Second Chance

2019 ANNUAL REPORT
Mission: “to disrupt the cycles of incarceration and poverty by helping people find their way to self-sufficiency.”
Dear Second Chance Friends and Colleagues,

Hope is a powerful force that has the ability to transform lives.

Our work reminds us of this every day. During a visit to the Second Chance Job Center at Las Colinas Detention Facility for Women, I met a young woman who was distraught because she was getting out in a few weeks and had nowhere to live, no job, no resources and no hope.

Thanks to you, we were able to help her.

Your generous time, talents and resources positively changed the lives of more than 2,000 people this year – a 12% increase from 2018. Everyone from youth who are now back in school, getting jobs and becoming leaders, to adults whose newly acquired skills have allowed them to thrive at work and home.

Your support shows participants they matter. For some, it may be the first time they have ever heard or felt that. Your purchase of a CSA box says “your hard work is appreciated and has value.” Your donated suit gives someone the confidence to restart their life. Your financial support provides behavioral health and workforce training, contributing to a paradigm shift that fosters a new way of thinking and provides opportunities.

We are so proud of our participants. In this annual report, we share just one of the many inspirational stories that happen at Second Chance. We hope this gives you a glimpse of the extraordinary way you have helped transform lives. Thank you for making these stories possible.

Finally, I’d like to thank our graduates who demonstrate the remarkable power of a second chance.

Warmest regards and heartfelt gratitude,

Robert Coleman
President & CEO
The STRIVE and WIOA (Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act) Youth Programs are rooted in hands-on training that instills self-sufficiency skills for justice-involved youth. Each youth receives work readiness training and job placement. Participants are able to see the range of careers available to them, develop concrete skills and receive industry recognized credentials. Case managers help address the core issues that led to justice-involvement. After completion, staff continue to work individually with youth to further educational and career advancement.

In 2018, the programs had 239 participants, 32 obtained permanent employment and 37 received industry-recognized certifications. Six received paid internships and 17 participants recidivated.

Training Builds Success

“I’ve probably taught more than 200 youth in the last 10 years. Quite a few of them are out in the trade - plumbing. So it feels good - it feels good to give these guys the opportunity to learn a trade that will take them for the rest of their lives.”

- Andrew Chapman, HBI Plumbing Instructor (right)
Success Grows

“It’s a really different experience for most of our students who come from food insecure neighborhoods where they probably never have seen that a carrot grows under the ground. So there are a lot of ‘ah-ha’ moments.”

- Kristin Kverndland, Youth Garden Program Manager

The Youth Garden is a six-week job training program which provides a supportive, structured environment to prepare youth (14-21) for personal, professional and academic success. Through paid transitional employment, youth receive job readiness preparation, learn positive communication skills and engage in leadership training. Program components include healthy cooking classes, environmental education and youth development workshops.

The Youth Garden Program had 104 participants who also had 100% improvement in 2018.

119 Participants

100% Participants increased school attendance & academic performance

Youth Garden

Participants increased school attendance & academic performance

Participants increased school attendance & academic performance
Youthful Offender Rehabilitation Program (YORP) implements evidence-based curricula, cognitive behavioral therapy and interventions. YORP counselors address topics to encourage positive permanent behavior change. During this 480-day program at the county-operated Youthful Offender Units in the East Mesa and Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facilities, each young person is assigned a dedicated counselor who oversees their individual case plan. Upon release, counselors work to ensure successful transition into the community.

In 2018, the program served 119 participants, 39 obtained permanent employment and of those, 21 were still with that employer six months later. Twelve participants recidivated.
Adult Programs
Job Readiness Training (JRT) is an intensive four-week program which helps formerly incarcerated adults secure and retain meaningful, livable-wage employment. During the course of this program, participants gain confidence, learn basic job-readiness skills and receive assistance to overcome barriers to employment.

Lessons in Success

“Our programs remind me of Emerson’s poem, ‘To Have Succeeded.’ The last line says, ‘to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived—this is to have succeeded.’ That’s what we do here at Second Chance. We help them breathe a little easier.

- Robert Coleman, President & CEO
Reentry Works provides comprehensive career center services at the East Mesa and Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facilities. In partnership with the County of San Diego Sheriff and Probation, the program helps ensure successful reentry into the workforce and the community.

Did Not Recidivate

- 135 men enrolled
- 65 received individualized case management & work readiness workshops in custody
- 59 received services after being released, & only 2 recidivated (4%)

Reentry Court helps individuals who have been released from custody, have violated their terms of community supervision and have a history of substance abuse and co-occurring disorders. This 18-36 month court-supervised program provides comprehensive treatment and case management for non-violent justice-involved San Diegans. Second Chance, in collaboration with the UC San Diego Department of Psychiatry, provides outpatient alcohol and drug treatment, case management, mental health counseling and drug testing services.

In 2018, the program had 53 new enrollees.
Second Chance operates five sober living homes across San Diego County which offer a safe, supervised, and substance-free environment with case management essential to recovery. Sober living promotes personal responsibility, restores self-esteem and eliminates isolation by creating a community atmosphere – all with the ultimate goal of maintaining sobriety and transitioning to independent living. These homes provide the jump-start to a new life that people desperately need.

103 New Residents

Changing the ODDS with self sufficiency

Transitioning to Success

“Reentry services are critical because they work on integrating people who have been incarcerated, back into our communities, giving them the tools they need to be successful. Morally and fiscally, it’s the right thing to do.”

—San Diego County Sheriff Bill Gore
Rosie’s Story

Rosie lost her job, her home, her freedom and her family to addiction.

Since her release from incarceration a year ago, Rosie has poured her heart into her recovery and works tirelessly to complete the steps needed to regain custody of her children.

Rosie’s road to recovery began with counseling through Second Chance’s Reentry Court Program where she addressed the issues driving her past substance abuse. Since graduating from the Job Readiness Training program, Rosie maintains two jobs and is working on earning her high school diploma. She says the days are long but she focuses on what is most important – her children. Rosie is motivated each time she attends a dance recital or helps her daughters with their homework.

Although they live with their grandparents, Rosie sees her children daily. She currently lives in Second Chance Sober- Living and recently applied for an apartment and for the first time in her life, she has a budget, a plan, and most importantly hope.

Sobriety. Housing. Education. Employment. All of these elements are essentials to Rosie’s self-sufficiency. Rosie adds that it was also the encouraging environment that helped her regain her confidence and stability. At 32, Rosie has regrets, but she is grateful for the opportunity she has been given for a second chance.

A Holistic Approach

Tony (right), a 20-year Navy veteran, Second Chance graduate, and current staff member, recognized Rosie’s struggles in the first weeks. As someone who shared a similar history, Tony encouraged Rosie throughout her recovery. Rosie has been sober from more than a year and is looking forward to living with her children again soon (left pg).
2,198 Lives Changed

By Age

- 16-24 yrs: 41%
- 25-44 yrs: 31%
- 45-64 yrs: 26%
- 65+ yrs: 2%

By Race/Ethnicity

- Hispanic/Latino: 48%
- Black: 27%
- White: 13%
- Multiracial: 6%
- Asian: 5%
- Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian: 3%
- American Indian/Alaskan Native: 2%

By Household Income

- Extremely Low ($22,500 or less): 51%
- Low ($22,501 - $37,450): 40%
- Low-Moderate ($37,451 - $59,950): 9%

Overcoming Barriers

1,332 Supportive Services Accessed
192 Expungements
$41K Citations Forgiven
406 Completed HS, Enrolled in College, or Basic Ed. (Or Equivalent)
Life Success

“We focus on breaking down barriers. We help them really understand what maybe took them down a path they shouldn’t have and what they need to be successful in the future. This program is not just job readiness, it’s life readiness.”

- Marla Navarrete, Youth Outreach Specialist/Facilitator
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Inspire Others

Hosting your own fundraiser or drive is an easy and fun way to encourage friends, family, co-workers, and others in your community to give back. Second Chance staff will help provide resources necessary to make your fundraiser a success.

Give the Essentials

Program participants don’t have the basic essentials they need. Your donations of interview clothes and shoes, toiletries, non-perishable snacks and twin sized bedding are greatly appreciated.

Hire Second Chance Graduates

What a wonderful way to empower someone in their journey. Seventy-five percent of Job Readiness Training graduates find employment within 60 days of graduation. Help us continue to improve these statistics.

Volunteer Your Time

Do you have extra time in your schedule? Your expertise provides invaluable support. There are a variety of opportunities to get involved.

Donate Your Resources

Your monetary donations can make a huge impact in the lives of thousands. These tax-deductible donations address complex needs and expand vital services that support self-sufficiency. Second Chance accepts a variety of monetary donation types including:

- Direct Gifts
- Gifts of Stock
- Monthly Giving
- Corporate Matching

Secure donations can be made online at www.secondchanceprogram.org/give or via check to Second Chance at 6145 Imperial Ave San Diego, CA 92114.
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