

NEWSLETTER



Q&A

Amanda Cassidy
Advocacy Officer and Recovery
Support Peer Specialist
Supervisor in San Antonio,
Texas, Metropolitan Area

Q&A with Amanda Cassidy, Advocacy Officer and Recovery Support Peer Specialist Supervisor in San Antonio, Texas, Metropolitan Area

What challenges do women, in particular, face during reentry?

Employment after release will always and forever be an issue. Many of the women I have worked with have violent criminal histories, often born out of self-defense. They are survivors of domestic violence and other crimes, but this context is not offered in the databases used for background checks.

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Ralph Martinez

Entrepreneur and Community
Activist in Espanola, New Mexico



Q&A with Ralph Martinez, Entrepreneur and Community Activist in Espanola, New Mexico

In 2024, you co-founded the Entrepreneurial Institute of Northern New Mexico (EINNM). What is its mission, and how does it work?

EINNM is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to helping people make the transition from incarceration to community. We offer a program in the state penitentiary that teaches both culinary skills and professional skills.

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Transformative Healing Through

Social Enterprise: An Innovative

Approach to Reentry

Transformative Healing Through Social Enterprise: An Innovative Approach to Reentry

For nearly 40 years, Homeboy Industries has brought hope, training, and support to thousands of people who were previously incarcerated or involved in gangs. Its innovative mix of social enterprise, reentry services, and therapeutic community has grown into a world-wide model for recovery and reentry.

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Strengthening Indigenous Communities Through Effective Reentry Supports

Individuals face myriad challenges upon release from incarceration, but for members of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities, successful reentry can be particularly daunting. Within 5 years of release from custody, AI/AN communities have the highest prevalence rates of rearrest, have an arrest after release that leads to a conviction, or return to prison. Moreover, members of AI/AN communities are twice as likely to die by suicide within a month of release from jail, prison, or a detention facility.

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The American Correctional Association's Approach to Transforming Suicide Prevention Programming in Corrections

The American Correctional Association's Approach to Transforming Suicide Prevention Programming in Corrections

Between 2001 and 2019, suicide in state prisons increased by 85 percent, rising higher than the 13 percent increase in local jails. During that time, however, local jails had suicide rates up to 10 times higher than those in prisons. A carceral facility's dynamics as a contributor to suicide are also suggested by other findings, such as when suicides take place. Most suicides in jails occur within the first week of custody, whereas in prisons they typically occur after the first year of custody.

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200 Independence Avenue, SW | Washington, DC | 20201 US

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