groups that would have forced the state to release people from prison. The civil lawsuit alleged that prison conditions, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, were unconstitutional because they put people at risk of illness and death.

The plaintiffs argued that because social distancing is not possible inside prisons, the state's only remedy to protect people from illness is to let them out. After considering "the submissions of the parties, matters of record, and the passionate arguments of counsel," Judge Rozier denied the motion, he wrote in his order late Tuesday.

"The judge's order, as well as the information DPS provided in response to the lawsuit, speaks for itself," DPS spokesman John Bull wrote to CPP on Wednesday. "The Division of Prisons will continue working diligently to keep our staff and those in our custody safe during this pandemic." The coalition of civil rights groups that brought the case vowed that the fight was not over, though the plaintiffs have not yet announced the next steps, which could include an appeal to a higher court.

HEALTH EFFECTS OF CIGARETTE SMOKING

Cigarette smoking harms nearly every organ of the body, causes many diseases, and reduces the health of smokers in general.

Quitting smoking lowers your risk for smoking-related diseases and can add years to your life.

Smokers are more likely than nonsmokers to develop heart disease, stroke, and lung cancer.

Estimates show smoking increases the risk:

- For coronary heart disease by 2 to 4 times
- For stroke by 2 to 4 times
- Of men developing lung cancer by 25 times
- Of women developing lung cancer by 25.7 times
- Smoking causes diminished overall health, increased absenteeism from work, and increased health care utilization and cost. From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

"The fact remains that what's unfolding in our state prisons is a humanitarian disaster that endangers the lives of thousands of incarcerated people, prison staff and our entire community," said Susan Pollitt, supervising attorney at Disability Rights North Carolina, which was named as a plaintiff in the case and was a member of the coalition that filed the suit. After the case was dismissed from the state Supreme Court, the groups refiled the litigation on Superior Court on April 14. As they had with the Supreme Court, the plaintiffs argued that the case was urgent due to the ongoing outbreaks of COVID-19 in the state's prisons.

On Tuesday, DPS announced that several hundred people across the Neuse, Bertie, Caledonia, Pasquotank and the N.C. Correctional Institution for Women prisons were "presumed to be recovered" from COVID-19 due to the time that has passed since they were tested for the disease. The prison set down markers on the ground to keep people apart while they line up for meals or for medicine, but the markers are ignored, he said. In the dorm, where beds are spaced a foot-and-a-half apart, inmates have not been told to sleep head-to-toe, as has been enforced in other prisons. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, DPS identified about 650 people who qualify for early release or for a program to finish serving their sentences outside prison. That is about 2% of the prison population.

LAUGH A LOT

A proud and confident genius makes a bet with an idiot. The genius says, "Hey idiot, every question I ask you that you don't know the answer, you have to give me \$5. And if you ask me a question and I can't answer yours I will give you \$5,000." The idiot says, "Okay." The genius then asks, "How many continents are there in the world?" The idiot doesn't know and hands over the \$5. The idiot says, "Now me ask: what animal stands with two legs but sleeps with three?" The genius tries and searches very hard for the answer but gives up and hands over the \$5,000. The genius says, "Dang it, I lost. By the way, what was the answer to your question?" The idiot hands over \$5.



The Durham District Attorney, with support from the DEAR program, has dismissed over 50,000 old traffic charges leading to suspended or revoked drivers' licenses.

Additionally, the DA is working to remit 15,000 old unpaid traffic tickets so that people can get car insurance, get back on the road safely, and get back to work.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, your traffic charge must:

- have occurred in Durham County
- be more than 2 years ago old
- NOT have been a DWI or other traffic offense that poses a higher risk to public safety (for example, hit and runs)

TO FIND OUT IF YOU BENEFITED

Visit www.secondchancedriving.org (English and Spanish)

Common reasons why someone did not receive assistance from this program include:

- their charges are in another county (we can only assist individuals with charges in Durham County)
- their charges are not older than two years (this program can only assist people with older charges; individuals with upcoming court dates need to attend those hearings and should not expect this program to assist them)
- their charges included DWIs or one of a dozen or so other charges the DA identified as ineligible for this program due to the high-risk nature of the offense.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DURHAM EXPUNCTION AND RESTORATION PROGRAM (DEAR)

DEAR Resident



Is your driver's license suspended due to traffic tickets older than 2 years?

This year, the Durham District Attorney in partnership with the City of Durham dismissed more than 50,000 traffic charges that were OLDER than 2 years, were IN Durham County, and did NOT involve DWIs or other high-risk offenses.



Visit

www.secondchancedriving.org
to find out if you benefited from this program





Visions of Tomorrow NC
Life always offer you a second chance, its called tomorrow

For more Information contact us at:

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Durham, NC 27722

(984) 227-2167

www.visionsoftomorrownc.org

LIFE ALWAYS OFFERS YOU A SECOND CHANCE, IT'S CALLED TOMORROW

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

The diverse operations of Visions of Tomorrow NC depend largely on its members, who continue to contribute in various ways to help the organization meet its objectives. You can:

- (a) donate your quota to this honorable cause, or
- (b) volunteer to serve in any of our membership capacities to help the children of offenders, or
- (c) help previously incarcerated individuals in ways that the government has failed to do so.

It doesn't matter in which area you join; our widespread operations require the input of

a large team to ensure that all previously incarcerated people under our program are catered for. By supporting the children with school supplies, clothing, and Christmas gifts; or aiding offenders transitioning back into the community with housing support, job placement or continuous education, you are contributing to the goals of the organization. We welcome the family and friends of those incarcerated to contact us for information, support or to volunteer.

Visit our website at visionsoftomorrownc.org for more information.

Visions of Tomorrow is a registered nonprofit organization, so all donations for magazine ads are tax-deductible and sincerely appreciated by the individuals and families whose lives we help transform.