MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JULY 2023 Abe Brow



Abe Brown Ministries' (ABM) reentry program, now known as inspHire, is operated by and proprietary to ABM. The program is designed to embolden and develop (personally and professionally) citizens with lived incarceration experience(s) by equipping them with marketable skills and assisting them in

inspHire accomplishes this by earning the trust of our clients and providing comprehensive interventions that stabilize their lives so that they can focus on sobriety, good health, training, and personal growth.

securing gainful employment in order to achieve self-sufficiency.



Allie M., inspHire program manager, discusses our re-entry program with State Attorney Susan Lopez of the 13th Judicial District who visited with us to learn more about the resources ABM offers to individuals who are court-involved and/or formerly incarcerated.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LESSON DECISIVENESS

Q: What is decisiveness?

A: The ability to make decisions quickly and effectively.

Q: Why is this important?

A: Every aspect of life includes making decisions. Making decisions more strategically connects your choices to your priorities. Decisiveness is a core Leadership trait.

Steps to becoming more Decisive:

- 1. Be open to change and new ways of thinking.
- 2. <u>Develop specific goals</u> designed to help you improve self-confidence and reduce hesitancy and fear in decision-making.
- 3. Find a role model or mentor to help you improve your knowledge base and confidence.
- 4. <u>Spend less time on small decisions</u>. Evaluation time should be proportional to the decision impact.
- 5. Research and evaluate your decision options. Practice thinking strategically.
- 6. Forgive yourself for decisions you may have made in the past. Recognize that progress involves setbacks. Learn from mistakes, they make you stronger.
- 7. Accept the limits of your control and knowledge. Don't wait for the 'ideal' situation or circumstances to make a decision.

Consider this:

"In any moment of decision, the BEST thing you can do is the Right thing; the NEXT best thing you can do is the wrong thing; and the WORST thing you can do is

NOTHING!"

-Theodore Roosevelt







Tashun Martin is an alumnus of our comprehensive re-entry program now known as inspHire. He currently works for the ministry as a Janitorial and Maintenance Engineer

Before his arrest, Tashun had a wife, three kids, grandchildren, and two jobs. He remembers never being a troubled kid, constantly receiving good grades in school, and overall, a childhood filled with love and plenty of support. His incarceration was the first time he had been in trouble; the system was a whole new world for him.

Tashun states that one circumstance out of his control led to him reacting in a way that he usually would not have. He recalls his 10-month incarceration as the most challenging time of his life because he had to be away from his family. While incarcerated, Tashun missed the birth of his 5th grandchild and the passing of one of his brothers. "You are literally missing your life," he stated while recalling the experience.

Tashun decided that he would do everything he needed to change his way of thinking, broaden his horizons, and reunite with his family.

Before being released, a friend told him about Abe Brown Ministries and the opportunities that might be available in our re-entry program. Tashun immediately began his research and was able to get in contact with an Intake Specialist. He began and completed the program. Tashun recalls loving the Professional Development classes with Dr. Brown because "the way he teaches allows you space to see things in a different light and see yourself for who you really are." As a result of his drive to succeed, Tashun is now employed at Abe Brown Ministries as a Janitorial and Maintenance Engineer.

"This organization cares about people. They don't just talk the talk. They walk the walk alongside you."

Tashun urges anyone who is considering Abe Brown Ministries: "Don't consider it, do it." He states: "Two years ago, you wouldn't have liked me. I thought I knew everything and had everything figured out, and I didn't." Abe Brown Ministries has allowed Tashun to learn new skills and meet different people, that have led him to see situations from new perspectives and react differently than he might have in the past.

The main thing that Tashun would want to tell anyone who is interested in enrolling: "This organization cares about people. They don't just talk the talk. They walk the walk alongside you. Everything they say is beneficial to you. The moment you step on campus, you feel the generosity, love, and compassion here."