



Joyce Schofield

SCI Muncy
P.O. Box 180
Muncy, PA 17756



STATUS

- Incarcerated in 1999 at the age of 47
- Hometown: Sicklerville, New Jersey

OBJECTIVE: Upon my release, my goal is to bring healing and peace to those who are suffering.

WORK HISTORY/SKILLS:

- Hospice Care, 2003
- Special Needs Care, 2003-2007
- Tutor- 2006-11; 2013-14
 - o GED-Math, History and Science
 - o Typing-Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced
 - o Microsoft Word-Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced
 - o Accounting-I, II, III
 - o Entrepreneurship-Basic and Advanced
- Peer Assistant: Outpatient Alcohol and Drugs
- Peer Assistant: Lifer's and Long Term Offenders

EDUCATION:

- Hospice Inmate Care, 2002
- Computer Aided Drafting Design, 2002
- Librarian Aid, 2005-06
- Mavis Beacon Typing: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced
- Microsoft Word: Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced
- Accounting: I, II and III
- Entrepreneurship: Basic and Advanced
- Biohazard Waste Clean-up and Management

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PROGRAMS:

- Lifers Group, 2001-2002
- Cage Your Rage, 2001-2002
- Anger Management, 2001-2002
- Citizenship, 2001-2002
- Parenting, Child, Teenagers and Children with Disabilities, 2003
- STEP: The PA Prison Society, Elderly Inmates, Family Dynamics, Values and Relationships; Assistant Coordinator with surveys; 2002-05
- Parenting, Child, Teenagers and Children with Disabilities, 2003
- Happy Hats, 2003-05
- Thinking For A Change, 2004
- We Care, 2004-05
- Restorative Justice: The PA Prison Society, 2005
- Long Term Offenders Group, 2011-12
- COLORS, 2015 · Day Of Responsibility, May 2016
- Seeking Safety, 36 sessions on domestic abuse, January 2017
- Alcohol and Drugs, New DOC training that allows me to work inside and in society as a Certified AOD Peer Assistant, February, 2017
- Hospice Training, DOC program, 40 hours, April 2017

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

- Muncy Inmate Organization Committees: Criminal Justice, Support For Women, Banquet, Run-A-Thon and Breast Cancer Awareness
- Pennsylvania Prison Society and Citizens for Social Change and Rehabilitation
- The Center For Returning Citizens
- 2017 Dr. Julia Hall Prisoner of The Year, PA Prison Society
- Reconstruction Inc., Community Capacity Building Curriculum, Ongoing-2017

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THE WOMAN I AM TODAY

Handcuffed and shackled, sitting in the back of the transport van, I couldn't believe that within a few hours I would arrive at the state prison where I would spend years...possibly decades...maybe even the rest of my life. My eyes were closed and I prayed feverishly, asking God to not allow me to change behind bars.

I'm so glad now that He knew what was best for me and allowed me to be receptive to the many changes this experience has caused in me. We see ourselves the way we want others to see us. I couldn't see the breakdowns and flaws I had suffered that life experiences bestowed upon me. But, as I attended any and all groups and therapy sessions put before me...the flaws I'd refused to see were laid bare before me. My mind saw things that I was embarrassed to admit. I was at a point in my life where I knew there was no more denying who I was. There was no way for me to hide my inner damage and my only option was to accept and change those flaws and work hard to heal and empower myself so that I could become the person on the inside that I presented to the outside world.

This entailed restoring my relationship with Jesus. I embraced His Word again and for the first time, I was able to understand the fullness of the spiritual meaning that we are each other's keeper. I AM responsible for the well-being of each man, woman or child that I am blessed to meet. That's how I have lived my life at SCI-Muncy...that's how I will continue living my life until my final days. It may seem strange to anyone who hasn't spent decades behind bars, but what I've learned...what I've become behind bars is a true blessing to me. I'm sad for the years spent away from my children, but I'm grateful for learning the truest lessons of life that I am purposed to learn...first, true giving doesn't cost money and second...when you love God, you have spiritual love for everyone.

The woman I am today is so different from the one who entered these prison gates so long ago. My focus is no longer on material gains or grandeur. When I see my fellow brother or sister, I don't have to wonder how to respond, I simply give them the spiritual side of me and a helping hand if they need one.

I pray that I'm back in society soon. There, I will carry my desires to continue lifting the fallen...to be a voice for those who can't speak for themselves...I will encourage the downtrodden and guide our children away from harm and trouble. I will be a positive force for good service in my neighborhood. The woman I am today is stronger because I had to overcome and survive, alone...when I was at my weakest...in the hardest of times. I am smarter because I forced myself to learn from all of my mistakes. The woman I am today is happier with ME because of the years of intense sadness and hard work I did under painful heartaches and crying rivers of tears in my efforts to learn how to become a better person. Best of all...THE WOMAN I AM TODAY is much wiser and richer with my need to embrace and be embraced, sharing compassion and self-empowerment for the good of everyone.

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The Pennsylvania Prison Society

The Dr. Julia G. Hall
Inmate of the Year

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For the numerous and productive ways she improves her life and brings light and hope to those around her; for her courage in leading a fulfilling life in service to others while incarcerated.

May 3, 2017