

Southern Criminal Justice Association Annual Charity Spotlight: “Redemption Songs” (The Beat of Life)



“Redemption Songs” is designed to serve the inmate populations in jails, prisons, and juvenile detention facilities, as well as children of the inmates through music programs specifically designed for youth with an incarcerated parent. This program’s primary structure is set up as a one or two day songwriting event inside the correctional facility, with inmates each being paired with two of Nashville’s pro/hit songwriters. The goal is for the inmates to collaborate with their songwriter teams to share and begin to process their stories differently through the creation of their own song. Through this process, inmates are also given an opportunity to create something of great value... both a song of their own and new supportive, healthy friendships with their songwriter teams. Guitars for the inmates are left in the facility in a safe place, that they may continue their new musical journey if they wish, especially with additional program pieces. The songwriting event is followed by a professional studio album of the songs created with the inmates (either onsite in the correctional facility or in an outside studio), as well as a concert featuring the inmate-songwriter matches and other artists who strongly support the cause of prison reform and inmate rehabilitation. Copies of the compilation album are sent to spouses, children, and other family members or significant others that are affected most by the inmates’ incarceration, to create additional bridges and opportunities for healing with loved ones.



Visit <http://www.thebeatoflife.org> to learn about Redemption Songs and The Beat of Life programs!

Contribute to SCJA's donation to Redemption Songs by donating at the Registration Desk or buying raffle tickets. All proceeds from the SCJA raffle will be matched by SCJA and donated Thursday at noon. Don't forget to support a great charity by buying your tickets to win: **Amazon Echo (2)**, noise cancelling headphones, **foldable keyboard**, wireless cellphone charger, **Stata gear**, power bank, **mugs**, moleskin notebooks, **insulated lunchboxes**, conference parking passes, **gift cards**, and more!