

## HAT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Healing and Transition (HAT) program, a faith-based community wide reentry initiative serving men and women returning to our communities following incarceration. HAT is comprised of several phases or levels. Each level leads to the next progressive life formation opportunity. For someone who completes all levels, it can take up to 12 months.



Once all levels are completed, the Returning Citizen becomes eligible for enrollment in our Transition Coach training class. We see the HAT Program as an opportunity for growth and development. For those who successfully complete all levels there is an opportunity to serve others who are in similar circumstances as a coach for other men or women.

Our greatest accomplishment will be training Returning Citizens to become Transition Coaches who serve in the HAT ministry.

### ConnectCity

#### Mission Statement:

ConnectCity, Inc. (CCI) exists to connect people in need with resources from the church, government and community organizations providing opportunities for life transformation, community involvement, and personal development, while improving quality of life.

#### Vision Statement

ConnectCity, Inc. envisions a community where everyone has an opportunity to succeed. To accomplish this CCI seeks to train and develop leaders from hurting individuals who are often overlooked. CCI believes that community collaboration, resource sharing and a commitment to faith-based advocacy will empower these new leaders to return to their community to in turn transform lives.

### Healing and Transition Program A community initiative of ConnectCity, Inc.

ConnectCity, Inc.  
530 Dog Track Road  
Longwood, FL 32750

Phone: 407-712-4566  
E-mail: [gretchen.kerr@connectcity.org](mailto:gretchen.kerr@connectcity.org)  
[www.connectcity.org](http://www.connectcity.org)  
[www.HATprogram.org](http://www.HATprogram.org)

[WWW.HATPROGRAM.ORG](http://WWW.HATPROGRAM.ORG)

A Faith Based Reentry Program

## HEALING And TRANSITION (HAT) PROGRAM

Serving  
Central Florida Counties:  
Seminole, Orange, Lake, Volusia, Osceola

**HAT**  
HEALING AND TRANSITION PROGRAM  
[www.hatprogram.org](http://www.hatprogram.org)

 connectcity

# Healing and Transition (HAT) Program for Returning Citizens



The Healing and Transition (HAT) Program is a faith based reentry program serving men and women returning to Central Florida neighborhoods following their incarceration.

**W**e want to acknowledge the Annie E Casey Foundation for their Healing Communities Model, an important foundational component of the HAT Program. In addition, Harold Dean Trulear, PhD, Howard University and Mr. Joe Williams, CAPA (Christian Association for Prison Aftercare) President and Founder, who have provided input, encouragement and support throughout the development of the HAT Program.

The HAT program is biblically based and open to anyone who has been incarcerated whether in jail or prison, and have been released from incarceration within the past 120 days. Local participants are offered pre-release services while still incarcerated, preparing them for their next steps. Community involvement, agency and partner participation works together to create a cohesive plan for their return. All interested participants can request a Transition Coach and will be connected to an entire Transition Team. Positive connections, high accountability and intense structure are the keys to success thus reducing their chances of recidivating or returning to jail or prison.

## HAT PROGRAM DESIGN

*The program begins upon incarceration and continues throughout the Returning Citizen's lifetime. Each step is independent of the others but are used to build a solid foundation.*

**Level I: Pre-release orientation.** Inmates will have the opportunity to join the in-cell mentoring class. This first step begins the process of life transformation. During the group mentoring session pre-release orientation work begins. Each participant completes a HAT packet including intake and assessment. Their packet is used as tool for their early stages of growth and development. Inmates, once enrolled in the program are known as Returning Citizens. They may stay in the class until their release.

A 24 Hour plan is developed the week prior to released providing the Returning Citizen and the Transition Coach a road map for a safe, controlled and planned release leading to their entry into Level II.

**Level II: Orientation 1 week.** Once the Returning Citizen has been released and their 24 hour plan executed, the following day begins orientation. All participants report to the Esther/Nehemiah Center as instructed. Day 1 begins the orientation, Day 2,3 serving in the warehouse, Day 4,5 begins the career development and job campaign development at the Career and Enrichment Center. At week end, participants meet their Transition Coach and determines their next commitment level.

**Level III: Esther Place for women - Nehemiah Project for men.** The most intense portion of the program takes place at this level, a four week classroom experiential learning environment. Please see individual brochures for complete details.

**Level IV: Career Development and Life Enrichment.** Once a Returning Citizen graduates from Esther or Nehemiah, they are eligible for participation at the Career and Enrichment Center (CEC). Continuation of the job campaign, additional enrichment in the area of anger management, family development, parenting and relapse prevention. The facility is available until the Returning Citizen obtains employment.

**Level V: Connection to Station of Hope (SOH).** Developing a strong support team ensures accountability, involvement and success. Each participant is connected with a mentor/coach and is expected to engage in service with their selected SOH.

**Level VI: Training.** Following completion of 1 year in the HAT program, participants are invited to be trained as future Transition Coaches.

## INTERESTED IN HELPING ?

YOUR Areas of Interest

YOUR Priority (1-6)

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coach/Mentor                  | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Providing transportation to appointments | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coaching inside the jail                 | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Praying for our participants and team    | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gathering resources in the community     | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Data entry or website updating           | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please list _____                 | _____ |

PRINT NAME

Address

City, ST, Zip code

EMAIL ADDRESS (required for regular updates)

Contact Phone

Please indicate you current status

- Cleared for Seminole County Jail
- Cleared for Orange County Jail
- Chaplain - Location \_\_\_\_\_
- Interested in training as Chaplain

Once your request has been received, you will be sent a Transition Coach Packet. Please review and return. You will be added to the email list and begin receiving updates immediately.

**PLEASE RETURN FORM TO:**

ConnectCity, Inc.  
ATTN: HAT Program, Director  
530 Dog Track Road  
Longwood, FL 32750

Phone: 407-712-4566  
E-mail: gretchen.kerr@connectcity.org  
www.connectcity.org  
www.HATprogram.org

HEALING AND TRANSITION PROGRAM