

A resource for formerly incarcerated women



College

CCF was founded in 2000 with the goal of helping formerly incarcerated women earn college degrees. We promote higher education as a solution to recidivism and persistent poverty. Our services are differentiated from other reentry programs by their focus on academic achievement and long term stability.

Community

CCF encourages women to set high (yet attainable) goals for themselves as they re-enter their communities and supports them in pursuit of those goals. In 2010, 240 formerly incarcerated women benefited from our work. Our services begin with outreach within New York State's jails and prisons and among the community-based organizations that serve women in re-entry.

Fellowship

CCF welcomes women into a fellowship with others who share a vision of "life beyond re-entry". The transition from incarceration back to life in the community requires profound personal transformation of mind and will. CCF helps women rebuild their sense of self-worth and sustain their belief that higher education, and not time spent in prison, will define their future.

Programs

- Academic Counseling
- College Level Tutoring and Mentoring
- Career Development
- Financial Literacy
- Community Building
- Leadership Development
- Artistic Expression
- Public Policy and Advocacy

Demographics

- 77% are recovering from addiction
- 75% are mothers
- 50% are survivors of domestic abuse
- 59% enter college with a GED
- 79% are low-income at intake
- 85% are women of color

Results

- Less than 2% recidivism
- 80% retention rate
- 80% have earned degrees
 - 35 Associate degrees
 - 105 Bachelor's degrees
 - 50 Master's degrees
 - 1 Doctorate
- 100% report increased earnings post-graduation

Leadership

An example of CCF's commitment to leadership development, Vivian Nixon joined CCF as a client in 2001 and became Executive Director in 2006.

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