



Innovation In Reentry

Reentry Community Engagement and Empowerment & Culturally Responsive Services for Minority Subpopulation

- Rashad Eady Program specialist and IIR Providers

What is Innovation In Reentry (IIR)?

Innovations In Reentry (IIR)

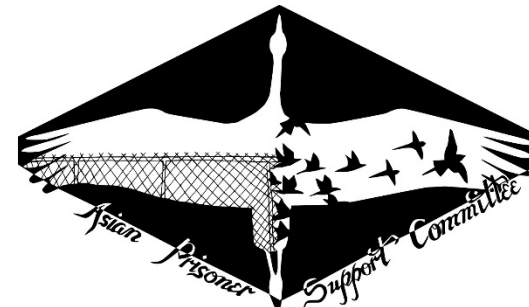
- is a 18 months pilot grant program managed by Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services in collaboration with probation. It was designed to spur innovative, creative ideas for addressing the needs of the adult reentry population. The program awards grants to support community-based projects that contribute to reducing adult recidivism in Alameda County.

2 Funding Categories:

- **Reentry Community Engagement & Empowerment** (18 month grant period) – Develop and implement a program model for empowering formerly incarcerated individuals 1) to engage with the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) and its committees/advisory board and 2) to host reentry services consumer forums to provide feedback to the CCP.
- **Culturally Responsive Services for Minority Subpopulations** (18 month grant period) –and implement a culturally responsive program model for providing reentry services for minority subpopulations in the reentry community. In this context, “minority subpopulations” are identifiable groups that are underrepresented in the Alameda County reentry population and whose needs may be overlooked for this reason. This can include identifications based on gender, disability, sexual orientation, race or ethnicity, etc.

The Innovations In Reentry Teams

- **Reentry Community Engagement & Empowerment**
 - Roots Community Health Center
 - Building Opportunity for Self Sufficiency
- **Culturally Responsive Services for Minority Subpopulations**
 - Root and Rebound
 - Serenity House
 - Asian Prisoner Support Committee
 - Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (Community Initiatives)





Oakland Unified Reentry Project

O.U.R PROJECT



O.U.R Project

O.U.R mission is to ameliorate civic engagement and leadership development within our communities

O.U.R purpose is to create a unique and personal success plan through adequate resources and tools

O.U.R Principles- Holistic, Powerful, Gratitude, Honor, Equality
Genuine, Non exploitative, Win-Win

Listening Session

Thanks All-In



SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLECTIVE



TRUTH2POWER! - BREAK THE CYCLE! - ADVOCATE WITH PURPOSE!



**BOSS Social Justice Collective
Innovations Project**

Partners: *Just Cities and Eastside Arts Alliance*

Slots are limited for reentry participants, apply NOW!



Service + Justice = Progress

www.self-sufficiency.org

Service location:

Eastside Arts Alliance
2277 International Blvd.

Participation will include:

- ⇒ Reentry paid weekly social justice classes
- ⇒ Reentry Peer-to-peer restorative healing circles
- ⇒ Social change campaigns
- ⇒ Truth2Power public speaking classes

**To APPLY complete form and
Contact Tim Smith, 510.649.1930 X 3008
tsmith@self-sufficiency.org**

A Project of BOSS in collaboration with:



SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLECTIVE

PROJECT OVERVIEW



“Prisons do not disappear social problems, they disappear human beings. Homelessness, unemployment, drug addiction, mental illness, and illiteracy are only a few of the problems that disappear from public view when the human beings contending with them are relegated to cages.”
— Angela Davis

SJC Program Goals

Reentry participants will be trained as social justice advocates to provide the CCP with information to ensure individuals have equal access to resources and receive equitable treatment regardless of their race, gender, religion, sexuality, income level or disability, and to:

- Build community and civic engagement with reentry participants
- Train reentry participants to engage with CCP, its EC, its committees, and the CAB
- Host reentry community forums to provide feedback to the CCP.

SJC Services

- Outreach and engagement
- Leadership development for reentry participants
- Training reentry participants to engage at CCP and related public meetings
- Policy development
- Host four (4) Consumer Forums with reentry individuals and their families

Classes/Seminars/Sessions:

- Introductory Participatory Planning Session
- Restorative Justice Circles
- Public Speaking
- Housing – “Impacts/solutions for returning citizens”
- Limiting Beliefs – “How our thinking forms us”
- Employment – “Impacts/solutions for returning citizens”
- Barrier Removal (financial literacy, letters of appeal, paperwork, etc.)
- Community Forums
- Cultural Engagement Workshops



“If you tremble with indignation at every injustice then you are a comrade of mine.” — **Ernesto Che Guevara**





▶ Reentry Legal Service Areas

- ▶ Accessing ID & Voting Rights
- ▶ Housing and Employment Rights
- ▶ Accessing Public Benefits with a record
- ▶ Understanding & Cleaning up your Record
- ▶ Court Ordered Debt
- ▶ Education Rights
- ▶ Tribal Issues related to your Record
- ▶ Cr-immigration
- ▶ Family Reunification

Access Reentry Legal Services

- ▶ Call our Reentry Legal Hotline
 - ▶ Every Friday 9-5
 - ▶ 510-279-4662
- ▶ Attend our Access to Justice Legal Clinic
 - ▶ Wednesday, October 9th
 - ▶ 4 pm – 6:30 pm
 - ▶ Laney College: 900 Fallon Street

East Bay Family Defenders

- EBFD provides legal representation, parent advocacy and social work support to parents navigating the child welfare system.
- Through partnership with Root & Rebound, the Parent Advocate and Social Worker provide support to parents impacted by both the Child Welfare System and the Criminal Justice System.
- Parent Advocate/ Social Worker Roles (referral criteria)



Serenity Life Social Enterprise (SLSE)



Heal, Empower, Achieve - The Serenity Life

- The Serenity Life Social Enterprise (SLSE) provides **healing tools** that increase physical, mental, and financial health of formerly incarcerated women. Recognizing the healing power of translating personal experiences through creative and purpose driven careers. SLSE mission is enhancing the natural talents and skills by providing real life work experiences, business mentorship and support to turn passions into opportunities that break the poverty cycle.

Be a part of a social enterprise where you can

- Learn tools to enhance your overall quality of life and community.
- Gain work experience and mentor opportunities with local businesses
- Gain holistic experiences to improve health and quality of life
- Enhance creativity while learning skills to start your own business and/or pursue career goals.
- Receive Business/ Training and Earn up to \$1,000 plus perks
- Train in Leadership and Brand Development

Asian Prisoner Support Committee

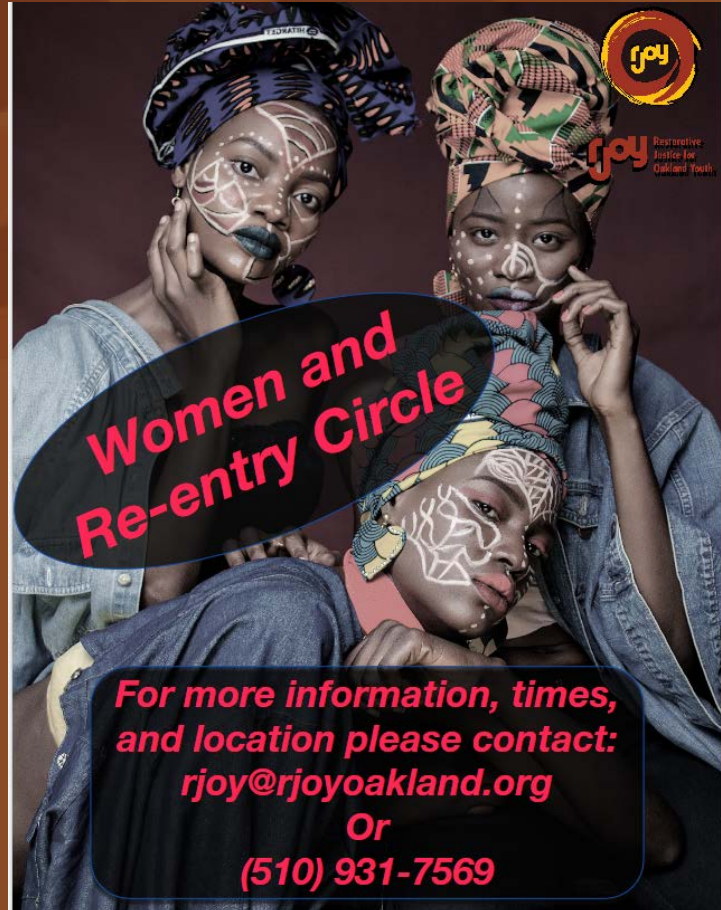
- Through an Innovations in Reentry grant, we organize a series of weekly cultural healing workshops, including the following topics:
- Intergenerational trauma and healing
- Healthy/Unhealthy relationships
- Mental health issues and healing
- Community immersion
- All services are provided by trained, experienced formerly incarcerated staff



- We conduct outreach at San Quentin, Santa Rita, and our wide reentry network in Alameda County. We also accept referrals from ACPD.



Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth



- Restorative Justice Healing Circles for two subpopulations; convenings on Sexual Harm and Healing and the needs of LGBTQ Youth and People of Color.

WHAT IS RESTORATIVE JUSTICE?

- Restorative Justice is a worldview, rooted in indigenous teachings, *and* a theory of justice that emphasizes bringing together *everyone* affected by wrongdoing to address their *needs* and *obligations* and to *heal* harm as much as possible.



Key understanding...

- Truly see and value each person without judgment
 - “Sawubona” – Zulu greeting – “I see you
- Interrupter / disrupter / dismantler of the current system
 - This was never designed to work for us
- Trauma informed practice – trauma healing
- Grounded in indigenous practices
- Self-care is rewarded, expected and invested in
- Celebration of diverse, creative, clear thought and brilliance
- We are not trying to make Black boys and men more palatable to mainstream white society
 - Not trying to make them more culturally white so that they are not feared
 - We are trying to make them more authentically true to themselves; risks
- Development of a sense of empowerment
- Reduce social class divisions
- See problem as in the system, not the individual so the change should happen in the system
- Enlist partnership of conscious white people; listen to, advocate for, ally with, teach to resist their own implicit bias

thank you.

For any further Questions pleas contact

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BOSS - Timothy Smith tsmith@self-sufficiency.org

Root & Rebound - Thomas Alexander thomas@rootandrebound.org

Serenity House - Patanisha Williams aliaparksco@gmail.com

APSC - Ben Wang ben@asianprisonersupport.org

RJOY - Ellen Barry ellen@rjoyoakland.org



SERVICES FOR MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS