

Imagine you are 15 years old and you've just been locked up in a prison cell. You are alone and afraid. No parents, no siblings, no friends. What would you do? Who would you turn to? Thousands of kids face this situation every day. They are desperate for hope and for help. Hope and help you can provide as a mentor.

ONE HEART PROJECT

Our Story

The One Heart Project is a national collaborative restorative justice initiative that rescues and restores youth in the juvenile justice system, and provides them with a second chance.


Through partnerships with community based service providers, nonprofits, faith based organizations and others the One Heart Project provides a proven pathway for these youth to access the skills and tools necessary to successfully navigate life. This results in transformed lives, breaking the cradle to prison pipeline, and producing employment and economic opportunities for a forgotten population of kids. It is a win-win in the truest sense.

The One Heart Project needs you to be of this transformation. How? By becoming a mentor for one of these kids, to help give them hope.

Their Story

Gage is one of the nearly 200,000 kids housed in correctional facilities across the U.S. He was incarcerated at the age of 10, serving a 15-year sentence. His parents had abandoned him. He was all alone. Then Scott stepped in. Scott, an ordinary guy, volunteered to be Gage's mentor. When Scott first met Gage, the boy's behavior marks were the worst they could possibly be, he was failing all of his classes, and was suicidal.

After five months of Scott visiting with Gage on a weekly basis, things changed... dramatically. Gage's behavior marks were the highest they could be, he was getting straight A's, and he had hope for the future. Within five months, his life was completely transformed. Within the next year, Gage's life change became evident to all. He received an early release from the correctional facility, based on good behavior. His 15-year sentence was cut to just two. Scott has maintained his mentoring relationship with Gage. Both lives have been forever impacted.



"He was headed to adult prison in two years, if he didn't make some drastic changes... The changes I've seen him are nothing short of miraculous."

— Scott, on Gage

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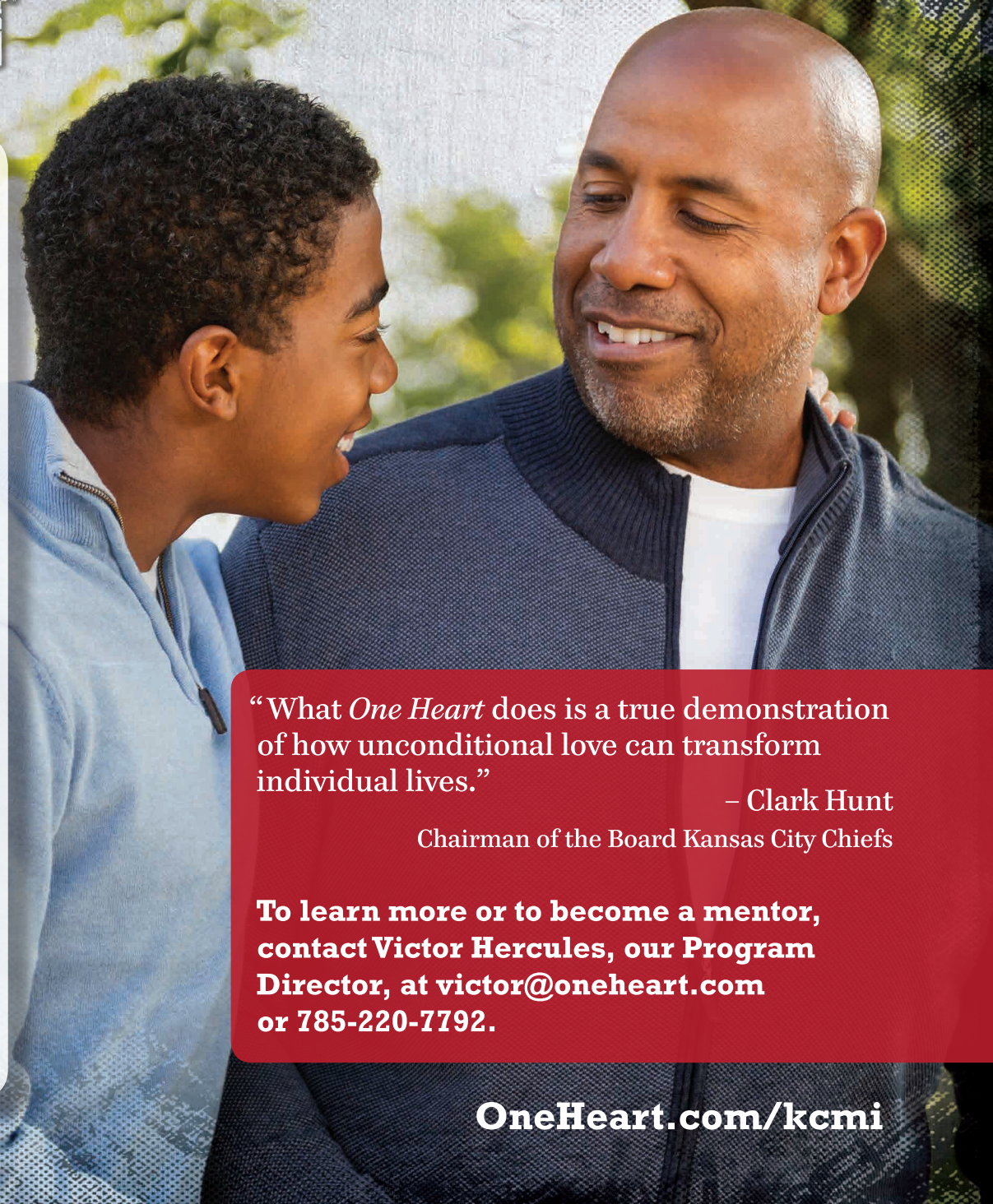
Your Story

What will be your story? Like Scott, you have the opportunity to be part of transforming a young person's life. All it takes is a willing heart and a commitment to just showing up. All mature, caring adults are welcome, whether you are twenty-five or seventy-five.

What does a mentor do? A mentor provides guidance, direction, advice, support and encouragement, and reinforces pro-social thinking through one-on-one meetings. A mentor is positive, caring, honest and consistent. A mentor is willing to commit to a relationship with a youth in a correctional facility, and maintain that relationship as the youth transitions back into the community.

All volunteer mentors are screened and trained by our staff, then matched with a youth based on a compatibility profile. Our staff is along with you for the ride, encouraging you, resourcing you, and connecting you to a community of mentors for support and advice.

Are you ready to begin your story?



“What One Heart does is a true demonstration of how unconditional love can transform individual lives.”

– Clark Hunt

Chairman of the Board Kansas City Chiefs

To learn more or to become a mentor, contact Victor Hercules, our Program Director, at victor@oneheart.com or 785-220-7792.

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