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Thank you for your interest in our organization, Adopt an Inmate.

We began our work after a family member was incarcerated, and discovered the challenges of incarcerated people who have few if any positive social connections. Seven years later, we have contact with over 12K incarcerated people, with about ten percent of those adopted. Our mission is:

- To remind the world and those caught in the grip of the justice system that both accused and adjudicated are human.
- To provide relief, comfort, and hope to those facing judgement, and to help those sentenced emerge from prison whole, knowing they are part of a larger family that loves and cares for them.
- Ultimately, Adopt an Inmate would seek to change prison itself from an arbitrary system of cruelty and punishment to one which internally recognizes the humanity of its charges and treats them accordingly such that recidivism is rare, rather than a feature of our current system's design.

Enclosed is a survey for you to complete and return. The survey data is for research purposes, and we will never share your info without your permission. Likewise, never share an adopter's contact info without their express permission. We do not charge inmates or their families for our services, and connect people based on their location and gender preference, common interests, hobbies, educational and occupational background, family history, etc. Please use the blank page to share anything that would be useful in that process. **We do not have the resources to respond to your completed survey, but know that your name will be added to the waiting list as soon as we receive it (if it indicates you want to be adopted).**

We welcome your stories from the inside for our "Letters From Prison" series, as well as poems, and artwork (including "welcome" banners, see examples below) to publish on our website. Please do extend this invitation to anyone who might have something to share. We love to get mail but please be patient with response time as we are constantly under an avalanche of requests. **A self-addressed stamped envelope is most appreciated if you require a reply.**

NOTE: We are not a dating service (although we do consider gender preference), nor are we lawyers (do not send us your legal documents). Our intention is to create opportunities for social connection and mentorship.

Do notify us with any updates to your address or custody status so that we can remain in contact with you.

Much peace to you,

Melissa Schmitt
She-EO, Adopt an Inmate



P.S. If this is a duplicate survey, please discard or pass on to someone who might be interested ☺