

Women Lifers Resume Project of PA

P.O. Box 324

New Hope, PA 18938

February 2016

Dear WLFP,

It is with great pleasure that I write a letter in support of your program's objective to illustrate the transformation women like my friend, **Dannielle Hadley**, have achieved over the course of their incarceration. I am encouraged to know that your project is speaking up for women like Dannielle who may feel voiceless and powerless. I have much to say about our on-going relationship, and I hope I can convey how much I support and believe in her and the transformation that has occurred in her life.

I have known Dannielle for almost ten years. As a member of a previous church I attended, I was part of the Prison Ministry specifically to have a one-to-one sister/friend which we visited at least once a month with additional letter/card correspondences. When Dannielle and I first met, what struck me most was our similarities- age, raised in nearby communities, hobbies and family. Our visits were always pleasant while sharing something from the snack machines combined with encouragement from the Word of God, praying for each other, and catching up on what was happening in each other's lives.

Through the years, I have loved hearing about her sons, her grandchildren and her mother. Their on-going love and support is a primary reason for her strength of character, and her hope is anchored in her love for the Lord. Dannielle has encouraged me through some challenging times (caring for aging parents) as well as times of celebration (travels, marriage, retirement). I have been blessed to receive hand-crafted cards through the years, a cross-stitch wedding gift, a celebration note when I retired along with numerous letters updating me about her life and desires. My life has been enriched because of Dannielle. Through her, I understand inner strength better. I see hope lived out even when circumstances seem against it. I've seen it in her, I read it in her letters.

I have written my concern about women like Dannielle Hadley in letters to **President Barack Obama**. Particularly addressing the need for criminal justice reform. Women, like Dannielle, who have clearly transformed their lives over the decades need an opportunity to return to a successful life in society. I specifically asked the President to view the *Muncy Lady Lifers Youtube* video presented last year. Hearing the testimonies of "This is not my home" is powerful. These women have names, they are not just numbers.

Dannielle has taken full advantage of learning and working opportunities while incarcerated. I am certain she has been a mentor to others. I believe women like Dannielle are doing and have taken necessary steps to develop them into better women, mothers, grandmothers, citizens etc. While she has accomplished many goals at the facility, her greatest work has been accomplished on the inside. I know for certain, you can't change behavior until you change the heart- and only God can do that. The woman Dannielle Hadley has become has been a combination of God's grace on her life, and her desire to be an overall better person, from the inside out. Which should be the desire of us all.

Since changing churches, I no longer do the monthly visits (but hope to at some point in the future), but Dannielle and I have maintained an on-going correspondence relationship. I look forward to hearing from her, and trust she feels the same about me. In my absence from my previous church, she was assigned another sister/friend.

I look forward to Dannielle Hadley being released one day. She has served her time well, and **DESERVES** an opportunity to rejoin her family and society. After decades of incarceration, when she is paroled, I will certainly continue to be part of her life, supporting her in whatever way I can- assistance with job searching (including what women love to do- shopping for a new wardrobe), transportation assistance to get to appointments, interviews, etc. And, assuredly, Dannielle and I will continue to be friends!

Sincerely submitted

Mrs. Cynthia Garvin Parks

In Support of Danielle Hadley
SCI Muncy
October, 2015

My name is Regina Green and I am an inmate at SCI Muncy. I've been in and out of jail and prison more than ten times. I've been in Muncy four times. I am a parole violator; for robbery to supply my addiction. At this time I am maxing out in February of 2016.

While here I got lucky and was put into a cell with Danielle Hadley. She has been in prison for 28 years and has changed everything about her life. She has not once given me any bad advice. She has given me a reason to look at my future differently. She pays for what she did every day of her life. But she doesn't let the time she must do change her attitude. She has completed many classes while here to better herself and now she is a Peer Assistant, to our community. She talks to women all over the campus about why they should change their ways. She mentors women that feel they can't go on.

To sum this all up, what I'm trying to say is that Danielle has helped me in so many ways. She's been there for me while grieving the passing of my mother. She has helped me to change my way of thinking; that I am worth living and can do better and most importantly, that this life is not cool. That I don't have to come back! If Danielle is given a chance to go out of these gates, there is no doubt in my mind she could help others that are just like me and be a mentor to other women before they end up in prison or worse, dead.

If Danielle is released on parole, I can see her being an advocate. She is a strong woman and it would be worth it in many ways for her to be free. Even if she only helps one person, it would make a difference.

Regina Green
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