We Create Jobs & Opportunities
The Problem

- Mass incarceration is a human rights issue impacting over 2.3 million adults and youth along with families and victims.
  - 1 in 106 white males have convictions
  - 1 in 36 Hispanic males
  - 1 in 16 black males
The Problem

• Over 70 million people have convictions.
• Lifetime likelihood of imprisonment of males born after 2001.
  – 1 in 17 white males
  – 1 in 6 Hispanic males
  – 1 in 3 black males
The Problem

- Cost per incarcerated person 2017: $20,925

- Average stay is 5 years: $104,625

- SCDC 2017 count: 21,135 (22 facilities)

- Yearly cost to operate total = $442,249,875
The Problem

• There are 48,000 laws and statutes, often called collateral consequences, that continue to punish people with records AFTER their sentence is over.

• Realities of Re-entry:
  • Fines
  • Lack of Transportation
  • Homelessness
  • No positive support network
  • Minimal job opportunities i.e. occupational licenses

• Over 60% of people remain unemployed a year after release.
People First Language

• Dehumanizing:
  – Ex-felon, convict, inmate, prisoner, con, ex-offender, felon, lifer.

• Humanizing:
  – Formerly Incarcerated Person, Person with a criminal record, Returning Citizen/Neighbor.

“The first struggle is the one waged within our own minds”
– George Jackson

“We believe we have the right to be called by a name we choose, rather than one someone else decides to use. We think that by insisting on being called “people” we reaffirm our right to be recognized as human beings, not animals, inmates, prisoners or offenders.”
– Eddie Ellis
The Solution

Impacted Communities

Incarcerated

Community & Economic Development

Barriers to Re-Entry

Thriving Communities
Purpose: To eliminate the impacts of cultural, social, economic & racial isolation

The Solution: CED/CDC
Soteria Vision

• Business Development and Ownership that is fully functional through the ministry
  – Deconstruction Company (Soteria at Work)
  – Reclaimed Furniture Business
  – Real Estate Development
• Low to moderate income housing and new home development
• Relapse prevention counseling
• Continuing education, GED or technical training
• Mentoring
• Financial counseling through proper budgeting and debt management
• Mobilize previous incarcerated to advocate
Making a difference in our community

Soteria House
- Safe, Quality Transitional Housing
- Mentoring
- Job Placement
- Life Skills
Making a difference in our community

- **Transitional Homes**
  - 16 Bed Transitional Facility
- **Rental Homes**
  - 14 low income rentals
  - 5 vacant lots for future development
• Requirements as a Resident | All Soteria House residents are required to follow a basic set of rules as follows:
  – Regular meetings with an appointed mentor
  – Attend a weekly church service
  – Financial budgets and planning
  – Attend daily devotions and journaling
  – Maintain employment and or education
  – Attain proper ID’s, drivers license

• Graduation | When a resident has met the requirements of the program directors, he will be eligible for certain aid from Soteria such as:
  – Permanent housing
  – Furniture
  – Household supplies for independent living
Keys to Re-entry

- Pre-Release Plan
- Community Support
- Employment
- Safe Housing
• **Vance Street Project**

*We received grant funds to build six 3-bedroom 2-bath homes for low to moderate-income families. Sherry and Dick Dennison donated this property. We collaborated with the City of Greenville and the Upstate Homeless Coalition to rebuild this whole community.*
Rental Property | “Green” Affordable Rental

- Vance Street Revitalization Plan
  - Touching the Community at Large
  - Non-profit Sustainability
The Village at Vance

• Before & After
Miller Street Project

• Before & After
Miller Street Project

- Before & After
Miller Street Project

- Before & After
Recycling

- Neighborhood beautification and recycling business
- Pick up recyclable from apartments in city and Greenville county school district
- Become environmentally friendly
- Create jobs for interns
- Revenue from recycling goes back to CDC
Job Creation

- We have created 12 jobs for interns
- Opportunity to learn and apply new skills
- Make a difference in the community
Creation of Revenue

- Received grant funds to start social enterprise
- Sale of recyclable materials
- Contracts with local businesses
- Consulting
Deconstruction is the practice of disassembling a building in order to salvage materials (joists, flooring, siding, fixtures, etc.) that can be reused for new construction, rehab or furniture.
Deconstruction
Deconstruction
Reclaimed Wood Furniture
Reclaimed Wood Furniture
Reclaimed Wood Furniture
Deconstruction

- Created 60 jobs for formerly incarcerated men
- Diverted over 31000 bd. ft. of lumber from landfill
- Recycled or reused 714 tons of brick and concrete
- $250,000 in revenue
Your neighbor, a father, a husband
I am a Man