

CREATING LASTING CHANGE

Rising like the sun so others can shine



HONORING A GLOBAL GAME CHANGER: DR. KIM CARTER-TILLMAN RECOGNIZED ALONGSIDE SHARON STONE AND DIANE WARREN

Dr. Kim Carter-Tillman, founder of Time for Change Foundation, was honored with the prestigious Game Changer Award at the We Do It Together (WDIT) 10th Anniversary Gala in Beverly Hills, a global celebration recognizing women who are reshaping industries, expanding access, and redefining leadership. She was recognized alongside an extraordinary group of influential leaders and cultural icons, including internationally acclaimed actress and activist Sharon Stone, Academy Award-nominated composer Diane Warren, director Patricia Riggen, philanthropist Dr. Rita Ali, model Bianca Balti, and Beverly Hills Mayor Dr. Sharona Nazarian. Being honored among these trailblazers highlights how her work is not only transforming lives locally but also helping shift global conversations around equity, opportunity, and women's leadership.

This recognition reflects Dr. Carter-Tillman's decades-long commitment to helping families rebuild stability, create economic mobility, and reclaim their futures — a mission that continues to strengthen communities and open doors for generations to come.

On the Path Forward: Raja

Raja is a participant in Time for Change Foundation's Improving Adult Re-Entry (IAR) program, which supports justice-involved women returning home after incarceration through job readiness, career guidance, and employment support. She was also selected as a recipient of

the TFCF New Horizon Education Scholarship and is currently studying to become an electrician at the Center for Employment Training, with plans to graduate in May 2026. Despite personal challenges, Raja has remained focused and determined—recently reaching a major milestone by purchasing her own car. With the support of IAR and the scholarship, she is building stability, confidence, and a path toward long-term success.



Surprised with Love: Janice's Baby Shower

Janice was all smiles as we surprised her with her very first baby shower! The most touching moment was seeing her dad there, her biggest supporter, sharing in her joy. For the first time, Janice got to be celebrated just for her, surrounded by love, laughter, and warm wishes as she prepared to welcome her baby girl.

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Jenavie's Journey: Resilience in Action

For most of my life, I was in survival mode. I was raised by my grandparents because my mom struggled with addiction. I loved her and longed for her, but her absence left a void that shaped my childhood. I grew up learning to cope with instability and loss, and by the time I became a mom at 17, I was determined to break the cycle.

But life wasn't easy. Trauma, addiction, and abuse followed me into adulthood. I lost custody of my older children, faced domestic violence, and went through years of addiction and homelessness. I spent a long time feeling like I'd failed myself and my kids, like I was too broken to change. For a while, I even believed I was beyond hope.

Everything shifted when I found Time for Change Foundation. Here, I discovered what it means to be supported, guided, and held accountable in a safe space. I'm learning to choose myself, not just survive. I've gotten my sanity back, I work, I attend meetings, and I love coming to the program to learn something new every day. I have a roof over my head, clean clothes, and a place I can call home. I have stability I never thought I'd have again.

Looking back, I see that resilience has always been my greatest strength. Even when I didn't realize it, I kept showing up through setbacks, uncertainty, and pain. Today, I'm proud to say I'm nine months clean and sober. I'm rebuilding my confidence, reclaiming my life, and reconnecting with hope.

A year from now, I see myself still sober working full-time, and living in my own place so my kids can visit or even live with me. My story isn't over. This is just the beginning of a new chapter, and for the first time in my life, I feel like I'm writing it for me with purpose, dignity, and hope.



Lynda's New Chapter

For many formerly incarcerated individuals, reentry into society comes with overwhelming obstacles. Securing stable housing, rebuilding relationships, finding employment, and overcoming stigma can feel like climbing a mountain with little support. For Lynda, reentry meant stepping into unfamiliar territory but also embracing an opportunity to rebuild her life with hope and purpose.

Lynda's early life was filled with challenges that could have defined her, but she has turned those experiences into strength. After spending 15 years incarcerated, she is now embracing a new beginning filled with hope, growth, and possibility.

Since her release, Lynda has focused on making positive choices and rebuilding

her life with intention. One of the decisions she is most proud of was choosing to continue her journey with Time for Change Foundation. "I love the staff. They truly care about us as people with real feelings and emotions, not just a number," Lynda shared. "It gives me hope for my future."

When she first arrived at TFCF, she remembers feeling nervous stepping into this new chapter. That fear quickly faded when she was met with warmth and encouragement. "From the very first day I arrived out of prison, the staff and my housemates welcomed me with real smiles. I felt welcomed."

Today, Lynda describes herself as stronger, more confident, and truly happy. She credits the support and structure she receives through TFCF programs and staff, including her case manager, Tanya, who has helped her stay focused on her goals. Navigating reentry has not been without challenges. Her hearing disability can make communication difficult, but she continues to push forward with determination and resilience.

Through support groups and guidance from professionals, Lynda says she finally feels heard, supported,

and encouraged to keep growing. "I have more peace of mind than I have ever had before. I'm stable because of the positive choices I'm making, and the support I have helps me keep balance emotionally," she said.

Lynda is now working toward earning her associate degree in business management and launching her own cleaning company. She dreams of building a life where she is financially and emotionally independent, with a home she can afford and pets she hopes to one day have.

When she thinks about the future she is creating, Lynda describes it as "a brand-new world... free like an eagle soaring through the sky for the very first time."

She hopes her story encourages others beginning their reentry journey to stay positive, remain open to guidance, and believe in their ability to succeed. "Have patience with yourself," she shared. "Don't give up. Keep working, and your future can be a bright one."

For Lynda, having a second chance means rebuilding trust, creating stability, and stepping into a life she once thought was out of reach. "Starting over is scary," she said, "but it's even scarier where I was before. Time for Change Foundation has become my safe haven."

Building Pathways to Employment

Through our Work 2 Win Employment Readiness Program, clients receive comprehensive employment development support designed to prepare them for long-term success. The program includes resume development, local job market research, career counseling, home business exploration, workshops, and individualized training sessions.

As part of this workforce pathway, clients participate in mock interviews with local employers. This hands-on experience allowed them to practice professional communication, strengthen their interview skills, and build confidence in a real-world setting. Mock interviews are one step in a larger journey — from learning how to dress professionally and conduct effective follow-ups to overcoming employment barriers and securing meaningful employment. Together, these services create a structured pathway toward economic stability and self-sufficiency.



Brooke: Strength Found in Surrender

“...surrender, and stay focused and everything will fall in place one day at a time. I never said it was easy but I am saying it’s worth it. I am worth it.”

In the beginning, my life was filled with hope and stability. As a sober, working mom, I took pride in providing for my children physically, emotionally, and mentally while their father cared for them at home. Those years were filled with love, balance, and a sense of normalcy that meant everything to me.

Over time, that stability began to unravel. After my children’s father became incarcerated, I found myself carrying the full weight of providing for my family while battling emotional and financial stress. My struggles didn’t begin overnight. Losing my job at 18 led me down a path of criminal behavior, and years later, reconnecting with my son’s father pulled me deeper into substance use. I experienced homelessness, repeated involvement with DCFS, and overwhelming shame and hopelessness. There were moments when I truly believed I would never be able to create a safe, stable home for my children.

One of my lowest points came when I left my children with my mother and disappeared for nearly a month. When my mother eventually found me and brought my children to see me, I was forced to confront how far

I had drifted from the mother I wanted to be. I felt trapped in a cycle I didn’t know how to break. Even during those darkest seasons, I held onto my faith, believing that no situation was too big for God to change.

My turning point came at 51 during my most recent arrest. Instead of fear, I felt an overwhelming sense of relief. I surrendered — not just to law enforcement, but to the truth that I needed help and was ready to change. My daughter became my greatest motivation. Hearing her say she was ready to come home made me realize that transformation was no longer optional.

While incarcerated, I learned about Time for Change Foundation through a counselor. Walking through the doors for the first time filled me with hope. The encouragement and guidance I received, especially from Ms. Phyllis, helped me begin rebuilding my life and believing in myself again.

Today, I am committed to my recovery, rebuilding relationships with my children, and working toward bringing my 11-year-old daughter home. I am pursuing my education to become a community health worker so I can help others find healing, stability, and purpose in their own lives. As I continue building this new chapter of my life, I carry a message for others who may feel stuck or unsure where to begin:

Every great journey begins with the first step. Choose your higher power, surrender, and stay focused and everything will fall in place one day at a time. I never said it was easy but I am saying it’s worth it. I am worth it.

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