

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY

# FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

With the generous support of the Citi Foundation & Californians For Safety and Justice, The Raben Group, Self-Help Credit Union, Marco Ramirez & The Financial Clinic launched the **Financial Empowerment and Reintegration Program**, an innovative capacity building initiative for three Los Angeles based re-entry non-profits. The goal of the Financial Empowerment and Reintegration Program is to improve the financial security of formerly incarcerated individuals by providing training and technical assistance to frontline advocates and leadership teams and providing access to high quality financial products. Over the past nine months, advocates at Homeboy Industries, The Anti-Recidivism Coalition, and Amity Foundation have been experimenting with different strategies to build the financial security of their customers.

## PARTNERS OF THE FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

Citi Foundation



MARCO RAMIREZ



### THE ANTI-RECIDIVISM COALITION

“ A recent customer I enrolled into Change Machine was interested to learn more about budgeting and how to build his credit. We used the tools provided by Change Machine to write out all of his expenses, and he was surprised to learn how helpful the tool would be when it comes to saving money. Since he already had a bank account, I taught him how to use online banking and how to set up an automatic transfer from his checking to his savings account. He is now saving \$20.00 every paycheck, and we will be discussing credit building during our next appointment. My customer is excited about the idea of setting and meeting new financial goals!

– Zeara Alvarez, Life Skills Coach



### HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES

“ Dave was incarcerated for 18 years. He is in a transitional housing program and is attending college for welding. At 38 years old, through his work with us, he was able to open his first saving and checking accounts.

“ Shernice has always worried about the financial security of her three children. Together we were able to open three savings accounts, one for each of her children. Each month, she now transfers \$5 each into the bank accounts.

– Stephanie Lovina & Adriana Santiago,  
Case Managers



### AMITY FOUNDATION

“ Amity worked with an Apprentice in our program who identified that he'd like to achieve independent housing by saving for a down payment for a home. We supported him to pull a credit report and organize his debt to build credit. Additionally, he created and started a savings plan that will support him to achieve his goal!

– Mark Faucette, Vice President