

BASICS –

Creating productive citizens one at a time

Lawyers
Foundation of
Georgia

Every year since 1978, this program has taken people out of the correctional system and delivered them to the community as productive citizens. It has restored families and has helped thousands of people turn their lives around; Moms and Dads, sons and daughters – people from all walks of life have been helped to turn their lives around and have returned to their families and their communities no longer a drain, but useful and productive.

BASICS is a ten week program. It costs less than \$500 per student. It gives its graduates confidence, skills and a foundation of learning to grow on. Its success rate is more than twice that of the prison system. Around 37% of those who leave the prison system return within 5 years. In contrast, approximately 16% of BASICS graduates return to the prison system.

Here is just one success story: K never finished high school, although he repeated the 9th grade FOUR times. He was incarcerated at a very young age, but BASICS turned his life around. In his own words: “The BASICS program gave me the tools to harness and channel my thoughts of how to be successful, to maintain confidence and empowerment. It helped me design my plan of action and to utilize the information and resources that were available. After serving approximately 16 years, I walked from a prison cell into Georgia State University where I earned my bachelor’s degree in Psychology. After earning my MBA, I am now a Doctorate candidate at Argosy University. I am currently poised to start an Adjunct Professor position with Voorhees College this fall. One of the many highlight of my BASICS experience was becoming a BASICS instructor after finishing my undergraduate degree. So for me, I have experienced both sides of the BASICS program, each being a rewarding experience.”



BASICS just lost its greatest source of funding. Due to the downturn in the economy, the Georgia Bar Foundation was unable to renew its longstanding grant to BASICS. We are therefore asking for your help. This letter is only going to about 800 people. Our goal *today* is to raise enough money for one class – about \$10,000. We hope you will consider helping out this incredibly worthy program during its hour of need.

I know this is a tough time for us to ask for a charitable contribution. But before you say no, or toss this in the trash, think about who you could be helping. The 20 year old who learned how to be a good employee. The 30 year old who has kicked his addiction and, thanks to BASICS, has the skills necessary to find a job and be a contributing member of society. The young mother who gets to return home to her children because BASICS has taught her how to support herself and them. These are just a few of the people your tax deductible donation can help.

Thank you so much for your consideration and your generosity. Please send your 501(C)(3) tax deductible donation to Lawyers Foundation of Georgia, BASICS Program, 104 Marietta St., NW, Suite 630, Atlanta, GA 30303, or click [here](#).

Sincerely,

Lauren



Lauren Larmer Barrett
Executive Director
Lawyers Foundation of Georgia
104 Marietta St., NW
Suite 630
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-659-6867

PS: For more information about BASICS, go to: http://gabar.org/related_organizations/lawyers_foundation/basics_program/. You can also donate online there.