

# Compass Rose Collaborative

## Why a compass rose?

A compass rose is the familiar nautical star you find on maps, indicating directions of wind and land. Sailors have used compass roses to find their way for generations; the Compass Rose Collaborative will guide young people out of the justice system and into productive employment or higher education. The collaborative will help young people find their full potential.

In 2014, there were over one million juvenile arrests.<sup>1</sup> Recent Justice Policy Institute studies found spillover suffer effects related to crime; youth unemployment and displacement from education is exacerbated when neighborhood crime rates increase.<sup>2</sup> These facts illustrate a cycle. Young people who get involved in the justice system keep coming back, and the environments they live in plunge more young people into crime. The Compass Rose Collaborative, an initiative of the Department of Labor's Reentry Programs<sup>3</sup> seeks to break that cycle.

The Collaborative will guide young adults ages 18-24 out of the justice system and to successfully enter the workforce and educational systems, just as the familiar symbol on maps, the compass rose, helped sailors and pioneers find their way for generations.

Young adult participants in the Compass Rose Collaborative programming will be guided by Our Piece of the Pie®, Inc. in Hartford, CT; the City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department in Los Angeles, CA; the St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment in St. Louis, MO; CommunityWorks, Inc. in Denver, CO; the City of Albany Department of Youth and Workforce Services in Albany, NY; the Mayor's Office of Employment Development in Baltimore, MD; Office of Workforce Development's Youth Options Unlimited Division in Boston, MA; Greater Louisville Workforce Development Board, Inc. in Louisville, KY; and Phoenix Youth & Family Services, Inc. in Southeast AR. These local organizations will receive training, technical assistance, and program management support from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration and the FHI 360 National Institute for Work and Learning.

### *Navigating the journey to success*

Between 2017-2021, over 1,000 participants, along with partner organizations within communities with poverty and crime rates that exceed the communities surrounding them, will support young adults on their journey by teaching them how to navigate the path to enhanced education and employment, while also connecting young people to supportive services to support their management of setbacks and course direction changes throughout their journey.

<sup>1</sup> "Juvenile Arrests," *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Law Enforcement & Juvenile Crime, 2015*, <https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/crime/qa05101.asp?qa> (accessed April 24, 2017)

<sup>2</sup> "Working for a Better Future," *Justice Policy Institute, 2012*, [http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/working\\_for\\_a\\_better\\_future.pdf](http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/working_for_a_better_future.pdf) (accessed April 23, 2017)

"Education and Public Safety," *Justice Policy Institute, 2007*, [http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/07-08\\_rep\\_educationandpublicsafety\\_ps-ac.pdf](http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/07-08_rep_educationandpublicsafety_ps-ac.pdf) (accessed April 23, 2017)

<sup>3</sup> The Compass Rose Collaborative is 100% funded by the Department of Labor in the amount of \$4.5 million. No other sources of funding support this program.

## About FHI 360 National Institute for Work and Learning (NIWL)

The NIWL works at the nexus of education and employment systems, promoting their integration to ensure lifelong learning and productive work for all. NIWL seeks to build the capacity of Public and private organizations, providing information, resources, and support needed to make decisions, strengthen programs, and improve outcomes for individuals.

## About FHI 360

FHI 360 is a nonprofit human development organization dedicated to improving lives in lasting ways by advancing integrated, locally driven solutions.

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## Evaluating the corridor to success

The FHI 360 National Institute for Work and Learning will collect data on specific measures of success to ensure that the collaborative is best leading participants on their voyage through the program. The Compass Rose Collaborative will yield the following outcomes:

PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES	SYSTEM OUTCOMES
<p><b>70%</b> participants will be placed in an education program, apprenticeship or employment</p>	<p><b>EMPLOYER PARTNERS</b> committed to support the local <b>young-adult</b> serving organizations within the communities of the collaborative</p>
<p><b>20%</b> ↓ reduction in recidivism</p>	<p><b>NEW RESOURCES</b> added to Department of Labor's Workforce GPS, an interactive platform for storing resources</p>
	<p>The Communities Collaborating to Reconnect Youth network <b>will adopt the collaborative's best practices</b> and replicate them</p>
	<p>Development of an innovative Youth Development Apprenticeship curriculum and partnerships to support <b>new employment opportunities</b> for young adults</p>

## Forging new pathways through change

The Compass Rose Collaborative will develop a sustainable program model that will benefit program participants, their local communities and the nation. This will happen by: **1) Program participants becoming self-sufficient** by having a job or being enrolled in school and having the skills to navigate adulthood; **2) Local partners having lasting community partnerships** and leveraged resources to serve young people; and **3) Effective practices will be documented and replicated** by other communities. Through the Compass Rose Collaborative, FHI 360's National Institute for Work and Learning and its community partners are well positioned to significantly improve the lifelong education and career achievements of the young people engaged in the program.

The collaborative will transform the way that communities engage with young people involved in the justice system and create new pathways of opportunities for young people like Anthony G., a current Compass Rose Collaborative program participant. Through the program and paid training, Anthony was able to escape the hopelessness associated with a criminal background, unemployment and the possibility of homelessness; and now lives a life with financial independence and a stable job in the construction field. Anthony's perspective about his future has changed and he is on the path to earning a promotion as a construction foreman soon.

## Join Us

We invite you to join us at the FHI 360 National Institute for Work and Learning along the journey to serve and provide pathways to lifelong opportunities for all young people.

**TO GET INVOLVED OR FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
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