



HEAR FROM HER

Evelyn Fulbright

**System Impacted Women Speak Series
Brought to you by the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition**

Instead of offering some type of drug treatment, I was put on probation without services and then revoked. I cycled through the system because I had a drug problem and my root issues weren't being addressed. Today, I am a nurse at a drug rehab center. God saved me out of that world, and then brought me back to help others.

I had a fibroid on my uterus, so I had a lot of bleeding. The pads are so cheap, I would go through 3 a night and still bleed through my clothes and sheets. I would get in trouble for washing my clothes/sheets, but I couldn't just stay like that. It made me feel less than a human being, let alone a woman. Even though we are in prison, we are still women.

They need to do more of an individual assessment of the women. We go through a processing in the beginning, but it needs to be more female based. If they did more of a detailed assessment involving female issues, maybe they could improve the quality of treatment of women in the system.

I had a severe cocaine addiction for 15 years. Instead of offering some type of drug treatment, I was put on probation without services and then revoked. I cycled through the system because I had a drug problem and my root issues weren't being addressed.

Today, I am a nurse at a drug rehab center. God saved me out of that world, and then brought me back to help others.



? Did you feel TDCJ prepared you for reentry?

There was no preparation for reentry. They gave me a list of resources out the door, and many of the organizations and businesses didn't even exist anymore. I work at a resource center now, and when we get feedback that a place is closed or has restrictions, we update our resources. TDCJ should do that as well.

The trouble for me did not start until I came home. I had a felony, my nursing license had been taken, and I was facing so many obstacles that I was not prepared for.

The need is so much greater than what resources are available.

For more information about women in Texas' criminal justice system, visit TexasCJC.org/Womens-Justice