

GRANTEE: The Safer Foundation

ADDRESS: 571 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60661

AMOUNT: \$808,795 (Federal Direct) + \$0 (Non-Federal Match) = \$808,795 (Total)

DURATION: 12 Months

POPULATION SERVED: This project will serve 300 formerly incarcerated individuals annually. Pre-release recruitment will be conducted through the Illinois Department of Corrections, community halfway houses, and other local correctional facilities. Referrals will come from Sheridan Correctional Center's Substance Abuse Treatment Program, parole and police officers, and One-Stop Career Centers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: This project will provide range of housing, wraparound social services, mentoring, job readiness, job training, job placement, post placement, and aftercare support to 300 formerly incarcerated adult ex-offenders. The project will also provide a Resource Center in each of the Chicago communities with the highest reentry rates to provide access to housing, supportive services, and a local job bank. The overall benefits are increased employment for participants, increased academic and vocational credentials, increased wages, reduced substance use and abuse, and reduced recidivism.

NON-FEDERAL MATCH: Although no amount is provided in the space for non-federal match on the Budget Information sheet (Form 424A), the proposal indicates that non-federal resources will include: 1) existing funding of the churches and FBCOs, Haymarket and Teen Challenge, 2) State Corrections funding, 3) City of Chicago and State of Illinois housing funds, 4) client rent payments after 60-day sustained employment, and 5) \$4 million in annual gross revenues from the Pivotal Staffing Service.

SUB-GRANTEES: Haymarket Center (\$120,000) and Teen Challenge (\$100,000); both organizations to provide specialized job placement and case management for 80 participants who have treatment diagnoses (mental and substance); a total subgrant of \$40,000 for the following organizations: Triedstone Full Gospel Baptist Church for individual and peer group mentoring; Valley Kingdom Ministries for mentors in education, employment, and support; Rock of Ages Baptist Church for mentors to help participants rebuild their lives through fellowship, support, and job readiness training; Mount Vernon Baptist Church for mentors, fellowship and support; and Breaking the Cycle Ministry for mentors in education, employment, and support.

PARTNERS: Workforce Investment Board, Chicago Community Colleges, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunities, Illinois Department of Employment Security, and Illinois Department of Corrections.

OUTCOMES:

- **Employment Rate:** 70% placement rate among enrollments/\$7.30 entered employment rate
- **Retention Rate:** 57% who remain employed for 30 days will be employed after nine months
- **Earnings Change:** 15% increase in earnings
- **Recidivism:** 18% for persons with a 30-day job retention rate; 8% for persons with a 360-day job retention rate; less than 8% will obtain a new felony conviction during project participation
- **Other:** 60% enrolled in GED preparation will receive a GED certificate; 70-80% will document no substance use after 6 months following intake; 100% enrollees in stable housing. A savings of \$1,122,388 annually will be gained from this project.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO BE SERVED: This project will serve five (5) zip codes in Chicago: 1) 60624: East Garfield Park, West Garfield Park, Humboldt Park, North Lawndale; 2) 60621: Englewood, Greater Grand Crossing, Washington Park; 3) 60644: Austin; 4) 60636: West Englewood, Chicago Lawn, Cage Park; and 5) 60651: Austin and Humboldt.

CONTACT: Ms. Jodina Hicks (312) 922-4767