

"PEER-LED, PEER-RUN, PEER-DRIVEN"

BUILDING PROMISE USA (BPUSA)

"A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place that we so passionately dreamed of..."

Nelson Mandela



BUILDING PROMISE USA
"Peer-Led, Peer-Run & Peer-Driven"

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Organizational Profile

Building Promise USA (BPUSA) is a mission focused non-profit direct service provider that is run, led, and driven by people living with criminal records, and family members directly impacted by incarceration. BPUSA was founded in 2017 on the premise that those closest to the problem are often closest to the solution. In March of 2020, BPUSA received its IRS charitable status. On September 4, 2021, BPUSA was named the Coordinating Agency for Reentry Service for the City of Austin.

We see a community where formerly incarcerated individuals will have the opportunity to successfully transition back into the community and go on to reach their full potential.

To that end, our mission is to dismantle the cycle of incarceration, unemployment and homelessness among people with justice involvement and behavioral health challenges regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, lack of religion or disability. We achieve this mission by providing transitional and support programs services to them, their families and their communities.

Core Beliefs

BPUSA is a mission driven organization that is guided by the following core beliefs:

- We believe in broad-based solutions that maximize fiscal and intellectual resources and reduce social stigma.
- We believe that BPUSA serves all people with justice involvement and behavioral health challenges regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or religious beliefs.
- We believe that all citizens returning from incarceration have paid their debt to society and should be afforded the rights, protections, and privileges that will allow them the opportunity to reach their full potential.
- We believe that as an organization we must actively demonstrate fiscal and social responsibility.

Why BPUSA?

The overarching goal of BPUSA is to transform situations in order to transform lives. The collateral consequences of incarceration fuels recidivism.

- The unemployment rate for formerly incarcerated people is nearly five times higher than the unemployment rate for the general United States population, and substantially higher than even the worst years of the Great Depression.
- Formerly incarcerated individuals with low levels of education often find themselves without the financial resources or social support systems upon their release from prison and therefore are more vulnerable to committing criminal acts rather than becoming reintegrated into society.
- Formerly incarcerated people are two times more likely to be homeless than the general public.

Are You Interested In Transforming Lives?

Transforming lives requires something different. BPUSA is doing this with the One Stop Shop Initiative (OSSI), a peer-based initiative, designed to successfully address four impact areas; Education, Supportive Services, Workforce Development, & Housing.

Education: During the pre-release phase, OSSI utilizes Strength, Wellness, Advocacy & Goal (S.W.A.G.), a peer-based curriculum. The objective of this curriculum is for the participants to complete a self-actuated reentry plan that we call P.R.E.P. (Personal Reentry Exit Plan). This plan is their reentry roadmap.

Supportive Services: Upon release program, participants engage OSSI's post release services.

- Peer Reentry Support Services
- Direct Assistance
- Project Re-connect
- Referral Services

Workforce Development, Training & Job Placement: BPUSA is forming bridge-partnerships with the following organizations to facilitate jobs, continued education and workforce training opportunities for program participants: Austin Community College (ACC); Austin Urban Technology Movement (AUTMHQ); Capital IDEAS; City of Austin Equity Office; Home Builders Association; Indeed; Jail 2 Jobs; Skill-Point Alliance; and Workforce Solutions Capital Area (WFSCA).

Housing: BPUSA is working to develop safe and accessible housing for program participants utilizing the recovery house model of supportive housing. We are currently seeking funding to implement the housing component of our programmatic design.

For more information about Building Promise USA (BPUSA), to volunteer, to become a "Bridge Partner" organization, or to get involved in the BPUSA Movement, visit us at www.buildingpromiseusa.com.

THE BPUSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



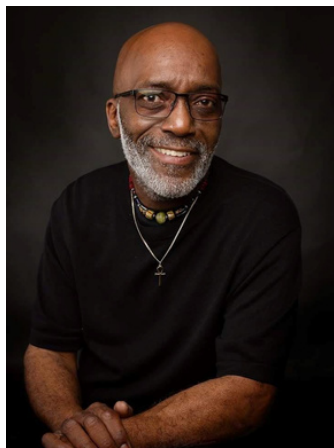
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