

MBF SUPPORTS Women Moving Forward



Since its inception in 2008, the Women Moving Forward (WMF) Re-entry Conference has been held in partnership with the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women (MCIW). The conference was initiated by the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ), a leading organization dedicated to ensuring equal justice and access to the courts. in collaboration with other groups and individuals concerned about the welfare of incarcerated women.

The primary objective of this annual conference is to provide women who are within six to 18 months of release with resources and information to support their successful return to the community. Attendees engage in comprehensive workshops on a variety of topics such as housing, money, and credit management, obtaining employment, access to health care, educational opportunities, family reunification, and tips on successfully navigating parole and probation requirements. The conference also addresses challenges such as coping with trauma, substance abuse, and addressing mental health concerns.

The WMF seeks to provide participants with a true conference experience—including the provision of conference bags containing the conference program, a journal, and other assorted items such as a calendar, toiletries and other valuable items donated by our partners and sponsors. Keynote speakers and previously justice impacted women from MCIW share their experiences and inspire the attendees to plan for their own success.

In their post-conference evaluations, the women provide feedback on what they have learned:

Being a convict doesn't mean I can't be a successful person.

We are not alone after release.

How to address incarceration when interviewing

Even though I am a convicted felon, my life does not end here

How to take advantage

The importance of advocating for yourself.

By addressing the multifaceted needs of participants, the WMF Re-entry Conference fosters a pathway to empowerment and reintegration, reflecting a steadfast commitment to transforming lives and building stronger communities. For more information about the conference, please go to www.wmfmd.org.