

Dear STRIVE Friends and Supporters,

STRIVE's national network continues to make exciting strides, adding new, targeted programs, expanding our presence in new cities, and helping ever-increasing numbers of people to transform their lives through employment.

Please read on and learn more about STRIVE's achievements and plans. As always, thank you for your partnership and support!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Weinberg".

Phil Weinberg
President and CEO, STRIVE International

STRIVE Expands Youth Programming, Connecting More Young Adults to Opportunity

STRIVE's impact on at-risk youth will be compounded in the months ahead, thanks to new grants that will allow us to expand programming for young adults in cities around the country. With more than 6 million young people in the U.S. disconnected from school and work, programs like STRIVE's are critical.

Our Opportunity Youth employment program, **STRIVE Future Leaders**, will expand from six to 10 cities nationwide, thanks to [a recent grant from the U.S. Department of Labor](#). The program will soon be in use with justice-involved youth in Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Hartford, New Haven, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, San Diego and Yonkers.



In STRIVE cities across the country, private funders are helping to expand our impact with Opportunity Youth. In New York City, STRIVE will further increase our youth programming under [a new grant from the Citi Foundation's Youth Opportunity Fund](#). STRIVE New York, via its local hiring initiative the East Harlem Talent Network, will launch **Serve UP Harlem**, a new program to train youth for careers in New York City's fast-growing food service and hospitality sector. Youth programs in New York will receive an additional boost from a recent [grant from the Starbucks Foundation](#), which will support our job readiness and skills training services for young adults.

Newest STRIVE Affiliate Brings Training and Employment Services to South Carolina

The STRIVE Network is expanding with the launch of **STRIVE Charleston**, which will bring STRIVE's programs to South Carolina for the first time. STRIVE Charleston will operate from the [Step UP Network](#), a nonprofit working to improve economic opportunity for individuals living within the state's Tri-County region.



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"This is an exciting partnership for the City," Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg said. "Residents who struggle with economic stability need programs that not only teach hard skills, but they need programs that increase hope."

STRIVE Charleston's first training will begin September 12. Read more in the [Step UP Network's press release](#).

STRIVE Network Spotlight: STRIVE New Haven Provides Training - and Hope - for Formerly Incarcerated Women

Each month, approximately 100 formerly incarcerated individuals return to the city of New Haven. STRIVE New Haven, operated by [Career Resources](#), is reaching out to this population with a program called Women Investing in Second Chances (WINS) that provides STRIVE's CORE job readiness training, internships, occupational skills training and job placement. The program is funded by The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.



The re-entry population is a key audience for STRIVE sites around the country, with 38% of STRIVE clients citing a history of justice system involvement. Meanwhile, a new study from the Vera Institute of Justice shows that the number of women in local jails in the United States is almost 14 times what it was in the 1970s, a far higher growth rate than for men.

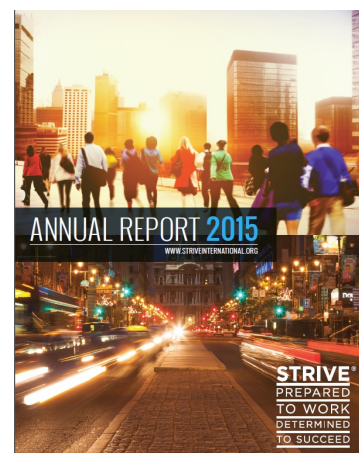
As one STRIVE New Haven success story, Debra Willoughby came to WINS in need of a job that would allow her to support her family. While initially uncertain, "I realized that Team STRIVE was challenging me to be my best self," she said. After completing the program, Debra was hired as a prep cook. STRIVE, she said, "gave me hope...I am more than my background."

STRIVE Annual Report Highlights Impact on Cities

STRIVE's newly-released **Annual Report** illustrates how we are helping cities across the country thrive by creating opportunity and breaking cycles of poverty in under-served communities.

From Atlanta to San Diego, New York to New Orleans, STRIVE is partnering with mayors and community leaders to ensure that residents have the skills required to succeed and that employers have the talent needed to compete and prosper.

[You can see the report online.](#) Take a look and tell us what you think!



Two STRIVE Affiliates Celebrate 200th STRIVE Training Class

Two STRIVE Affiliates, Baltimore and San Diego, reached the milestone of a 200th STRIVE graduation this year!

STRIVE San Diego Affiliate [Second Chance](#) held its 200th graduation in June, with San Diego Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer in attendance. In addition to CORE job readiness training, Second Chance is also implementing STRIVE Future Leaders as part of the national juvenile justice initiative funded by the U.S. Dept. of Labor.



San Diego Second Chance celebrated its 200th graduation of their Job Readiness Training program on June 17. City of San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer was guest speaker and Councilmembers Myrtle Cole, District 4 (r) and Chris Cate, District 6, (l) presented Second Chance with a City of San Diego Proclamation.

Alumni, friends, and supporters gathered earlier this year to celebrate the completion of STRIVE Baltimore's 200th training class. STRIVE's Baltimore Affiliate, [The Center for Urban Families \(CFUF\)](#), marked the occasion with a "Celebration of an Era" event, which commemorated 17 years of providing pre-employment training and job placement to economically aspiring men and women in Baltimore.



STRIVE needs your help to continue providing at-risk individuals with a lifetime of professional and social services. With your generous support, we can continue to transform lives through employment and strengthen families and communities.

[Donate Now!](#)

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