

Cynthia Thompson

Cynthia Thompson is the Director of S.O.A.R. (Supporting Oklahoma Offenders in Achieving Reintegration), an organization dedicated to assisting incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals, as well as their families, in the rehabilitation and reintegration process. S.O.A.R. provides support with pardons and expungements and offers referrals for job readiness training, employment opportunities, clothing, housing, and mental health counseling. The program also partners with Prison Fellowship to provide Christmas gifts for inmates' children during the holiday season and works closely with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections to promote family reunification.

Cynthia is a graduate of Sir Jobs for Progress in Dallas, Texas. She earned an Associate of Arts degree in Sociology from Oklahoma City Community College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Rehabilitation Services from Langston University. She retired after 22 years of service with the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, Disability Determination Division, where she worked as a Disability Examiner I and performed additional duties adjudicating disability cases for the Social Security Administration. Since retiring, she has continued her service to others as a State of Oklahoma Certified Nursing Assistant, currently employed by Providence Home Health.

In addition to her professional career, Cynthia has devoted many years to prison ministry. She has served as the Director of Hillwood Missionary Baptist Church Prison Ministry from 2015 to the present. She hosts an annual conference titled *Connecting the Dots* and coordinates *Playday*, a program that allows children to spend a day with their incarcerated mothers, helping to strengthen and preserve the mother-child bond. Previously, she served as Director of Prison Ministry at Mt. Olive Baptist Church from 2003 to 2015 under the leadership of the late Pastor A. Glenn Woodberry.

Cynthia Thompson's journey is both powerful and inspiring. Her leadership of S.O.A.R. reflects her deep commitment to empowering others who face challenges similar to those she has overcome. By openly sharing her personal experiences, she helps destigmatize incarceration and shift societal perspectives on rehabilitation and second chances. She has shared her story through two published works, *Trouble Don't Last Always* and a book of poetry titled *Inspirations & More – From a Female Convict*. Through her writing, she offers hope, encouragement, and guidance to those striving to rebuild their lives.

Her successful expungement stands as a testament to the power of perseverance, accountability, and access to supportive resources. A woman of faith and family, Cynthia credits her life's progress to her relationship with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Her family is the center of her world and her greatest source of joy. Through her faith, lived experience, and unwavering dedication to service, Cynthia Thompson exemplifies resilience and leadership, demonstrating that with determination and opportunity, adversity can be transformed into purpose and lasting impact.