

A New Way of Life
Reentry Project
2022 Annual Report



Co-Directors' Letter

A New Way of Life Reentry Project experienced incredible growth and success this past year. We grew in staff, and increased the number of residents and clients served. We held our first in-person Justice on Trial Film Festival *and* gala since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, raising consciousness and generating \$300,000 in support of formerly incarcerated women. We successfully educated the community about important legislation, and continued to train the current and next generation of activists.

We are proud that we have experienced this success while maintaining and expanding our already high level of commitment to our residents. For twenty-four years, we have prided ourselves on providing formerly incarcerated women with safe, clean housing and community. Stable housing and community support, we have long known, are the foundations for successful reentry. This is why we are proud to have expanded *both* our own housing services—bringing our 2022 total to 11 safe homes with the capacity to serve 83 women and their children at any given time—and that of our SAFE Housing Network—which grew to 31 members across 27 cities in 18 states and four countries.

Although we take this time to reflect and celebrate on what we accomplished in 2022, we know that our work and services continue to be needed. Resources and reentry services continue to be limited for women and members of the LGBTQ+ community, especially of color. Political deadlock and hyperpartisanship, likewise, means that even the most sensible of prison reform and reentry programming are unlikely to be supported in some states or at the federal level. Nonetheless, we continue to be amazed by our staff, our supporters, and our community. As we enter our 25th anniversary, we are confident that we are well-prepared for another year of freedom work!

In Justice & Peace,

Pamela Marshall and Michael Towler, Co-Directors



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Executive Summary

Established in 1998, A New Way of Life Reentry Project (ANWOL) is a nationally acclaimed Black-led reentry program for women. Since our founding, we have provided housing to over 1,600 formerly incarcerated women, helped reunite more than 400 women with their children, and provided pro bono legal services to more than 4,000 community members with conviction histories. Our commitment to freedom work continues into the present. In 2022, we experienced much success across all aspects of our mission:

- **Safe Housing:** In 2022, we served 130 women across our 11 safe homes. On average, 9 out of every 10 women served met benchmarks identified as necessary for successful community reentry.
- **Workforce Development:** Provided workforce development and educational opportunities to 182 clients, with 93% of the 100 women seeking employment able to secure jobs.
- **Reentry Legal Services:** Filed 934 petitions for expungement (86% success rate), 64 petitions for reduction of felony to misdemeanor (72% success rate), 60 petitions to reduce Prop. 47-eligible offenses (89% success rate), and 1 petition to reclassify Prop. 64-eligible offenses (100% success rate).
- **Family Reunification:** Assisted 103 individuals with 33 successful outcomes—including increased visitation, return of custody, or improving a legal issue.
- **Advocacy – Legislation:** Successfully partnered with CA Senator (now U.S. Congressional Representative) Sydney Kamlager-Dove to support the passage of SB 1085, which prohibits children from being separated from their families solely based on conditions of financial difficulty and takes that jurisdiction away from Juvenile Court.
- **Advocacy – WOJO:** Twenty-one women graduated from our Women Organizing for Justice & Opportunity (WOJO) Leadership Lab during a special celebration at the Formerly Incarcerated, Convicted People and Families Movement (FICPFM) convening in Atlanta.
- **Multimedia & Events – Testif-i:** Seven systems-impacted women were featured in our Testif-i series. We received 3,430 views in 2022 for a total watch time of 136.4 hours.
- **Multimedia & Events – JOTFF:** Fourteen films were screened for our first in-person Justice on Trial Film Festival since 2020. More than 400 individuals attended the Festival at Loyola Marymount University.
- **Media Coverage:** ANWOL was mentioned in the media 86 times and reached an audience of over 123,000 across multiple social media platforms.
- **SAFE Housing Training:** Our fifth annual SAFE training brought together more than 100 participants representing 53 organizations from 42 cities and 20 states.
- **SAFE Housing Network:** Grew the SAFE Housing Network to 31 organizations operating across 18 states, 27 U.S. cities and four countries (Nairobi, Kenya; Lagos, Nigeria; Kampala, Uganda; and the United States). This network provided housing to 273 formerly incarcerated people and non-housing services to nearly 5,800.
- **Gala:** Our first in-person gala since 2020 brought together more than 350 people—including political leaders, activists, and prominent artists—to celebrate and support our reentry work. More than \$300,000 was raised to support formerly incarcerated women.

The list above is a snapshot of what ANWOL was able to accomplish throughout 2022. The services we offer continue to prove critical. None of this success would be possible without your ongoing support.

On behalf of those we serve, thank you.

Safe Housing

Since early 2023, we now operate 12 safe homes throughout Los Angeles County with the capacity to serve up to 96 women and their children at any given time. Each home provides a safe, clean, and long-term community-oriented living environment to benefit formerly incarcerated women. Residents can live at our safe homes for as long as needed, and, when they are ready, we assist them in securing permanent housing.

Our housing staff offers extensive, holistic support to all our residents. Residents are supported with obtaining identification cards, enrolling in medical care, accessing mental health resources, securing educational and employment opportunities, and more. Residents, also, have access to our pro bono family reunification and legal services. Many utilize these services to reunite with their children, obtain occupational licenses, and leverage recent laws to expunge or reclassify their conviction records.

In 2022, through our (then) 11 safe homes, we served 130 women, mothers to 125 minor children and 105 adult children. On average, 9 out of every 10 women served met benchmarks identified as necessary for successful community reentry after periods of incarceration. Forty-one women were able to access permanent housing and thirteen women were able to reunify with their children. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of the women served were NOT reincarcerated.



ANWOL's first reentry home, which was purchased in 1998.

Resident Demographics

130
Women Served

99%
Stayed Free From Incarceration

99%
Complied With Conditions of Probation/Parole

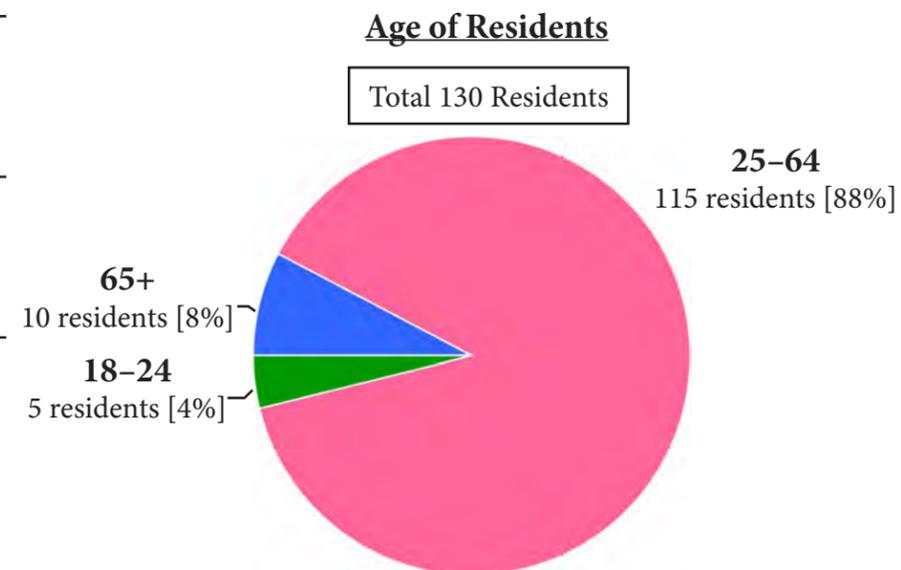
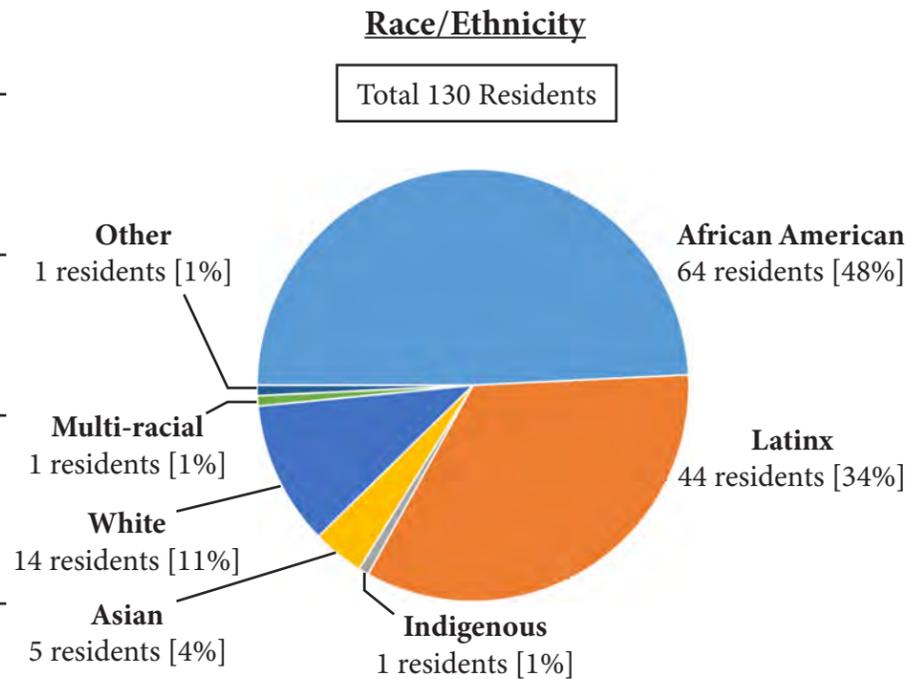
96%
Developed and Maintained Progress Towards Achieving Self-Identified Goals

95%
Participated in On-Site Programming

90%
Met Benchmarks Identified as Necessary for Community Reentry

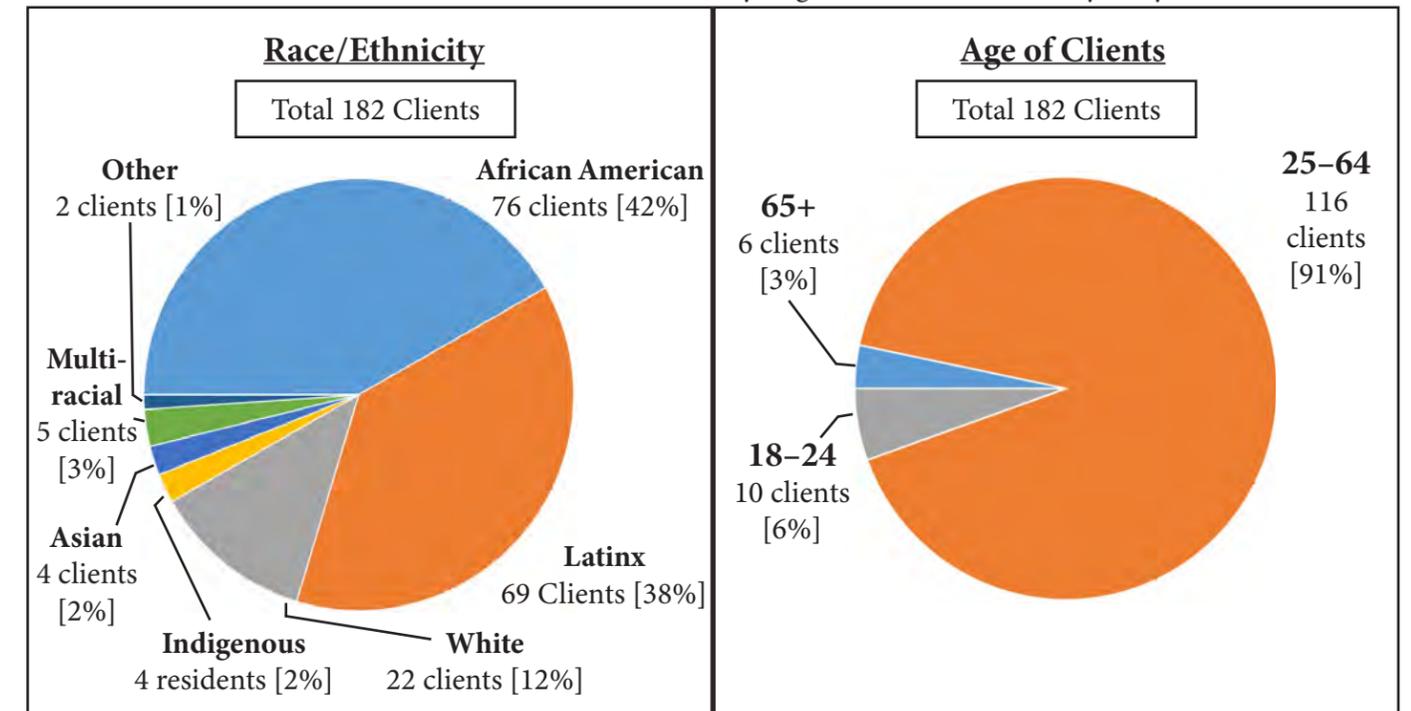
41
Obtained Permanent Housing

13
Reunified with Their Children



Workforce Development

A New Way of Life's workforce development and education team consists of three dedicated staff committed to supporting incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women access educational opportunities and obtain gainful employment. Staff support clients with resume building, mock interviewing, career coaching, locating employment and education opportunities, training opportunities, and more. In 2022, these services were offered to our residents and the women incarcerated in the Century Regional Detention Facility in Lynwood, California.



In 2022, our team served a total of 182 women. Of the 100 clients seeking employment, 93% were able to get jobs. One hundred fourteen women received educational services.

In March and October, the team brought clients, employers, educators, and speakers together for our twice annual "Day of Inspiration." These events offer networking opportunities, provide meaningful information on career preparation, and are designed to inspire our residents.

The team also hosted a Reentry Resource Fair in July that brought together community partners that provide housing resources, employment, educational opportunities, and more.



Natasha White (Employment Services Coordinator) (center) with clients at the July 2022 Reentry Resource Fair.

Reentry Legal Services

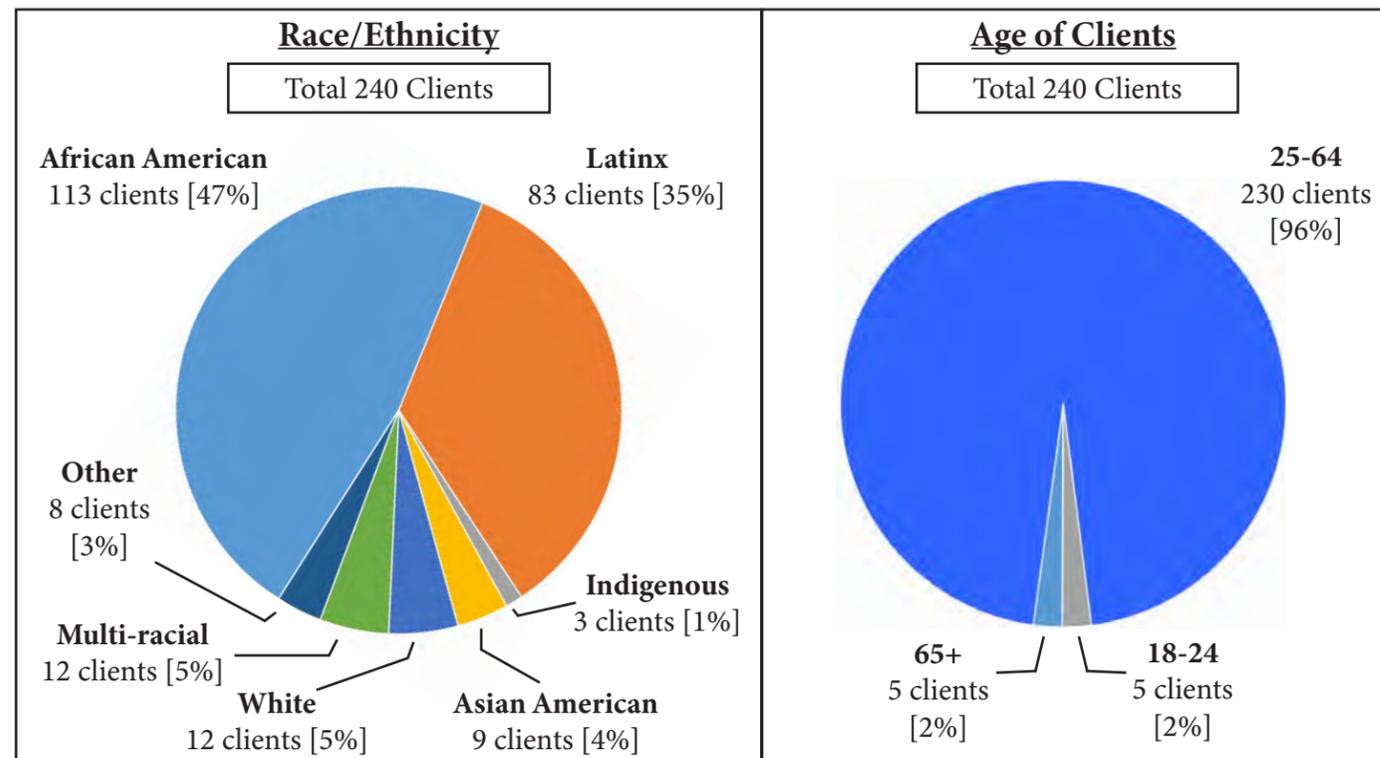
A New Way of Life’s legal team works to protect the civil and human rights of our most vulnerable citizens. Our pro bono legal team provides legal advice, representation, and free legal clinics to help clients reduce, reclassify, and/or expunge their criminal convictions. In 2022, staff attorneys trained 115 volunteers, who donated 1,700 hours working with clients to complete intake documents, declarations, and other necessary materials.

Through 34 legal clinics and individual representation, we helped 240 clients to clean up their records and helped 7 individuals secure occupational licenses. In total, we also filed:

- 934 petitions for expungement, with an 86% success rate;
- 64 petitions for reduction of felony to misdemeanor, with a 72% success rate;
- 60 petitions to reduce Prop. 47-eligible offenses to misdemeanors, with an 89% success rate;
- 1 petition to reclassify Prop. 64-eligible offenses, with a 100% success rate;
- 7 petitions to seal arrests, with a 100% success rate;
- 22 petitions to seal arrest and convictions for victims of human trafficking, with a 100% success rate.



Reentry Legal Clinic Staff: Natalie Roberts (left) and Tamara Dillingham (right).



Family Reunification

A New Way of Life’s family reunification team is the only holistic legal practice in Southern California providing parents with legal representation and advocacy in all necessary courts. We provide parents with pro bono legal support, advocacy, social work, visitation monitoring, and more during open dependency cases.

We are also:

- The only parents’ lawyers engaging in pre-petition advocacy in child welfare and dependency court actions in Southern California;
- The only parents’ lawyers in Los Angeles attending meetings with social workers from the Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services as parents’ support persons;
- The only pro bono lawyers in Southern California providing direct representation to parents seeking to terminate guardianships in probate court and defend against temporary guardianships

In 2022, family reunification staff assisted 103 individuals, with 33 successful outcomes—including increased visitation, return of custody, or improving a legal issue.



Family reunification services client being reunited with her child for the first time after being incarcerated for four years. This was only made possible after A New Way of Life’s Family Reunification attorneys went to court and fought for her right to in-person visitation.

Advocacy

A New Way of Life’s advocacy team works toward changing laws, policies, and regulations with the goal of fully restoring the civil and human rights of people with convictions and transforming the criminal legal system. Central to these objectives are our All of Us or None—Los Angeles & Long Beach (AOUON-LA/LB) and Women Organizing for Justice & Opportunity (WOJO) Leadership Lab.

All of Us or None—Los Angeles & Long Beach

All of Us or None is a national organization by and for formerly incarcerated people who organize to restore the rights of people with convictions. Susan Burton is a co-founder of AOUON and A New Way of Life is home to the organization’s Los Angeles & Long Beach chapter. In 2022, A New Way of Life’s advocacy team conducted an exceptional member recruitment drive, which resulted in an additional 668 members!



Year	#Members	Growth
2022	3,880	21%
2021	3,212	38%
2020	2,330	9%
2019	2,141	—

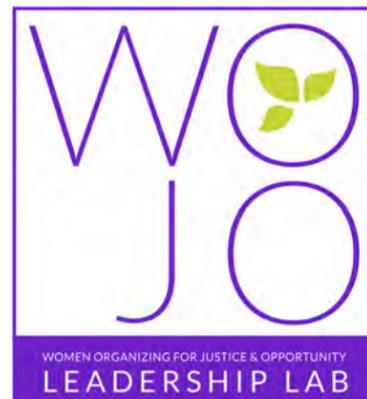
In 2022, we worked with former California State Senator and now U.S. Congressional Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove to support the passage of SB 1085, which prohibits children from being separated from their families solely based on conditions of financial difficulty and takes that jurisdiction away from juvenile court. We also successfully advocated for the passage of AB 2159, which prohibits the denial of reunification services for parents who have been accused, but not convicted, of an offense.

Voter Outreach and Education

In collaboration with the California Black Power Network, we distributed voter guides to over 3,000 community members. We also partnered with the Get Out The Vote phone banking campaign, contacting 26,000 people across California regarding voter education and resources. Beyond reaching out to voters, we tabled at resource fairs and community events to educate and disseminate information on broader advocacy efforts and ANWOL’s services. Across all our engagement programs in 2022, we contacted 49,502 individuals and identified 35,472 supporters of our work.

Women Organizing for Justice & Opportunity

Our Women Organizing for Justice & Opportunity (WOJO) Leadership Lab is a 6-month leadership program for formerly incarcerated women. In 2022, 21 women graduated during a celebration at the Formerly Incarcerated, Convicted People and Families Movement (FICPFM) convening in Atlanta. The graduates have gone on to create organizing initiatives and campaigns for combating injustices in their local communities.



Events

In 2022, ANWOL took part in the All of Us or None national convening on Alcatraz Island, the Family Reunification Rally, the Mother’s Day of Action, and the Survivors Speak Conference in Sacramento.



Attendees of the 2022 Mother’s Day of Action: Dear Mama Rally.



Attendees at the 2022 AOUON National Conference. From left to right: Bobbie Butts (Starting Over, Inc), Kimberly Dunne (ANWOL), and Stephanie Jeffcoat (ANWOL).

Multimedia & Events

Testif-i is a multimedia initiative that aims to transform the public dialogue on mass incarceration through storytelling and the experiences of formerly incarcerated women. Through Testif-i, formerly incarcerated women share their truth, trauma, and triumph, helping to heal their own pain while sparking awareness at the same time.



The 2022 Testif-i cohort consisted of seven formerly incarcerated women. These seven individuals provided powerful testimony on the reentry challenges confronted by formerly incarcerated women *and* their hopes for the future. The 15 video vignettes produced by this cohort were published on our YouTube channel and our website.

To celebrate the launch of these new videos, we hosted a living a library featuring members of the 2022 cohort at our 2022 Justice on Trial Film Festival. Attendees watched the videos, which were shown before each film screening, and had the opportunity to speak one-on-one with 2022 Testif-i participants.

The Testif-i YouTube channel continues to be a valuable medium for public education. On our YouTube channel, these new videos were viewed 626 times for a total watch time of 31.9 hours. This amounted to 3,430 views and a total watch time of 136.4 hours across all videos watched for the channel in 2022. By year end, our Testif-i YouTube channel had accumulated 13,975 views and 555.1 hours of total watch time from the channel's inception in 2018.



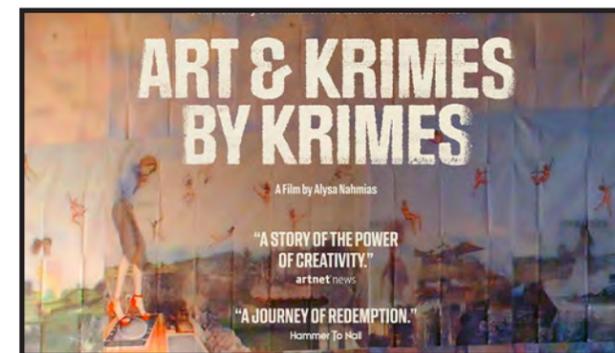
2022 Testif-i Cohort Members with ANWOL Founder, Susan Burton (left to right): Evie Ponder, Bethany Little, Susan Burton, Hakim Anderson, Hamdiya Cooks-Abdullah, and Ivy Beverly-Hilton.



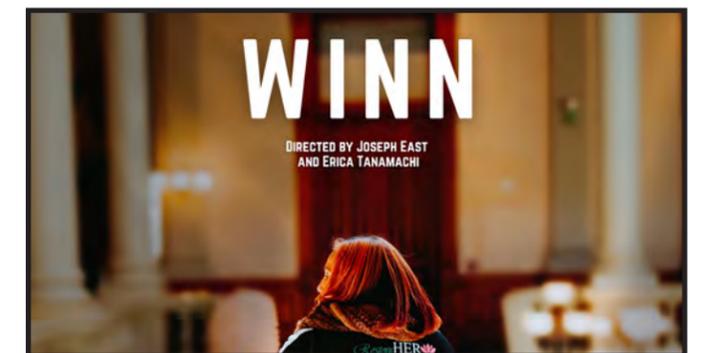
The Justice on Trial Film Festival (JOTFF) speaks to the challenges of people caught up in the justice system. The film festival creates an opportunity to project the voices of systems-impacted individuals and community to a world too heavily exposed to the negative images and stereotypes presented by the media.

In 2022, the Justice on Trial Film Festival was held completely in-person for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 200 attendees participated in each day of the 2022 festival at Loyola Marymount University (LMU), which co-sponsored the festival. An invitation-only VIP event was held on Friday, October 29 to celebrate our festival award-winners—*Art & Krimes by Krimes* (best feature) and *WINN* (best short)—and featured a speech from Alliance for Safety and Justice Co-Founder and President Lenore Anderson. University of Chicago Professor Reuben Miller, who was recently chosen as a 2022 MacArthur Fellow, also provided a keynote during the festival on Saturday, October 30.

Films screened included *A Woman on the Outside*, *Angola Do You Hear Us?*, *Art & Krimes by Krimes*, *Holding Still*, *Man Down*, *Nomad*, *Searching for Justice*, *Redemption + Restoration*, *Suppressed & Sabotaged*, *The Bond*, *The Letter Room*, *The Lifers Network*, *The Lookout*, and *Voices of Reentry*. The festival also served as the debut of ANWOL's Virtual Reality Experience: *Going Home*. This unique VR experience is designed to educate viewers on the reentry experiences of formerly incarcerated women.



Fighting for Family (Dir. Alysa Nahmias)
Art & Krimes by Krimes is a story of confinement and freedom, of loss and creation. It follows the life of formerly incarcerated artist Jesse Krimes.



WINN (Dir. Joseph East)
WINN documents formerly incarcerated activist Pamela Winn's fight to legally end the shackling of incarcerated pregnant people in Georgia.

Media Coverage

A New Way of Life had 86 media hits in 2022 (a 13% increase over 2021), reaching a national and international audience through television, radio, newspapers, magazines, websites, and more.

Websites

We reached a total audience of 65,203 unique visitors across our three websites of anewwayoflife.org, justiceontrialfilmfestival.net, and testif-i.com. Visitors came from across the globe.

Social Media

We reached an audience of 124,863 across Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Our open positions on LinkedIn were seen by hundreds of thousands of users, with more than 2.3 million impressions.

Select Media Highlights

(For more info, please visit: <https://anewwayoflife.org/press-media/>)



[The Kelly Clarkson Show](#)

[Susan Burton and ANWOL Resident Evie Ponder appeared on The Kelly Clarkson Show.]



[Meet L'Oréal Paris Women of Worth Honoree Susan Burton](#)

[Susan Burton was honored by L'Oréal Paris as a 2022 Women of Worth Honoree].



[FOX 11: MacKenzie Scott to donate \\$3.8B to charity](#)

[Report on MacKenzie Scott's Donation to ANWOL.]



[The Imprint: What We Can Do To Help Formerly Incarcerated Women Keep Their Children](#)

[Op-ed by ANWOL Family Reunification Attorney Andi Mazingo].



[PBS: Incarceration Hits Women and Mothers Hard](#)

[Reference to the importance of A New Way of Life's reentry services for formerly incarcerated women and mothers.]



[The New York Times: For People Just Leaving Prison, a Novel Kind of Support: Cash](#)

[Former ANWOL resident, Amber Helpingstine, is featured in this article.]



[Salt Lake Magazine: Sharon Van Etten, Angel Olsen and Julien Baker Come Together for Twilight Concert Series](#)

[Article mentions that *The Wild Hearts Tour* is donating \$1 from each ticket to ANWOL.]



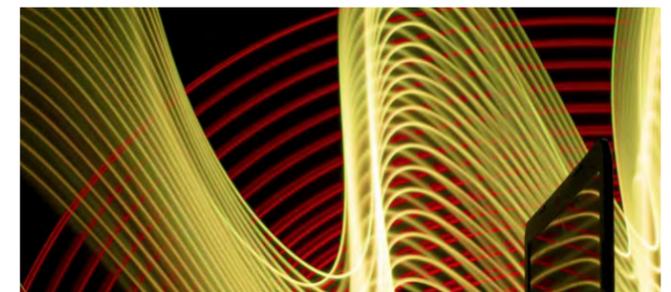
[The Center for Public Integrity: How a Jim Crow-era strategy blocked 4.6 million people from voting in 2022](#)

[ANWOL All of Us or None Organizer, Stephanie Jeffcoat, is featured discussing efforts to restore voting rights for formerly incarcerated individuals.]

Parents with criminal histories struggle to regain custody of children

[PBS News Hour: Parents with criminal histories struggle to regain custody of children](#)

[Features an interview with Stephanie Jeffcoat discussing her experience being separated from her child and her struggle to regain custody.]



[LA Times: Op-Ed: A lack of tech access is yet another injustice of mass incarceration](#)

[Mentions that the state and federal government should partner with reentry programs like ANWOL to distribute free laptops to promote tech literacy.]

SAFE Network



SISTERHOOD
ALLIANCE
FOR FREEDOM
AND EQUALITY

A New Way of Life founded the national Sisterhood Alliance for Freedom and Equality (SAFE) Housing Network in 2018. Through the Network, ANWOL identifies formerly incarcerated leaders around the country and supports them in replicating ANWOL's innovative and effective women's reentry philosophy and practices.

In 2022, the SAFE Housing Network grew to 31 organizations operating in 18 states and 27 U.S. cities (Prattville, AL; Phoenix, AZ; Los Angeles, Compton, and Riverside, CA; Augusta & Fayetteville, GA; Chicago and Champaign, IL; Indianapolis and Gary, IN; Baltimore, MD; Detroit, MI; Jackson, MS; Charlotte, NC; Omaha, NE; Las Vegas, NV; Brooklyn, Long Island, and Mount Vernon, NY; Tulsa, OK; Philadelphia and Coatesville, PA; Amarillo, TX; Seattle and Tacoma, WA; and Madison, WI) and four countries (Nairobi, Kenya; Lagos, Nigeria; Kampala, Uganda; and the United States).

In 2022, our fifth SAFE Housing Training, brought together more than 100 participants representing 53 organizations from 42 cities and 20 states. Over the course of three days, participants received in-depth training on our model, had the opportunity to learn directly about our resident and staff experiences, and were provided guidance on development, grant-writing, communications, accounting, finance, and more.

In 2022, the SAFE Housing Network provided housing to 273 formerly incarcerated people and non-housing services to another nearly 5,800 people.



Attendees of our 2022 SAFE Training during a site visit to our Montebello, California offices.



Our 2022 gala—our first in-person since 2020—was a star-studded event with political leaders, activists, and prominent artists in attendance. The theme *Mothering the Movement* paid tribute to all the women who came before us to lift us up, and to all the women who continue to hold, strengthen, and show us the way forward. Presenters included Ron Kellum, Sara Paulson, Shanola Hampton, Mr. Billy Porter, and more.

Three incredible women were honored at the 2022 gala for their important service to the reentry community. Philanthropist Agnes Gund was honored for founding the Art for Justice Fund (A4J), which has awarded grants totaling approximately \$116 million to more than 195 advocates, artists, and organizations since its founding in 2017. U.S. Congressional Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove (then CA State Senator) was honored for her work authoring landmark legislation in the areas of criminal justice reform, health care equity, environmental protections, affordable housing, and more. A New Way of Life's Lead Housing Coordinator, Ms. Linda Washington, was honored for her more than a decade-long commitment to providing a safe, welcoming presence to the women in our safe houses.

More than 350 people attended (including our honorees) and over 300,000 was raised to support formerly incarcerated women.



Ms. Burton (center) with ANWOL residents at our 2022 gala.

Board of Directors

A huge thanks to our 2022 board for their service and dedication to A New Way of Life.

Whitney Davis-Houston, Esq.
Chair
Attorney

Laura Hernandez, MSW, ACSW
Housing for Health Clinical
Program Manager

Solomon Rivera
Chief of Staff
LA City CM Harris-Dawson

Regina Jones
Corporate and Professional
Strategist

Tam Watkins
Senior Landscape Instructor,
Retired, Watts Labor Community
Action Committee

Tami Warren
Deputy Public Defender, Office of
the Public Defender, LA County

Deryk Howard
Treasurer
Chief Financial Officer

Lynn Nguyen
VP/Relationship Manager Pacific
Premier Bank

Nancy Moreno
Marketing Consultant

Barbara Osborn, Ph.D.
Secretary
Director of Communications,
Office of Sheila Kuehl
Los Angeles County Supervisor,
3rd District

Marta C. Lopez-Garza, Professor
Gender & Women's Studies
Department Chicana/o Studies
Department California State
University, Northridge

Vonya Quarles
Attorney/Executive Director

Darryl Green
IT Account Exec

Felicity Huffman
Actress/Producer

Lisa Baker
Restaurant Owner, Business
Development



Whitney Davis-Houston, Chair
ANWOL Board of Directors

2022 Financials

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended December 31, 2022 *Pre-audit*

Revenue and Support

Resident/Agency Pays	182,543
Contracts	813,514
Rental Income	186,538
Donated Goods and Services	751,631
Other Income	98,003
Board Contributions	8,609
Donations - Individuals	507,196
Donations - Organizations	6,125,448
Special Events	286,630
Grants	8,472,136
Total Income	17,432,249

Expenses

Program Services	8,223,061
Management & Administrative	962,941
Fundraising	357,490
Total Expenses	9,543,492

Net Income 7,888,757

* To be used toward Capital Campaign **\$ 3,500,000**

BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2022 *Pre-audit*

Assets

Cash and Equivalents	20,771,746 *
Accounts Receivable	69,941
Contracts & Grants Receivable	2,984,631
Property & Equipment (Net)	7,472,514
Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	46,059
Total assets	31,344,891

Liabilities

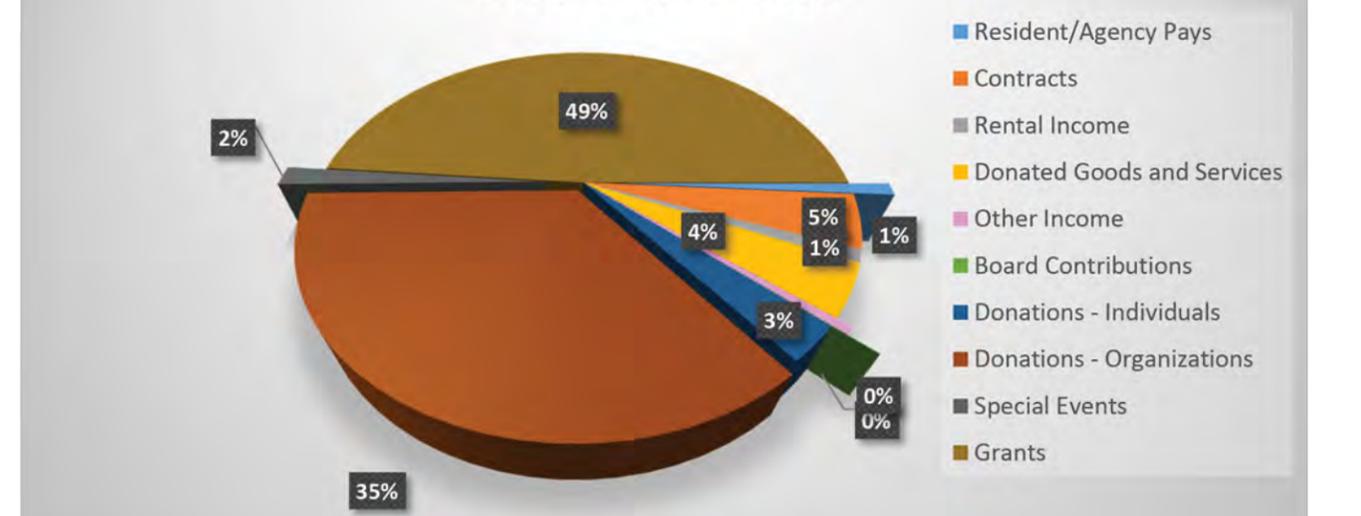
Accounts Payable	198,621
Accrued Payroll	290,246
Other Accrued Expenses	12,465
Mortgage Payable	-
Total liabilities	501,332

Net Assets

Unrestricted Net Assets	19,093,943
Change in Net Assets	7,888,757
Net Restricted Assets	3,860,859
Total Net Assets	30,843,559

Total Liabilities & Net Assets 31,344,891

Sources of Revenue





A New Way of Life

Reentry Project

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Los Angeles, CA 90087
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F: 323-563-3445
www.anewwayoflife.org

A New Way of Life is a 501(c)(3)
nonprofit organization