



Pathway To Freedom, Inc.

May 2023

Celebrating A Decade of Transforming Lives



PTF Board of Directors and Special Guests

By Scott McLean

We were finally able to host our prolonged 10-Year Anniversary Celebration to the folks in NW Arkansas. The event was postponed due to COVID. Former Governor Mike Huckabee was our keynote speaker, and Attorney General Tim Griffin joined him

as our guest speaker. The event was held at the Osage House in Cave Springs on Wednesday, March 1st. It was truly an evening to remember! We had roughly 176 folks in attendance and the amazing vocals of Clay Crosse, Christian Recording Artist, helped accentuate the evening. We were honored to have the Mayor of Springdale, Doug Sprouse, and Arkansas' newly appointed Secretary of Corrections, Joe Profiri, in attendance along with our Superintendent of the Wrightsville Complex, DeAngelo Earl.

We are grateful to everyone for their support in making our 10-Year Anniversary Event a success. We were able to raise \$98,553.11 with proceeds from the evening going toward general operations. PTF's approach not only enables Prisoners to become contributing members of society but helps reduce the detrimental effects of crime upon the families and children of offenders. With the involvement of the community and the generosity of private donations, PTF is reducing the high rate of criminal recidivism by changing behavior and

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Welcome Ben Morton to the PTF Staff

Ben Morton, our new program manager, is a graduate of the University of Memphis where he studied Psychology and Judaic Studies. Ben has a passion for helping others and has a broad experience in that regard: Corrections Counselor in the Shelby County Division of Corrections; Mental Health Clinic and Community Case Manager; managed a team of volunteers who provided bereavement support in hospitals to families of organ donors: and he served as an Arkansas Division of Community Corrections Drug and Alcohol Counselor to help prevent repeat offenders.



Thank God for Hope

We were honored to have Mario Torres as our graduate speaker at our 10 Year Anniversary Celebration in NW Arkansas. Mario began his speech giving Praise to His Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, because without Him, his transformation and accomplishments would not be possible. Mario stated, "he stood as a testament of the life changing power of Pathway to Freedom". He believes it's important to have programs like PTF in the Arkansas Department of Corrections, because it gives a sense of hope. When you're in the darkness it's hard to believe that you're ever going to make it out. It's easy to start believing the worst about yourself, but with hope, it gives you the will to keep pushing, the faith to believe in yourself, and to believe you can create a better future. Mario acknowledged all PTF supporters on behalf of himself and the other graduates of PTF for making the transformation of lives, families, and communities possible due to their donations and support of PTF.

It's amazing to see God at work in Mario's life and the life of our other graduates. Mario summed it up by saying, we couldn't possibly provide the service we provide without the help of our faithful partners. Thank you for investing where it truly counts!



Mario Torres: A Sense of Hope



Group 37 with counselor Jon Justice, celebrates pre-release phase completion



Group 38 with counselor Ramone Woodall, celebrates pre-release phase completion

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transforming lives. Former Governor Mike Huckabee, said it best in referring to the partnering role of the State and Pathway to Freedom. He stated, "government has its responsibility to protect a city, county, and state, while Pathway to Freedom's role is to usher hope". We take joy at Pathway to Freedom in answering God's "call" in bringing hope to prisoners, formerly incarcerated individuals, and their families. We know without Christ and the help of our volunteers and partners none of this would be possible. Thank you for supporting our Christ-centered mission in seeing lives transformed.



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