

Storytelling with the Formerly Incarcerated

by Lani Peterson

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BOSTON, Mass., USA -- In November 2004, the Public Voice Project (PVP) at the City Mission Society in Boston sponsored the first Storytelling Workshop, bringing together seven formerly incarcerated men to meet with Carla Kimball, a public speaking coach, and me, a storytelling coach. Over the course of four evenings, Carla and I worked with the recently released prisoners to uncover and tell the stories of their journeys leading up to, through and out the other side of the prison experience.

The Public Voice Project aims to prepare participants to share their stories in public forums to raise awareness and concern about current issues related to incarceration, rehabilitation and re-entry. We want the process to be as helpful to the ex-offenders as the content can be to the public forums. Through re-visiting and telling the stories of their experience with the penal system and after, the storytellers can

[SNIP – End of preview.]