

FELICIA DAWSON

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



STATUS

- Incarcerated in 2004 at the age of 19
- Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

EDUCATION:

- General Education Diploma
- Business Management, License

PROGRAMS:

- House Of Hope
- Violence Prevention

THE WOMAN I AM NOW:

While incarcerated, as with many youth with a life sentence, I was very bitter, extremely angry, confused, scared and most importantly, filled with grief and shame. As a result of not knowing how to control these emotions, I acted out in a negative way; not caring, basically becoming what society has labeled me: animalistic. This continued for three years until the “older ones” sat me down and gave me something I have never felt before, hope.

I had become a prisoner physically as well as mentally, but only jeopardizing myself. So, I began looking inside myself and began to turn my journey into a brighter future. My biggest accomplishment so far is completing The House of Hope. This is a voluntary program that challenges a person to look inside of themselves as an individual and not to be a victim of circumstances of the past. Prior to this program I was lost and I was drowning in my own misery. But thanks to this program and hard work and dedication, I now have the tools to become anything I want to be. Just because I am housed here, doesn't mean I am a product of this environment. I have an education, work ethics and a better understanding of myself and respect not only for myself but for others as well. Today's society considers Lifers as a lost cause. Everyone makes regrettable mistakes some more heinous than others. Indeed, punishment is appropriate, but forgiveness is essential. Everyone deserves a second chance in life.