



The **CAMPAIGN** for the
FAIR SENTENCING
of **YOUTH**



Anthony 'Pete' Petty

Credible Messenger

After serving 30 years for a harm he committed as a child, Anthony 'Pete' Petty came home in 2020 thanks to D.C.'s Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act. Determined to give back to his neighborhood in Northeast D.C., he became a credible messenger with the East of the River Clergy-Police Community Partnership. He uses his lived experience to mentor at-risk or incarcerated youth by providing crisis intervention and counseling to help them avoid making the same mistakes he did.



When handling his caseload of youth involved with D.C.'s juvenile justice system, he tells them, "I did 30 years, so you don't have to do 30 years." During his free time, Pete volunteers with D.C.'s Safe Passage program, a youth safety initiative where volunteers provide children safe travel to and from school in hopes of strengthening community relationships and teaching students healthy conflict resolution skills. Pete's emergence as a leader in the reentry and violence prevention field helped inspire the documentary "District of Second Chances," which features Pete's profound and transformative impact on the movement.

Christi Cheramie

Reentry Specialist

At only 16 years old, Christi Cheramie found herself in an abusive relationship with an older man that ultimately led to her involvement in second-degree murder and being sentenced to death by incarceration in Louisiana. While in prison, she took advantage of all the education rehabilitation programs available to 'lifers,' obtaining a GED and a degree in agricultural studies.

After serving 25 years, Christi came home in 2019 and has made the most of her second chance. As a reentry manager with the Louisiana Parole Project, she is the primary caseworker for women coming home after lengthy prison sentences, many of whom were her friends and mentors during her time in prison, helping them obtain jobs, schooling, and housing while navigating their newfound freedom. Today, she is a homeowner, loving partner, devoted mother, and committed advocate.



Jarrett Harper

Nonprofit Executive

When Jarrett Harper was sentenced to life without parole at 16, he was told by the judge that he was irredeemable. After serving 20 years, Jarrett came home in 2019 and struggled to keep up with the rapidly changing world and simple tasks. Overcoming seemingly insurmountable barriers, Jarrett is now a leader in the movement to end the extreme sentencing of youth. He played an instrumental role in the passage of California Senate Bill 545, also known as the SAFE Act, which protects and broadens resources for foster youth and abused and trafficked children. He was also a champion of California Prop 17, which reestablished voting rights for formerly incarcerated individuals. As a Lived Experience Fellow for Silver Lining Mentoring, Jarrett helps empower individuals who have also spent time in foster care to become advocates and serve as role models for youth in the foster care system.

Today, he is the Executive Director and founder of Better Days, a non-profit that advocates for the freedom of incarcerated foster children and putting an end to the foster care-to-prison pipeline through legislation, mentorship, and re-entry support. As a father, former foster care youth, and former juvenile lifer, he knows the impact love, protection, and stability can have on a child.



April Barber

Advocate and Author

April Barber was 15 years old and pregnant when she was sentenced to two consecutive life terms. In 2022, April earned one of the first commutations from North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper from the Juvenile Sentencing Review Board, an initiative that the CFSY helped champion and establish to give people sent to prison a fair chance at sentencing review. After 31 years of incarceration, April says reconnecting with her son has been her favorite part of her newfound freedom. In addition to being a devoted mother, April leads “Fenced In: Fighting for Freedom Advocacy”, an organization that has provided countless resources for those reentering society in North Carolina. April also works as a peer support specialist, recovery coach, personal trainer, care aide, and steadfast advocate. As a prolific author, having published four books that detail her struggles during incarceration and her commitment to growth and healing, she has helped call attention to the concerns of the incarcerated community.



Anthony Gomez

Senior Analyst

At 17 years old, Anthony Gomez was condemned to die in prison. After serving 24 years, Anthony was finally free but did not forget about those who remained in prison and was determined to give back to his community upon release. He was central to advocating for fair sentencing in Virginia and in petitioning the Governor of Virginia to commute the sentence of fellow Incarcerated Children's Advocacy Network (ICAN) member, Angel DeJesus, with whom he formed a special bond as two Puerto Ricans from New York City serving juvenile life without parole in Virginia. When Angel was released on January 13th, 2022, Anthony was at the gates of the prison, ready to take him home.

Today, Anthony works for a Fortune 500 company as a senior analyst. He has extensive experience as a paralegal, including and assisting in all aspects of complex cases. Anthony serves his community by providing reentry transitional services to returning citizens through his nonprofit Path Reentry. He also loves to visit the local juvenile detention centers, jails, prisons, public schools, churches, and community centers to share his story and inspire the youth to pursue their dreams no matter what they've been through in life. Anthony has found peace and healing through nature and loves to go on long bike rides, hiking, kayaking and has a special appreciation for taking long drives on the open road.



Sarah Bryant Bailey

Drug and Alcohol Counselor

Facing 30 years in prison at 16 years old, Sarah (Bryant) Bailey was determined to spend her incarceration healing while advancing her education to give back to others. She participated in the LIFE program with Lipscomb University and took advantage of their creative writing and poetry workshops. After coming home in 2008, Sarah continued her education at Lipscomb University, graduating Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Sociology and Business. She went on to obtain a second degree in Social Work from Chattanooga State.



Sarah has spent the past 13 years building a life centered around service and advocacy. Sarah now dedicates her time to helping others get back on their feet as a Detox Alcohol and Drug Counselor at the Council for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services. Beyond her work as a counselor, Sarah serves on the board of Sarah's Place, a halfway house dedicated to supporting individuals in transition and those battling substance abuse. Her commitment to community service extends to mentoring local youth and raising awareness about peer pressure, social issues, trauma, restoration, crime, and substance abuse. Sarah's life and career are testaments to her resilience and unwavering commitment to helping others find their paths to recovery and success.