

# GLS IN PRISONS - USA

## The Issue:

According to the Criminal Justice State Trackers “Recidivism rates in the U.S. are some of the highest in the world with almost 44% of criminals released returning to prison within their first year out”. And, according to an article by Harvard Political Review entitled [Recidivism Imprisons American Progress](#) writes “As the world leader in incarceration, the U.S. [locks up](#) more people per capita than any other nation. By the end of 2020, there were [more than](#) 1.8 million incarcerated Americans.

Each year, more than 600,000 individuals are [released](#) from state and federal prisons. Another nine million are [released](#) from local jails. Within three years of their release, two out of three former prisoners are [rearrested](#) and more than 50% are [incarcerated again](#).

Recidivism is a complicated and complex matter; but what is for certain is that without what the bible calls a “renewed mind” (Romans 12:2), it will be impossible for incarcerated individuals to break habitual patterns. In this manner, the Summit compliments all in-prison educational programming by giving hope and often inspiring this at-risk population to seek a higher vision for their life. The Summit’s world-class leadership content offers insights and testimonies of transformation.

The Summit is having such a powerful impact in prisons! From hundreds of letters received after each Summit, it is for certain that the Summit is igniting transformation! When the Summit is streamed in prisons, all faiths and social factions attend, not just Christians. The Summit is filled with Christian principles embedded within many of the leadership talks and therefore, disarms a few of the barriers that often block the sharing of the Gospel. Not to mention, that the Summit is prayed for...prayed over... and even a bit of prayer during. This establishes a platform ripe for the Holy Spirit to influence “unguarded” hearts and minds...as only the Lord can do!



## The Plan

*Ensure that the Summit is available to every prison!*

By focusing our attention on supporting Prison Chaplains and Chaplain organizations we can support the front-line workers of Prison Ministry. In addition, the GLN can leverage its influence on behalf of Chaplains by encouraging churches to support their local Prison Chaplain via periodic review of a few summit talks.

This can be accomplished in the three ways:

1. Ensure that Prison Chaplains are aware of the three summit experiences available.
2. Encourage GLN host sites to support their local Prison Chaplains
3. Assist in connecting host sites and prisons

In turn, Prison Chaplains will organically promote the Summit in prisons because of the additional support services.



**"If it weren't for the Global Leadership Summit inspiring me the way it did, I probably would've never believed in myself... Me, a lowly criminal, a LEADER. I am worthy of a life better than the one I lived. I am fighting for redemption, and I am leading others like me to their redemption as well."**

RAYVEN, ROCKVILLE CORRECTIONS

## The Possibilities

### 1. Establish GLN as "the" community partner

In addition to supporting Chaplains, I believe that many businesses would support an effort that reduces recidivism. Churches and ministries are not the only institutions sympathetic to the recidivism epidemic. Most secular institutions desire to help but don't know how to engage while maintaining their primary ventures. In fact, many large businesses have social sustainability initiatives that are aimed at "maintaining and improving human capital in society".

GLN could become the Chaplain's community partner that connects local business and churches to a local prison. Establishing a dollar amount to support a prison (such as S&B, video production etc.) local businesses and local churches are likely to become a financial partner in support of a prison.

- Increase summit champions.
- GLN establishes a name as a community partner.

- GLN generates additional financial supporters.
  - Chaplains to organically share summit in prison with peers.
  - Create new community summit champions.
2. **Explore the possibility of packaging the GLS for individual viewing and hosting in prisons outside of the GLS season.**  
Flexible viewing days / Flexible viewing methods / Flexible content for institutions
  3. **Expand GLS Experiences available to prisons:**
    - **Digital Live Experience:** Live digital experience during the summit in August. There is tech assistance available for bandwidth testing and troubleshooting during summit.
    - **DVD Experience (post Summit):** For non-streaming prisons
    - **Summit Replay Experience:** This a new experience that will be offered for the first time this year. For sites that can stream but August is not convenient time, will be able to replay the summit for 30 days (either in November/December).

**"I would like to thank all the speakers. Their stories where amazing some gave me joy, some happiness, some even made me cry. But all gave me hope. Hope is a lot when you are incarcerated. I plan on being a success story when I get out and to be a better leader."**

HECTOR, COLORADO CORRECTIONS

## The Need

To expand this ministry and reach more individuals and families, there is a growing need for finances.

- Additions to staff (1) F/T Admin Specialist (2) F/T Marketing Specialist
- Develop a sponsorship campaign to make Prison Ministry self-sustaining.
- Collaboration with GLN US Field Team to develop process to connect host sites and local prisons.

As Director, I need to dedicate my time to relationship building and expanding the scope of Prison Ministry. For example, coordinate the connections between local church and local prisons. To develop a campaign to bring in business partners and assist churches in creating a Prison Ministry.

1. Increase staffing so that we can have the support and infrastructure to scale.
  - a. Administrative Specialist to oversee the day-to-day details of support to prisons.
  - b. Allow year around support for Broadcast team
  - c. Intern during summit season (March – August)
2. A dedicated marketing person to assist with producing videos, developing marketing materials, website updates and assist in developing in-prison stories.
3. Funds to develop a separate Summit Notebook that will include business sponsors of Prison Ministry.

**COSTS:**

Website development	\$25,000
Package/product development	\$15,000
STAFFING - Admin Specialist (Full-time)	\$50,000
STAFFING - Marketing Specialist (Full-time)	\$50,000

<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>\$140,000</b>
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