

Letter by Daniel Bradford

Hello,

My name is Daniel Bradford. You may call me Daniel. My purpose for writing you all is to let you all know what some of the elderly go through while incarcerated at IDOC.

My unique perspective is unique because I worked as a hospice worker. It was very sad seeing the elderly get worse and pass away. I was a health care attendant.

The most horrible thing about it all was watching the bed sores get worse I learned a term they frequently used. Sepsis. They would say the patients' wounds were so bad they had to send them out to be cleaned.

I spent many months feeding, washing, and cleaning the patients. Showering whomever was able to shower. Listening to them and being there for them. One month 3 people died. Most of the elderly are incapable of hurting someone. I've helped some who could barely stand. I would shave the patients and talk to their families whenever they couldn't speak any longer.

I've met some amazing nurses. But since we're all human, I'm sure you can imagine the nurses who don't care. Who judge the elderly for the crime they are incarcerated for. So imagine the piecemeal work that's done. Or they could just be lazy in the patient suffers.

They passed the Joe Coleman bill to help the incarcerated who were deteriorating. But each person who submitted got denied.

Besides praying with the hospice patients, the best part of my day was dipping the sponge sticks inside some coffee and giving them coffee. They loved that.

IDOC and its contractor do not have the resources nor the staff to properly and adequately care for the elderly.

I'm available if you have any questions. I hope this letter helps someone.

Sincerely, Daniel

The Author:

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