



Pastor DeAndre Brown is the Founder and former Executive Director of LIFEline to Success, a reentry program for ex-offenders that equips them with the necessary tools to reenter society. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the Shelby County Office of Reentry. The Office of Reentry works to find resources for ex-offenders, helping them find employment or become entrepreneurs, while removing barriers that hinder successful reentry.

DeAndre's work in reentry began when he founded LIFEline to Success in 2009. He found his own reentry, after 25 months in state and federal prison, to be exceedingly difficult and cluttered with obstacles. Instead of complaining about the problem, DeAndre and his wife, Vinessa, decided to begin an organization dedicated solely to streamlining the reentry process and advocating for justice.

DeAndre has been highly active in the re-entry arena. In 2010, he and his wife successfully spearheaded the first phase of the "Ban the Box" movement in Memphis. The City of Memphis no longer discriminates against ex-offenders. Their clients, also, formed the BLIGHT PATROL; this team fights blight in Memphis under contract with the City and private businesses. The Frayser community is extremely important to DeAndre; he envisions Frayser- within a few years- returning to a thriving community that all Memphians will want to move to. He's, also, very active mentoring youth- assisting them with reaching their potential. Never giving up, DeAndre has supported many elementary children in their efforts to achieve their goal of graduating high school.

DeAndre is active in the Frayser community and throughout the city. In June 2019, Governor Bill Lee visited LIFEline to sign bill HB0941 which removes state fees for expungement of criminal histories. Furthermore, Mr. Brown was selected by Governor Bill Lee to serve on the Criminal Justice Investment Task Force, seeking to improve public safety, increase reentry support and reduce recidivism, address unmet behavioral health needs and make Tennessee communities safer.

DeAndre was honored in February 2019 when he won an Emmy for the short documentary, "You Must Believe". The documentary also won an Indie Memphis Award in late 2018. In 2021, DeAndre was awarded the Jefferson Award for Outstanding Public Service Benefiting the Disadvantaged. He, also, serves on the Board of Directors for Pathways in Education- Tennessee.

DeAndre and his wife, Vinessa have 8 children and two grandchildren. He is the Pastor of LifeLine to a Dying World Ministries. The church takes the untaught, the members that no one else will embrace because of background, or current situation and teaches the Love that God has for all. An avid sports fan, you can hear him cheer for the Grizzlies and Dallas Cowboys. He is an alumnus of Rhodes College and Lemoyne Owen College both in Memphis, Tennessee.