Prior to taking the class, I had never been to prison and thought of it as a scary place for people that ‘weren’t like me.’ The class was a step out of my comfort zone, but I knew it was something that would be worthwhile. As a student in the class, I was given a life-changing experience that I never expected. I was humbled by what I saw at the unit and wanted to share the experience with others.” — Allison Schlender

Through Allison’s experiences with PEP, her passion and commitment to PEP’s graduates grew. She began to co-instruct the class at UD in the fall of 2008. Under John and Allison’s direction, the 11 MBA students and five undergraduates in the current class have provided an in-depth market research library for PEP which is currently being used within the prison to facilitate the development of the PEP participants’ business plans. The class has also held book drives for the PEP prison library, hosted clothing drives for used casual and business clothing (collecting over 900 articles of clothing) and facilitated social events for volunteers at PEP’s transitional home in Dallas. Most recently, the UD class chose to sponsor a Class XI participant, donating $750 dollars to cover PEP’s reintegration costs for the first few weeks of the graduate’s re-entry into the community.

John, Allison and the UD students embody what we strive to accomplish each day at PEP. You and other PEP volunteers, graduates, and supporters are the “WE” that make up our thriving community of transformation. With every volunteer opportunity and every dollar of financial support, we are working together as a community to provide our graduates with transformative life experiences and opportunities for bright futures.