



February 2026 RHP Newsletter

ReEntry House Plus hopes this February Newsletter finds you safe after our two weekend storms and record cold. May these articles warm your heart as we share these stories about our mission successes.

And one other thing..... Please see our note about a fix to our Donation Button.

Randolph gives thanks for ReEntry House Plus and his Support Team

Randolph has "graduated" from our reentry program after 18 months of living in the Carolina Loop house and working with a support team to find his way back into society. He asked to address our RHP family on the eve of his moving into a rent subsidized apartment in Orange County. This is his interview with **Bill Wagner**.

"After 33 years in prison, I was released in September of '24 at the age of 55. I had nowhere to go, but I was told there's a place in Hillsborough that accepts guys right out of prison. I met with the people who ran the house and quickly realized this was my best option. There are three main things a person needs out of prison: Secure housing, meals and employment. Because of RHP, those things were never pressured on me, the house gave me all three—and that kept me out of prison. Without those things, I'd of probably gone back. What would anyone do if it's freezing cold and you don't have a house or food?

"For the first few months I lived rent-free while RHP waited for me to get my income. You don't realize what you don't know until you get out. RHP and my support team helped me to fill out all the necessary forms to get my SSI and food stamps card. Even after I got my food stamps card, I still didn't know how to use it! They helped me get my first bank card and my credit score went from 410 to 679. I didn't drive before prison so I've had an arduous journey of obtaining my permit and eventually getting my driver's license. This took many attempts and tons of practice. I'm sure I can't even remember all the little things they helped me with. But those little things all add up to getting on my feet and putting my life back together.



Randolph accepts his Certificate of Completion from Step-up-Durham.

"RHP got me associated with Step Up Durham and I have since graduated from their Work Program. This gives me access to a job coach and helps me train for interviews, write my resume and find jobs. Before this RHP had already provided multiple references for jobs but my new affiliation with Step Up gives me even more choices. About six months ago I had a promising lead on an apartment and RHP agreed to give me an interest-free loan to help with all the initial costs. Unfortunately that place fell through but I'll likely be moving to my new place in the coming week.

The house gave me so many advantages and I would never be where I am without them.

Another Board Member shares his RHP story.

Last month we offered some perspectives from RHP Board members as to what drew them to serve on our Board. Here are some comments from David Stanford, one of the founders of our mission.

David Stanford:

Ten years ago when we first moved to Hillsborough I was introduced to Yokefellows Prison Ministry at Orange County Correctional. Because of my wife's experiences of living under Martial Law under Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines, she was deathly afraid of prison ministry, places where a number of her colleagues and family had "disappeared". Lunch with Gates Vrooman, a volunteer at Orange Correctional Center, helped her to see that the prison was safe for volunteers. After I received my Orange Card which allowed me to take residents out for CV Passes (community visits), I took Phillip - an OCC Resident - out for lunch with Althea coming along. Not having been outside the gates for 27 years, Phillip was overawed with everything, much like Rip Van Winkle's story. Althea was amazed and we started taking 2 residents to our church each week. It was fulfilling not only for the residents, but for our parishioners as well.

Soon after, Doug Peterson - who was another Yokefellow's volunteer - and I reflected on the great need for a Transitional House in northern Orange County that would house and train justice-involved residents who were being released into Orange County. We then met with Tommy Green and Will Elmore and together we dreamed of starting a reentry house, recruited a Board, incorporated as a non-profit, and after a year were able raise the money and purchase our house on Carolina Loop in Hillsborough (a miracle in and of itself). We are now beginning our 5th year of residency.

What we have learned, and are learning, is that getting involved in the lives of Justice-involved men and women is a great blessing for them and for us. Because of them, all our lives are wonderfully enriched.

Give Button Glitch

Due to a technical glitch which was driven by our learning curve with this new Giving Platform, the **Please Donate Here** button was disabled in our last newsletter. This has now been corrected and we invite those who had tried to utilize this donation vehicle to try again with this newsletter. We apologize for any inconvenience.

RHP MISSION:

Reentry House Plus is a nonprofit organization devoted to assisting formerly incarcerated people reintegrate back into the community as healthy, productive citizens. We at Reentry House Plus believe in second chances and are committed to doing our part to ensure that people receive the support, skills, and encouragement they need to rebuild their lives.

We Couldn't Provide Post-Incarceration Support Without You!

We love the growing support for RHP! Thank you for your prayers, your donations, and your time. Our residents and class participants deeply appreciate the opportunities for growth and recovery through RHP.

You can support RHP in one or more of these ways:

- Pray for our men, our class participants, our volunteers, and our Board.
- Share our news of hope and recovery by forwarding this email to friends, neighbors, and colleagues who may be interested.
- If you were sent this newsletter by someone else, you can receive future newsletters by sending us a request to reentryhouseplus@yahoo.com.
- Donate to RHP by sending a check to (P.O. Box 361, Hillsborough, NC 27278) or by clicking the **"Please Donate Here"** button below.
- Become a Sustaining Donor by committing to monthly contributions which gives us added stability. Follow the instructions after pushing the Donate button below.
- Volunteer for hands-on opportunities in the Hillsborough area by contacting us at reentryhouseplus@yahoo.com

Reentry House Plus is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all financial gifts are tax deductible.

Board officers and Members as of January, 2026

Doug Peterson, President; Ran Hamner, Vice President;
Chris Ringwalt, Secretary; Paul Triulzi, Treasurer;

David Stanford, Gates Vrooman, Cynthia Wheaton,

Bill Wagner, and Kevin Desmore

Consultants to the Board: William Elmore, Chaplain Dewey Williams of Orange Correctional Center

Monthly Board Meetings: Typically on Fourth Thursdays of every month. Email us if you would like to participate: reentryhouseplus@yahoo.com.

Website: reentryhouseplus.org

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