

What is Mentoring?

A mentoring relationship involves a mentor and a mentee. Generally the mentor will be someone with more experience who can offer practical, career, emotional and social support. The relationship is focussed on the growth and development of the mentee and will change over time in response to their needs.

Why do female prisoners need a Mentor?

The transition from prison to community can be particularly challenging. Mentoring during these times can provide new networks, positive guidance, and support. It can make the world of difference.



Jade's Story

Jade Lewis is the founder of the Yellow Ribbon Project for Second Chances in Australia. Her story is real and personal.

Despite being an international little athletics champion with Olympic dreams at 15, Jade was lured into the drug scene after going to a rave party. Jade eventually became addicted to heroin by 18, which led to a lifestyle of addictions, crime and violence.

In 1999 by the Grace of God and through the help of Teen Challenge, Jade was given a second chance at life at 22.

After going public with her story in 2000, Jade has now delivered over 750 school and community presentations, authored two books, developed programs for women prisoners, participates on government committees and has won many awards for her excellent standards and dedication.

Together with her husband, they live to help deliver a message of freedom and success to all people. Jade is also happily married to Tristan and they have three beautiful children.

Telephone: (08) 9479 4441

Email: admin@jadelewis.com

Post: PO Box 115, Bayswater WA 6933

Office: 96 Slade St, Bayswater WA 6053

www.yellowribbonproject.org • www.jadelewis.com

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STEP OUT

Pre and Post Prison Release

► Mentoring Program

The Step OUT Pre and Post Prison Release Mentoring Program is a new and exciting female mentoring program which begins while the female is in prison and up to 12 months after her release.

The program has been designed where a team of female volunteer mentors¹ will be matched to help the prisoner live a free and successful life outside of prison.

¹Team mentoring involves more than one mentor working with one mentee.



I am a female prisoner. Can I have a mentor?

Yes! You can have a mentor if you:

- have approximately 6 months left of your prison sentence
- have completed other Jade Lewis and Friends Inc. prison programs during your time in prison
- will be living in the Perth Metropolitan Area
- have a good attitude and willing to make life changes
- can make a weekly commitment to engaging with your mentors once you are released from prison.

What kinds of things can I do with my mentor?

Depending on areas of interest, the kinds of activities between the mentor and mentee will vary.

Some common things to do is to go:

- shopping
- to sporting activities
- to group mentoring,
- have a coffee.
- for a walk
- find hobbies together
- to a seminar

Why become a Volunteer Mentor?

There are many reasons why people want to mentor including a strong belief in social justice and a generous heart to help others.

What do I need to become a Volunteer Mentor?

Mentors need to be female, over 18 years old and be able to commit to one hour, once a week for up to a year to connect with the mentee.

Mentors need to be respectful, non-judgemental, have good boundaries, work with other mentors and remain confidential.

Will I be trained and have a background check?

Volunteer female mentors will be selected through an application process and will include a National Security Clearance, reference checks and background experience. A full day training course with Jade Lewis and Friends Inc. will need to be completed before any mentor is matched with a female prisoner.

The final decision of mentor placements is made by the Board of Jade Lewis and Friends Inc.

What about other services in the prison?

The Step OUT Pre and Post Prison Release Mentoring Program is not a replacement or a diversion of current Department of Corrective Service arrangements such as parole officers, transitional managers etc. This is a structured mentoring program introducing another support network the female prisoners can access on their release.