



"He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others."

2 CORINTHIANS 1:4A

REVERSING THE CYCLE

Many people are on the ropes of life, battling between despair and uncertainty. At I Care Outreach, we join them in their journey toward long-term hope and lifelong transformation. Along the way, participants' lives are rebuilt – but it doesn't stop there. Through them, transformation extends to their families and communities and to others in need.

Take Richard Carrion. You may remember him from last year's fall newsletter. He recently completed his treatment program and a series of I Care Outreach classes. **He is currently working as a paid Peer Intern doing outreach for a New York City organization that provides health care for those in need. As he celebrates his year of sobriety, he has also been approved for training to become a certified recovery peer advocate to help others who struggle with addiction.**

"Thank you for all you poured in me," he writes. We, in turn, thank you for making Richard's story possible. Your support of I Care Outreach is helping to break – and reverse – the cycle of poverty and despair in so many lives!



Some Recent Highlights:

In February, 28 participants in Bridgeport and New Haven graduated from Faith & Finances classes.

April will be exciting as we start new Work Life Classes in Bridgeport and New Haven, as well as an evening Faith & Finances class at our Training Center.

New Boundaries classes began in late February in both Bridgeport and New Haven.

Last January, a bank representative led an informative class discussion on banking, credit, and loans. We are grateful for the growing corps of Allies, volunteers, community leaders and professionals who help facilitate ICO Classes. Please contact us if you'd like to get involved.





NEW WOMEN'S CLASS MEETS DEEP NEEDS

In November 2023, we were thrilled to celebrate eight graduates of our first Life Practices Training class created especially for women.

"I Care Outreach seeks to meet women where they are in their lives," explains ICO VP and Program Administrator Jessie Turner, who facilitated the class. "We recognize that women have a unique set of needs, core motivations and nurturing that distinctly differs from men."

The class on setting boundaries was praised by the graduates, many of whom have experienced childhood trauma and abuse, parental challenges, physical and emotional violations, and housing and justice-involved issues.

"I now have a new understanding that boundaries are rooted in God's desire for us to tend to ourselves and our well-being," says a graduate. "I will take what I learned from this course and apply it to my life successfully and it will help me to improve the relationships that are so important to me."

Dear Friends,

We praise God for all that He is doing through I Care Outreach! The enthusiastic response to our new women's classes – along with the growing demand for all ICO classes – has led us to investigate leasing additional classroom space in our training facility. Even as the ministry grows, so does the cost. Join us in praying for God's blessing and guidance for I Care Outreach and if you are able, please help us meet our financial goals in 2024. Thanks to the faithful supporters like you, God is breaking the cycle of despair and uncertainty in the lives of vulnerable men and women, their families, and communities.

May our chain-breaking, miracle-working God who brings light in the darkness bless you in every way,

Pastor Robert M. Turner

President and Educator



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