



## Five Trained in Brooksville, FL

Trainer Naomi Mattei reports that five new people completed the FIT Leadership Training Course in Brooksville, FL on January 20. The session was held for members of her church, the Grace World Outreach Church. The participants took the course to qualify to facilitate at the Hernando County Jail and the Hernando Correctional Institution, a major state prison for women. Both institutions are located in Brooksville.

## Three Ministries Represented in Bradenton, FL Training

Five people, representing three different ministries, completed their training in Bradenton, FL on February 10. Going around the table from left to right are Thomas Lopez, Migdalia Otero-Terry and Curtis Terry, Belinda Camp, and Jennifer Fox-Moody. Thomas is involved with the Orlando Inside-Out Jail Ministry. The Terrys pastor a church on the Shinecock Indian Reservation on Long Island, New York and came down just for this meeting. Belinda and Jennifer minister locally with the Learn to Fish Recovery House for Women.



## New Features on "Curriculum" Portion of the FIT Website



The FIT Curriculum has undergone a dozen years of development based on the needs of our facilitators and clients, changing governmental requirements and changes in society. This has been especially true in the past three years where we have introduced new titles and revised others. The "Curriculum" area of our website has been recently updated to quickly show these features. To access them, go to [familyintegrity.org](http://familyintegrity.org) and click on the "Curriculum" button. A sub menu will now show three buttons: **Program**, **Courses**, and **Brochure**.

**P**rogram starts with the overall features of the FIT program as a whole. There are eight courses in the program, each of them standalone in their own right, but each focusing on a different major need in life. Scrolling down the page, you will find the six FIT groupings required for the FIT complete program with links to more information on each of the course.

**C**ourses contains brief descriptions of each course and links to a related table of contents.

**B**rochure is a printable version of the previous.

## Number of FIT "Peer Facilitators" nearing 50

**What are Peer Facilitators?** Peer facilitators are prison inmates who have been found worthy to be certified as FIT facilitators to conduct our classes to other inmates in state prisons. To be certified they have to complete the application process which includes completing the entire program as a student, going through the standard FIT leadership course with a certified FIT trainer, co-facilitate classes with that trainer, be recommended by the trainer and a local prison representative, and be approved by the official FIT board.

**What kind of success have we had with peer facilitators?** We have used them for years and found them to be mature, dedicated, competent, and knowledgeable. Most are serving long sentences, many with life sentences. They want to give back to their (prison) community by sharing their faith and new constructive outlook. Some of them even volunteer to be "missionaries" to other prisons lacking a FIT program by requesting a transfer for that purpose. They greatly help our program because they do not have to travel or be affected by prison events like lock-downs that prevent our regular facilitators from entering and conducting classes.

There are others, but **the following trainers have been especially active** in preparing/recommending peer facilitators. Ed White - several prisons including Tamoka, Zephyr Hills, Hardee, and Lake; Belinda Roy and Cathy Morales - Black Water River and Walton. Demand and interest is great among both prisons who want to expand our program and prisoner-candidates who want to serve in this capacity.



Ed White



Belinda Roy



Cathy Morales

Peer Facilitator Trainers

### How you can Help

How can you help? Let me count the ways. Most of our cost involves supplying free books to our clients in prisons, jails, recovery houses, rescue missions, and Dream Centers. Almost none of the clients are able to pay for our quality course books. We send out thousands of them in the course of a year. Then there are the other costs. One recent day's cost to ship the books out came to \$102.01 not counting the costs of producing, storing, or handling them. Shipping supplies and providing clients with custom completion certificates adds to the cost.

**Every Gift Counts.  
None is too small.**

We are a missionary support office. Our facilitators, including the peer facilitators are the missionaries, and peer facilitators don't pay dues or make donations. You can **help us now** with a gift of any size through our website and/or **later on May 1** through the Giving Challenge website where your gift will be matched up to \$100 by the Patterson Foundation with additional matches provided by your FIT board members. More details will follow in the next newsletter. Other options are **keep up on your dues** even if you are inactive and **donate something when you renew**. Help us even more with a **monthly gift** (call the office at 941.799.4975 to set this up.

We wouldn't ask you to do anything we wouldn't do. Nobody in the organization gets a salary except for a part-time person (15 hours per week) to run the office. Your FIT board members collectively give thousands of dollars each year to support this ministry, and they still pay their dues and expenses the same as everyone else.

**If you'll provide the funds,  
We'll do the work.**

### We get mail

*from Belinda Roy: FIT Trainer, Baker, FL: . Thank you for all you do to make FIT work!*

*from Tammy Fisher: Director of Inside/Outside Jail Ministry, Orlando, FL: I am excited how well our programs are matching together and continuing to grow!*