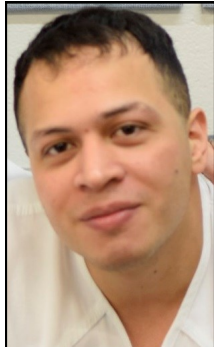


PRISON ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM
SANDERS ESTES UNIT VENUS, TEXAS



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MOST PEOPLE ARE LIKE YOU AND ME, OR THE PEOPLE ACROSS THE STREET OR AROUND THE WORLD FROM YOU AND ME. JUST LIKE YOU AND ME, THEIR HEARTS TELL THEM THAT SOMEWHERE, SOMEHOW THEY CAN MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD.

-William Baker

Congratulations for a job well done by the Phase II class of Legendary '19, who not only showed up but showed out when it came to presenting their pitches to the executives. They spent many long days and several sleepless nights preparing their business plans using everything that they have learned up to this point in PEP. The program is designed to give these gentlemen the skills they need to be successful entrepreneurs. Toastmasters also played a very important part during this event.

During the Venture Capital Panel Event these men were able to present their 2 ½ -3 minute pitches

to veteran executives able to give them the best positive feedback. The servant-leaders have been consistently working with Legendary, getting them prepared for this very event, up until the day before the event. H and K-pods even held pitch panels of their own. They surprised phase two with a timer and four evaluators while the guys gave it all they had for first place and the confidence needed to go in front of these very executives.

The challenge has just begun for this class. Just like the last classes before theirs, they will still endure the many courses that will come their way. They are still in the process of showing their true potential. Keep striving Legendary '19!

In conclusion, it was a gathering full of surprises and new faces that were introduced. Most importantly, there were transitions of new positions that you will read of later on in this article. This could not be possible without the intervention of God and the loving volunteers he sends to provide

for this program, not simply with material needs, but the charity of guidance and wisdom for those who are striving to live a righteous and fulfilling life. Thank You!, to all of you who share in this revolution of transforming broken men into fruit bearing individuals who will provide for society.

We hope to see you at the Business Plan Workshop event in the month of May. Let's continue the life changing movement. God bless!

-Joshua Lara, Journalist



A moment of prayer



PEP's Tunnel Of Love



Kirk N. sharing words of wisdom



Kanon V. pitching for audience

Hello From the Other Side... By Joshua Lara

There is this song that resonates with my life, a beautiful song about loss and redemption. I'm sure many of you are familiar with it. The singer of this song is Adele and the name of this ballad is titled "Hello". According to Adele she said, "I felt all of us were moving on, and its not about an ex relationship, a love relationship, its about my relationship with everyone that I love. It's not that we have fallen out, we've all got our lives going on and I needed to write that song so they would hear it, because I'm not in touch with them." Adele also said that the line "Hello from the other side" signifies "the other side of becoming an adult, making it out alive from your late teens, early twenties."

My thoughts began to wrap around the description of this song and I found the correlations that the lyrics have with my life and the positive outcome that took place with my growth in prison. To be honest with you, I don't think I could have expressed this situation any better than the way she did with this song. With the ups and downs I experienced growing up in a place like prison, I was able to open my eyes and see the other side of being able to overcome the immature and confused mentality I used to have. Because of a mentality like this I was never able to come to my

senses of appreciating the small things in life and most importantly those who really cared about me. Thank God that now being on "the other side" of the spectrum, I have been able to heal and reconcile with myself and with those whom I love. The "other side" of growing up has shed some light on how much I needed to change to stay in touch with reality, the same kind of reality that we all need so that we can move on with our lives, instead of being stuck in the lost and lonely oppression we have all unfortunately experienced, having brought us to prison.

In conclusion, I want to ask, "Have any of you experienced the 'other side' of progress? Will our loved ones be able to recognize the radical change of us growing up and leaving our childish ways behind? Most importantly, will you be able to say one day that you Finally! made it to 'the other side'?" I hope all of you can see that life is a journey, not a destination. Every day, every hour, every minute should be used to make progress within ourselves, so that a lost and confused child can grow into a focused and mature adult. To my loved ones and fellow brothers, It's me saying, "Hello from the other side." I am finally making it.

Amen.

Food for Thought

"A man is but the product of his thoughts, what he thinks he becomes."

-Gandhi

I have come into the belief that the world is what we think it is. When we make changes to our thinking, we make changes to our world. If energy flows where attention goes, then subsequently when you concentrate your thoughts and feelings somewhere you write the plot line of your life. Focus is the fuel for your positive or negative perception.

By changing our minds we are changing our experience. Every human, has the power to change their limiting beliefs and broaden their future. The power of choice comes from within us— no person can have power over our destinies, unless we decide to let them have it. We choose how we respond to our personal experiences of life.

It is critical to recognize our negative thoughts when they appear so we can convert them into positive thoughts and change our experiences. The only person that has control over our thoughts is us. We are the sole decision makers in what becomes our future, for good or ill, the choice is ours.

What if we quit blaming our circumstances and other people for the lives we live, could we then concentrate on the power within us all to create our most fulfilling life? Yes, is the short answer. Sequestering ourselves and thinking about what makes us tick is the trick. Meditating on our honest feelings and breaking them down into categories like anger, sadness, anxiety, and joy allows us to understand

our selves. We can utilize that understanding to propel us where we want to go in life, for good or ill.

It can be as simple or complex as finding our passion, creating our vision most desired from life, and then executing it to the fullest potential of our most inner beings. If we stumble in this endeavor, we don't just give up. We have to pick ourselves back up and keep on pushing. Very few of history's greatest people got it right on the first try. Having to push and fight for what they knew to be important to them was all part of the success. Anyone who has ever done anything truly great usually botched it on the first few attempts, meaning most every success comes through mistakes made. You only fail when you quit.

We cannot be faint of heart when what we want becomes difficult to obtain. These are the trials and errors that we go through that make us better and stronger people. In order to be the best we can be, we have to push through the hardest times.

All this is possible by changing how we think, and what we think, is what we become. The power is always within us to create our best lives. Mastering this may take a life time ,but once we do there is no possibility of regretting the powerful changes we made to our minds and lives.

From yours truly,

Garry Rench, Jr.

VCP collage



VCP Winners

Kanon Vanguilder

Innovative Treatment Connections



Michael Montes

Mighty Mike's Mobile Detail



VCP Winners

Thomas Cunningham

Sky's The Limit Oilfield Service



Gail Bailey

GB's Sports Grill



VCP Winners

Joseph Lee

Legendary Events & Entertainment



Dustin Kirk

Lone star Logistics



VCP Winners

Tommy McCutchen

Ground Up Construction & General Contracting



Andrew Neff

Life Smart



Thank You Victor!

Chasing His Dreams For the Greater Good



He was a man who had his share of challenges and down-falls before he excelled at becoming executive relations manager for PEP. Victor G. contributed to the metaphorical table of this program with his charismatic energy and caring heart to spread the word of true freedom taking place through PEP. He was able to introduce to many volunteers an opportunity to have a part in the many events PEP holds here at the Sanders Estes unit. A graduate of the "First 15" class at the Estes unit, Victor began his transformation into a better man with character development, Phase 2, graduation, and last but not least Peer Educator before being released from prison. Since then he continued his growth in music, a passion he always cherished due to the musical legacy his father left him. Now expanding his creativity into the music industry, he will go on to live his dream. However, he has admitted that without the guidance of PEP and mentorship, his desire for music would not have flourished into what it is at the moment. Let us simply celebrate the fact that a fellow brother used his wings to expand his horizon while at the same time represent the great revolution of this program. We can't wait to see you again. Thank you, Victor, from your brothers here in the Estes unit.

Introducing Steve F.

The New Executive Relations Manager and a Great PEP Testimony



3rd place winner for his BPC event

There is one thing PEP never fails to do and that is to always have a brave gentleman step up to the challenge. This next gentleman is a graduate of the "Sovereign Kings" class of Winter '18. Although having being recently released from prison, Steve F. has proven himself worthy to take on the position of executive relations manager, a position that is no easy task. Just like his brother Victor G., our faith is equally entrusted to him to get the job done. Just like any other person, Steve went through many trials during his incarceration. Facing test after test he had his faith challenged, even at one point where he could not have tasted freedom for many years to come. However, I believe that if it were not for his love of God the outcome of that challenge may have had different results. Thankfully no conviction was given to him; only freedom, that being the freedom to share his testimony while at the same time giving back to his community as PEP taught him to do. With this being said, we cannot wait to see how much more he can bring to this wonderful program. Welcome back Steve!, and thank you for all of your help.

