

Kids of Prisoners Matter, Too!
New Partnership with Dolly Parton
Imagination Library!

Enroll your child
for free monthly
books!

Inspire your child's love of reading with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library





FREE BOOKS FOR KIDS!

If you have a child from 0-5 years old,
register them today for free
monthly books.

How It Works:

- Have a loved one enroll your child online at <https://imaginationlibrary.com/check-availability>. If you find that the program is not offered in your child's area, please contact HFP.
- In 6-8 weeks, your child will receive their first book in the mail, "The Little Engine That Could".
- Books arrive in the mail monthly until your child's 5th birthday.
- If you do not have a loved one who can enroll your child online, contact Humanity for Prisoners for additional assistance.

United Way

HFP

Humanity
for Prisoners
action with compassion

Humanity for Prisoners
P.O. Box 689 • Grand Haven, MI 49427
info@humanityforprisoners.org
HumanityForPrisoners.org
616-935-0075

immediately, we can now enroll incarcerated parents' children, aged 0-5, in DPIL's book-gifting program. This initiative sends free, high-quality books directly to children from birth to age five, regardless of the family's income. Each month, the child will receive an age-appropriate book addressed specifically to them, all at no cost to the parent or family. The goal of this collaboration is to enhance literacy among the children of incarcerated parents and to strengthen the bonds between parents, children, and their caregivers. If you have any questions or know someone who needs assistance with the enrollment process, please contact HFP.

PROJECT WINDOW



A ministry of Humanity for Prisoners

Project Window Revived!

We are excited to announce that HFP, in partnership with St. Patrick-St. Anthony Parish of Grand Haven, has revived our pen pal program, Project Window. This initiative aims to foster connection,

From the Desk of Doug
Dave and Carol
The Wind Beneath Our Wings!



David and Carol Myers are quiet people. They spend quiet lives in a historic home in a quiet part of Holland, Michigan. Conversations in their living room tend to be quiet and meaningful.

Their incredible support of HFP, however, can only be described as loud and strong. It reminds me of that Bette Midler hit of 1989, when she sang, "I can fly higher than an eagle, for you are the wind beneath my wings."

Who are these kind and generous people providing wind beneath HFP's wings? Well,



David is a social psychologist, and is on the staff at Hope College, and his scientific writings appear in some three dozen academic periodicals. Carol has held multiple positions on

local and national organizations' boards and committees. She also founded the internationally recognized St. Nicholas Center.



The two of them established a family foundation in 1989 and assigned to it all royalties from the sale of David's books. Because of their genuine heart for incarcerated men and women, their support has made a huge impact on the success of our work! David Myers: "Our responsibility is to God's children worldwide."

Thank you, thank you
Thank God for you, the wind beneath my wings

— Doug Tjapkes, Founder

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understanding, and support between incarcerated individuals and compassionate volunteers. We are currently seeking caring individuals to serve as volunteer pen pals. Your participation can make a profound difference in someone's life. By writing letters, you can provide encouragement, share stories, and help combat the loneliness that many experience while incarcerated. We invite you to join us in this rewarding experience! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer pen pal or would like more information about Project Window, please email our Carmen Fluit for more details: carmen@humanityforprisoners.org, or contact our office.

Hartman Named to Prestigious Committee!

HFP CEO Mark Hartman has been appointed to the Region 4 Reentry Program – MDOC Program for those returning to society from incarceration. Region 4 consists of Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, and Ottawa Counties. Angie Sprank, Community Coordinator, announced Mark's appointment. She said that she had established this statewide committee with a goal of bringing community awareness to those who will be released over the next 1-2 years.

Welcome!

New Staff Member

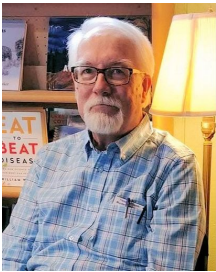


HFP Executive Director Mark Hartman announces the appointment of Brad Warner as our new Intake and Communications Specialist. Brad brings a powerful perspective to his work. As a former juvenile lifer who served 33 years before being paroled in 2024, he has a deep understanding of the challenges faced by those impacted by the justice system. During his incarceration, he leveraged education to transform his life, working as a tutor, law library clerk, legal writer, and mentor to his peers. As a member of the HFP team, he is committed to bridging the gap between the incarcerated and the community. Welcome aboard!



Scan to donate

Farewell! In Memoriam



HFP extends warm condolences to the family and loved ones of Robert "Bob" Holderbaum. Bob, 79, of Battle Creek, passed away on April 16, 2025. He was a devoted volunteer of HFP who dedicated more than 500 hours to our mission. His compassion, dedication, and unwavering support for those in need were truly inspiring.



We are also saddened to report the passing of HFP friend and supporter Dr. John Adrian Mulder, a devoted husband, loving father, revered physician, and cherished friend. John died peacefully at Vanderbilt Hospital after a short bout of pneumonia on May 1, 2025. John and HFP founder Doug Tjapkes made a lot of music together. John was responsible for organizing the Sweet Freedom ensemble, and for producing the Sweet Freedom CD, both of which served as excellent fundraisers for HFP! Our love to Lisa and the family.

New Board Member



Jim Niewenhuis, HFP Board of Directors chair, announces the addition of Jessa Webber to our board. Jessa is a Staff Attorney at the Cooley Innocence Project, where she works to overturn wrongful convictions through forensic testing and factual investigation in partnership with the Wayne County Conviction Integrity Unit. In her role, Jessa also advocates for criminal justice policy reform. Prior to exoneration, Jessa aims to help her clients navigate life within prison; after exoneration, she aims to help her clients with reintegration. Prior to attending law school, Jessa was involved with the Inside Out Prison Exchange Program at the Macomb Correctional Facility, where she studied and brought awareness to the system of mass incarceration in a mixed group of incarcerated and non-incarcerated people. Welcome aboard!