

THE LAZARUS FOUNDATION OF MISSISSIPPI

Faith-Based, Community-Centered Reentry Services

Transforming Lives, Rebuilding Communities

THE FOUNDATION

The Lazarus Foundation of Mississippi, Inc. is a faith-based, community-centered 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation formed in the state of Mississippi to provide comprehensive pre-release, post-release, transitional, and religious services to men and women exiting the Mississippi Department of Corrections. The Foundation and its subsidiaries serve as a bridge allowing returning citizens to become independent, productive members of their communities.

Mission Statement: To empower returning citizens through Christ-centered, evidence-based services that promote healing, growth, and successful community reintegration.

Vision Statement: A Mississippi where every returning citizen has the support, skills, and opportunities needed to rebuild their life, restore their relationships, and contribute positively to their community.

THE NEED

The reentry challenge is both urgent and significant:

- Over 7 million people are incarcerated in Federal and State prisons and local jails across the United States
- 95% of incarcerated individuals will eventually return to their communities
- Without proper support, up to 68% will be rearrested within three years
- Mississippi releases approximately [NUMBER] individuals each year from state custody
- Barriers to successful reentry include housing instability, unemployment, substance use disorders, mental health challenges, and disconnection from family and community

While reentry support is crucial for successful transitions, there are significant gaps in available services throughout Mississippi. Many counties lack structured programs, and existing services are often fragmented and difficult to navigate.

These individuals are reluctantly absorbed back into communities, and without adequate support, the cycle of recidivism often begins again.

OUR APPROACH

The Lazarus Foundation takes a holistic, person-centered approach to reentry that begins during incarceration and continues through community reintegration. Our comprehensive model addresses each individual's **PERSONAL**® needs:

- Physical** - Exercise, fitness, therapy, prosthetics, healthcare access
- Emotional** - Psychological evaluation, therapy, trauma recovery
- Rehabilitative** - Alcohol, drugs, tobacco, codependency treatment
- Spiritual** - Chaplaincy, pastoral support, counseling, faith community
- Occupational** - Job skills training/testing, entrepreneurship, employment
- Nutritional** - Diet and nutrition instruction, chronic disease management
- Academic** - GED/HSE, vocational training, digital literacy, continuing education
- Logistical** - Housing, transportation, legal assistance, financial stability

This multidimensional approach ensures that each participant receives support tailored to their specific strengths, needs, and goals.

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

The Lazarus Foundation utilizes evidence-based practices proven to reduce recidivism and promote successful reintegration:

- **Risk-Needs-Responsivity Framework:** Using validated assessment tools to identify and address criminogenic risks and needs while matching interventions to individual learning styles and abilities
- **Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions:** Including Thinking for a Change (T4C) and Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) to address criminal thinking patterns
- **Strengths-Based Case Management:** Focusing on building strengths and capabilities rather than just addressing deficits
- **Trauma-Informed Care:** Recognizing and addressing the role of trauma in criminal behavior and recovery
- **Housing First Approach:** Providing stable housing without preconditions as a foundation for recovery
- **Medication-Assisted Treatment:** Evidence-based approaches for substance use disorders
- **Family Engagement:** Structured programs to restore and strengthen family connections

Each of our programs incorporates these practices, ensuring consistency across all services while allowing for individualization based on participant needs.

PRE-RELEASE PROGRAMMING

The Lazarus Foundation begins working with individuals while they are still incarcerated, laying the groundwork for successful reentry:

Early Engagement

- Initial contact begins 12-18 months before scheduled release
- Comprehensive assessment using validated tools
- Development of individualized reentry plan
- Connection to peer mentors with lived experience

Pre-Release Services

- Reentry preparation classes and workshops
- Family reunification planning and mediation
- Transition documentation assistance (ID, birth certificates, etc.)
- Enrollment in benefits (Medicaid, SNAP, etc.)
- Development of post-release housing and employment plans

Digital Literacy Training

- Foundational computer skills
- Internet navigation and safety
- Email and online communication
- Job search and application skills
- Financial technology and online banking

Our pre-release engagement ensures continuity of care from incarceration to community, significantly increasing the likelihood of successful reintegration.

POST-RELEASE SERVICES

Lazarus House of Mississippi

The Lazarus House provides emergency and short-term transitional housing and intensive case management services for individuals recently released from incarceration. Services include:

- Immediate emergency housing (up to 6 months)

- Intensive case management (1:8 staff-to-participant ratio)
- Basic needs provision (food, clothing, hygiene items)
- Transportation assistance
- Connection to healthcare and behavioral health services
- Employment readiness and job placement
- Financial literacy and budgeting
- Peer support and recovery services

Locations:

- Quitman: [ADDRESS]
- Jackson: [ADDRESS]
- [Additional locations TBD]

Lazarus Academy of Mississippi

The Academy provides comprehensive, long-term (12-24 months) residential reentry programming with structured, multi-dimensional services and accredited vocational training:

Key Programs and Services

- Residential housing in dorm-style accommodations
- Nutritious meals prepared and served daily
- Program transportation for appointments, training, and employment
- Cognitive-behavioral interventions (T4C, MRT)
- Substance use disorder treatment and recovery support
- Mental health counseling and trauma therapy
- Family reunification and parenting classes
- Financial management education
- Workforce readiness training
- Digital literacy curriculum
- Faith-based programming and spiritual growth opportunities

Vocational Certificate Programs

- Construction Trades
- Welding and Cutting

- Business Technology
- Commercial Driving
- Warehousing and Distribution
- Cosmetology
- Residential/Commercial Electricity
- [Additional programs in development]

Locations:

- Jackson: [ADDRESS]
 - Meridian: [ADDRESS]
 - Gulf Coast: [ADDRESS]
 - Delta: [ADDRESS]
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EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

On This Rock Construction

On This Rock Construction provides real-world employment and training opportunities in the construction industry, offering:

- Transitional employment for Academy participants and House residents
- On-the-job training in construction skills
- Pathways to apprenticeships and certification
- Quality affordable construction services to the community

Services include residential and commercial construction, renovations, and maintenance.

Lazarus Fabrication Services

Lazarus Fabrication Services provides employment and training in welding, metal fabrication, and manufacturing, offering:

- Hands-on vocational training
- Industry-recognized certifications
- Transitional employment with pathways to career opportunities
- Quality fabrication and manufacturing services to businesses and the community

Lazarus Business Development Center

The Business Development Center supports entrepreneurship among returning citizens through:

- Business planning and development courses
- Entrepreneurial mentorship from successful business leaders
- Microgrants and startup funding opportunities
- Incubator space for new small businesses
- Technical assistance and ongoing support

Our employment and entrepreneurship initiatives provide real pathways to financial independence while generating revenue to support the Foundation's mission.

SPECIALIZED SUPPORT SERVICES

New Beginning Ministries

Provides faith-based spiritual support, including:

- Chaplaincy services
- Religious education and discipleship
- Faith-based recovery programs (Celebrate Recovery)
- Connection to faith communities

Garden by the Wayside

Therapeutic agricultural program offering:

- Vocational training in sustainable agriculture
- Food production for Foundation facilities
- Therapeutic benefits of horticultural work
- Community garden spaces

Lazarus Village

Innovative transitional housing community featuring:

- Tiny home living units for independent living
- Community center with shared amenities
- Supportive community environment
- Affordable long-term housing options

Digital Inclusion Initiative

Technology access and training program providing:

- Devices (smartphones and laptops/tablets)
- Internet connectivity
- Digital literacy training
- Virtual service access

Family Reunification Center

Specialized support for family reintegration:

- Family therapy and counseling
- Co-parenting education
- Child-friendly visitation spaces
- Family activities and resources

Legal Services Clinic

Comprehensive legal support including:

- Record expungement and clearing
 - Driver's license restoration
 - Civil legal aid (housing, employment, family law)
 - Court navigation assistance
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CONTINUUM OF CARE MODEL

The Lazarus Foundation provides a complete continuum of reentry services, ensuring seamless support from pre-release to full community reintegration:

Phase 1: Pre-Release Engagement (12-18 months before release)

- Assessment and planning
- Documentation preparation
- Benefit enrollment
- Basic skills development
- Family engagement

Phase 2: Immediate Post-Release (0-6 months)

- Emergency housing at Lazarus House
- Intensive case management
- Basic needs provision
- Connection to healthcare
- Initial employment placement

Phase 3: Stabilization and Growth (6-24 months)

- Transitional housing at Lazarus Academy
- Vocational training and certification
- Therapeutic interventions
- Recovery support
- Cognitive-behavioral programming

Phase 4: Community Integration (18-36 months)

- Independent or supportive housing
- Sustainable employment
- Ongoing recovery support
- Family reunification
- Community engagement

Phase 5: Long-Term Success (Ongoing)

- Alumni support network
- Mentorship opportunities
- Leadership development
- Community service

This phased approach ensures continuous support with gradually decreasing intensity as individuals build stability and independence.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Lazarus Foundation collaborates with numerous organizations and agencies to provide comprehensive support for returning citizens:

Criminal Justice Partners

- Mississippi Department of Corrections
- County Sheriff's Departments
- Court Systems
- Probation and Parole

Government Agencies

- Mississippi Department of Human Services
- Mississippi Department of Employment Security
- Mississippi Department of Mental Health
- [ADDITIONAL AGENCIES]

Healthcare Providers

- [LOCAL FQHC PARTNERS]
- [MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS]
- [SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT PROVIDERS]

Educational Institutions

- [COMMUNITY COLLEGES]
- [TECHNICAL SCHOOLS]
- [UNIVERSITIES]

Faith Communities

- [PARTNER CHURCHES]
- [FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS]

Employers

- [EMPLOYER PARTNERS LIST]

We believe in the power of collaboration to create comprehensive support systems that truly transform lives and communities.

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

The Lazarus Foundation measures success through comprehensive outcome tracking:

Key Performance Indicators

- Recidivism rates
- Housing stability
- Employment acquisition and retention
- Earnings growth
- Educational attainment
- Recovery maintenance
- Family reunification
- Community engagement

Current Impact Data

- [INSERT CURRENT PARTICIPANT NUMBERS]
- [INSERT RECIDIVISM RATE COMPARED TO STATE AVERAGE]
- [INSERT EMPLOYMENT RATE]
- [INSERT HOUSING STABILITY RATE]
- [INSERT ADDITIONAL OUTCOME METRICS]

"The Lazarus Foundation didn't just give me a place to stay – they gave me the tools, support, and hope I needed to rebuild my life. Today I have stable housing, meaningful employment, and restored relationships with my family. I am forever grateful for their belief in me." - [PARTICIPANT NAME], Program Graduate

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Lazarus Foundation relies on community support to fulfill our mission:

Financial Support

- One-time donations
- Monthly giving partnerships
- Corporate sponsorships
- Faith community partnerships
- Program-specific sponsorships
- In-kind donations

Volunteer Opportunities

- Mentorship
- Employment coaching
- Life skills instruction
- Professional services
- Administrative support
- Special events assistance

Employer Partnerships

- Job placement opportunities
- Transitional employment
- Interview practice
- Skills training
- Industry guidance

Community Support

- Housing options
- Transportation assistance
- Church engagement
- Advocacy

To learn more about supporting the Lazarus Foundation, contact:

- Phone: [MAIN CONTACT NUMBER]
- Email: [EMAIL ADDRESS]
- Website: [WEBSITE URL]

LOCATIONS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Lazarus Foundation of Mississippi, Inc.

PO Box 1623

Greenville, MS 38701

601.759.0660

www.LazarusFoundationMS.org

Lazarus House of Mississippi

Quitman: [ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Jackson: [ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Lazarus Academy of Mississippi

Jackson: [ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Meridian: [ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Gulf Coast: [ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Delta: [ADDRESS AND PHONE]

On This Rock Construction

[ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Lazarus Fabrication Services

[ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Lazarus Business Development Center

[ADDRESS AND PHONE]

New Beginning Ministries

[ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Garden by the Wayside

[ADDRESS AND PHONE]

Lazarus Village

LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors

- [NAME], Chair - [AFFILIATION]
- [NAME], Vice Chair - [AFFILIATION]
- [NAME], Secretary - [AFFILIATION]
- [NAME], Treasurer - [AFFILIATION]
- [ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS]

Executive Leadership

- [NAME], Executive Director
- [NAME], Chief Operating Officer
- [NAME], Chief Financial Officer
- [NAME], Director of Programs
- [ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS]

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11