

## **PKG #2 Team Update**

**Team Members:** MyAhna Alston, Toussaint Fancher

**Roles of Team Members:** Toussaint - Reporter & Writer, MyAhna - Editor & Producer

**Please answer the following questions in sentence form. Be thorough in your responses:**

**1) Discuss your story, answering the question: Who Cares? And What is my story about? Include in detail which of the 5 Motivators you are using in your report.**

This story is about formerly incarcerated individuals trying to foster personal development, creative expression, and education opportunities for both incarcerated individuals and recently freed, through the Free Minds Book club.

Viewers who care about this story, will be individuals who misperceive incarcerated people as some who don't have a desire to become educated, or simply wonder about what happens to those who are incarcerated both during and after their sentence.

The two motivators this story touches on are community and safety. In regard to the community motivator, this story shows a sense of community amongst the incarcerated and recently freed population in DC and their perspective on education and constructive programs like Free Minds Book Club. It also reassures other individuals in DC that constructive programs are being provided to the community of incarcerated people and those reentering society. As far as safety, this Free Minds Book Club promotes the opposite of recidivism, which means it intends to prevent crimes and recidivism by educating returning citizens and giving them a constructive place to grow and express themselves, and make a positive impact by helping others do the same.

**2) What sources have you contacted/researched for background information (provide specific information)?**

We plan to contact Setarah Yelle, the Public Information Officer for the D.C. Department of Corrections, via email at [Setarah.Yelle@dc.gov](mailto:Setarah.Yelle@dc.gov), and if we're unsuccessful we will call at (202) 710-8070. Through her, we hope to gain access to a media interview with a willing inmate who participates in the program. We would like to contact the book club Program Manager Tara Libert, through the Free Minds Book Club email at [mail@freemindsbookclub.org](mailto:mail@freemindsbookclub.org). Aside from her, we hope to contact Antoine Coleman via Instagram at [@Antoinecoleman36](https://www.instagram.com/Antoinecoleman36). For background information, we hope to contact the D.C. Mayor's Office on Returning Citizens Affairs (MORCA) for additional programs or information about this one. Another contact we have for additional information, is Bryant Woodland. He is a part of the re-entry and formerly incarcerated community in DC as a worker at Second Look Project, and a previous story subject of ours who initially tipped us off about the program, so he has more insight into it.

**3) Who will your "H" factor be, and how are you finding this person?**

Our "H" or Human factor, we are planning to focus on someone who has previously been incarcerated, and currently assists with the Free Mind Book Club program. We plan to find this person by contacting the Free Mind Book Club program leader, and asking about members who may be great interview candidates. We specifically have researched and found two members of Free Minds, who were previously incarcerated and now serve as Free Minds Book Club ambassadors. Their names are Antoine Coleman and Gene Downing. We intend on using either one of them for our "H" factor.

**4) What is your plan B if your main source(s) follow through?**

Our plan B if our main sources follow through is to pivot to the Georgetown Prison and Justice Initiative which is a somewhat similar program or contact a communications officer at MORCA for additional program ideas and information.

**5) What type of b-roll will you use to do your story? What opportunities will you have to utilize natural sound?**

We will hopefully have opportunities to get b-roll of a Free Minds Book Club event, and video of the office. We also hope to gather natural sound from the DC Corrections facility if possible, of pods locking, prison bars closing, or even simply security personnel doing their jobs or metal detectors.

**6) Where is your stand-up going to be in Washington? What is the backdrop? Unless otherwise approved by Prof Thomas you must do your story at a location that is recognizable to Washington, DC. (Ex: White House, Capitol, Supreme Court, Mall, Monuments, etc)**

Our standup, featuring Toussaint will be either in front of the D.C. Department of Corrections or the Supreme Court.

**7) What will your 2nd item be?**

Our second item will be a photo essay, containing images of the inmates and formerly incarcerated interacting both together, and individually.