



A Healing Community  
Example:  
Brent and Troy



Operation Transformation  
is partnering with the  
Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative  
to provide mentoring for parolees.

**In nine different counties:**

**The Operation Transformation  
Mentoring Program to date since  
its inception four years ago...**



...has reached  
out to over  
1400 returning  
citizens.



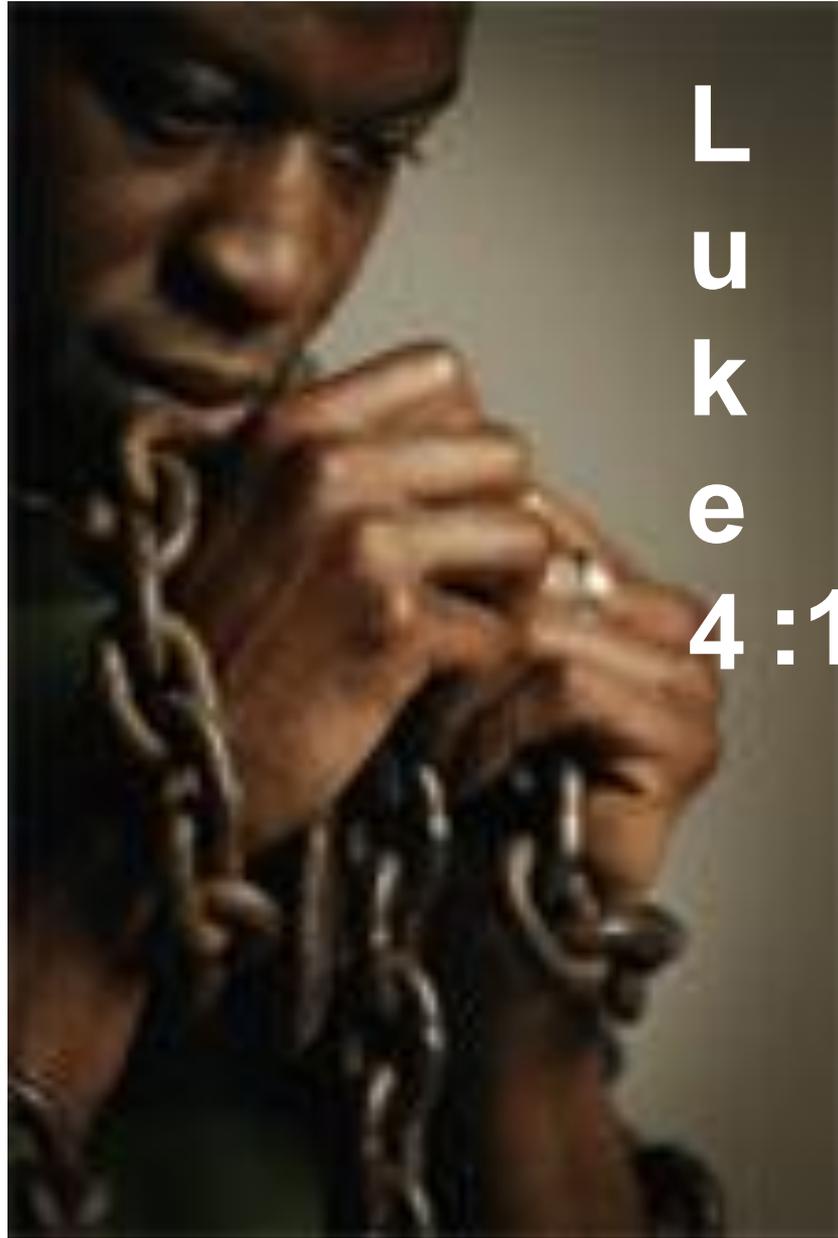


...has trained  
over 600  
volunteer  
mentors.

...has established over 500 1:1 mentoring relationships



But for us its really about the person who asks for help...



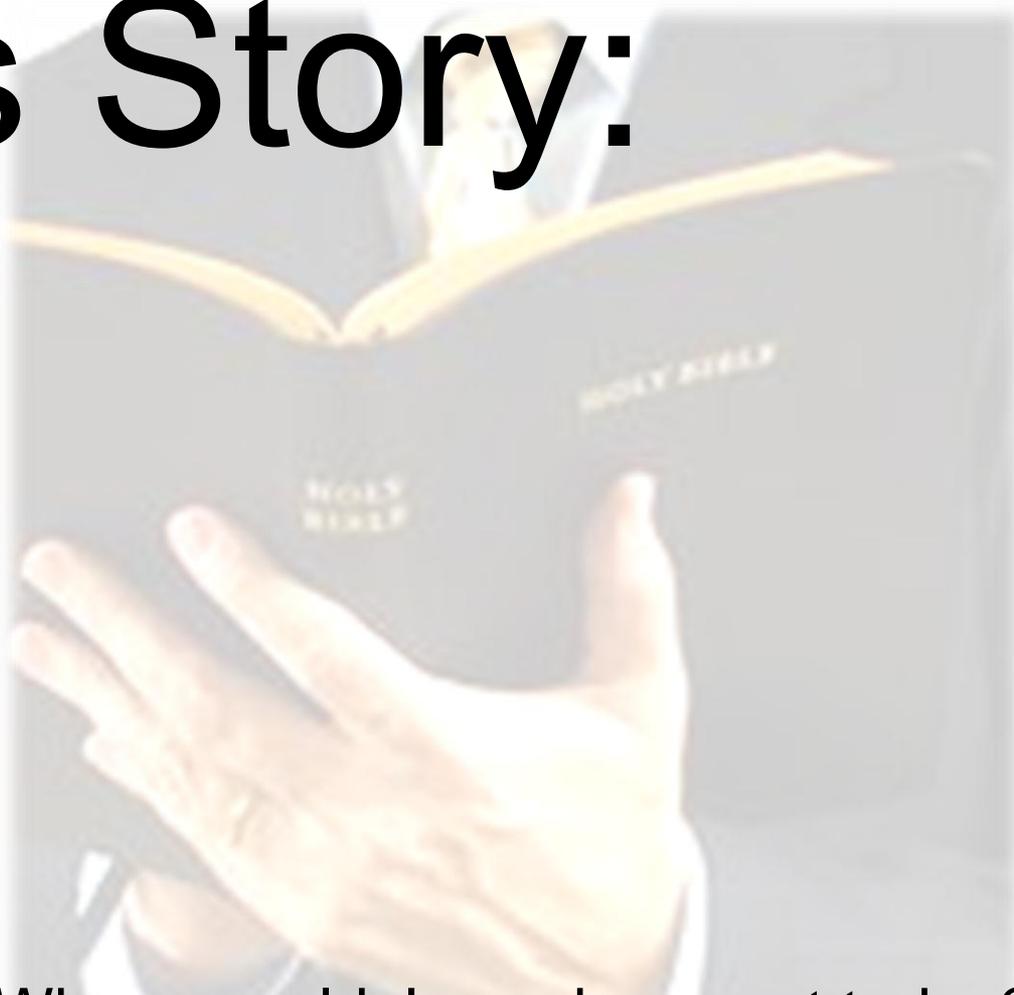
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# Mike's story



# Paul's Story:



Where would Jesus hang out today?

The stories are  
interwoven.

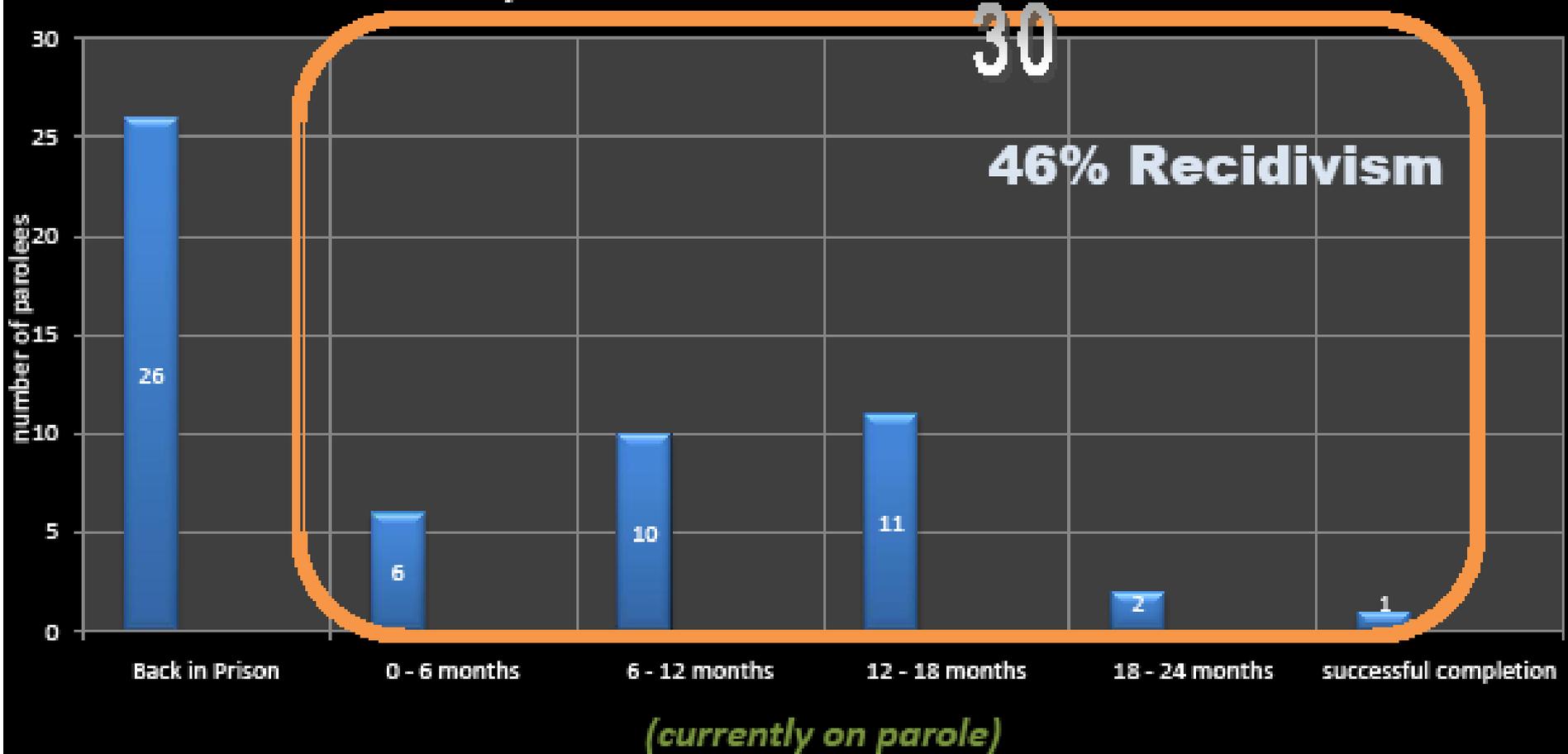


# What difference does mentoring make?

St. Clair County: Nov. 2006 - Aug. 2008

Clients who did not make a significant connection with a mentor

- fewer than 7 contacts

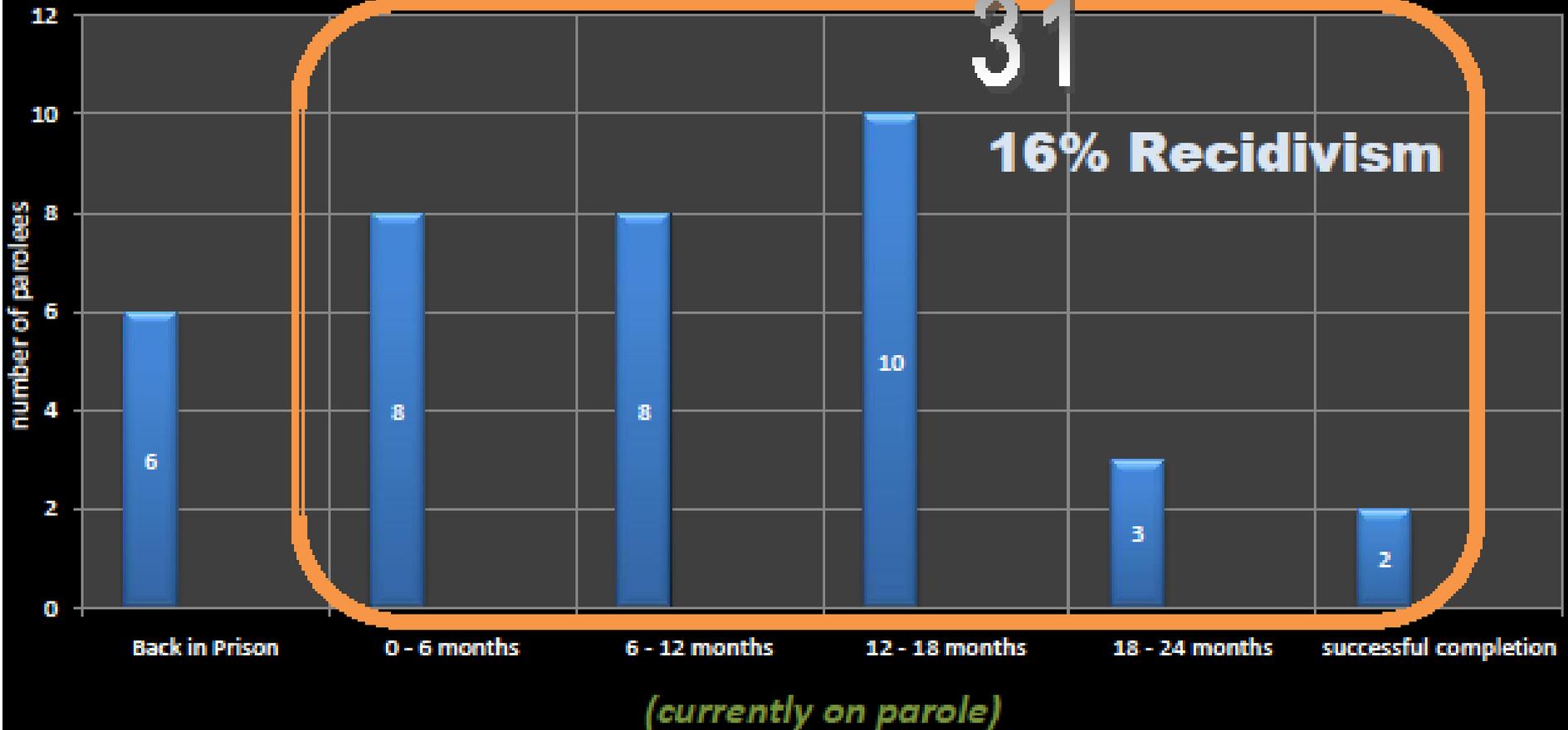


# 30% fewer returning citizens went back to prison if they had a mentor.

St. Clair County: Nov. 2006 -Aug. 2008

Clients who had a significant relationship with their mentor

- at least 7 contacts



The key for us has been...

## **Collaborative relationships** that...

### **...open doors**

- to make our program known to the people we serve.
- to recruit volunteer mentors from the community.

### **...build bridges**

- to other service providers and community stakeholders.
- for future program development and expansion.

### **...provide a seat at the table**

- to influence current policy.
- to have a voice in the future direction.



# How Operation Transformation and the Faith Community serve the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative Model

## Getting Ready Phase 1

## Going Home Phase 2

## Staying Home Phase 3

*Established Relationship with the Parole Department*

*Established Relationship with Correctional Facilities*

*Established Relationship with the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative*

*Established Relationship with the Faith Community (churches, recovery groups)*

Faith Based  
Programming  
in Facility

Mentoring  
Program  
Reputation

InReach  
Mentoring  
Class

InReach  
Transition  
Team

1:1  
Mentoring  
Relationships

Community  
Churches  
Groups

Networking  
Employment  
Housing

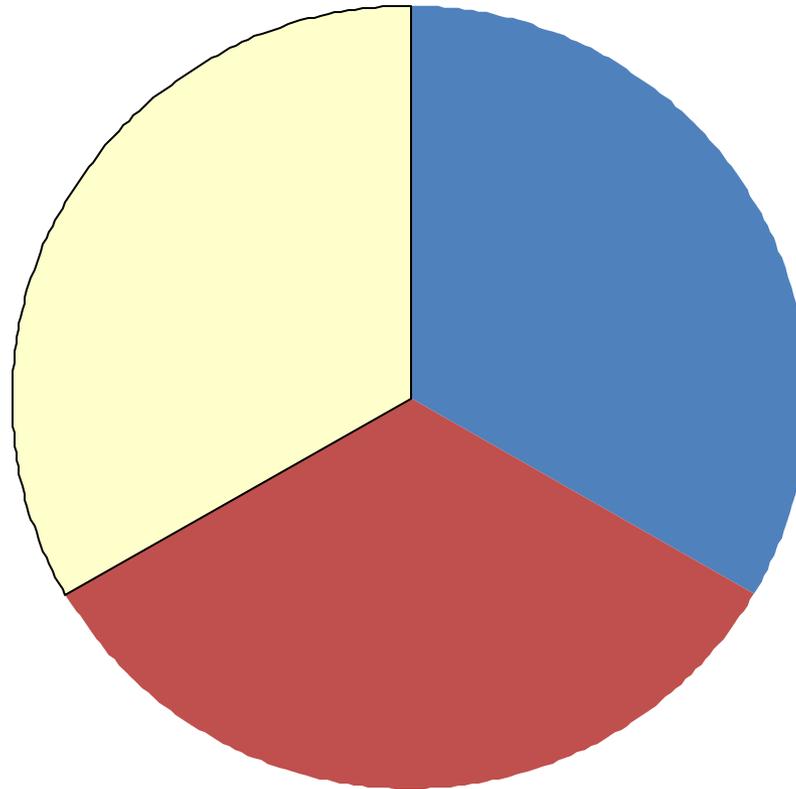
## Operation Transformation Mentoring Program

### Services Provided:

1. Recruitment of Returning Citizens through InReach Services
2. Recruitment and Training of Mentors
3. Oversight of Mentoring Relationships in MPRI Districts
4. Promotion of MPRI within the Faith Community

Time and Work Management

**Recruiting and  
Training Clients**

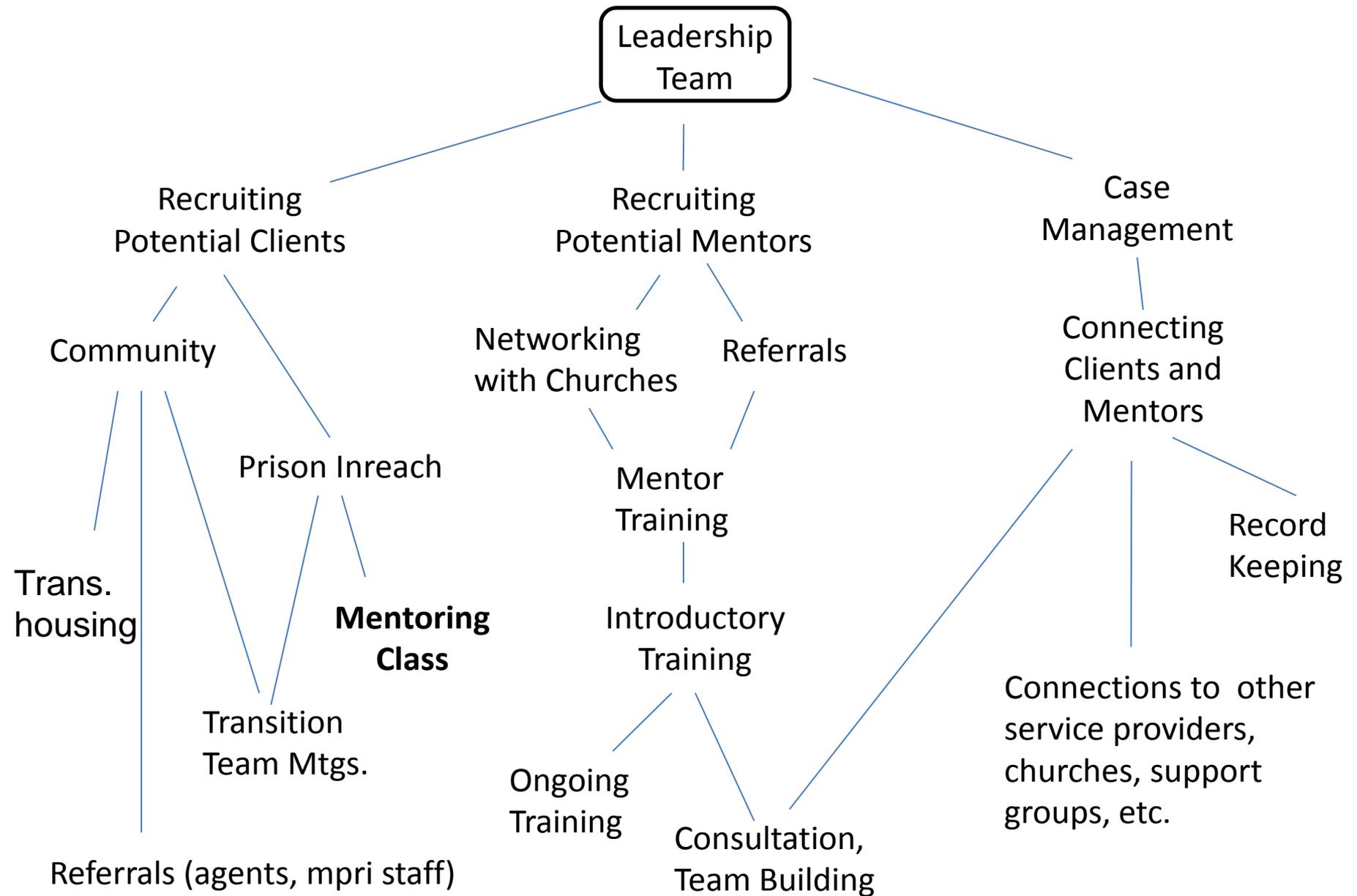


**Recruiting and  
Training Mentors**

**Case Management**

But lets break it down even more...

# The Infrastructure of an Effective Mentoring Program



***Collaborative relationships* open doors...**

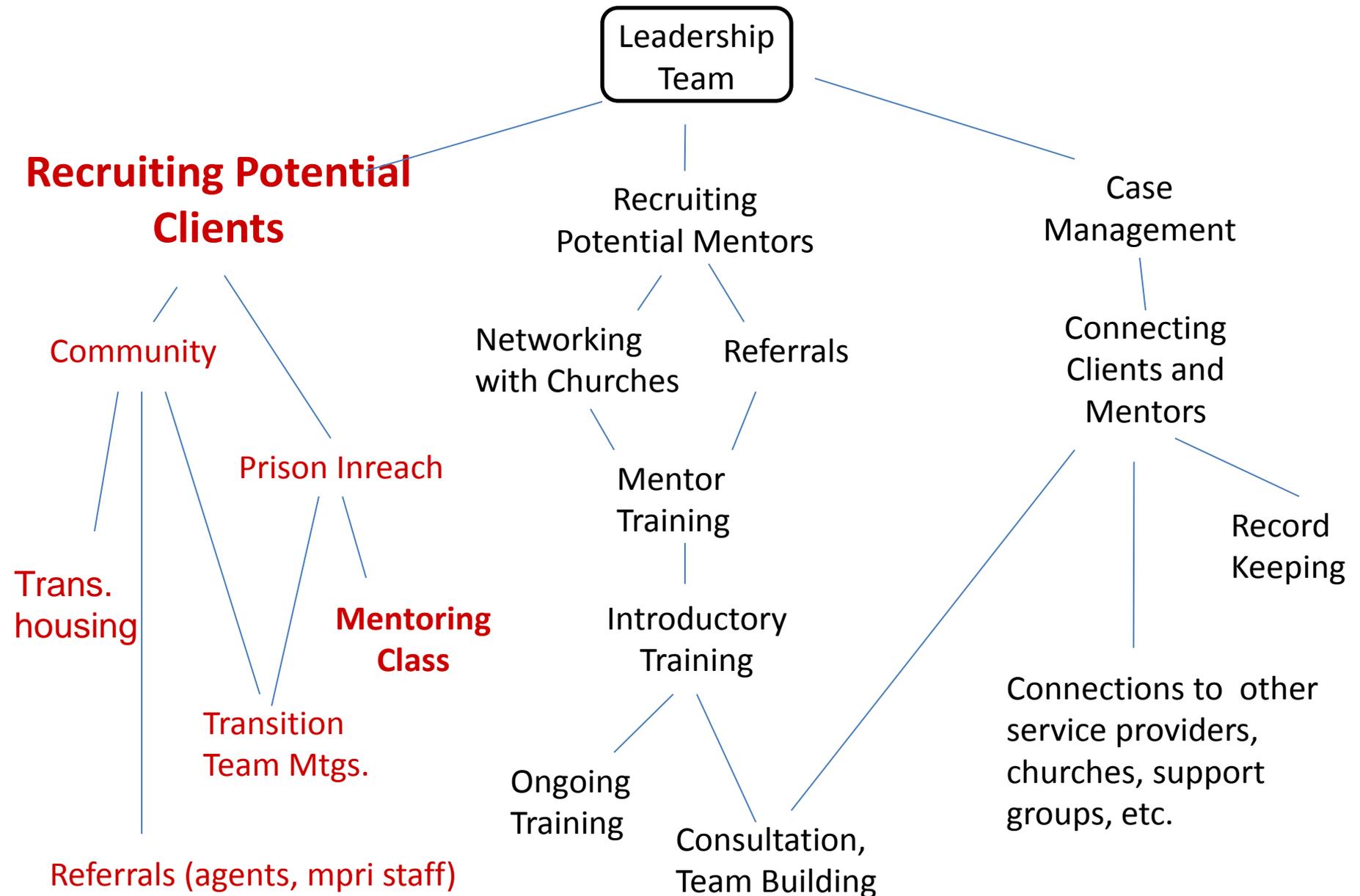
**...to make our program known to the people we serve.**



**How do you  
recruit clients?**



# The Infrastructure of an Effective Mentoring Program



## **One effective way: Pre-Release Inreach Class**

- Inside Correctional Facilities**
- A one time mandatory class**
- Present the program and let them decide**
- They have to want the help!**



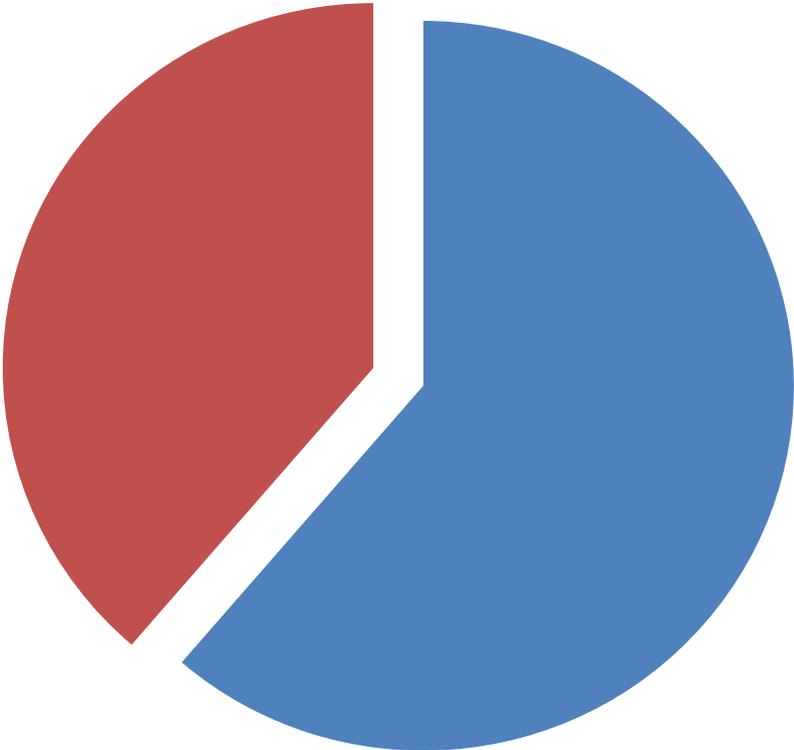
## **What we cover in the class:**

- **Father Absence Issue**
- **Testimonies from Clients**
- **Testimonies from Mentors**
- **Success Stories**
- **Information on other services available**
- **What is mentoring?**
- **Why you need a good mentor!**
- **Strategies for success**
- **Mentee Application**

690 returning citizens over the last 24 months in a six county area were asked to volunteer for the mentoring program. How many participated in the program?

**Returning Citizens**

267 (39%)  
participated in  
a voluntary  
mentoring  
relationship





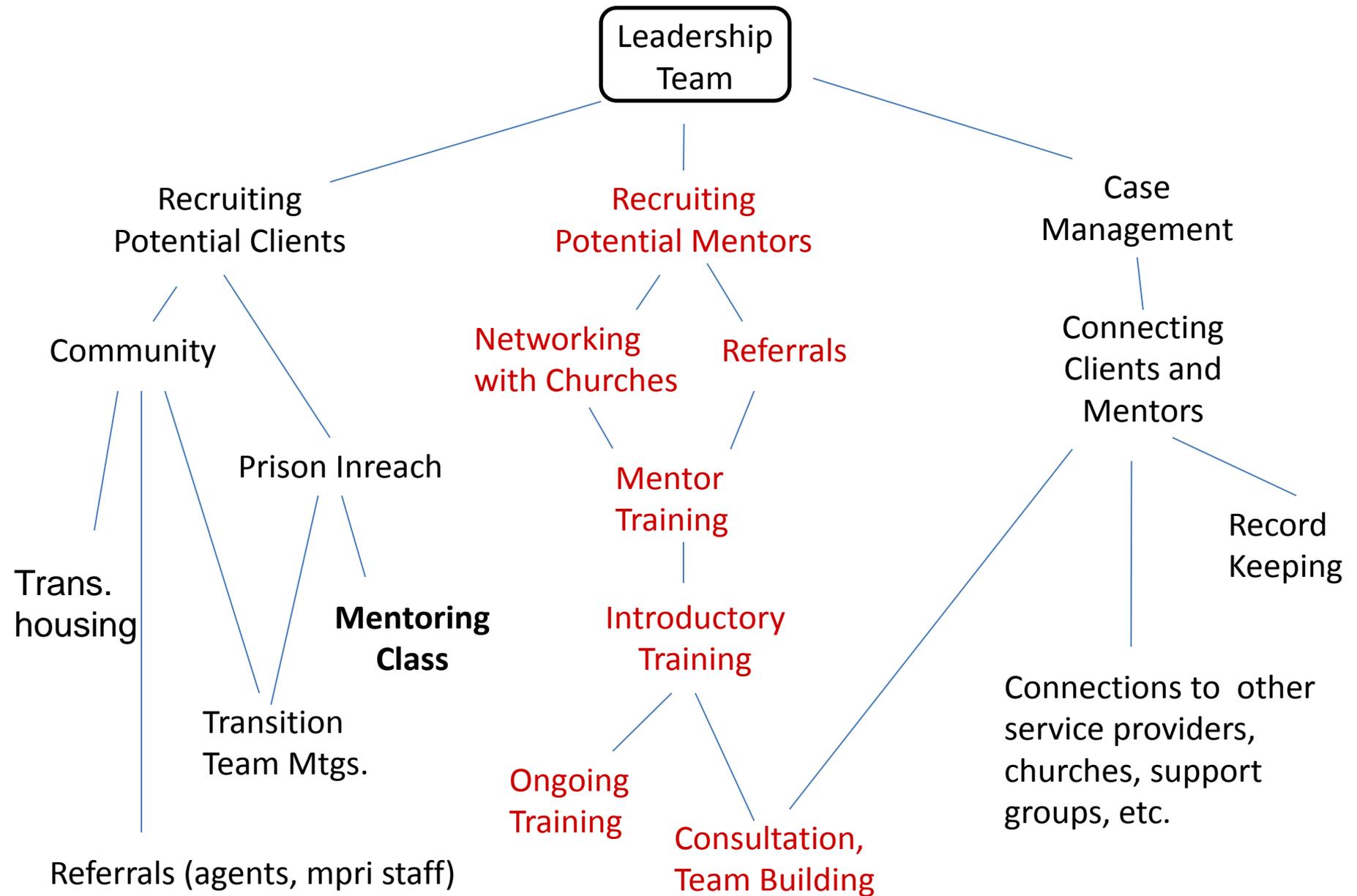
**Dante Ferrazza story**



***Collaborative  
relationships **open  
doors...*****

***...to recruit volunteer  
mentors from the  
community.***

# The Infrastructure of an Effective Mentoring Program



# Recruiting Potential Mentors

## Networking with churches

- established connections
- creating new connections
- crossing denominational lines

## Networking with community groups

## Networking with Recovery Groups

## Referrals from current mentors

# Recruiting Dennis and Denny



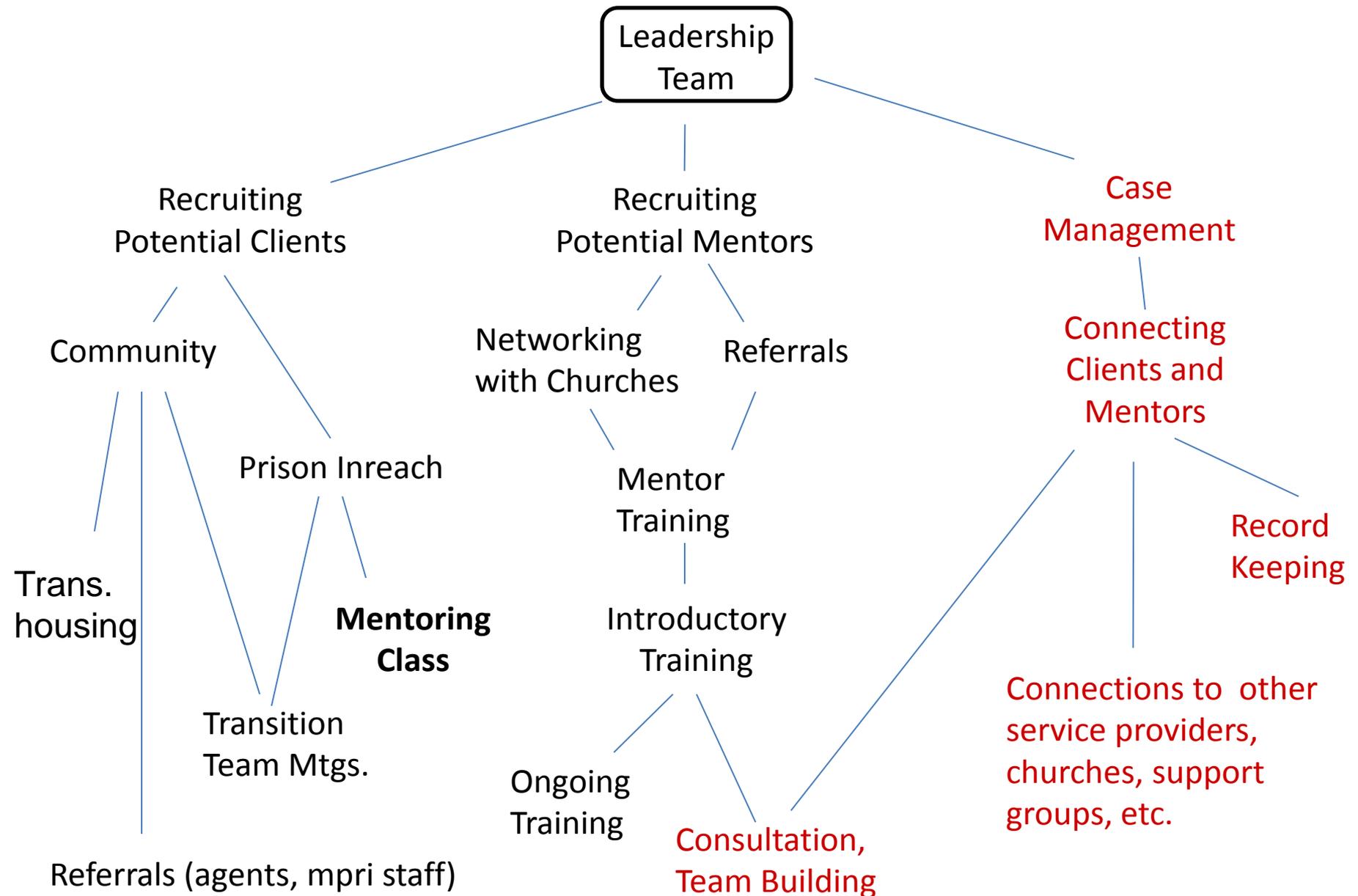
# **Mentor Training**

- Thank You**
- Client Testimonies**
- Reentry Issues and Services**
- Father Absence Issue**
- Mentor Testimonies**
- Success Stories**
- Philosophical Foundation for Mentoring**
- A Good Mentor Is...**
- A Good Mentor Is Not...**

# **Mentor Training (cont.)**

- **Level of Commitment Expected**
- **Process for Matching Mentoring Partners**
- **Reporting to the Mentoring Director**
- **Safety and Boundaries**
- **The Mission of Mentoring (Strategy)**
- **Listening**
- **Thinking Errors**
- **Criminal Behavior**
- **Setting Goals**

# The Infrastructure of an Effective Mentoring Program



Collaborative relationships **build bridges...**

**to other service providers and community stakeholders.**

**Mentoring is most effective when it is in conjunction with...**

**Safe and affordable housing**

**Employment**

**Mental Health Services**

**Life Skills, Anger Management, Socialization,**

**Substance Abuse Counseling**

**Etc.**

Collaborative relationships **build bridges...**

for future program development and expansion.

- We have grown from one county to nine counties in the last three years.
- We are looking at opportunities for future expansion.
- Collaboration has been the key.

Collaborative relationships give you a **seat at the table...**

to influence current policy.

- **Provide your service with excellence and you will be helping to develop “best practices.”**

Collaborative relationships give you a **seat at the table...**

to have a voice in the future direction.

- Informal discussions, phone calls and emails
- Steering Teams, Advisory Councils
- State Committees
- National conferences

So let me encourage you  
to...

# Develop a relationship with...

- reentry program.
- correctional facilities.
- parole department.
- law enforcement.
- service providers.
- business leaders

**One last encouragement**

**Be a mentor yourself**

