



# THE **PETEY GREENE** PROGRAM

## **PETEY GREENE PROGRAM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WINS COVETED "AARP PURPOSE PRIZE"**



Princeton, New Jersey – Jim Farrin, Executive Director of The Petey Greene Program, was awarded the AARP Purpose Prize, along with four others, the AARP announced.

Farrin's decade-long dedication to training volunteers to enter prisons to tutor incarcerated students garnered him the accolades and a \$50,000 award to further expand his work. The AARP Purpose Prize recognizes achievement in public service-focused work by persons age 50 and above.

"Winning the AARP Purpose Prize is as high an honor I can imagine," Farrin said of the announcement. "What's most pleasing to me about receiving the award is I can highlight the need to educate people in prison. This award will build awareness of the fact that incarcerated students are eager to learn and improve their lives, just like everyone else. Hopefully, my later-in-life career change will inspire our volunteers to take the lead in re-imagining the criminal justice system."

“Of course, the prize money will be put to good use, training our volunteers to provide the best academic support possible,” promised Jessica Weis, National Program Director for The Petey Greene Program.

“But the best part of Jim’s receiving the Purpose Prize is that he gets recognition for devoting his time to running the only multi-state program that assists high school equivalency attainment in prisons and jails. Very often, we’re the only game in town for helping incarcerated students at the high school level and preparing them for the growing number of college classes offered in prisons. I’m so glad that the prize jury recognized that,” Weis continued.

### **About the AARP Purpose Prize**

Every year the AARP Purpose Prize™ award honors 5 exceptional individuals who have tapped their wealth of experience to foster enduring and innovative social change. Recipients of this prestigious award each receive \$50,000 to celebrate their achievements and broaden the scope of their work.

The five winners will be honored at the AARP Purpose Prize Award Gala, to be held at the Field Museum in Chicago on November 2.

### **About The Petey Greene Program**

The Petey Greene Program is a non-profit organization that supplements correctional education by training volunteers to enter correctional facilities and tutor incarcerated students as they prepare for academic milestones, like earning a high school equivalency degree or starting college classes. The program operates in eight states.

In the 2016-17 academic year, 715 Petey Greene volunteers provided 9,008 hours of tutoring to over 2,000 incarcerated students at no cost to the 37 correctional facilities served by the program.

To learn more about this award or The Petey Greene Program, please contact:

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