



SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

PAYING IT FORWARD | Scott, Class 163



When Scott was released from federal prison following a third felony conviction, he was court-ordered to attend an inpatient drug and alcohol treatment facility. He ended up at Freedom Ranch, a 50-bed complex in Campo.

Outwardly, Scott feigned commitment to getting clean, but internally, he was still devising ways to get a buzz. After settling in at Freedom Ranch, he began taking “spice”—a synthetic marijuana substitute that was, at the time, undetectable through drug tests.

“All I cared about was getting high,” he says.

Before long, Scott found he was getting nowhere. He had struggled with addiction for the majority of his life, and though he’d previously attained long periods of sobriety—six years before a relapse, then 10 years before another—he succumbed to temptation again.

Finally, he gave himself up to a higher power, leaving Freedom Ranch for the Pathfinders facility in San Diego’s South Park neighborhood and recommitting to Alcoholics Anonymous. During his time at Pathfinders, he became “House Mom,” then Volunteer Staff, and even took on side jobs.

Though Scott was often considered chronically unemployable because of his criminal history, he enrolled in Job Readiness Training at Second Chance. Despite his skepticism and stubbornness at first, he showed up every day, determined to graduate and find employment.

“The greatest thing that’s helped me is doing what I didn’t want to do,” he reflects. “The trainers see you better than you see yourself and hold you accountable.”

After graduating from Class 163, he got a job lead at the nonprofit San Diego Clean & Safe Downtown Partnership through Second Chance’s Job Developer. He jumped at the opportunity and was hired as a Maintenance Ambassador, cleaning the downtown streets and ensuring public safety. Before long, he had his own truck and even a car detailing business on the side.

This May, Scott’s employers recognized his work ethic and he was encouraged to apply to become a Homeless Outreach Coordinator. He got the job and is currently a fully-salaried employee with benefits, giving back to those who struggle with the same issues he’s had.

“If I can affect someone’s life, I’ve done something worthwhile,” Scott proudly says.

Your contributions to Second Chance have made a big difference in Scott’s life. Please visit our website, www.secondchanceprogram.org, if you would like to help again.

READY TO WORK!

Last year, hundreds of San Diegans graduated from our Job Readiness Training program equipped with the skills and drive required to find and interview for jobs. We currently have grads working in industries across the board, including hospitality, construction, electrical, solar energy, food service, sales and more!

Help us get people back to work. Contact our Job Developer David Benites at 619-839-0932 or dbenites@secondchanceprogram.org if your company is hiring!

With nearly three decades of experience working on boatyards, including forklift operation, security duty and hazardous waste coordination, if you can name a maintenance job, **Carl** has done it well. His knowledge of and adherence to state health codes will ensure safety on the job site, and his dependability and diligence will serve you well in any position.



With extensive experience in computer repair, commercial truck driving and custodial work, **Herschel** brings professionalism and meticulousness to every aspect of the job. He has 8 years as a tile finisher, more than 10 years of safe driving experience, and 12 years as a janitorial worker having led a crew of four. His wide skill set and positive attitude ensure he’s always up to the task.



If you’re looking for an administrative assistant with office management, filing and Microsoft Office skills, **Barbara** is your prime candidate. Her unique skill set promises to increase office organization by developing more efficient filing systems and customer database protocols, and her attention to detail will make sure everything gets done correctly the first time around.



Feel the Power of Second Chance! Attend an Orientation or Graduation

Upcoming Orientation dates in 2014:

August 22 / October 3 / November 14



Upcoming Graduation dates in 2014:

August 8 / September 19 / October 31 / December 12



Second Chance

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Dear Friends, Supporters, and Graduates,



Summer is here again, which means San Diegans are ready to enjoy excellent weather, beautiful coastlines and popular annual events like Comic Con, San Diego Pride and Over The Line. However, before you head out to have fun, take a minute and think of your neighbors who don't have the luxuries of leisure time and disposable income. While many of us are taking vacations and hitting the beach, some are still struggling to make ends meet, searching hard for work and, in many cases, rebuilding their lives.

Sometimes, short term events like these can open gateways to longer-lasting employment for our graduates. At the recent graduation of Job Readiness Training Class 183, A-One Show Services President Kevin Pili spoke of how his experiences employing Second Chance graduates for security at Comic Con have been nothing less than stellar. This support from business leaders and community members like you is what keeps San Diegans employed and building skills.

Second Chance is determined to address the problems facing many of our region's residents throughout the year. Whether it's during peak summer tourism, during the holiday rush or any time in between, it would not be possible without your ongoing support. This is why we continue challenging you to offer financial donations, material goods, volunteer hours or simply the opportunity to employ a Second Chance grad—none of what we do would be possible without your support!

Sincerely,

Robert Coleman
Executive Director

The Joan and Irwin Jacobs Training Center Unveiled!

On August 8, Second Chance will be officially renaming our main offices at 6145 Imperial in Encanto in honor of longtime supporters Joan and Irwin Jacobs. The **Joan and Irwin Jacobs Training Center** will be unveiled during a ceremony at 11 a.m., prior to the graduation of Job Readiness Training Class 184 beginning at 11:30 a.m. Dr. and Mrs. Jacobs have been instrumental in guiding San Diego's nonprofit community to make the region a better place to live, and we are honored to have their ongoing interest in the lives of our staff, graduates and the community.

This event is open to the public, and we encourage you to come show your support for this monumental occasion! Please contact Senior Development Associate Maureen Polimadei at 619-839-0953 or mpolimadei@secondchanceprogram.org for more details or to RSVP.

SECOND CHANCE AND MEN'S WEARHOUSE ANNUAL NATIONAL SUIT DRIVE

We all know that looking crisp and professional is an absolute must to make a positive first impression on a job interview. That's why Second Chance and Men's Wearhouse have partnered together seven straight years for Men's Wearhouse's annual National Suit Drive, which donates high-quality professional clothing to job seekers around the country. On **Monday, July 7th**, the event was featured on KUSI Morning News, spotlighting Advantage Sales & Marketing Associate and aspiring stand-up comedian Keith Smith, an articulate Second Chance grad with a big smile and big ambitions. A big thank you to both Men's Wearhouse for their continued support and KUSI for showing interest in San Diego's job seekers!



From left: Second Chance Executive Director Robert Coleman, Second Chance Class 170 Job Readiness Training graduate Keith Smith, KUSI News Anchor David Davis, Men's Wearhouse Visual Merchandise Manager Chris Byrne

New Second Chance Literacy & Numeracy Program



Through a partnership with Southwestern College, Second Chance has developed a new Literacy & Numeracy Training course for graduates, with added availability to other community members who want to strengthen their reading comprehension and math skills. Starting on September 1, 2014, Southwestern staff will instruct courses onsite at 6145 Imperial Avenue, Monday through Thursday. The initial schedule includes the following classes:

Math: 2 to 2:50 p.m. Monday through Thursday

Course objectives are focused on the use of math skills for everyday needs in the workplace. Topics range from simple multiplication and division to knowledge of fractions and decimals, and solving of algebraic expressions, linear equations and geometric formula problems.

Reading/Writing & Thinking: 3:15 to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday

Instructors will stress advancement in reading comprehension by examining texts ranging from newspaper and magazine articles to short stories and poems. Students will be taught how to compose clear, complete sentences and paragraphs and encouraged to express their ideas both verbally and in writing.

Computer Literacy: Times to be determined

Participants will be able to gain industry-recognized certification in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, etc.) once they test above a certain level in Numeracy and Literacy. Class schedules will be confirmed by late summer.

If you or someone you know is interested in attending these courses, please register online at

<http://www.secondchanceprogram.org/literacy-numeracy>

GIVE EVERY MONTH (GEM)!

Want to make your charitable giving easier? Become a Second Chance GEM! Sign up to Give Every Month (GEM) and your gift will:

- Help fund a seat in our Job Readiness Training program
- Help one of our youth attain a high school diploma/GED, or
- Keep the doors open to our Transitional Sober Living homes

*If you'd like to make a monthly commitment to support our programs and services, please call or email Maureen for more information:
mpolimadei@secondchanceprogram.org or 619-839-0953.*

YOUNG BLACK MEN AND INEQUALITY IN THE JOB MARKET



Dorian Moody | Photo Credit: Kai Wright for Colorlines.com

Through a recent series on black men titled “Life Cycles of Inequity,” award-winning news website Colorlines.com has covered the difficulties young African American men face when trying to find employment. In the series’ first two reports, Colorlines has “focused on a life stage or event that for black men in the United States is uniquely confined by broad, social inequities,” continuing from adolescence through adulthood.

In the first article, “Race, Disability and the School-to-Prison Pipeline,” Julianne Hing explores the implicit bias black students are often subjected to in the classroom. Hing explains that in 2011-12, “black students were twice as likely as Latinos, four times as likely as Asians and 1.4 times as likely as whites to receive special education services for emotional disturbance,” arguably resulting in a quicker path toward incarceration. If a student is designated to require special education services, it is also more likely they will eventually get suspended or expelled, which results in a domino effect leading to higher prevalence of dropout rates and criminal activity. The indisputable fact made clear by Hing’s article is that kids with disabilities enter the juvenile justice system at 5 times the frequency of youth in general, and the majority of those youth are black.

The second piece, “Why Young, Black Men Can’t Work,” written by Kai Wright, follows the story of 21-year-old Irvington, N.J. resident Dorian Moody, a high school graduate who’s struggling to find employment. When Moody’s mother was diagnosed with cancer, he began stealing to help supplement the portion of her hospital bills that were not covered by insurance. While his mother received the treatment she needed, Dorian went to jail for his indiscretions. Now, despite ambitious goals and a promising interest in mechanical engineering, he’s at an early disadvantage, one from which he might never fully financially recover. According to a long-term study following 800 people from the Baltimore area, 54% of white men with a criminal background were employed making an average of \$20/hr. while only 33% of black men with similar backgrounds were employed and making just over \$10/hr.

Rather than just stating figures, both articles offer a thoughtful discussion on the roots of unemployment and recidivism surrounding much of the young black population. As an organization that also strives to rectify their struggles, the “Life Cycles of Inequity” series is pertinent to what Second Chance is trying to accomplish and we look forward to gleaning insight from further entries in the series.

If you are interested in reading these stories, “Life Cycles of Inequity” can be found at <http://colorlines.com/life-cycles-of-inequity/>

THANK YOU!

Second Chance would like to thank the following corporations, foundations and family funds for their generous contributions (received 3/11/14 – 6/30/14):

Bank of America Foundation
Eugene & Joan Foster Fund at the San Diego Foundation
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Maurice J. Masserini Trust
Rancho Santa Fe Women’s Fund at the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation
Union Bank Foundation

REMEMBER SECOND CHANCE WITH A SIMPLE BEQUEST

A bequest is a provision in either a will or living trust which provides that all, or a portion of an estate, is transferred to a charitable organization such as Second Chance. A specific bequest is an outright gift of money, stocks or bonds, land, tangible personal property or other assets. We understand that bequests are often of a delicate nature, but our team can work with you and/or your family members to plan bequests far in advance and we hold a promise to remain sensitive to the unique situations surrounding your gift.

If you are interested in developing a bequest for Second Chance, or just want to learn more about the process, please contact Director of Development Trisha Gooch at 619-839-0950 or tgooch@secondchanceprogram.org.