



COMMUNITY WORKS WEST

Restorative Circles for Reentry

2026 Support and Program Stories

The Path Forward

Every year, thousands of people return home from incarceration ready to begin a new chapter of their lives. Whether they have been away for months, years, or decades, reentry is about more than returning home. It is about rebuilding routines, reconnecting with community, discovering new opportunities, and creating a sustainable path forward.

At Community Works, we believe people thrive when they are met with support, accountability, encouragement, and community.

Since 2018, Community Works has proudly partnered with the Richmond Reentry Success Center (RSC), where we facilitate restorative circles as part of the Alpha program, a 9-week cohort focused on personal growth, healthy living, financial and digital literacy, employment readiness, and intensive case management.

Restorative circles create spaces where returning citizens can reflect, grow, share goals, strengthen relationships, and support one another through the challenges and opportunities of rebuilding their lives. They help participants develop confidence, self-awareness, healthy coping strategies, and a stronger sense of purpose and belonging.

Program participants commit themselves to making meaningful progress toward stability, employment, permanent housing, and long-term success. Along the way, restorative circles help transform the cohort into a true community, one rooted in encouragement, accountability, creativity, and collective growth.

Over the years, we have witnessed countless stories of resilience and transformation.

This past week, we celebrated another graduating Alpha cohort. As one participant shared while receiving his certificate of completion:

“The completion of this Alpha program is not the end of our journey. It is the launch pad for the next chapter of each of our lives. The discipline displayed over these 9 weeks will serve as the foundation for lifelong success. The Alpha community staff stands behind each one of us and is eager to see how we apply these new strengths to make a lasting impact on others. This has been powerful to me and well worth it.”



Moments like these remind us that growth happens in community. One of the most powerful aspects of restorative circles is that participants realize they are not alone. The fears, questions, frustrations, and hopes they carry are often shared by others in the room. When people are given the opportunity to build trust, strengthen skills, and reconnect with their own potential, transformation becomes possible.

Together We Can Transform Lives—Donate Today

During Community Works' \$25K in 25 Days campaign, we invite you to support programs that help returning citizens build stable, hopeful, and purpose-driven futures.

Your donation helps create spaces for healing, leadership, accountability, and opportunity, one circle, one relationship, and one new beginning at a time.





CONTACT US
110 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94607

e) info@communityworkswest.org
p) 510.268.8116
w) www.communityworkswest.org