

COMING HOME TO STAY FUNDERS GROUP



Robert is coming home after three years away at a state prison. While away, he worked on his GED, but has few job skills and no prospects for a job, and he's not sure his family will welcome him back to their home.

He's got substance abuse issues to work on, and his asthma has gotten worse. Right now, he is at high risk for committing another crime or parole violation, and ending up back in prison.

74% of San Diego County ex-offenders return to jail or prison during the first 24 months post-incarceration. This high recidivism rate costs precious taxpayer resources, creates substantial prison overcrowding, and wreaks havoc in our communities, most heavily in the Diamond and City Heights neighborhoods, the neighborhoods in San Diego County with the highest number of probationers and parolees.

A funding collaborative of  **San Diego Grantmakers**
Strengthening Philanthropy

For the past three years, members of San Diego's philanthropic community have come together to learn about the issues and to develop a new model to reduce recidivism and keep folks home from repeat incarceration. The Coming Home to Stay (CHTS) pilot program has been forged from intensive community dialogue and fact finding, inclusion of ex-offenders and family members, a unique partnership with law enforcement and the criminal justice system, the dedication of community-based service providers, and the savvy and resources of local foundations.

CHTS's goal is to reduce recidivism from 74% to 50% over a two-year period through the development and implementation of a comprehensive, supportive network of community-based services and providers. The pilot project will not create new programs or service providers, but rather will facilitate coordination of current community services and public agency linkages to support 75 recently released individuals. After demonstrating success with the pilot program, the intent is to advocate for systems change in the transition back to community.

Using an "It Takes a Village" model, the program's opportunity for success stems from the coordination of services to meet individual needs and goals. To transition to and maintain a stable, healthy and productive life in the community, services will address critical needs. Transition advocates, peer mentors and the providers' Resource Team will assist individuals through an often cumbersome and confusing pathway quite different from the structured environment of prison or jail.



CHTS FUNDERS GROUP GOAL:

ASSISTING FORMERLY INCARCERATED MEN AND WOMEN REBUILD THEIR LIVES TO BENEFIT THEMSELVES, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITY.

CLIENT OUTCOMES OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:

- Employment and/or vocational training maintained for six months or more
- Access to appropriate health services including substance abuse services
- A family communication/reunification plan
- All vital documents secured and legal issues addressed
- Housing secured and maintained for six months
- Bank account established and bills paid responsibly
- Clients stay “home” and do not return to incarceration

Integral to the success of those served and of the program is strong collaboration between providers, the justice system, funders and the community. The Advisory Council serves to provide input and counsel for the initiative, and is comprised of three representatives each from the providers, formerly incarcerated residents, criminal justice system, and funders. Meeting quarterly, they assure overall objectives are met and outcomes are achieved.

The CHTS Funders Group is aimed at advocating for systems change and reallocation of resources by working with the criminal justice system and their pilot rehabilitation programs to document outcomes of effective collaboration and coordination of services.

We are currently working on developing a partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation through their Local Funding Partners Initiative.

SAN DIEGO GRANTMAKERS

The mission of San Diego Grantmakers is to connect, educate, develop and inspire a diverse group of foundations and corporations to stimulate effective philanthropy in the San Diego region. Our vision is a vibrant, effective and growing philanthropic community that improves the quality of life in the San Diego region.

The Coming Home to Stay Funders Group include:

- Alliance Healthcare Foundation
- The California Endowment
- Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation
- The Parker Foundation
- Price Charities
- San Diego County Bar Foundation

SDG's Funding Collaboratives invite you to join our efforts to learn together, share our experiences and knowledge, and build opportunities for insightful and strategic funding for the benefit of the community.

sandiego
Grantmakers
Strengthening Philanthropy

5060 Shoreham Pl. Ste. 350, San Diego, CA 92122

858.875.3333 phone 858.202.1762 fax

www.sdgrantmakers.org