



Redemption Housing is proud to announce that our second-annual **DAY ONE CHALLENGE** will be held on September, 22 2018, in Center City, Philadelphia. This unique and educational event brings together over a dozen nonprofit service providers, community leaders, students, pastors, and advocates to bring attention to the complex issues of mass incarceration and prisoner reentry.

This informational packet includes more information about this exciting event, as well as the details you need to make a significant local impact in helping to inform our community and provide safe housing for returning citizens.

**Redemption Housing is West Philadelphia's first provider of housing and support services specifically for men returning from incarceration.** Redemption Housing Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit, seeks to address the cycle of recidivism through holistic programming and healthy relationships, bringing healing and restoration to those affected by incarceration. We believe that when they are released, returning citizens require support circles to properly break free of crime, addiction, and homelessness. Therefore, funds raised will be used to provide not just housing, but also support services that help each individual achieve their greatest level of self-sufficiency and fulfillment.

This letter of invitation—and accompanying materials—is for business and community leaders who recognize the value of this vital effort. Please join us in our efforts to deliver hope to ALL the residents of our community. The enclosed information provides details regarding the available sponsorships and promotional opportunities surrounding the Day One Challenge. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. We look forward to discussing this opportunity with you in more detail in the coming weeks!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Lordi'.

Nick Lordi  
President/Executive Director  
nick@redemptionhousing.org  
(267) 908-6850



**REDEMPTION HOUSING**



## DAY ONE CHALLENGE

### SOUVENIR BOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HALF-PAGE - \$100

QUARTER-PAGE - \$50

### PRIZE DONATION

Company will be mentioned  
in the event souvenir book.

### THANK YOU!

Please fill out our sponsorship form and  
contact your Redemption Housing  
representative to confirm participation.  
We will collect your order form and payment,  
or you can mail the sponsorship form and  
payment to

### REDEMPTION HOUSING

PO Box 6326  
Philadelphia, PA 19139



REDEMPTION  
HOUSING



PO Box 6326  
Philadelphia, PA 19139



[connect@redemptionhousing.org](mailto:connect@redemptionhousing.org)



(267) 908-6850



[redemptionhousing.org](http://redemptionhousing.org)

# DAY ONE CHALLENGE



REDEMPTION  
HOUSING



Each year, as many as 35,000 people return to Philadelphia from incarceration, often struggling with the same question: "What now?" Returning citizens face a lifetime of barriers, but the first few days and weeks are particularly daunting. They are released from prison with questions about where they are going to live, how they might support themselves, and where they might find help. This is why Redemption Housing's first residential program, Barnabas House, is of such great importance. A reentry home in the heart of West Philadelphia, Barnabas House will exist to invite returning citizens back into the community, providing its residents with the support circles they need to properly break free of crime, addiction, and homelessness.



On September 22, 2018, Redemption Housing is partnering with fellow reentry service providers for its second annual DAY ONE CHALLENGE. This two-hour immersion experience will place approximately 150 community members and activists "in the shoes" of Philadelphia's returning citizens, providing a glimpse of what they have to experience in the days and weeks following their release. Participants of the DAY ONE CHALLENGE will work together to locate supports in employment and education, obtain their state IDs, and find a place to sleep until they can "get back on their feet." Upon completion, they will have a greater understanding of the challenges that await returning citizens and a greater appreciation for the variety of supports offered by Philadelphia's reentry service providers.

At the conclusion of the event, participants will gather at a Center City location with Redemption Housing's leadership, partnering organizations, and event sponsors for food, drink, and reflection.



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Sponsor the DAY ONE CHALLENGE today to help educate our community about the daily challenges that face Philadelphia's returning citizens and provide Redemption Housing's residents with the support they need to break out of homelessness.**

### HEADLINE PACKAGE - \$1500

- Company logo will be included on all event materials, including registration forms, posters, and the event banners located at the start and end of the event.
- Company logo will receive premier placement on event t-shirts.
- Company will be given a complimentary vendor table at the event's finish line.
- Company will receive complimentary registration for up to 10 participants.
- Company will receive a "Thank You" post on Redemption Housing's social media and website.
- Company will have the option to provide a goodie bag item to event participants.
- Company will receive one full-page "Thank You" in the event souvenir book.

### BANNER PACKAGE - \$1000

- Company logo will receive secondary placement on event t-shirts.
- Company will be given a complimentary vendor table at the event's finish line.
- Company will receive complimentary registration for up to 5 participants.
- Company will receive a "Thank You" post on Redemption Housing's social media and website.
- Company will have the option to provide a goodie bag item to event participants.
- Company will receive one full-page "Thank You" in the event souvenir book.

### GOLD PACKAGE - \$500

- Company logo will be included on event t-shirts and in signage at the event.
- Company will have the option to provide a goodie bag item to event participants.
- Company will receive a "Thank You" post on Redemption Housing's social media and website.
- Company will receive one half-page "Thank You" in the event souvenir book.

### SILVER PACKAGE - \$250

- Company logo will be included in signage at the event.
- Company will have the option to provide a goodie bag item to event participants.
- Company will receive one half-page "Thank You" in the event souvenir book.



# REDEMPTION HOUSING



REDEMPTION HOUSING

CONNECT WITH US

## **Our Mission**

Redemption Housing is a recovery organization that offers faith-based programming and community support to Philadelphians coming out of incarceration and homelessness. We invite these marginalized people back into community to free them from bondage, and we address their needs as whole people to bring about their physical, emotional, and spiritual freedom.

## **Locust House**

Locust House is a four-bedroom, fully furnished home that opened in 2017 for returning citizens who are in their “next level” of reentry. Residents have been released in the past 1-5 years and have already started building a supportive foundation but benefit from the access to housing and mentoring we provide.

## **Barnabas House**

This upcoming 12-month program is designed to guide men coming directly from incarceration back into the community. Through intentional relationships and access to social services in a dignified environment, men will develop the support to break free of crime, addiction and homelessness. Please consider partnering with us as we raise the funds to open Barnabas House and meet this need.

You can connect with Redemption Housing today through a donation, a gift of time, or a contribution of expertise.

## **Donations**

We depend upon private donations from generous individuals and organizations. We take great care to ensure that your donation is used wisely, and we provide a number of avenues for you to give. Please call us at 267-908-6850 with any questions or visit our website today at [www.redemptionhousing.org](http://www.redemptionhousing.org) to make a secure donation with your credit card.

You can also give in kind, allowing Redemption Housing to better allocate available funding toward programmatic goals and mission. Some of our most needed items are toiletries, household and cleaning supplies, men’s underwear and undershirts, and SEPTA tokens.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Redemption Housing offers a variety of opportunities for volunteers. Take a look at our current volunteer needs on our website, determine which option might be right for you, and fill out an online volunteer application today!



REDEMPTION HOUSING

Serving those transitioning from incarceration to community.

# CONNECT

Issue 1



## THE HARSH REALITIES OF RETURNING CITIZENS

Meet John, a lifelong Philadelphian. John completed his ten-year prison sentence last week, and with only the clothes on his back and a paper bag carrying his few personal belongings, John walked to the train station to purchase a ticket “home.”

### JOHN: A TYPICAL RETURNING CITIZEN IN PHILADELPHIA

As a typical returning citizen in Philadelphia—an unmarried, thirty-year-old, African-American male—John will face several barriers in his efforts toward restoration. His family will hesitate to rekindle their relationships with him. It will be tough for John to locate safe, secure, and

affordable housing, and employers will be cautious about hiring him. In fact, a recent study of prisoner reentry in Philadelphia concludes: “At a time when more prisoners than ever are returning home...the challenges of prisoner reentry, the barriers faced by [returning citizens] appear to be growing.”

One of the first choices that John must make as a free person is whether to spend his evenings on the streets or at the local homeless shelter. Having been released from prison with no one to receive him, John is facing hardships that are shared by many others. While he could probably find a couch to sleep on for a few days, he cannot think of any long-term prospects for stable housing.

**IN THEIR FIRST NIGHTS OF FREEDOM, PEOPLE COMING FROM PRISON OFTEN HAVE NO PLACE TO STAY BESIDES THE STREETS.**

John spends the last of his money on dinner as he walks to the shelter. As John lays restless on his cot, he plans out his activities for the next morning.

*continued...*





He knows that public housing will not be an option; it is official policy that people with violent histories or drug convictions are to be denied service by the housing authority. A number of local organizations are already making a difference for people like John in educating neighbors, advocating for change, and preparing returning citizens for the roadblocks ahead.

But few, if any, organizations offer a comfortable place to stay for those returning citizens who find themselves to be homeless. As hopelessness begins to overcome John, he passes out from exhaustion.

**“EACH OF US IS MORE  
THAN THE WORST THING  
WE’VE EVER DONE.”**

Bryan Stevenson in *Just Mercy*



## AN INTRODUCTION TO BARNABAS HOUSE

Redemption Housing is currently working to purchase a West Philadelphia property to serve as the location of Barnabas House, a reentry home specifically designed for returning citizens like John. Barnabas House will be the ministry’s flagship program, seeking to address recidivism in treating residents with the dignity, compassion, and attention they deserve.

According to a nationwide study in 2005, more than a third of returning citizens who are arrested within five years of their release are arrested within the first six months, with more than half arrested by the end of the first year. There is a great need for safe and supportive communities where returning citizens can develop the support circles they need to properly break free of crime, addiction, and homelessness.



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TODAY  
TO COMPLETE A VOLUNTEER  
APPLICATION.**



We believe that Barnabas House will become a model for churches and faith-based community organizations connecting with Philadelphia's often abandoned population of returning citizens.

The residence will be supervised by a team of people who are committed to:

- Affirming the humanity of residents.
- Creating a comfortable home.
- Encouraging participation in a faith-centered community life.

The program and facilities will also include the following advantages:

- Private and shared rooms.
- Walking distance to public transportation.
- A community room for group meetings and services, such as on-site addiction recovery meetings, individual counseling, job skills training, and spiritual counseling.

TO SUPPORT  
PEOPLE LIKE JOHN  
THROUGH  
THE YEAR-LONG PROGRAM  
AT **BARNABAS HOUSE**,  
CONNECT WITH  
REDEMPTION HOUSING  
TODAY THROUGH A  
MONETARY DONATION,  
A GIFT OF TIME,  
OR A CONTRIBUTION OF  
EXPERTISE.

**TOGETHER**  
**WE CAN FILL THIS NEED**  
AND HELP GUIDE MEN  
FROM INCARCERATION  
TO COMMUNITY.



Please detach and return with your gift.

I want to **PARTNER** with Redemption Housing to **PROVIDE** for returning citizens.



Redemption Housing  
PO Box 6326  
Philadelphia, PA 19139  
redemptionhousing.org  
(267) 908-6850

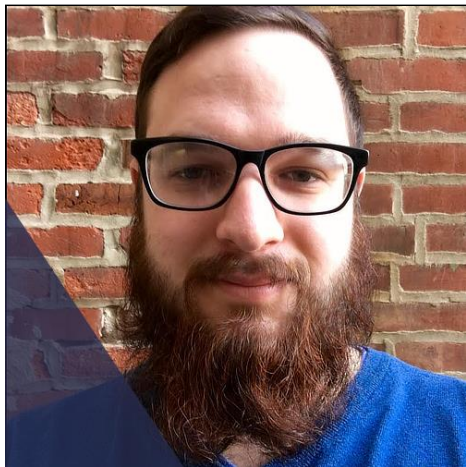
I pledge to give a recurring donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

#### Instructions for Giving via Credit Card:

1. Visit [www.redemptionhousing.org](http://www.redemptionhousing.org) and click on "Donate" near the top-right corner of your screen.
2. Enter your desired donation amount and click the checkbox labeled "Make this Donation monthly."
3. After submitting your email address and personal information, you will be redirected to complete the donation process via PayPal.

#### Instructions for Giving via Online Banking:

1. Visit your bank's website to set up an automatic payment for Redemption Housing.
2. After choosing the frequency of your donation, enter Redemption Housing's mailing address:  
PO Box 6326, Philadelphia, PA 19139.



USE THE FORM  
AT THE BOTTOM

OF THIS PAGE  
TO PLEDGE

**\$40 PER MONTH**

IN SUPPORT OF  
RETURNING  
CITIZENS.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Every week I receive more than a dozen letters from men coming out of incarceration who are looking for a place to live. These are men who have become trapped in a cycle of poverty, homelessness, and incarceration.

Redemption Housing's board has spent many fostering community partnerships and exploring the best ways that we can fit into the vibrant network of support that already exists for Philadelphia's returning citizens. We are in the process of considering our options for purchasing a property, but in the meantime, we have had a number of people ask: "What can I do to help?"


Here are a couple of actions that you can take today:

1. Visit our Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/redemptionhousing](http://www.facebook.com/redemptionhousing). Like us and share the introductory post that is pinned to the top of our feed!
2. Donate today using the form at the bottom of this page to support us long-term in the amount of \$40 per month.

I appreciate your continued prayer and support as Redemption Housing begins to welcome people from incarceration into our community!

God Bless,

Nick Lordi, Board President

 Please detach and return with your gift.

I want to **PARTNER** with Redemption Housing to **PROVIDE** for returning citizens.



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PO Box 6326  
Philadelphia, PA 19139  
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(267) 908-6850

Please use this form to make a donation or update your mailing preferences.  
Visit [www.redemptionhousing.org](http://www.redemptionhousing.org) to make a donation with your credit card.

**My Gift Is Enclosed:**    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I have enclosed a check payable to Redemption Housing.  
☐ I am pledging to give a recurring donation via Redemption Housing's website or a personal check (see reverse).

**I would like to receive the following:**

(Check all that apply.)

- ☐ Quarterly Postal Newsletter  
(Update your address in the space to the left.)  
☐ Year-End Postal Newsletter  
☐ Monthly Emails

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_