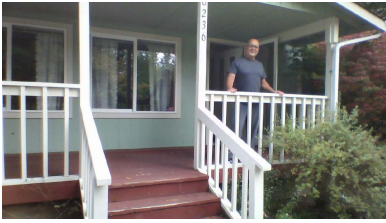


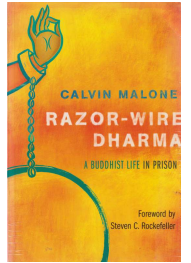
# The Way Home Project

## Empowering Prisoners for Reintegration into Society

### This Worthy Project Must Not Become Homeless!



In Olympia, Washington, Calvin Malone, author of *Razor-Wire Dharma*, a staunch member of Olympia Zen Center, and our friend for more than 30 years, has established a Buddhist program, **The Way Home Project**, both to support incarcerated prisoners and to assist released inmates in their successful readjustment to American society. After four years, the Project and Calvin were suddenly deprived of the house that he had personally repaired, restored, and repurposed! He is urgently in need of support both for his project and for himself.



Here is the current situation of **The Way Home Project** and an outline of the project in Calvin's own words. For more information, please read the description online at our website by clicking on the link below. Thank you

---

My name is Calvin Malone. In 1992, while incarcerated at the Walla Walla State Penitentiary in Washington State, I founded a Buddhist meditation group that grew into a strong spiritual community behind the walls. Some of these experiences are shared in my book, *Razor-Wire Dharma*.

After nearly 30 years of incarceration, I was unconditionally released to Olympia, Washington. I carried with me a clear determination: to help my brothers and sisters coming out of prison find stability, dignity, and hope as they re-enter society.

Within six months of release, I partnered with a financially secure friend to launch what became **The Way Home Project**. Together we obtained a house—affordable but in disrepair, with land overgrown by weeds and blackberry bushes.

I personally handled all the repairs, upgrades, and restoration of the property. My partner, who lived in another city, left the day-to-day operation entirely in my hands.



This is a gazebo which Calvin was able to have built as a meditation pagoda in the last prison in which he was incarcerated.

Over the past four years, **The Way-Home Project** has:

- Assisted 14 individuals facing acute housing insecurity after prison.
- Helped residents secure essential documents (birth certificates, IDs, Social Security cards).
- Provided transportation to jobs, training, and medical appointments.
- Offered stability and a safe environment without any government funding.

Support has come from only a handful of kind donors: a Buddhist priest in Switzerland, my community at the Olympia Zen Center, and a few others who believed in this mission.

About a year ago, the property owner abruptly demanded we vacate so he could sell the house. As of today, one resident remains here with me, and neither of us has any alternative.

This struggle reflects a broader national crisis:

- A local survey I conducted revealed that nearly 70% of homeless men had previously been incarcerated.
- Many end up on the streets within weeks or months of release.
- Consistent, wrap-around support is almost non-existent.



Had I been able to demonstrate seven consecutive years of operating a successful program, I would have qualified for a state grant large enough to purchase a permanent home for this work. Instead, the clock has run out on the property, and the men who could benefit most are again left without options.

Formerly incarcerated people are among the most marginalized in America. Once released, few care what happens to them, yet they remain our neighbors, our fellow citizens, and people deserving of dignity. Without support, desperation takes hold. With support, transformation is possible.

**The Way Home Project** is rooted in compassion, resilience, and the belief that no one should be discarded after release. With your help, I can continue this work and give men returning from prison a real chance to rebuild their lives.

If you know of available housing, partnerships, or grant opportunities, your guidance could be invaluable. Every form of support makes a difference—whether through funding, connections, or simply spreading the word. Contributions to sustain this work and help secure a permanent home for **The Way Home Project** can be made via Buddhist Relief Mission.

May you be well and happy.

With gratitude,

Calvin Malone [calvin.malone131@gmail.com](mailto:calvin.malone131@gmail.com)

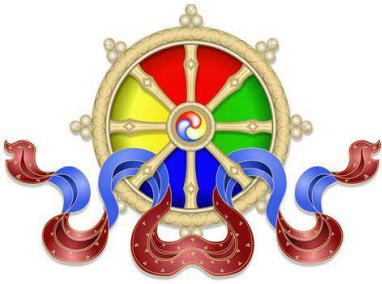


Continue to Page 2

# **The Way Home Project**

## **Empowering Incarcerated Buddhists for Reintegration into Society**

### **An Outline of the Philosophy behind the Project**



#### **Introduction**

**The Way Home Project** is grounded in the core principles of compassion, wisdom, and non-harming. Its primary mission is to provide comprehensive support and guidance to incarcerated individuals who identify as Buddhists, helping them cultivate inner transformation and empowerment during their time in prison, and facilitating their successful reintegration into society upon release. Through the lens of Buddhist teachings and practices, the project seeks to foster a positive and lasting impact on the lives of those within the criminal justice system, aiming to break the cycle of suffering and promote healing for individuals and communities affected by incarceration.

1. **Compassionate Understanding**
2. **Mindfulness and Meditation**
3. **Ethics and Responsibility**
4. **Education and Skill Development**
5. **Cultivating Inner Peace and Resilience**
6. **Community Building and Support**
7. **Supporting Incarcerated Buddhists during their Prison Journey**
8. **Facilitating Reintegration into the Community**



#### **Conclusion**

**The Way Home Project** is guided by the belief in the potential for personal transformation and the inherent goodness within all individuals, regardless of their past mistakes. By offering support, education, and a foundation of Buddhist principles, we seek to empower incarcerated Buddhists to liberate themselves from the cycle of suffering and create a positive impact within themselves and their communities. Through compassion, mindfulness, and ethical living, we envision a society where individuals can find healing, inner peace, and the opportunity for a new beginning, fostering a cycle of understanding, growth, and liberation for all.



**The Way Home Project** is a transformative endeavor with the power to make a lasting impact on the lives of incarcerated individuals and, in turn, on the broader issue of homelessness. By extending the guiding principles of Buddhism and compassionately supporting those on their path to reintegration, this project embodies the spirit of hope and the promise of a brighter future for all. Together, let us journey towards a society that values redemption, restoration, and the boundless potential of the human spirit.

Click [HERE](#) to read Calvin's full explanation of the philosophy behind **The Way Home Project**

Donations may also be made

in Sri Lanka via:  
Commercial Bank  
Anniwatte Branch  
A/C 8254001210  
Kenneth Kawasaki

in the U.S. via:  
River Bank & Trust  
Buddhist Relief Mission  
A/C 262527856  
ABA Code: 062206567

For a bank deposit, please send donor's name and the amount by SMS or WhatsApp to +94-77-964-9292 or by email to [<buddhist@brelief.org>](mailto:buddhist@brelief.org)

For international bank transfer, please send a request to [<buddhist@brelief.org>](mailto:buddhist@brelief.org) for instructions.



This is the design on a T-shirt which Calvin created while in prison 30 years ago.



## **Buddhist Relief Mission**

[www.brelief.org](http://www.brelief.org) – [buddhist@brelief.org](mailto:buddhist@brelief.org)

☎ and WhatsApp: +94-77-964-9292