That's what I think about Change. Inevitable, Constant, and Self Determining!! Sometimes it is challenging, positive, groundbreaking, but not always. This past year has been filled with change, both challenging, positive, and groundbreaking.

Challenging because as an organization we had to rise to change in unprecedented ways. We did not foresee the magnitude of the Covid Pandemic, nor the global responses to the videotaped murder of George Floyd. I would like to believe that Starting Over, Inc. was destined to grow, if for no other reason than because of the amount of years we have invested in our work with people that are unhoused, reentering, or starting over for a myriad of other reasons. Whatever the reason, what became obvious was that we had outgrown ourselves. Today we are operating and functioning at new levels with resources we have never had before. Old challenges were getting the resource, now the challenges have been managing and sustaining the growth.

Positive because we added two additional shared living communities which increased our housing capacity by 25% and we ventured into Harm Reduction Housing. We joined the Safe Housing Network which is a national network pulled together by A New Way of Life leader, and Starting Over, Inc. Board Member, Susan Burton. We are learning new ways to improve our housing services and achieve greater outcomes.

Groundbreaking because we are moving into our own office spaces. We have purchased a 7000 sq. foot office building in Riverside. Did I tell you about our new staff? Positive because they are phenomenal and doing the work we had only previously dreamed of. We have case managers, an employment specialist, a communications person, peer support, organizers, outreach specialists, policy associates, a paralegal, and an admin team.

As I look to the Starting Over, Inc. Board of Directors, our internal Leadership Circle, and other leaders that have generously poured into our work, we have a roadmap that helps ensure our steps are planned and that we are moving in synch with the community we are here to support.

Our budget has grown, our staff has grown, our space has grown, but so has our vision, so has our hearts for this work.

Our budget has grown, our staff has grown, our space has grown, but so has our vision, so has our hearts for this work. The milestones have changed but the direction is consistent and as constant as change itself. We evaluate our programs now, we have strategic partnerships in place, and we are recognized as a regional leading organization in our field. We continue to address systemic and structural inequities. We continue to engage civically and organize others to do the same. We continue to provide transitional and harm reduction housing to those that need it as we work to address the root causes of the social issues we see.

We have leveled up (as they say), but we are just as true and committed to racial and criminal justice as we have been. We still believe that housing is a right. We unapologetically believe that jails and prisons are not viable housing or mental health solutions, and that Crime Free housing doesn’t make any of us safer.

Yes a lot has changed, but a lot has stayed the same. We will continue to work within our ecosystems, as we, together, reimagine and build a beloved and inclusive world for All of US.

Vonya Quarles
Starting Over, Inc.
Co-Founder, Executive Director
Hello! My name is Ashley Williams and I am the Internship Program Manager and Housing Program Staff Developer at Starting Over, Inc. As an Internship Program Manager I am responsible for developing standard operating procedures, managing Internship Program operations, collecting Intern Program data, analyzing program results, training, providing resources, and supervising intern and volunteer activities.

As a Housing Program Staff Developer I am responsible for developing and implementing training curricula for the Housing Program Operations team, assisting the Housing Program Operations team with obtaining knowledge of evidence-based theories and approaches, delivering assessments for the Housing Program, providing gap analyses of the Housing Program and provide supervision for the Housing Programs peer support specialists.

My vision for the Starting Over, Inc Internship Department is to develop an effective, long-standing program that adequately supports, develops, and shapes competent individuals that are well-equipped to service the community.

Ashley Williams
Starting Over, Inc
Internship Program Manager
Housing Program Staff Developer

NEW EMPLOYEES

Drew Lambert
Peer Support

Lee Van Den Bossche
Case Manager

Genevieve Silva
Peer Support

Yadira Martinez
Case Manager

Job Opportunities - Live-In Housing Manager

Starting Over, Inc., an award-winning transitional housing provider, is seeking live-in house managers to join our housing team. Formerly incarcerated and system-impacted individuals are encouraged to apply.

Openings are available in Riverside, Corona, and Eastvale.

For more info, contact:
office@startingoverinc.org
Abbye Williams (562) 303-4425
Charles Johnson (951) 898-0682
www.startingoverinc.net
It has been a great opportunity to work for Riverside All of Us or None. The Inland Empire has many miles to travel when it comes to creating a community that is equitable to all. As community organizers, Shaun LeFlore and Fidel Chagolla have been working diligently to expand the outreach capacity of Riverside All of Us or None by making ourselves known to the community. We have been in collaboration with other organizations to create the much needed community throughout Riverside County and the greater Inland Empire area. Last but not least we have been focusing on centering the voices of those who have been system impacted through incarceration.

We are well aware that it is time for those who experience countless barriers and challenges to economic stability to come forward and be heard. Whether it has been through the court system, direct services and/or legislation we have been aiming to create a community that is 100% accountable. Through this 100% accountability is the only way that there can ever be a true community.

We have been working with our local participatory defense to bring awareness and support throughout what can be a confusing and dismal court experience. We have worked with Release Riverside to support our brothers and sisters who have been unfairly targeted. We also teamed up with the ACLU and Starting Over to illuminate the community on the misappropriation of COVID-19 funds that were designated for the community and public health. Each day we are on a mission to pour as much as we possibly can into our community.

Shaun & Fidel
**True or False:**

___ You can appear in person or virtually to the monthly All of Us or None meetings.

___ Starting Over, Inc. has a free food drive the second and fourth Friday of every month.

___ The sky is purple and the clouds are chartreuse.

___ The website for Starting Over, Inc. is www.startingoverinc.net

___ All employees of Starting Over, Inc. have to paint their fingernails green.

___ The Peace and Justice Summit is in January 2021.

___ Starting Over is a 501c3 entity.

___ Expungement Clinics are free.

___ Visit our website for information on volunteering at SOI.

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**MARSHALL LEGAL CLINIC**

Starting Over, Inc. hosted its first Marshall Legal Clinic on August 14th, 2021 at The Life Church in Riverside.

We offered free legal advice and answered legal questions to the community with regards to post-conviction relief, expungements, wills and trusts, landlord/tenant issues, housing, immigration and family law.

We would like to express a big thank you to Veronica Garcia, Jonathan Mendoza and staff from IELLA, Rita Smith, Ernie Reguly and staff from the Riverside Legal Aide, Mohammad Qazi, Vonya Quarles, Whitney Davis Houston, Brian Vo and Laura Reese for their time and expertise.

We would also like to thank the staff from Inland SoCal 211+, Inland SoCal United Way, Fair Housing and Inland Empire Harm Reduction for joining us and providing important information to our community members.

And, of course, much appreciation and gratitude to The Life Church for allowing us to utilize their facilities. It was a successful event and we are already planning our next of many to come.
Hello I'm Gwendolyn Elzy, a Starting Over Inc. Board Member for 12 years, starting in 2009. It doesn't seem so long ago that our team gathered in a small back room sharing thoughts and ideas for Starting Over Inc, (SOI) and now I'm watching and seeing how it's growing and thriving into this wonderful, amazing operation, specializing in Transitional Housing, Civic Engagements, Leadership, Community Services, and more.

Recently I've started visiting SOI once a week. Meeting the employees, getting involved and learning more about how the operation works and helping out where needed. I've always had a passion for helping others and giving second chances. Also, I love traveling, reading, the arts, cooking, and decorating just to name a few.

I've been the organizer for SOI fundraiser for the last two (2) years. This year we have even more reason to celebrate and bring back our fundraiser. I'm happy & delighted to organize this year’s event with a great team. Our theme this year is Re-Imagining - Adventure of New Beginnings.

I welcome everyone to come out celebrate, and enjoy this day with us.

Look forward to seeing you there!

I would like to share with you, something I've instilled into my son's and myself.

“Good, better, best
Never ever rest
Until your good is better
And your better is best.” (author unknown)

Gwen Elzy
How much do you know about Starting Over Inc.?

What does the “R” in F.R.E.E. mean?

What year did Starting Over begin?

Who are the Co-Founders of Starting Over?

“We continue to ________ civically and organize others to do the same.”

The Marshall Clinic was held at what location?

What does R.A.O.U.O.N. stand for?

Most answers are in the Newsletter
NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION

After many interviews; deliberations; and debriefings, on 08/16/21, SOI commenced its first ever New Hire Employee Orientation; with five new hires for various positions throughout the organization. It was a successful event and the new hires all felt as if, although the information was a lot to take in, it was informative & enlightening.

During the orientation process we discussed the origin of SOI; the various services that we offer along with their individual job descriptions. There was an icebreaker at the beginning of the orientation along with three take home trainings, which included, “Boundaries & Ethics; Being Culturally Sensitive and How to Appropriately Deal with Difficult Guests.”

We had various staff from different aspects of the organization come in and speak on their roles and services that they offer. They were also given a brief over-view on the electronic health record that we use along with some administrative items that they will need to know going forward. A binder was given to all new hires with all pertinent information in there for them to keep. In addition, a light breakfast was served and then lunch was catered in.

During lunch, our CEO came and introduced herself and went to each individual new hire and briefly spoke with them. To say this was a great start to what will be an ongoing part of SOI would be an understatement and I was proud to be a part of this event.

Amelia Baltierra was at our Harm Reduction home, later she became interim house manager at David's House. She graduated in August 2021 from the Mental Health Court program and is now moving out on her own. It's a wonderful accomplishment.

Congratulations Amelia!

Reimagine Life

Starting Over, Inc.'s mission is to assist low-income men, women, and children in need of housing by providing transitional or permanent supportive housing and re-entry services while effectively fostering self-reliance, leadership, civic engagement, and economic development.

We need your support to continue our work lifting the lives of people in transition.

Visit our fundraiser at bit.ly/3z8gM5U

Abbye Williams
SOI Housing First Director
MISSION STATEMENT

Starting Over, Inc. specializes in providing transitional housing and re-entry services while helping to build strong communities through recovery, civic engagement, and leadership development.

Starting Over, Inc.’s mission is to assist low-income men, women, and children in need of housing by providing transitional or permanent supportive housing and re-entry services while effectively fostering self-reliance, leadership, civic engagement, and economic development.

YOU CAN HELP IN MANY WAYS

We welcome your donations and have listed some suggestions. Of course, you are welcomed and encouraged to give any amount.

All donations are tax deductible and used for the sole purpose of providing our clients with housing and necessities. (go to - Startingoverinc.net)

Your support is appreciated in helping us help others.

A few ways you or your company may want to help...

Make a heartfelt donation in any amount you want.

Be assured that whatever you contribute will benefit a person on their journey of starting over...

Here are some of the areas in which we need volunteer support:

- Legal Services
- Outreach
- Resource Development
- Client Mentors/Coaches
- Maintenance
- Fund-raising
- Event Planning
- Grant-Writers
- Contracts
- Resource Development
- Grant-Writers
- Contracts

To volunteer, simply e-mail us at Office@startingoverinc.org

Starting Over Inc.
1390 W. 6th St Ste. 100
Corona, CA  92882
Email:  Office@startingoverinc.org
Phone: 877-421-0659
Fax: 951-284-7889
https://www.startingoverinc.net

Starting Over Inc. is a 501c3 specializing in: transitional housing, community services, community health services, post-conviction relief, community living services, and more.

Starting Over, Inc.

FREE Clinic
Expungement

ALL OF US OR NONE
TODOS O UNOS

Transforming Ourselves & Criminal Justice
Making 2021 Better