

# MILDRED STRICKLAND 451 Fullerton Avenue Cambridge Springs, PA 16403



# STATUS Incarcerated in1979 at the age of 29 Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa

## Objective Upon Release:

I would like to return home, back to my family owned restaurant. I like to cook and my specialty is Spanish food from my Hispanic heritage. I would also like to be an inspirational speaker, starting at my home church and then going wherever it takes me.

## **Education and Training**

Literacy Program, 2008
Adult Basic Education, 2006
Canine Partners For Life, 2004
Reentry Life Skills, 2004
S.T.E.P. (Services To Elderly Prisoners), 2003
Home Design, 1999
Upholstery/Caning Program, 1994
Caner/Wood Refinisher Apprenticeship, 1993
Upholstery Apprenticeship, 1987-88

# **Employment**

SCI Cambridge Springs:
Culinary Services, 2015 to present
Unit Detail Worker, 2013-15
Plumbing, 2011-13
Culinary Service, 2005-09
Maintenance Worker, 2003-05

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## SCI Cambridge Springs

#### Employment (cont'd)

### SCI Muncy:

Catering, 1994-02 Sewing Operator, 1993-94 Upholstery, 1988-93 Maintenance Worker, 1986-87 Culinary Service, 1985-86 Laundry Worker, 1984-85 House of Correction, Philadelphia: Maintenance Worker, 1979-83

### Groups

Violence Prevention, 2012 Thinking For A Change, 2007 S.T.E.P. Long Term Offenders, 2005 Thriving Program, 2004 Citizenship, 2003 Breaking Barriers, 1998

#### Community Involvement

Happy Hats for children with AIDS Blankets for babies with AIDS and cancer Steering Committee: Project Impact PA Lifers Association:

- Senior Citizens banquet
- Disabled children's party
- Photo Committee
- Art Committee
- Distribution Committee
- · Breastwalk and Run-a-thon

Director of choir

Sacred Dance

Motivational speaker for prisoners

Decorator for windows and visiting room at Muncy

Created rosaries for the chapel

Participated in interview, "How Did I Survive Life at SCI Cambridge Springs"

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SCI Cambridge Springs

Spirituality and Programs

Member of Baptist church at Cambridge Springs Kairos #5 Walking Your Faith Spiritual Uplift Women of Aglow Magnolia Yokefellowship Tithing: The homeless

THE WOMAN I AM TODAY...I was very withdrawn from my family since being in prison. I learned to cope with prison life without them. My family needed me, but I wasn't able to be there for them. Since I've been incarcerated at times, I've felt like giving up on living. I miss my family dearly. I have always been an inspiration to other people through my spiritual life. As I've looked around and seen so many broken women as I was, I try to give them what God has given me to survive. I had a rude awakening and even though I was beaten down, I had to think about others and to try to make a difference not only in my life, but theirs also. I prayed first and asked God to show me how to help myself and other women. I can now see myself the way I was back then and the way I am now. I have risen and I try to help others get to a better point in their lives like I have. I have been helping others from day one starting with my own family. I have 18 brothers and sisters. I have seven daughters and one son who passed away.

Today it's about helping women around me in SCI Cambridge Springs. I can say today that "I made it!" It has been a very hard road, but I made it through.