



**Not
Beyond
Redemption**

SUPPORTING MOTHERS IN PRISON



IMPACT REPORT 2024

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WELCOME

As we reflect on 2024, we see a year of progress, resilience, and unwavering commitment to our mission. When we set our target in November 2020 to hold legal clinics in every female prison in England by our fifth anniversary, we knew it was ambitious. Today, that goal is not just a vision but a reality. With the recent addition of HMP Low Newton, made possible through an exciting new partnership in the North, and further expansion into HMP Drake Hall, we now hold in-person clinics in nine prisons and remote clinics in the final three. This year we plan to open in HMP Foston Hall, meaning we are serving the entire prison population.

This achievement is only possible because of the unwavering generosity of those who believe in our vision.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the trusts and foundations who have supported us over the past four years. In particular, we recognise the benefit of multi-year funding. This long-term commitment has enabled us to plan ahead, expand our reach, and ensure that no mother loses contact with her children due to a lack of legal support. To all individuals who have made donations, we value your support.

We especially thank those who donate monthly for their steadfast loyalty.

Every contribution, no matter the size, fuels our work and gives mothers the hope they so desperately need.

We also could not do this without the exceptional generosity of our pro bono partners - the law firms, barristers, and legal professionals who dedicate their time and expertise to represent our clients. This work changes lives, offering not just legal advice, but dignity, respect, and the opportunity for family reunification.

With the new Labour government turning its attention to the criminal justice system, we find ourselves at a pivotal moment. The urgent need for reform is gaining increasing recognition on the national agenda. We are proud to contribute our expertise and be part of this much-needed overhaul of how women are treated throughout the prison system.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to our mission; to ensure no mother is left without hope, no child is forgotten, and that the bond between them is protected, no matter the barriers. Thank you for standing with us.

Camilla Baldwin - Founder
Bruce Mauleverer - Chair

EMMA'S STORY: A MOTHER'S FIGHT TO REUNITE WITH HER CHILD

When we first met Emma* in prison early last year, she had already endured months of separation from her 3-year-old daughter.

Sentenced to 14 months, she served 7 months before being released - a period marked by deep uncertainty and loss.

Before her imprisonment, Emma had been her daughter's primary caregiver. After entering prison, the child was placed in the care of her father. Emma had no contact with her child and Social Services had not facilitated any communication.

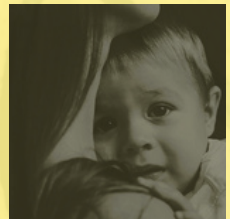
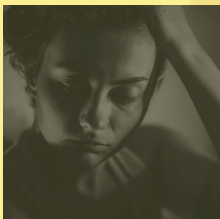
While previously dad only had sporadic contact with his daughter, she was now living with him full time. Despite him agreeing to supervised contact, he had not followed through, leaving Emma in limbo.

Emma's hope was to rebuild her role as a mother, not only by restoring contact, but by resuming primary caregiving responsibilities, while also encouraging a structured, co-parenting arrangement with the father.

With Not Beyond Redemption's support, Emma pursued legal action. Emma started with court-ordered supervised visits, which soon extended to full-day/overnight contact.

Ultimately a 50:50 shared care arrangement was agreed - a shift from Emma's previous role as a full-time carer, but one that allowed her to rebuild her bond with her daughter while maintaining the consistency of her father's care.

Today, Emma and her child's father co-parent amicably. While their journey required the involvement of the courts and Social Services, it was Not Beyond Redemption's legal guidance that made this outcome possible. Without our support, Emma may never have been able to navigate the complex legal system and regain her place in her child's life.



WHO WE ARE

Not Beyond Redemption (NBR) provides mothers in prison with free Family Law advice and representation to help them re-establish and maintain contact with their children during their sentence and on release. The charity was set up in 2020 by leading Family Lawyer, Camilla Baldwin, with the fundamental belief that legal assistance should be accessible to those who need it most, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Our work aims to improve the lives of mothers in prison by:

- **Access to Family Law Advice:** Ensuring mothers have access to free Family Law advice and representation to improve contact with their children whilst in prison.
- **Understanding Parental Rights:** Ensuring mothers in prison understand their parental rights.
- **Inspiring Hope and Motivation:** Empowering mothers with hope and motivation to turn their lives around by fostering meaningful connections with their children.

Not Beyond Redemption became a registered charity

Opened a legal clinic at HMP Send

Employed our first Supervising Lawyer

Held the first legal clinic at HMP East Sutton Park

Opened a legal clinic at HMP Downview

2020

2021

2021

2021

2022

WHAT WE DO



Helping mothers understand their parental rights and navigate the legal system.



Facilitating out-of-court agreements for contact.



Drafting legal correspondence, such as letters and court applications.



Corresponding with members of their families and relevant professionals.



Person-centred yet professional advice



Signposting women who are eligible for Legal Aid, and referring clients to other agencies for holistic support.



Representing clients in court with experienced barristers.



Providing support throughout a women's journey, establishing child contact.



Providing post-release assistance.



Access to our network of barristers, who offer their services to our clients for free

Opened a legal clinic at HMP Peterborough

Employed our second Supervising Lawyer

Opened a legal clinic at HMP Styal

Opened a legal clinic at HMP Bronzefield

Expanded the team with three more lawyers

2022

2023

2023

2023

2023

HOW WE DO IT

Not Beyond Redemption (NBR) provides free Private Family Law advice to incarcerated mothers through legal clinics in women's prisons across England.

We currently offer clinics in ten prisons and accept referrals from the remaining two. By the end of 2025, we aim to offer regular clinics to all twelve women's prisons, ensuring that no mother is left without legal support.

Our work is only possible because of the dedicated support of our partner law firms and barristers. Volunteer lawyers take on client cases under the guidance of NBR's legal team, while specialist family law barristers provide expert representation in courts nationwide on a pro bono basis, giving our clients access to the highest level of legal support, regardless of their circumstances.

Beyond legal representation, we support families even after release, ensuring that mothers can rebuild and maintain relationships with their children. We walk side by side with our clients, guiding them through the legal process and beyond, striving to ensure that no mother loses contact with her child because of imprisonment.

Opened a
legal clinic at
HMP
Eastwood
Park

Partnered
with five new
pro bono
law firms

Met our
300th client

Opened a
legal clinic at
HMP Low
Newton

Opening in
HMP Foston
Hall

2024

2024

2024

2024

2025

WHY WE DO IT

Tackling the Legal Aid Gap

Since the implementation of Legal Aid cuts in 2013, access to Legal Aid for Private Family Law cases is severely restricted. This limitation has left a significant number of mothers in prison without the means to access free Family Law advice regarding contact with their children.

Navigating the complexities of the Family Courts becomes an impossible challenge, resulting in many mothers losing contact with their children during their sentences. To compound this difficulty, a large number of mothers in prison lack awareness of their parental rights, further exacerbating their struggle to maintain contact with their children during imprisonment.

NBR is the sole charity dedicated to mitigating the impact of Legal Aid cuts for women in prison.

66%

of female prisoners are mothers of children under 18.

34%

of female prisoners are single mothers when they are sentenced.

17,000

children are separated from their mothers by imprisonment each year.

95%

of children whose mothers go to prison have to leave their family home.

45%

of prisoners lose contact with their family while in prison.



"I can't thank NBR enough for the help and support they have given to me. I was feeling completely alone and desperate until I was introduced to them. Now I am hopeful for the future, thank you NBR!"

The Crucial Role of Family Support in Imprisoned Mothers' Rehabilitation

Maintaining contact between a mother and her child while she is in prison is crucial for the wellbeing of both. This connection provides emotional stability and instils hope and motivation, empowering incarcerated mothers to make positive changes in their lives. This can include engaging in educational, vocational, and therapeutic programs to prepare for successful reintegration into society upon their release. By doing so, it aids rehabilitation and reduces the likelihood of reoffending.

Numerous studies have shown that family support plays a significant role in prisoner rehabilitation. Female prisoners who receive family visits have a 35% lower likelihood of reoffending. At NBR, we are committed to enhancing contact between imprisoned mothers and their children. This commitment is not only a moral conviction but also a practical strategy aimed at reducing recidivism rates and creating a safer community for everyone.

The Wider Impact

The consequences of maternal imprisonment on children are significant. Children with mothers in prison often face difficulties like relocation, foster care, or uncertain living conditions. This instability, combined with the emotional pain of separation and the stigma attached to having a mother in jail, can lead to negative outcomes. These may include exclusion from school, increased vulnerability, mental health problems, and a greater likelihood of engaging in criminal behaviour, which can ultimately lead to a cycle of imprisonment. It is crucial to maintain the bond between parent and child, especially with mothers, as it may play a key role in a child's ability to overcome these challenges.

53%

of women in prison have experienced abuse as children

66%

of women held on remand are found not guilty or given community sentences

72%

of women in prison have committed non-violent crimes

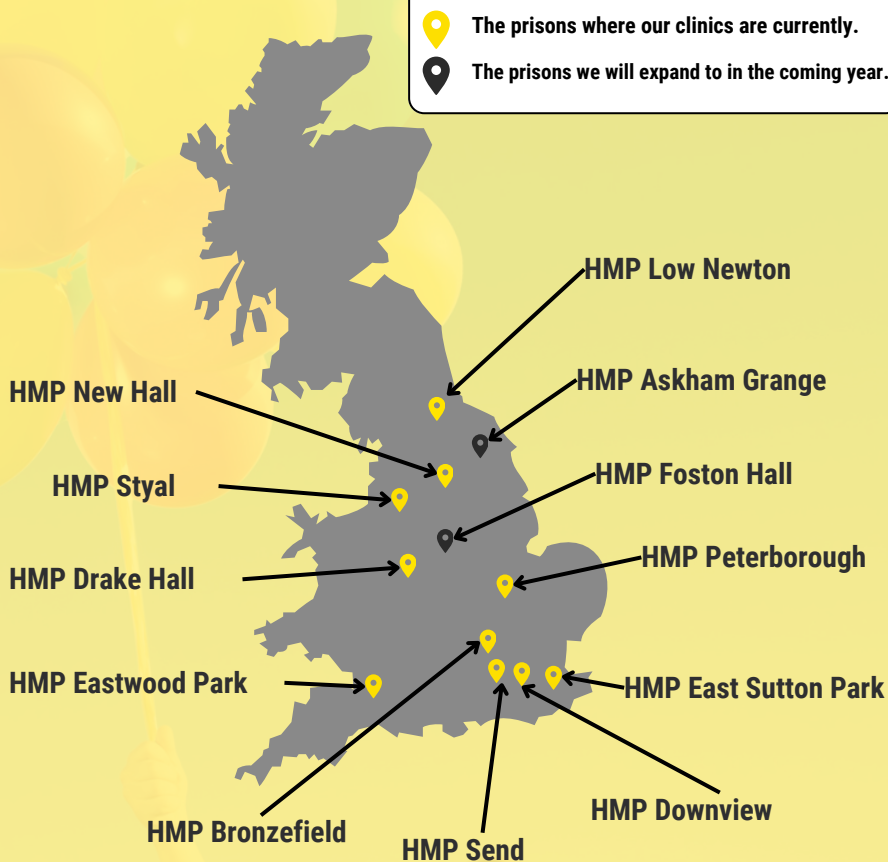
67%

of female prisoners are victims of domestic violence and abuse

64%

of female prisoners have mental health problems upon arrival in prison

OUR REACH



We are on course to open a clinic in every women's prison in England by the end of 2025.

OUR IMPACT

68%

of clients experienced improved contact with their children

88%

of clients felt that contact with the NBR team improved the outcome of their case.

100%

of clients felt the NBR team fought for them and acted with their best interests at heart.

80%

of clients reported improvement in their self-worth after engaging with NBR.

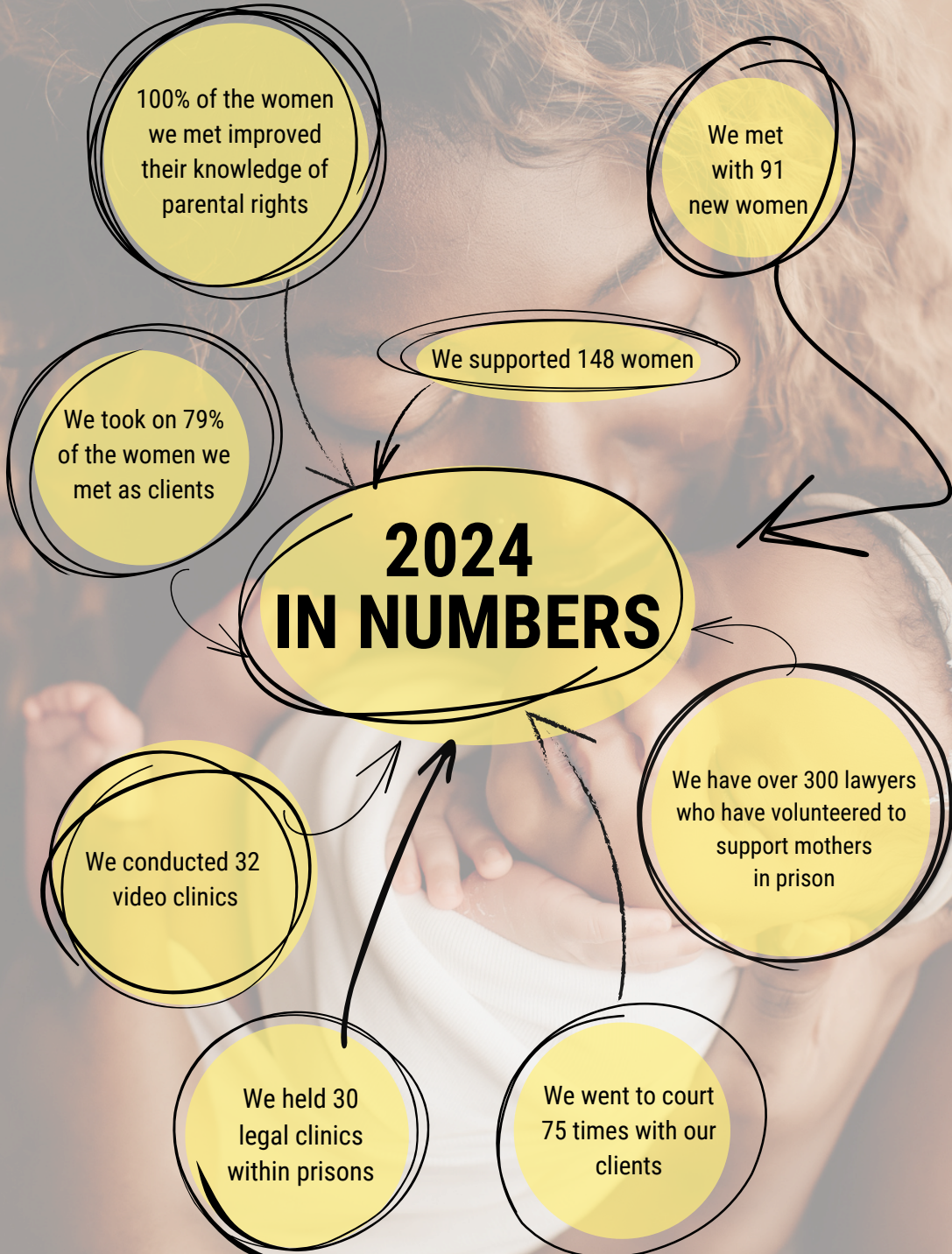
100%

of clients would recommend NBR to another prisoner.

100%

of clients felt more hopeful after meeting with NBR.

"Since I first had contact with NBR I have felt so much more important and more involved in the decision making regarding my son. I cannot thank them enough for the hope and happiness I now feel. They are just amazing".

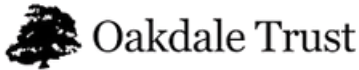


WITH THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS



Albert Van den Bergh Charitable Trust





The support from NBR has been a lifeline. I found myself in a situation where I was in prison with no access to my very young children and with no right to legal aid. I felt hopeless and with no where to turn. I felt like I would not see my children again. NBR provided me with emotional and practical support all the way through court proceedings and continued to do so even after I left custody. They found an excellent family barrister who agreed to represent me on a pro bono basis. I am now in a situation where I get to see my children every two weeks. I am truly so grateful for all the help NBR provided me with and I am so glad that such an organisation exists. I feel like women face extra challenges when receiving a prison sentence and am so glad that there is support out there.

OUR PRO BONO PARTNERS

A&O SHEARMAN



CLYDE&Co

DAC BEACHCROFT

LATHAM &
WATKINS LLP

MORRISON
FOERSTER

NORTON ROSE
FULBRIGHT

SIDLEY

+simmons
simmons

STEPHENSON
HARWOOD



Not Beyond Redemption

SUPPORTING MOTHERS IN PRISON



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<https://www.justgiving.com/notbeyond-redemption>