

Safe Transitions, Stronger Communities

*Real stories of change, real impact on public safety.
Using transitional facilities as tools in recovery.*

While at Centre, I have been able to obtain and maintain a full-time job, assistance with finances, completed treatment and aftercare. I have been able to maintain a prosocial life for myself. I have been able to pay off all of my debt, fines, and learned how to budget. I have been able to save \$9,000+ for when I exit to my own apartment in the community. I have learned the importance of living a structured disciplined life. If not for the opportunity to be at Centre, I'm not sure which direction my life would have gone. Being here has helped my family to trust me because I have been able to independently provide for myself, responsible for my own transportation and establish employment which will help to carry me into my next phase of life. With the opportunities that Centre provided me, I have been able to show my family and confidently trust myself that I can transition back into the community successfully.

Through determination, support from loved ones, and the help of rehabilitation programs, I took the first step toward recovery. It wasn't easy, and there were many moments when I questioned whether I would ever be able to regain control of my life. But with persistence and support, I started to build the foundation for a healthier future. Any problems I ran into in my reintegration phase I was able to solve on my own or had amazing resources (Bismarck Transitional Center) and support systems to help navigate these challenges. Today, I am proud to say that I have successfully rebuilt my life. I encourage you to consider supporting policies and initiatives that promote recovery, reduce the stigma of addiction, and provide people with the resources they need to thrive.

Getting the opportunity of coming to Centre, Inc. has helped me in many areas such as valuable work experience, earning wages to help support my kids, enhancing reintegration into the community by building relationships and job skills, paying larger amounts to fines, completion of treatment, a savings account, a bond back with my family, financial stability, and learning to work as a team. I could keep going on why Centre, Inc. has been a blessing to not just me and my family but to many others as well.

The structure and support of Grand Forks Centre were critical to my success. Reentry is challenging, but the Centre provided a safe environment where I could apply what I had learned, develop resilience, and stay accountable. These experiences reinforced my ability to lead a productive and meaningful life. None of this would have been possible without parole and transitional housing. Since my parole release in December, I have achieved more than I ever imagined. Most importantly, I am proud of the man I have become and excited for my future. Had I been required to serve 85% of my sentence without hope of reentry support, I don't know if I would have been motivated to change. Taking away that hope could eliminate the drive for rehabilitation altogether.

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When I arrived at Centre from the North Dakota State Penitentiary, I was immediately offered help with achieving my goals. Honestly, they even helped me figure out what my goals even were at that time since it is hard trying to think of the future when you are in prison. Since leaving Centre, I have maintained my recovery, and I am currently 22 months sober. I still have the same job, and I have money in my bank account for the first time in years. 2025. I fully believe that I would not be sober right now or be where I am today if transitional facilities like Centre did not exist.

Centre Inc. has been an absolute lifeline in my transition from prison back into society. The support and resources they have provided have played a crucial role in alleviating the deep fears and anxieties I felt about reentering the outside world. Centre Inc. has not only provided me with the tools and resources to reintegrate into society, but they've also been instrumental in giving me a sense of hope and purpose for my future. Their support, combined with the powerful community connections they've helped me establish, has made all the difference in my reintegration process. I feel equipped to face the future with optimism and determination, and I owe much of that to the support I've received from Centre Inc.

While at Centre, I was able to finish my treatment and find employment so I could have financial stability. I've had the same job for the last 6 years. I have been clean from using illegal substances since 2016. This has also helped me to be a better father. I've been able to pay off all my debts and buy a house. This is something I thought I would never be able to accomplish, owning my own home was a dream of mine. I believe Centre is a much need program for those getting out of prison and have no place to go. This place was a crucial first step in turning my life around. Now I strive to be a positive role model for others who have found themselves in similar situations.

Being at Centre, Inc. has truly transformed my life, and I am grateful for the opportunity to give back. I have been sober since April 20, 2022, and I actively support others by providing transportation to meetings, helping them find their path to a better life. I believe wholeheartedly that everyone deserves a chance at recovery and a brighter future. Since my release, I have worked hard to rebuild my life. I obtained my license and became certified as a peer support specialist, helping others in schools and the community. I understand the struggles faced by those recently released from prison, and I am committed to helping them avoid the pitfalls of addiction and criminal activity.