

### **EDUCATION**

Doctor of Philosophy, Old Testament / Hebrew, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2010 Master of Theology, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2009 Master of Divinity, Biblical Languages, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2007 Bachelor of Science (School of Nursing) Southeastern Louisiana University, 1994 Board Certified Psychiatric Mental Health Registered Nurse, ANCC, 2020

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Correctional Association
Correctional Ministries and Chaplains Association
American Correctional Chaplains Association

#### **NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS**

**Author, Hannah's Gift Series.** A three-book bible study series for incarcerated mothers being taught in jails and prisons in 32 states and in 16 foreign countries. Published through Lifeline Global Prison Ministry (formerly Awana Lifeline Ministries). For more information see lifelineglobal.org.

### **CORRECTIONAL WORK HISTORY**

RESEARCH AND PROGRAMS OFFICER - 4TH PURPOSE FOUNDATION NOVEMBER 2019-PRESENT

- research emerging trends in corrections; identify best practices from corrections worldwide
- establishment and execution of research strategy; provide information that will aid the foundation in deciding what programming and practices to support and help scale
- develop service delivery program evaluation and performance analytics metrics including: organizational growth trends, financial management, leadership, strategy, scope of services and impact
- evaluate research program effectiveness and impact to deliver outcomes which can be applied for the benefit of internal and external stakeholders





## CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER - GLOBAL PRISON SEMINARIES FOUNDATION JULY 2017-SEPTEMBER 2019

- developed partnerships between academic institutions and correctional facilities/departments for the purpose of implementing the prison seminary program
- developed and promoted best practices for peer ministry within a prison
- developed documents and materials needed to train and standardize the prison seminary model
- orchestrated a yearly national conference for all players of the prison seminary movement (donors, academic partners, and correctional workers) by which best practices were disseminated and networking was made possible
- hosted groups to visit the prison seminary program in various prisons, mostly in Louisiana State Penitentiary (Angola)

### National Director, "Hannah's Gift" - Awana Lifeline November 2017-May 2018

- helped prison ministry volunteers initiate the Hannah's Gift program in local jails and prison
- promoted the Hannah's Gift program in various settings (spoke at graduations, took donors to visit various inmate groups, wrote articles and new feeds, etc.)

## Assistant Warden - Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women July 2015-July 2017

- responsible for all programming including: reentry, faith-based, education, mental health, and reentry court facilitation
- instituted the Reentry Court Workforce Program with 5 Louisiana Judges, by which inmate seminary graduates were used to mentor those who the judges sentenced to the program
- developed vocational training and soft skills classes unique to the setting





## EDUCATION PROGRAM CONSULTANT/COORDINATOR - LOUISIANA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN OCTOBER 2014-JULY 2015

- responsible for overseeing the teaching and tutoring of over 300 inmates pursuing a high school equivalency diploma
- operated 5 vocational schools
- interacted with the local business market to ascertain the best vocational options the prison should offer

### Chaplain of Special Project: Onesimus Project- Louisiana State Penitentiary June 2013-October 2014

- wrote and instituted a discipleship plan for short term inmates, which helped connect them to a local church upon release
- used inmate seminary graduates to implement this program
- worked with the Angola wardens to replicate the Reentry Court Workforce Program at the women's prison

## Chaplain - Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women March 2012-October 2014

• responsible for faith-based programming and facilitating efforts to meet the spiritual needs of the inmate population

## DIRECTOR OF PRISON SEMINARY PROGRAM - LOUISIANA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN 2010-July 2016

- set up a fully accredited extension of Leavell College, by which inmates with long sentences could be trained to be ministers to their peers
- worked with correctional leadership to establish ways the inmates would be utilized, supervised and evaluated



### **CORRECTIONS PUBLICATIONS**

**The Onesimus Project.** A 15-month discipleship program to equip ex-offenders to re-enter society and serve the local church. Written for the Louisiana Department of Corrections, 2013.

Hannah's Gift: The Heart of a Mother. Awana Lifeline: Streamwood, Ill, 2013.

"Ministering with the Jeremiah 29:11 Promise," **Missio Dei Corrections**, Volume 2, Issue 3: Sept-Dec 2013.

Family Restoration. Awana Lifeline: Streamwood, Ill, 2014.

Beautiful Woman. Lifeline Global Ministries: Streamwood, Ill, 2018.

"Inmate Peer Ministry: The Chaplain's Role" Corrections Today Mar/Apr 2019: 10-13.

"Moms in Prison: An Up-Close and Personal Story" Corrections Today Jan/Feb 2020: 9-10.

"Fourth Purpose: A Catalyst to Make Prison a Place of Transformation" **Corrections Today** Sept/Oct 2020: 10-13.

Review of **The American Prison: Imagining a Different Future**, by Francis Cullen et al. Corrections Today Nov/Dec 2020: 82-85.

"The Value of Volunteers and Visits" Corrections Today July/Aug 2021: 8-10.

"A Virtuous Prison Through Staff Investment" Corrections Today Nov/Dec 2021:8-11.

### SAMPLE OF CORRECTIONS PRESENTATIONS

"Addressing Issues Specific to Incarcerated Mothers." Correctional Ministers and Chaplains Association Summit, Wheaton, IL, May 30, 2015.

"Building Effective Working Relationships with Administration, Staff, Volunteers, and Inmates," "Avoiding Cynicism in Prison Ministry," "Maintaining Wellness in Ministry," "Ministry to the Family of the Incarcerated." Oklahoma Chaplain's Conference, Davis, OK, October 11-12, 2016.

Hannah's Gift Training Seminar, Project Manana Ministries, Santiago, Dominican Republic, January 11-12, 2017.

Reentry Court Workforce Program Presentation, Loyola University Criminal Justice Group, April 3, 2017.



"Caring for Incarcerated Mothers," Women Leading Change: Newcomb College Symposium, Tulane University, April 5, 2017.

Hannah's Gift Training Seminar, Costa Rica, Ministry of Carlos Cunningham, March 20-25, 2018.

"Theological Education in the Prison Setting," "Avoiding Cynicism in Prison Ministry," "Ministry to Incarcerated Parents." Arkansas Chaplain's Conference, Little Rock, AR, April 9-11, 2018.

"Unique Features of Prison Ministry," West Virginia Corrections Chaplaincy Training, August 30, 2018, Charleston, WV.

"Theological Education in the Prison Setting," Mississippi Corrections Chaplaincy Training, November 2, 2018, Jackson, MS.

"The Uniqueness of the Incarcerated Female and Its Impact on Her Successful Reentry," Ashland University Reentry Summit, December 5, 2018.

"Moral Component to Successful Reentry," ACA Conference, January 14, 2019, New Orleans, LA.

"Incarcerated Females and The Issue of Sexuality," Correctional Ministers and Chaplains Association Summit, May 2019, Wheaton College, IL.

"Women in Incarceration," Willow Creek Compassion and Justice Event, Barrington, IL, August 3, 2019.

"Women in Prison," Webinar hosted by Lifeline Global Ministries. Wichita, KS. October 29, 2019. Attendees from 17 states.

"Burnout in the Correctional Setting: It's More Dangerous Than You Think!" Correctional Ministers and Chaplains Association Summit, August, 2020, Wheaton College, IL/virtual.

"The Value of Visits and Volunteers: Lessons Learned from the Covid-19 Crisis," ACA Conference, February 5, 2021, virtual.

"Justice Involved Women: How We Should Care for Our Sisters," Correctional Ministers and Chaplains Association Summit, May, 2021, New Orleans, La/virtual.

"The Virtuous Prison Model: How It Can Benefit Staff Wellbeing and Strengthen the Correctional Workforce," August 14, 2021, ACA Conference, Nashville, TN.

"The Importance of Staff Wellbeing," Warden's meeting for Texas Department of Criminal Justice, September 15, 2021.

"Enhancing the Competencies and Public Image of Correctional Employees," January 8, 2022, ACA Conference, Phoenix, AZ.



"A Values-Based Wellness Plan," February 5, 2022, Prison Fellowship Warden's Exchange, San Francisco, CA.

"Healing from Extremism," A Prison Chaplain's Perspective, Parents For Peace, Harvard Divinity School, April 11, 2022.

"Improving Staff Wellbeing," April 26, 2022, NAAWS Conference, San Antonio, TX.

### **ACA COMMITTEES**

Professional Development Ad Hoc 2020-present Behavioral Health Ad Hoc 2020-present

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary/Leavell College
Adjunct Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, 2009-2020
Extension Center Director (LCIW), 2010-2016
Teaching Assistant to Dr. Walter Brown 2007-2009

Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary (online)
Adjunct Professor of Old Testament, 2011-2014

School of Urban Missions (online)
Adjunct Professor of Old Testament, 2009-2012

Walker School of Ministry (certificate site of Leavell College)
Professor and Director, 2012-2015

Created an extension center of Leavell College at two locations (Walker, LA and in the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women in St Gabriel, LA) which included: establishing the libraries, administrative framework, class cycles, professor rosters and academic advising.

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Registered Nurse, Bridgeway Hospice, 2017-2018

Discipleship Director, Florida Boulevard Baptist Church, 2008-2010

Registered Nurse, Woman's Hospital, 1994-2007

Music Evangelism, Threefold Truth Ministries, 1997-2002





### THEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS

Contributor to the Holman Christian Standard Concordance, Broadman & Holman, 2008.

Current contract: study notes for Jeremiah, Lamentations for Lifeway Publishers Women's Study Bible, expected publication date of 2023.

Future writing project: Using the Psalms to Promote Emotional and Mental Wellness.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Current multi-state RN licensure (Louisiana: RN078297; Tennessee: 249088); hospice and oncology specialty fields.

Board-certified in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing.