OPERATION NEW HOPE

"My name is Lauren Waldron and I'm a case manager in the Ready4Work program at Operation New Hope. My role as a case manager is to offer guidance and support to our participants once they are released from jail or prison. This task is accomplished through connecting the participants with resources within the community, offering a shoulder to cry on, and more often than not giving advice and hard truths about what is going on in their lives.

ONH has a staff that works as a team, to the best of our abilities, to insure that the participants are successful. The staff can only help those who are willing to cooperate and when that happens we see transformations in the participants lives that are truly inspiring. I have witnessed men who have been in prison for 15 years walk through our doors with more determination to change than I've ever seen. They work tirelessly to get a job, knowing that is one way to prevent old behaviors from creeping up on them. There are few participants that truly have that drive and determination for lasting change, but having the opportunity to watch those that do is a blessing.

The best part of this job is knowing at the end of the day you have done everything within your power to help someone else better their life. Hope is offered to our clients through the simple belief that everyone deserves a chance at a successful life, full of all the blessings they deserve.

My most memorable moment came when I received a box of chocolates from a client at Christmastime. This was such a kind gesture and I was touched that a man I'd only been working with a few months thought enough of me to spend what little money he had on a box of chocolates. Knowing I have worked to help someone else is a precious feeling I take home with me daily."

Lauren Waldron,
Ready4Work Case Manager

Rebuilding Lives. Restoring Communities. Renewing Hope.