

**GRANTEE:** The Church United for Community Development  
(Name of Project: Prisoner Re-Entry Employment Support Program)

**ADDRESS:** 19202 Highland Rd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

**AMOUNT:** \$659,391 (Federal Direct) + \$169,206 (Non-Federal Match) = \$828,597 (Total)

**DURATION:** 12 months

**POPULATION SERVED/RECRUITMENT:** 200 participants in year one. Through current re-entry efforts, a formal referral process has been established with LA Department of Public Safety & Corrections. Also, referrals will be provided via: Healing Place Church, a member church active in pre-release mentoring; Baton Rouge Probation & Parole Office; Baton Rouge judges (can mandate those facing return sentences to attend the program in lieu of returning to prison).

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** Grantee is a non-profit of more than 50 faith-based and community groups active in offender re-entry. This project will expand existing efforts. Services to include: assessment; literacy and GED education; job training and employment; follow-up/job retention; emergency, transitional, and permanent housing (e.g., emergency shelters, arrangements with apartment complex owners, and permanent rehabbed housing for low-income buyers via a Bond-for-Deed); mentoring by Healing Place Church's expansion of its current program drawing on 50 local churches; and social and support services via an existing partnership with the Capital Area Human Services District. Jobs/job training provided through: local WIA/One-Stop office (e.g., ITAs, demand occupation determinations); Associated Builders & Contractors industrial construction program; 12 private businesses who have agreed to hire participants in local demand occupations (e.g., construction, food preparation, automotive); existing workforce projects (e.g., HUD-funded construction of transitional housing); and Ammon Personnel Services for transitional and permanent job placement.

**NON-FEDERAL MATCH:** \$169,206 of non-federal resources from the grantee to include volunteer mentors, food/supplies, office/class space, physician services, and emergency housing.

**SUB-GRANTEES:** None.

**PARTNERS:** Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Baton Rouge Workforce Investment Board, Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc., Baker Enterprises (rehabbed housing), Ammon & Associates (ex-offender job placement), Capital Area Human Services District (state-funded agency for mental health, addictions, and developmental disabilities).

**OUTCOMES:**

- **Employment Rate:** 70% placed in FT jobs in less than three months.; 95% in less than six months
- **Retention Rate:** 50% of participants retained in FT jobs after six months
- **Earnings Change:** 50% of participants to increase earnings from initial pay within 12 months
- **Recidivism Rate:** less than 34% of participants will recidivate after three years
- **Other:** cost per participant—with federal funds: \$3,298/year

**GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO BE SERVED:** Baton Rouge, LA

**CONTACT:** Claudia Jane Berry (225) 408-3380, Ext. 347