

My name is **Bobby Pittman**.

I was incarcerated at **17 years old** and sentenced as an adult before my brain was fully developed and before I fully understood the consequences of my actions.

While incarcerated, I made a decision: **I was going to change**.

I took every program available to me—education, personal development, counseling, and leadership programs. I didn't just participate; I became a **leader**. I mentored others, facilitated groups, and worked to create positive change inside a system not designed for growth.

I earned my **Bachelor's degree in Human Services**, not as a checkbox, but because I wanted to help people who came from the same circumstances I did.

After my release, those skills did not go to waste.

I now work with the **University of Baltimore's Second Chance College Program**, and I am **approved to go back inside the same prison where I was once housed** to support currently incarcerated students. I help them navigate education, planning for reentry, and building a future beyond incarceration.

I am also the **founder of Bullying Intervention Teams**, a **501(c)(3) nonprofit organization** focused on prevention, accountability, and community healing.

In addition, I am a **candidate for a Master's degree in Social Entrepreneurship**, preparing to expand this work and build sustainable, community-based solutions.

This is what rehabilitation looks like.

Yet under current law, access to resentencing can depend on **timing, not transformation**.

A young person sentenced before 2021 may have access to review, while someone sentenced after 2021—at the same age, for the same conduct—may not.

That is not justice.

Youth do not change based on a date on a calendar. Growth, accountability, and redemption are not time-stamped.

I am living proof that people sentenced as children can grow, change, and give back—**even inside the same institutions where they were once confined**. Our laws should reflect that truth for everyone.

Thank you for allowing me to share my story.