

Careers for a Cause (C4C)

Care First, Community Investment & Jails Last Initiatives

BACKGROUND

C4C American Recovery Plan (ARP) is a collaboration between Los Angeles County Departments of Economic Opportunity (DEO), Human Resources (DHR), and Mental Health (DMH), Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), Community Colleges, and Community Based Organizations to geographically expand the program from one LA County Supervisorial District to all five Districts and to enhance training outcomes by adding new supportive and employment services. The program goals are to ensure that persons facing marginalization are workforce ready and able to become economically self-sufficient, thus reducing homelessness and recidivism.



Program Description

Careers for a Cause (C4C) is an eight-week employment training program that supports individuals, with lived experience in homelessness and/or the justice system, build skills and connect to career pathways in the homeless services and social services field. Program participants must be 18+ years old and have a passion for helping underserved communities.

Program Components

- Engagement with Multiple Homeless Services Employers
- Connected to Current Homeless Services Job Opportunities
- Supplied with Personal Computer for Training and Job Search
- Mental Health First Aid Certificate of Completion
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Certificate of Completion
- First Aid/CPR Training and Card
- Paid Internship Availability
- Dedicated C4C Support Staff:
 - Occupational Therapist
 - Case Manager
 - Job Developer/Retention Specialist

Community Based Organization (CBO) Partners

The program will be delivered through Los Angeles County homeless services CBOs, Amity Foundation, Fathers & Mothers Who Care, and St. Joseph Center. These agencies provide C4C program coordination, HMIS software training, career counseling, case management, supportive services, housing assistance, job development services, mentorship, paid internships, and job placement/retention services.

Community College Partners

The C4C social services curriculum is administered by community colleges that are located within each LA County Supervisorial District. Those colleges include Compton College, East Los Angeles College, Los Angeles Southwest College, Pierce College, and Rio Hondo College. These educational partners collaborate with LA County and homeless services CBOs to ensure that C4C participants receive comprehensive supportive services and an optimal training experience.

