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Bringing hope to those who feel forgotten

Queensland not-for-profit Carinity goes inside the state's jails to bring messages of love, faith and support to people who feel forgotten.

Carinity's Inside Out Prison Chaplaincy service provides faith-based pastoral care, bringing the light of Christ into where there is darkness.

Sammy's story highlights the vital role prison chaplaincy can play in transforming the lives of people in prison.

Sammy grew up in a violent home and was abused on a regular basis until, at the age of 15, he finally left home. By that stage he was already addicted to drugs and pornography.

By the age of 18 he was drinking a cask of wine a day to try and drown out the voices that tormented him.

Before long, his addictions and the need to fund them led him to commit a number of armed robberies and he was imprisoned.

Prison chaplains became a breath of fresh air in a dark place for Sammy. During his second visit to prison, he handed over his life to God.

"Finding God in prison was the best thing that ever happened to me. He had been walking with me the whole time and led me to a place of repentance," Sammy explains.

Today, Sammy is "outside" and studying a Diploma of Counselling so he can fulfill his calling to shepherd others. He is in a positive relationship and is looking forward to fulfilling his dream of marriage and family.

Without the intervention of prison chaplains, Sammy's story may have ended quite differently.

By donating to the Carinity Chaplains Appeal, you can help fund the work of Inside Out prison chaplains in 14 correctional centres across Queensland - ensuring men and women in prisons are not forgotten by society.

MEDIA RELEASE



Carinity chaplains also support people in hospitals and aged care communities and students in special assistance schools.

Please donate to the 2021 Carinity Chaplains Appeal at carinity.org.au/donations. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

ENDS

PHOTO CAPTION:

Inside Out Prison Chaplains were a breath of fresh air in a dark place for Sammy.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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ABOUT CARINITY

Since 1949, Carinity as an outreach of Queensland Baptists has been making a real difference in people's lives through comprehensive and integrated community services. These include caring for the frail aged in their homes or in integrated seniors' communities, helping families and young people through difficult times, and supporting people with disability. Carinity also provides shelters for homeless youth, alternative education for teenagers who struggle in traditional schools, and prison and hospital chaplaincy.