

70x7 LIFE RECOVERY – GRAND RAPIDS PROGRAM CENTER
Formerly: CRIMINAL JUSTICE CHAPLAINCY
PRAYER LETTER– January & February 2018

PRAISES:

1. Criminal Justice Chaplaincy has now successfully merged with 70x7 Life Recovery! Our name and location has changed as well. We are grateful for a smooth move at the end of December 2017 and look forward to serving at our new office:
70x7 Life Recovery – Grand Rapids Program Center
2950 Clyde Park Ave SW
Wyoming, MI 49509
2. We are so blessed by and thankful for the many wonderful volunteers who have faithfully served in CJC's various programs. Your contributions have blessed this ministry and contribute to its success! We look forward to continuing these relationships and adding to them as our programming expands into 70x7 opportunities.
3. We are grateful for the positive feedback we have had at our Reentry Networking Lunches. Many appreciate the welcoming atmosphere and hospitality as well as the sense of understanding for those who attend from many various backgrounds. We have also been consistently blessed with good attendance for this important program!
4. We celebrated 37 years of ministry on November 9, 2017 by enjoying improvisational comedy provided by River City Improv. Our merger with 70x7 Life Recovery was officially announced; it was a lovely evening to connect, share stories of our ministry's programs and client progress. We are blessed and encouraged by all who attended and are very grateful for contributions given to support this work!
5. We are so grateful for all who contribute financially this ministry. We are thankful for your prayers and words of encouragement.

REQUESTS:

1. Criminal Justice Chaplaincy has officially merged with 70x7 Life Recovery, based in Holland, MI. We will continue our current programming serving returning citizens and will be adding 70x7's programming which includes workforce development. We are excited about this opportunity and new possibilities for our ministries together. Please pray for all parts to come together smoothly as we combine our agencies and adjust to this move. Pray for our clients as they adapt to a new location and changes as well. Pray local churches will be willing to become "Serving Together" sites for our new programs.
2. Housing is a tremendous struggle for many low/no income individuals, more so for those with a criminal background. Pray for those who are struggling to find safe, affordable housing, especially during the winter months.
3. Please pray for the safety of a client who has been stable for years but recently suffered a challenging setback. Pray that she will be able to make wise choices as she struggles with an extremely difficult situation.
4. Pray for the children of our clients. Many children, especially those in single parent homes, are separated from parents and placed in foster care situations while birth parents are incarcerated or recover from addictive behaviors. Upon completion of programs or release from incarceration, it can be very difficult and daunting for birth parents to regain parental rights. Please pray for all involved in these very complex situations.
5. Pray for our mentor matches; that mentor / mentee combinations will be strong and beneficial. Pray that mentors will be understanding and patient with mentees many of whom are needing to make major changes to past lifestyles that were familiar & easy but not beneficial to their long-term growth.
6. Pray for the participants in our partnership with Goodwill through the Training To Work (T2W) program. Many of these ex-offenders are young men who would benefit from the support of a mentor. Pray these T2W participants will take advantage of this program and request a mentor.
7. Pray for those battling depression and specifically for those with suicidal thoughts. Pray for clients with serious health issues, which can be overwhelming with all the other challenges they face. Pray for those overcoming drugs, addictions, and domestic violence circumstances to be able to keep their distance from family and friends who are unhealthy and drag them back down. Pray for those who are dealing with loss & separation. Pray for strength so they don't relapse into destructive patterns and situations.
8. The Take Charge Program serves as a life skills and support group for female ex-offenders and other women who can benefit from the topics featured. The Winter 2018 program runs from January 11 – March 22. Pray for the women attending that what they learn will be positively life changing. Pray for wisdom and insight for the speakers and blessings on the volunteers who faithfully help. Pray that new volunteer will step forward to assist!
9. As we start a new chapter of ministry, pray for continued blessings on the work we do, that we will have staff & resources to meet the needs presented, that donors continue to support these programs and those in them, and that changes being made will bless all involved now and going forward into the future.

THANK YOU:

Thank you so much for praying. Without your support the work we do is not effective or long lasting. "The prayer of a righteous man (woman) is powerful and effective." James 5:16.