

REACHING OUT *From Within*



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About Us

Reaching Out From Within (ROFW), established in 1982, is a Kansas-based nonprofit organization and a national leader in rehabilitation programs for incarcerated individuals that utilizes factual based concepts, welcoming volunteers and incarcerated men and women of all clerical and belief systems. ROFW's rehabilitation program offers an opportunity for a "whole person" transformation for incarcerated individuals who want to make lasting changes in their behavior in order to become a role model for nonviolence while still incarcerated and become contributing members of society upon their return to our communities. Prisons are hard, unfriendly places. The main function is incarceration not rehabilitation. If residents hope to change their lives, they need the will and inner courage to do so against long odds.

ROFW prepares its participants to engage in a nonviolent lifestyle while inside the prison walls and to become self-reliant, contributing returning citizens upon their release. The goal of our prison program is simple: to transform lives. To change deep down feelings of hopelessness, despair and disconnection to hope, affirmation, empathy and love. Over three decades, we have created a curriculum, known affectionately as The Blue Book™. This constantly evolving document, in conjunction with the weekly meeting format, has given thousands the opportunity to find the courage within themselves to break the relentless chain of automatic violence haunting their lives.

ROFW's Geographical Reach

ROFW maintains 17 groups inside Kansas correctional facilities and three groups in North Carolina correctional institutions. Our locations include:

Anson (NC) Correctional Facility (2), Craven (NC) Correctional Facility, Hutchinson Correctional Facility (3), El Dorado Correctional Facility, Ellsworth Correctional Facility (2), Lansing Correctional Facility (3), Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility (2), Norton Correctional Facility, Oswego Correctional Facility, Stockton Correctional Facility, Topeka Correctional Facility – Women's facility (2), Winfield Correctional Facility, and USP Leavenworth Facility.

In addition to the Blue Book™ ROFW helps reduce the recidivism rate and improve incarcerated persons' lives after their sentence by:

- *Assisting residents in learning the work skills they will need upon returning to society with additional support to help them find job opportunities.*
- *Providing a transitional housing program that helps these returning citizens find temporary shelter.*
- *Facilitating alumni meetings for them when they are on the outside in order to continue to make a "whole person" transformation.*