

why parole project?

Louisiana sends more children to prison, per capita, than any other state. The equivalent of a death sentence, this punishment fails to consider scientific evidence that proves children are far more impulsive and less able to weigh consequences than adults.

The U.S. Supreme Court considered this evidence in a series of rulings when it recognized that they are capable of change as they mature. The Court instructed Louisiana and other states to change their laws to give juvenile lifers an opportunity to prove their rehabilitation.

The Louisiana Parole Project Inc., is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that was created to respond to the needs of juvenile lifers affected by these court rulings and changes in the law since most, now in their 40s, 50s, and 60s, will be paroled and returned to our communities. The Parole Project is committed to ensuring that their reintegration is successful.

In addition to juvenile lifers, the Parole Project also serves "40-year lifers", who are now eligible for parole consideration due to changes in Louisiana law, and any individual who has been incarcerated for twenty years or longer who have aged out of criminal behavior and demonstrated a record of rehabilitation.



"I had the desire, but it was Parole Project who gave me the tools to succeed. I've been out a year, and in that time, I've gotten my own car and a place to call home. I even started my own business doing maintenance for churches and businesses. I truly got a second chance at life, a chance to do the right thing. It's going great."

Lou, LPP Client Released December 2016

contact

Email questions to:

ashleigh@paroleproject.org

Voice messaging service:

225-395-1697

Address:

P.O. Box 2029
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

donate online
www.paroleproject.org



parole
project

successful reintegration

Parole Project offers a one-year evidenced based post-release coaching program for men and women who have completed long prison sentences.

• Part One: Orientation

Clients become acclimated to life in the community through our week intensive residential orientation program where they are prepared for the immediate challenges and reentry concerns specific to those who have served long prison sentences. Upon release, clients are assigned a reentry coach who will develop the individualized reentry accountability plan for them.

• Part Two: Step-down Transition

During the three-month transition period, clients are placed in high quality residential programs and half-way homes such as The Refinery in Opelousas and Joseph Homes in Baton Rouge. Under the guidance of their coach, clients begin to practice their newly acquired skills. The step-down transitioning helps ensure that our clients can successfully navigate a variety of situations from the workplace, to the grocery store, the bank and more.

• Part Three: Guided Community Reentry

We work closely with community partners to ensure our clients obtain stable housing. Clients then relocate to their long-term residence. Coaches continue to work closely with the client for the next year, guiding them through their individualized reentry accountability plan.

hands-on reentry skill building includes:

While the people we serve are designated as low-risk for recidivism, they do face many unique challenges as they reenter society. We are here to help them readjust and relearn necessary life skills.

• Social Norms

societal values, social interactions, respecting boundaries, conduct in public places

• Employment Skills

resume' writing, job seeking skills, job interview skills, workplace etiquette

• Financial Management

banking basics, budgeting, credit building and management, investing and savings

• Consumer Skills

interactions with sales and service staff, grocery shopping, product research, needs versus wants

• Technological Literacy

computer basics, internet basics, cell phone usage, technology at public places

• Family and Community Reintegration

friends, developing relationships with neighbors, faith groups, and community organizations

• Driving School/Navigation

driver's education, driver's license procurement, basic navigation and introduction to public transportation.

client eligibility

Parole Project seeks to assist eligible low-risk clients who meet the following criteria:

- The client has served twenty years or more of the sentence imposed.
- The client has not committed any major disciplinary offenses in the twelve consecutive months prior to the parole hearing date.
- The client has completed one hundred hours of pre-release programming.
- The client has completed substance abuse treatment as applicable.
- The client has obtained a low-risk level designation determined by a validated risk assessment instrument approved by the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.
- The client has made a commitment to complete the Parole Project reentry program.

legal assistance

In addition to reentry support, the Parole Project offers pro-bono legal representation throughout the parole process for juvenile lifers.