



Miller Center

for Social Entrepreneurship

Name of social enterprise: Thrive For Life Prison Project, Inc.

Mission statement: Transforming lives behind and beyond US prison walls

Webpage: www.thriveforlife.org

GSBI 2020 business plan presentation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYyJrUrBXug>

Headquarters: New York City

Location(s) of research: New York City

Video: Power Change with Jesuits! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v85DSDrydBY&feature=youtu.be>

The Fellowship will run in 2021, but due to the ongoing ambiguity caused by the Covid pandemic, most international action research projects are designed to be conducted remotely (e.g., via Zoom) without the immersive component of travel to the field. However, with the deployment of Covid vaccines, domestic US placements are probable, although their configuration and timing are contingent upon local conditions and university travel policy.

Background: Thrive For Life Prison Project envisions a world where spiritual and educational services empower incarcerated individuals to thrive for life. Through retreats, mentorship, education opportunities, and employment assistance, Thrive For Life Prison Project provides accompaniment and consolation on the inside, and then the means to re-enter society and meaningfully contribute to the community once an individual is released.

The challenge: This enterprise seeks to scale its impact by opening new houses for formerly incarcerated persons in key locations so that they can engage in university education and improve their lives. It has requested help in reviewing its existing practices, refining them, and then formalizing this into guidebooks and planning documents.

Action research products needed:

1. Onboarding process and handbook for new residents
2. Outreach and onboarding guidebook for new university partners
3. A business development plan that outlines key strategies for scaling.

Student skills needed: Technical writing, interviewing techniques,

Keywords: Knowledge formalization, operational handbooks, business development strategy