

## Vision Statement

Cultivating relationships to enhance re-entry and reduce recidivism.



“A New Direction”

## Mission Statement

Train and equip faith-based volunteers to provide mentoring and aftercare to ex-offenders preparing for re-entry into society.

Our goal is to train individuals, churches and other faith-based organizations to provide a support system through an educational forum within their own counties. This is done so ex-offenders can study, prepare and grow during their transitional phase. Trained mentors will provide guidance, encouragement, coping and life coaching skills to ex-offenders in collaboration with the Department of Public Safety, Prisons, and Chaplaincy Services support.

# VOLUNTEERS

## Make

## A

## Difference



### Contact information:

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# TRANSITIONAL AFTERCARE NETWORK

**Transforming Lives  
Through a  
Spirit of Excellence**



## What is TAN?

**TAN** (Transitional Aftercare Network) is a **Department of Public Safety (DPS), Prisons**, statewide network of volunteers, churches and faith-based ministries who have come together to assist ex-offenders in their transition back into their families, communities, workforce and society.

The transition from a life of confinement and institutionalization to freedom comes with a great deal of new responsibilities and a maze of conflicting emotions. For the average citizen, surviving and thriving in the outside world can be a day to day challenge. Ex-offenders leaving a period of incarceration will find it very difficult, on their own, to obtain the things that most people take for granted – food, clothing, housing, job assistance, family integration and emotional support. Reentry into society can be very difficult for these men and women.

TAN celebrates human transformation and the impact volunteer mentors have in the lives of ex-offenders as they prepare for and re-enter society. Volunteer mentors assist ex-offenders with the coping and cognitive skills essential to successful transition before and after their release. Prison chaplains, community ministries, volunteer organizations and individuals from across the state have banded together with the NC Department of Public Safety, Prisons, and Chaplaincy Services to help these individuals and their families through this highly anticipated transitional phase. It is all done through the **TAN** program.

## How does TAN work?

**TAN** is an NC Department of Public Safety, Prisons, program. Graduates from approved pre-release programs are eligible to apply to **TAN** for consideration of a mentor assignment.

**TAN** will assist inmates/ex-offenders whose infractions do not exceed a Class C or D Disciplinary level. Some infractions will be reviewed on a case by case basis. All infractions will be verified through the OPUS data base. **TAN** does not formally work with Sex Offenders, however, we will provide referrals to other resources when available.

The screening process begins when the inmate/ex-offender submits an application to the **TAN** office. A network of trained and dedicated volunteers will begin the remarkable task of laying the foundation for a successful transition into whatever NC County the inmate/ex-offender chooses to live. Through cooperative planning and ongoing training between **TAN** and the volunteer network, the inmate/ex-offender is offered the much needed support and guidance necessary as he or she plans and prepares to re-enter society. Restoration, transformation, integration, encouragement and life coaching are the main objectives in our motto “**Transforming Lives Through a Spirit of Excellence**”.

For more detailed information about applications or volunteer opportunities in your area, do not hesitate to call, write or email the address on the back.



**Aftercare Mentors**

## Fact or Fiction

### Volunteerism

A disadvantaged background does not give anyone a license to commit a crime. The majority of offenders are not monsters as the media likes to portray them. In their worst case scenarios, they are people who have broken or violated the laws of the state in which they reside.

We are all held accountable for the good and bad decisions that we make. Knowing the general patterns of an offender will help you address their needs with more effectiveness and sensitivity. Most offenders come from families with serious shortcomings. Studies show that as many as four out of five offenders were abused as children, either physically, sexually or emotionally. Such abuse can develop deep wounds, low self-esteem, anger and a life time of residual scarring. Offenders desperately need a flesh-and-blood encounter and expression of God's love. A volunteer- just like you - is needed to provide that *ray of hope!* Please consider volunteering so you, too, can assist in restoring and transforming a human life.

### Aftercare Volunteer Opportunities include:

- **TAN** Team Coordinator (i.e. phone calls, follow-ups, coordinating events, teambuilding, etc.)
- Transportation
- Donations Coordinator (i.e. clothing, time, money, etc.)
- Mentor/Life Coach
- Clerical support skills (i.e. data entry, secretarial, office equipment, etc.)
- Transitional Aftercare Training Instructor
- Transition and Re-entry planning