

Name: John Vivo III

Title:

Organization or Agency:

Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

Testimony:

Having experienced my most recent condition of confinement in CCI, South Blocks 4 and 3. People who aren't doing the right things and getting high, there is lost of hope, ambition, motivation or purpose because there is no incentives to do good.

There is a program that they are leading in the Robinson Unit in Texas. There are several other programs throughout the unit.

"Forever Sober Program" - Texas

Its for people with life without parole, big sentences, day for day, there is no other program like this, its a totally self functioning therapeutic community.

- Its for dudes who have methamphetamine problems, k2 problems.
- Willfully give up your rights to be alone for one whole year, he agrees to never leave the section without being with a sponsor, someone that's dedicated to sobriety.
- People who don't go to church and ain't tryn to hear it.
- They must be Sober 6 months to enter, 100% sober during enrollment in program, pass every UA given, no conflict, incident, or fight in the entire section, completely revolutionizes the way we do time.

Cheshire C.I. has blocks South Blocks 1-6, East Blocks 1-3, North Blocks 1 and 2, that have a toxic culture and toxic environment, unsentenced with sentenced-lifers, there is a lost hope - no one is doing anything for such people.

For the programs in Pop, those who are afforded an opportunity, people are sent to a class room for a few hours, but right back to the section with their homeboys, right back to the section with the dope. They send people to a class room, as the people leaves the class room, they light back up, turn on the wicks, whatever.

But the Forever Sober Program, they take all that away.

- They get rid of all the stainless Steel Tables
 - They leave the life of our Pro Doors open over 24 hours a day
 - They bring couches
 - They bring tables
 - xbox series, PS5's, Foosball, Rollout Screen TV's, 75" TV's and 100's of DVDs, remotes on the table.
 - Take away the institutional setting
 - Give them a free world setting
 - allow them to live like they do in the world
- And immediately they just give up the dope and that's what its about.

I seek support for this Program - outside finances - as a solution. There is a curriculum, to this program, it took three years to write, three years to get approve in another state - To turn units over - change the culture and the environment, start over a fresh start.

The only thing we need left is freedom. Give us the grace to live as free as possible in this place in a program. The world should know, Connecticut should know, this is how you change lives. You give the Creator a chance, you give people a chance, offer some hope that your life can be better, do your time better and you give us all the ability to show that we are worthy of being reformed people, there is hope for you.

I seek support for this program.

Respectfully submitted:

