



Second Chance

NEWS Fall 2005

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES.
INSPIRING LIVES.

Vision

Empowering people to open doors, change lives and strengthen community.

Mission

Creating opportunities for self-sufficiency by providing job readiness training, employment placement, affordable housing, and life skills for homeless and unemployed men, women and youth.

Board Members

Chairman

Raymond Gallagher, CPA
Lavine, Lofgren, Morris, & Engelberg

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Solomon, Minton, Cardinal, LLP

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Retired - Union Bank of California

Anita Crandall - Nordstrom

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Warden Robert J. Hernandez -

R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility

Mike Kirkeby - San Diego Fire Department

Greg Markow -

Hecht, Solberg, Robinson, & Goldberg, LLP

Judy McDonald - Community Volunteer

Cynthia Olmstead - TrustWorks Group, Inc.

David Santos - Bay City Electric

Cecil Steppe - San Diego Urban League

Richard Taylor - Investor

Second Chance

Scott H. Silverman
Executive Director / Founder

6145 Imperial Avenue
San Diego, California 92114

619.234.8888
619.234.7787 FACSIMILE

www.secondchanceprogram.org

Breaking

Cycles



Scott H. Silverman
Executive Director /
Founder

Dear Friends of Second Chance,

With your help, we are breaking the destructive cycles that capture the lives of too many members of our community. Youth who cycle in and out of gangs and prison. Homeless families who rotate from temporary shelters to the streets, never able to obtain permanent, affordable housing. Adults without high school diplomas who gain short-term jobs but can never advance because they lack a basic education. And those addicted to alcohol and drugs, who may break their habit for a time but go back to substance abuse when there is no where else to turn.

Second Chance stops these cycles of despair and places our clients on new, positive paths. We provide transitional living opportunities in a sober environment, followed by permanent placement in affordable housing. We offer mental health counseling and referrals to treatment programs that work. We create work opportunities for at-risk kids in our own enterprises, while providing pathways for continuing education. Most important, we provide the nationally recognized STRIVE job readiness training program and job placement, because getting and holding a job is the best possible way to end cycles of dependency, addiction and crime.

During the year 2005, Second Chance provided employment and housing services to 9,000 clients.

We are launching our most ambitious fund-raising campaign to date to raise \$1,000,000 by December 31- to fund Second Chance's STRIVE, Prisoner Reentry Employment Program, alcohol- & drug-free housing, mental health counseling, case management and our Ben & Jerry's At-Risk Youth programs.

Please know how appreciative we all are of your past support of Second Chance. Second Chance's mission and the needs we meet are more vital today than ever. And if you are able to do so, please make a contribution to help us continue our important work.

Over the past 12 years, Second Chance has helped thousands of individuals secure employment, reunite with their families, find safe, affordable housing, and remain free of incarceration and substance abuse. We have demonstrated consistent success and built models for systemic change. Second Chance's work is essential and we want to support every one asking for a "Second Chance". We hope you will find it in your heart to include Second Chance in your year end philanthropic giving.

Gratefully,

Scott H. Silverman
Executive Director/Founder

Raymond Gallagher
Chairman of The Board



Raymond Gallagher
Chairman of the Board

Breaking Records...

2005 (projected)

- 9,000 Clients Served
- 400 STRIVE Graduates
- 100 PREP Graduates
- \$2.5 Million Operating Budget
- 11th Annual Adopt-A-Block Community Clean-Up & Fund-raiser

2004

- 8,500 Clients Served
- 288 STRIVE Graduates
- \$2.3 Million Operating Budget
- "Bancroft" House opened
- 10th Annual Adopt-A-Block Community Clean-Up & Fund-raiser
- Purchased & new Second Chance Headquarters in Encanto, Southeastern, San Diego

2003

- 6,500 Clients Served
- 240 STRIVE Graduates
- \$2.0 Million Operating Budget
- "Hartley" House opened
- "Alumni" House opened
- Board of Directors expands to 15 Members
- A STRIVE Graduate joins the Board of Directors
- Ben & Jerry's PartnerShop acquired

2001

- 3,500 Clients Served
- 235 STRIVE Graduates
- \$1.4 Million Operating Budget
- Second Chance named beneficiary of Nordstrom "Celebrate Our Community" Event

2002

- 5,000 Clients Served
- 192 STRIVE Graduates
- \$1.7 Million Operating Budget
- "Flicker" House opened
- "46th Street" House opened

1999

- 2,165 Clients Served
- 159 STRIVE Graduates
- \$792,000 Operating Budget
- "Central" Second Chance House opened
- STRIVE San Diego featured on CBS "60 Minutes"

2000

- 2,489 Clients Served
- 164 STRIVE Graduates
- \$1.1 Million Operating Budget
- Mental Health Counseling Program Launched
- Youth STRIVE launched through San Diego Workforce Partnership

1997

- 1,073 Clients Served
- \$460,000 Operating Budget
- Board of Directors expands to 12 members
- Web site Launched: www.secondchanceprogram.org

1998

- 1,585 Clients Served
- \$900,000 Operating Budget
- STRIVE San Diego program launched

1995

- 290 Clients Served
- \$145,000 Operating Budget
- "Button Making" Enterprise Business added
- 1st Annual Adopt-A-Block Community Clean-Up & Fund-raiser

1996

- 736 Clients Served
- \$366,000 Operating Budget
- "Button Making" Enterprise expands with Republican National Convention and Major League Baseball

1994

- 152 Clients Served
- \$76,000 Operating Budget
- Joined Solutions Consortium Partnership to increase housing capabilities

1993

- 130 Clients Served
- \$65,000 Operating Budget
- Enterprise Business- "Flower Cart at Horton Plaza"
- "E Street" Second Chance House opened
- 5 Board of Directors

Ace Parking Offers Opportunities



Ace Parking has reconnected with Second Chance to fill their staffing needs and provide jobs to STRIVE Graduates. Ericka Hicks, a Senior Recruiter at Ace Parking found the STRIVE job readiness training program attractive and a good fit with what ACE expects of its employees. In fact after having several Second Chance graduates interview, Ericka said that STRIVE Graduates are a fantastic fit with Ace Parking. The job readiness training that the participants receive prepares them for interviews to such a high degree that it reset the standard expected of all interviewees.

STRIVE Graduates have been able to gain employment at Ace Parking in a variety of positions such as Valet, Booth Cashier, Parking Lot Attendant, Shuttle Bus Driver, and Traffic Director. Furthermore STRIVE Graduates have had the opportunity to come in at wages between \$7.50 and \$10.00 per hour.

In almost all cases STRIVE Graduates have been well prepared and ready to start work immediately, according to Erika Many Graduates show up at the Ace Parking offices on the Monday or Tuesday following their graduation. Ericka stated that the high level of professionalism continues past the interview day. She went on to mention a STRIVE Graduate who had been working at Ace Parking and decided to leave. "This person handled themselves in the same professional way as at the interview. All of the proper steps were taken, including a timely notice and conversations with the appropriate supervisors," said Ericka, "and it is attitude and professionalism that make STRIVE Graduates stand out and keep Ace Parking connected with Second Chance."

Philanthropic Note: Please consult your tax advisor regarding the recent and temporary increase of Charitable Contribution Incentives for cash gifts.

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,



I am a recent graduate of the STRIVE San Diego job readiness training program and would like to bring to your attention the remarkable difference that this program has made in my life.

I have recently moved to San Diego and I was offered the opportunity to enroll in the STRIVE program. I can honestly say that without this program

I would not have been able to make it in the job market today.

The STRIVE program has given me a whole new attitude in life and has given me the tools that I need to become a productive member in the work force. More importantly these tools have also helped me with my career and to be a better person in life. The entire staff who work at STRIVE, work hard as a team doing what they do best to transform anyone who is willing to make a change in their life and improve their skills in a three weeks program that telling us "to trust the process."

I did trust the process and it works!

For this, I would like you to give recognition to all the staff working at STRIVE in San Diego

for making a difference in people life and guiding me and other people in the right direction.

Sincerely,



Elroy N. Simmons
STRIVE Graduate, Class #88

"Dare to Dream"

When I close my eyes,
When I'm by myself,
I'm a room full of toys,
A book on the shelf.

I'm a gospel song,
I can do no wrong.

Who I see is,
Who I choose to be.
I do succeed if,
I dare to dream.

Michael Shabatay
STRIVE Class #87

2005 - 2006 Calendar

Orientation - Class #90

Friday, December 2, 2005, at 9:00 AM

Graduation - Class #90

Friday, December 23, 2005, at 11:00 AM

**Ben & Jerry's Community Service Project
Second Chance & The Jackie Robinson YMCA**
Friday, January 6, 2006

Orientation - Class #91

Friday, January 6, 2006, at 9:00 AM

Graduation - Class #91

Friday, January 27, 2006, at 11:00 AM

Orientation - Class #92

Friday, February 3, 2006, at 9:00 AM

Graduation - Class #92

Friday, February 24, 2006, at 11:00 AM

Orientation - Class #93

Friday, March 3, 2006, at 9:00 AM

Graduation - Class #93

Friday, March 24, 2006, at 11:00 AM

Orientation - Class #94

Friday, March 31, 2006, at 9:00 AM

Graduation - Class #94

Friday, April 21, 2006, at 11:00 AM

Orientation - Class #95

Friday, April 28, 2006, at 9:00 AM

Graduation - Class #95

Friday, May 19, 2006, at 11:00 AM

12th Annual Adopt-A-Block

Saturday, May 20, 2006 at 8:00 AM

Second Chance would like to extend our thanks to
Loftin Printing & Anderson Direct for donating
the printing and distribution of this newsletter.

LOFTIN WEB GRAPHICS

STRIVING to Succeed.



John Bakken

STRIVE Graduate, Class #83

John Bakken was released from jail in April of 2005 at the age of 40. For 38 years of his life he was pretty much your average law abiding citizen. In 2003 after working 15 years with the same company, John was laid off. John began "self-medicating" his mood with methamphetamines. John had never been a serious drug user, but had dabbled with methamphetamines occasionally when he was younger and unfortunately turned to them again. After some time, John found himself hooked on the drugs he was taking and eventually stopped caring about himself and everything else. As a result of his addiction he lost his fiancé and eventually became homeless. He ran into more trouble when he decided to steal a car and was arrested. John received one year in jail for auto theft.

In the weeks leading up to his release John had heard about Second Chance and upon being released from jail found himself with no place to go and contacted Second Chance. He enrolled in STRIVE Class #83 and also took advantage of an opportunity to be placed in one of Second Chance's Sober Living homes, where he continues to reside today. Upon graduation, John got a job on his first interview. He began working for Anthony's Fish Grotto in June of 2005. He faced an uphill battle with the job not only by proving to his new employers that he was serious about the job, but also due to the fact that his shift was from 5 am to 1 pm. Since John did not own a car and San Diego's public transportation system does not run 24 hours John was faced with a dilemma. How was he to get to work by 5 am when the buses were not running at that time?

John did the only thing he could and in doing so, no one doubted his desire to keep his job and continue turning his life around. Every night John would hop on a bus at 10 pm and take it down to Anthony's. He would then sleep on the ground outside of Anthony's until it was time to go to work at 5:00 the next morning. John kept this schedule up for over four months until he had saved enough money to buy a truck. Now owning his own transportation, he can lead somewhat of a normal life and can sleep in his own bed until its time to get up and head to work in the morning.

John looks back on his experiences and feels that he owes so much to Second Chance for helping him get back on track. In John's words, "Second Chance means everything to me. I can't believe that there is an organization that provides these opportunities and... it's unbelievable, I can't really put it into words."

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