



The Fortune Society

PRISONER RE-ENTRY

Changing Minds & Building Lives

FORTUNE'S RE-ENTRY SERVICES

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Founder

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Chief Operating Officer

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The Fortune Society's re-entry service model is of interest to service providers involved in re-entry programming for ex-offenders, researchers and policymakers interested in key components of successfully transitioning ex-offenders from prison to society and State and local governments looking to reduce correctional budgets...

-- National Institute of Justice

Since 1967, The Fortune Society has helped former prisoners successfully re-enter the community after incarceration. Our direct services include:

Education: Our in-house school - with a library and a computer lab - provides programs in Adult Basic Education, Math, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and General Equivalency Diploma (GED).

Career Development: Clients can prepare for, obtain and maintain employment through our two-week work-readiness workshop, job placement assistance and two years of post-placement support and follow-up.

Substance Abuse Treatment: Our licensed outpatient substance abuse treatment program includes a full array of support services.

Housing: The Fortune Academy, our residential housing facility with a staff of full-time housing specialists, provides emergency and longer-term re-entry housing incorporating extensive social supports.

Counseling Services: Counselors provide crisis intervention services, needs assessments, one-on-one and group counseling, and make referrals to other programs within and outside of The Fortune Society

Alternative to Incarceration: Court advocates obtain non-incarcerative sentences for defendants who instead come to Fortune five days a week for services. Successful participants receive sentences requiring no further incarceration.

Health Services: Fortune provides a range of HIV/AIDS-specific services to current and former prisoners, including outreach, HIV-specific case management, supportive counseling and adherence.

Family Services: Fortune offers parenting classes and support groups for custodial and non-custodial mothers and fathers. A full-time family law attorney works individually with clients, assists with custody and family reunification issues, and runs weekly workshops on clients' legal rights and financial responsibilities as parents.

Drop-In Services: Fortune's 24-Hour Drop-in Center provides needs assessments, crisis intervention services and immediate linkage to services for prisoners released from Riker's Island jail.