



OUR PASSION AND PURPOSE

Go Reentry Specialists has been over 15 years in the making. I'm very excited to finally announce this much needed ministry has arrived to the center region of Pennsylvania.

The "Go" in our name is a good place to start in explaining our mission and focus. "Go" has its foundation in two passages of scripture. First, in the passage in John 8 where teachers of the law and Pharisees brought a lady to Jesus who was caught in the act of adultery. Upon presenting this adulterous lady to Jesus they told him that the Law of Moses says that this lady should be stoned. He asked him, "What do you say Jesus?" His response was, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." We all know that no one threw a stone and that Jesus said to the lady, "Go now and leave this life of sin." There it is, Jesus launches the first reentry ministry on the planet.

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The second passage is in Luke 10. Again an expert in the Law asks Jesus, "Who is my neighbor." Jesus responds with the parable of the Good Samaritan. At the end Jesus tells the expert in the Law to, "Go" and treat others as the Good Samaritan did to the man he found robbed, naked and half dead. Here Jesus clearly teaches that we, the church, should look after those who are in need. So the "Go" in our name speaks to two groups of people. First, to those who have stumbled, Jesus says "Go." Move forward and don't make the same mistakes you did in the past. Second, Jesus tells the church to "Go." Look for ways to help those in need.

The "Reentry Specialists" in our name speaks directly to our mission and focus. That is, to help those leaving incarceration return successfully to their communities and be and productive members of our society. This is no small goal! PEW research says that nationally, 7 out of every 10 people released from incarceration will return to incarceration within 3 years.

Those leaving our jails and prisons face many barriers that make it near impossible to be successful. Barriers like: inability to find housing, inability to find employment, lacking the basics (food, clothing, and needed medication), lack of any hope, no direction, and no support. Go Reentry Specialists exist to help these valuable members of our community get back on their feet and thrive in the community.

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Go Reentry Specialist provides services and support to those leaving incarceration and their families. We are a faith based organization, but will help anyone seeking our services no matter what their faith, politics, orientation, or race. We want to help anyone who asks.

What makes us Specialists and good at what we do is the fact that we are experts by experience. I personally am a successful returning citizen. I know firsthand what it takes to break this vicious cycle of recidivism.

Some of our board of directors are also formerly justice involved individuals who know the struggles firsthand associated with returning to the community after incarceration. Our motivation to work with those leaving incarceration also comes from a personal relationship we have with Jesus, the Way Maker, the One who forgives, the One who made us, and the One who has a plan to prosper each one of us.



by MARK FRAILEY

Executive Director
Go Reentry Specialist

PROCLAMATION ON SECOND CHANCE MONTH

On March 31, 2020 President Trump signed the Proclamation on Second Chance Month, April 2020. ([link whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-second-chance-month-2020/](https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-second-chance-month-2020/)) Some passages from the proclamation that stand out:

“As Americans, we believe that every person has unbound potential. It is therefore important that we offer former inmates who have served their sentences and learned from their earlier mistakes the opportunity for redemption through a second chance to become productive members of society. During Second Chance Month, we celebrate those who have set out to create better lives following incarceration and recommit to helping former inmates contribute to the strength and prosperity of our Nation.”

“This month, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all who know in their hearts that redemption is possible. Second chances are possible only through a network of people who believe in themselves and others, former inmates determined to improve their lives, judges and public servants dedicated to reducing recidivism, and families and community members willing to lend their support to people striving to triumph over their past mistakes.”

It is exciting to launch Go Reentry Specialists to the Center Region of Pennsylvania. There are only a few other organizations in our vast region that are dedicated fully to helping incarcerated individuals return to their communities.



by MARK FRAILEY

Executive Director
Go Reentry Specialist

PRAYER & PRAISE

Prayer

- *Pray that God will use our ministry.*
- *Pray that we grow in regular financial support, especially for startup costs.*
- *Pray for favor as we share Reentry Strategies in county jails.*
- *Pray for three more board members.*

Praise

- *We have a great board in place.*
- *Our webpage is available to view and interact with.*
- *Opportunity to preach in the Nantyglo CMA church and share about Go Reentry Specialists.*

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Financially support us with donations.
- Spread the word. Like us on Facebook and share our page and posts.
- Invite us to speak at your church or group.
- Become a partner church and open your doors to returning citizens and their families.
- Tell us about employment opportunities.
- Tell us about housing opportunities.
- Donate clothing, tools, furniture, vehicles.
- Volunteer. We will provide opportunities for you to help those in need in your area.

**Please give one-time and monthly donations at
www.goreentry.com. Thank you**