

Founded in 2000, CCF is dedicated to assisting women achieve college and graduate school degrees after their release from prison as a critical step in their transition to fully-contributing members of society. CCF offers academic assistance, leadership opportunities, peer and community support to women who are committed to maximizing their potential through education and who are negotiating post-prison issues of family reunification, employment, permanent housing and schooling.

THE MISSION OF CCF IS TO ELIMINATE INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIAL BARRIERS TO HIGHER EDUCATION, ECONOMIC STABILITY AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION FOR FORMERLY INCARCERATED WOMEN.

CCF 2000 THROUGH 2009 ASSISTED 300 WOMEN • 175 FULL FELLOWS • 24 ASSOCIATE DEGREES • 66 BACHELOR'S DEGREES • 39 MASTER'S DEGREES • 1 PHD • 75% OF CCF STUDENTS COMPLETE A COLLEGE DEGREE WITHIN FOUR YEARS OF BECOMING CCF FELLOWS • THE VAST MAJORITY OF CCF FELLOWS REPORT A MARKED INCREASE IN INCOME AS THEIR LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT RISES.

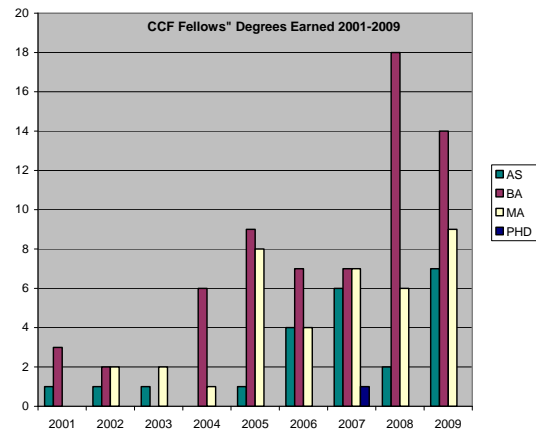
CCF Fellows, as all college students from disadvantaged backgrounds, need additional academic and financial support in order to improve their chances of degree completion.

The CCF program offers many facets of support:

- **ACADEMIC COUNSELING**
- **MENTORING, TUTORING**
- **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
- **COMMUNITY BUILDING**
- **PEER TO PEER SUPPORT**
- **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Successful reintegration upon release from prison depends on more than academic success. We rebuild a sense of community and a sense of hope. **CCF** helps its participants achieve their goals through its community building and peer support activities.

CCF Fellows improve their analytic skills, develop their individual and collective voices, and participate as leaders in **CCF** and other community organizations. This is accomplished through public speaking, advocacy, board participation, artistic expression, and research.



CCF is a private 501(c)(3) organization that is located within the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, with funding from private foundations and individual donors. CCF has **six full-time** and **two part-time staff members** who coordinate services for **200 students** and **30 volunteer mentors and tutors**.

Chair: Peter Bakstansky

Executive Director: Vivian Nixon

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FACTS

- The recidivism rate in New York State is 44% within 3 years of release. CCF Fellows have a recidivism rate of less than 2%.
- Return to prison costs about \$30,000 per person per year.
- It cost approx \$4,000 per year for a student to participate in CCF

CCF TODAY

- 120 current fellows received stipends/ tuition assistance. An additional 85 students are preparing for fellowship and receive:
 - academic counseling
 - mentoring
 - tutoring
 - financial aid counseling
 - and referral services.
- They also participate in:
 - community meetings monthly
 - support groups monthly
 - eight leadership development workshops
 - and ongoing social networking activities.
- 2008 graduating class had **26 students who received 2 Associates, 18 Bachelors, and 6 Master degrees.**
- 2009 graduating class had **30 students earning 7 Associates, 14 Bachelors, and 9 Master degrees. Two Fellows have completed doctoral coursework and are ABD** (all but dissertation).

PUBLIC POLICY

- CCF works on a number of public policy issues including:
 - reinstating eligibility for federal and state student aid (Pell and TAP grants) to incarcerated people
 - assuring equal access to programs for women inside of NYS prisons
 - abolishing Rockefeller Drug Laws
 - eliminating statutory barriers to employment for people with criminal records
 - eliminating barriers to college education for people with criminal records

2008-2010 AWARDS AND EVENTS

- Thirteen/WNET New York and WLIW21 *Community Hall of Fame* award
- *The Union Square Award*
- *Petra Fellowship* to CCF's Executive Director
- CCF co-sponsored: *Education from the Inside, Out: Why It's Worth the Investment, a conference in collaboration*

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

- Barbara Martinsons, Founder
- Robin Hood Foundation
- The Open Society Institute
- Achelis and Bodman Foundation
- New York Women's Foundation
- Trinity Wall Street Grants Program
- The David Rockefeller Fund
- Helena Rubinstein Foundation
- The Knights of Malta, NYC
- New York State Higher Education Services Corporation