

# *Sister to Sister 2, Inc.*

*Helping survivors of addiction, violence, homelessness and  
incarceration become ...*

*Women of  
Destiny*





- 2363 A San Pablo Ave, Oakland, CA 94612
- Culturally-competent and gender-sensitive 9 month recovery program, with option to extend to 2 years
- The mission statement of Sister to Sister 2, Inc.: to help women survivors of incarceration HEAL, EMPOWER, and ACHIEVE their dreams, living in their purpose

# History



- Ms. 'Johnnie' Faye Davis—West Oakland native, criminal attorney. Saw opportunity to give back.
- Established Sister to Sister (2) in 2009
- Transitioning from mostly volunteer-based organization to a fully staffed nonprofit





*Melissa Hellums,  
Interim Executive  
Director*



*Nicole Gardner, Client  
Care Coordinator*



*Sherrol Gray,  
Associate ED*

## *Staff*



*Diane White,  
Program Manager*



*Paula Cook, Program  
Services Coordinator*



*Erika Benítez,  
Operations Manager*

# *Population Served*

- Accept women facing homelessness, addiction, violence and formerly incarcerated women at no cost
- 70-80% African-American women
- Over 90% have been formerly incarcerated
- 97% sexually abused as children or young women
- 74% of women completing the program maintain sobriety and go on to live happy, productive lives

# *Programs*

1. Residential Program

2. Day Program

3. Social Enterprise–  
begins in 2020

# *Residential Program*

- Sober living environment
- Housing First approach: do not evict for relapse
- 9 month program (trimester system) with option to extend up to 2 years
- Provides meals, educational & employment services, addiction recovery support, life skills and mental health services



# Day Program

- Typically 12 month program
- Ongoing case management/housing support after first year
- Located at San Pablo Office
- Offers: Housing Assistance, Case Management Services, Individual Counseling, groups, 12 step meetings, health & wellness services, education & job skills classes, family restoration/reunification services



# *Social Enterprise Program*

- Winner of Alameda County 'Innovation' Grant
- First cohort January 2020
- 18 week program focused on formerly incarcerated women
- Blend healing and job skills: engage in classes for business management, soft skills, branding, etc. within a creative or healing arts field
- Mentorship with local businesses
- Opportunities to work hands-on in film and event production, marketing, and brand development

# *Our Success Stories*

*Clients say the difference is Personalized care and focus on spirituality--connecting to a higher power*

*Recently incarcerated client with no high school diploma went on to attend UC Berkeley and received PhD in law in 2017! Now works at law firm in Oakland.*

