



"I thank Second Chance for being the catalyst to getting me back into the workforce and leading me back to what I love to do." - Alvin

Sometimes your past catches up to you, whether you want it to or not

Alvin knows that all too well. At 32 he was happily married with a son. He had served his country, earned a Bachelor's of Science and was working in IT.

He was also carrying the heavy weight of his past, a series of poor choices he had tried to forget but never could. When detectives came looking for him, the weight he'd been carrying since he was 19, was finally lifted. But the consequences were just as painful – he had to face his parents and siblings. The lie he had been living with cost him his marriage and his young son would grow up without him.

At 44, Alvin has a chance to start over. Thanks to you.

Your willingness to provide a second chance is the lifeline Alvin needed after his release. Reunited with his parents, his next step was employment. But that wasn't so easy. His IT skills were of great interest to employers, but the box that he had to check that indicated he'd committed a felony was not.

Because of your generosity, help was waiting for him at Second Chance.

"I had no idea anyone would care about me, or why someone would want to help me. But Czarina, my case manager, is amazing. I've been given a huge chance."

Determined to rebuild his life, Alvin checked in weekly with his Czarina. She provided leads to employers who were looking for hard working individuals and who, like you, are willing to give justice involved individuals like Alvin a chance.

Searching for jobs and virtually interviewing on a phone is doable, but not ideal. With your support Alvin was provided a laptop. And it paid off. He is working in his field of expertise – IT.

Alvin is excited about his new job and the opportunity for a career. Life almost feels normal for him now but he still has many obstacles to overcome. He's working on his relationship with his son and is saving for a place of his own.

WITNESS THE POWER OF YOUR IMPACT

Hear directly from those whose lives you changed.

Tune in to an upcoming Job Readiness Training graduation streamed live on Facebook:

Oct. 8 & Nov. 12 @10 a.m.

www.facebook.com/secondchanceprogram



How does our garden grow?

With your support, lots of tender care, and compost of course!

You've been an integral part of the changes in the Youth Garden – from transforming an ugly, empty lot into a thriving community garden to the building of a wash station. Three years ago, thanks to your generosity, composting was implemented. Since then, the compost program has grown substantially with significant impact to the environment.

Composting is the natural decomposition process of organic matter, such as food scraps and dried leaves, into valuable organic materials that enrich soil and plants. Anything that grows eventually decomposes. Composting speeds up the process by providing an ideal environment for bacteria, fungi, and other decomposing organisms. The result— a fertile garden soil called compost.

Benefits to composting include:

- Creates organic natural fertilizer for our garden and helps the soil retain water. The result is reduced water cost and we don't need to use chemical fertilizers. We know exactly what's in the soil.
- Reduction of the amount of waste at the local landfill, which reduces our greenhouse gas emissions. We operate four compost bins, each having the capacity to divert 1000lbs of organic waste from the landfills every 3-6 months!

When you purchase veggies at our pop-up or online farm stand, or through our CSA program, know you are getting high quality and high nutritional value – thanks in part to compost! Learn more about the garden at www.secondchanceprogram.org/youthgarden.



Nationally, less than

50%

of the formerly incarcerated secure work after release.



Thanks to YOU,

90%

of Second Chance graduates secure full-time work in 30 days.

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Adopt a House for the Holidays

Believe it or not, the holiday season is just around the corner. But what will the last few months of 2021 look like with COVID-19 still lingering? Especially for individuals in recovery, who can't be with, are estranged from, or don't have family?



Thanks to you, this holiday season our sober living homes will be filled with hope. Residents will have an opportunity to celebrate together, to support each other in their sobriety and to give thanks as a household.

By participating in our Adopt a House for the Holidays campaign, you ensure our five homes are filled with the smells of traditional (and maybe not so traditional) food - enough for seconds, maybe even thirds! That each home is full of cheer and excitement.

Your support lets residents know they are not alone in their journey. That we are still in this together. And most of all, that there is plenty to be thankful for.

To participate in Adopt a House for the Holidays, you can make a secure online donation at secondchanceprogram.org/give. Make sure you designate Adopt a House. Or, checks payable to Second Chance can be sent to Second Chance, attn: Development Dept., 6145 Imperial Ave., San Diego, CA 92114.

SDG&E RECOGNIZES YOUTH GARDEN

The Youth Garden is honored to have been named an Environmental Champion by SDG&E.

Youth participants learn the importance of sustainable farming, water conservation and awareness of their impact on the environment. Working the land together helps develop positive social skills and academic outcomes, as well as an understanding of food justice and an appreciation of the environment.

Help us continue to positively impact the urban microclimate while introducing youth to healthy, fresh produce. Please make a gift today.



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Second Chance every time you shop, at no cost to you.

Sign up and select Second Chance as your preferred charity at smile.amazon.com/ch/33-053964.

EVERYONE HAS SOMETHING TO GIVE.
NOVEMBER 20, 2021
GIVING TUESDAY

Stay connected



CONTACT US:
(619) 234-8888

6145 Imperial Ave, San Diego, CA 92114
To donate: secondchanceprogram.org

The toll of Covid-19 and how you can help us recover

Over the course of the last year and a half, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all in immediate and lasting ways. At Second Chance, we have seen the impact through a significant increase in the number of requests for help with immediate basic needs, including housing and food. Very often, those who come through our doors are newly released and have no income, no resources and usually no network to rely on.

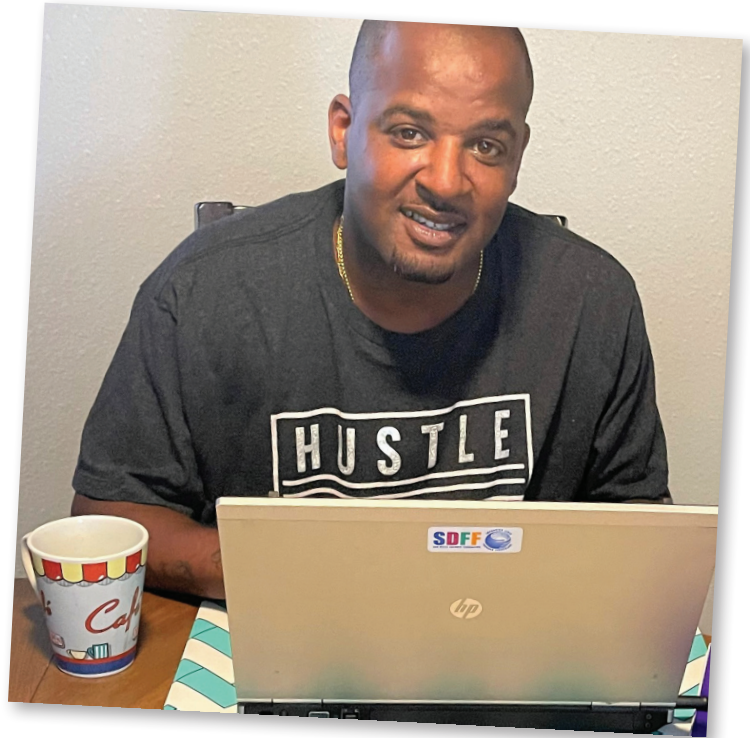
The increase in requests began at the same time our operations had to make significant and costly changes in accordance with local regulations. Key programs were either suspended or redesigned for virtual delivery.

The 2020 shutdown and slow reopening has had a devastating effect on our ability to reach those in greatest need – justice involved individuals who suffer from housing or food insecurity and do not have access to technology or Internet access at home. Ensuring participants' basic needs are met and bridging the digital divide became part of our supportive efforts.

This shift in resources increased the costs and complexity of achieving our mission. We need your help more than ever to continue to help people towards self-sufficiency. Together, we change lives.

With an unprecedented number of job openings, it's crucial justice-involved individuals are prepared with the training and skills needed to secure and maintain not just a living wage job, but a career.

A gift today ensures participants like Michael, (pictured), have the resources and skills to move forward.



HOW YOUR DOLLARS CAN HELP:

\$50 can provide a one-week stipend to a youth intern

\$75 can purchase a monthly bus pass

\$150 can provide a food voucher & hygiene kit

\$500 for industry related certifications

\$1,800 can help with rent in our sober living

\$2,500 can cover the cost of a JRT participant

\$5,000 for environmental education (garden)

Make your secure online donation at secondchanceprogram.org/give or by check, payable to Second Chance.

Not just a job

Second Chance works with hundreds of employers who are willing to give our graduates a chance. Why? Because our graduates and residents are ready to work, ready to show their worth, and ready to stabilize their lives. Thanks to your support, 90% of our graduates find employment within 30 days of graduating.

More than a paycheck, the right job can boost self-esteem, confidence and provide purpose. And for justice-involved individuals, a job without judgement is the key to success. Thanks to our partner employers for helping individuals find their way to self-sufficiency.

