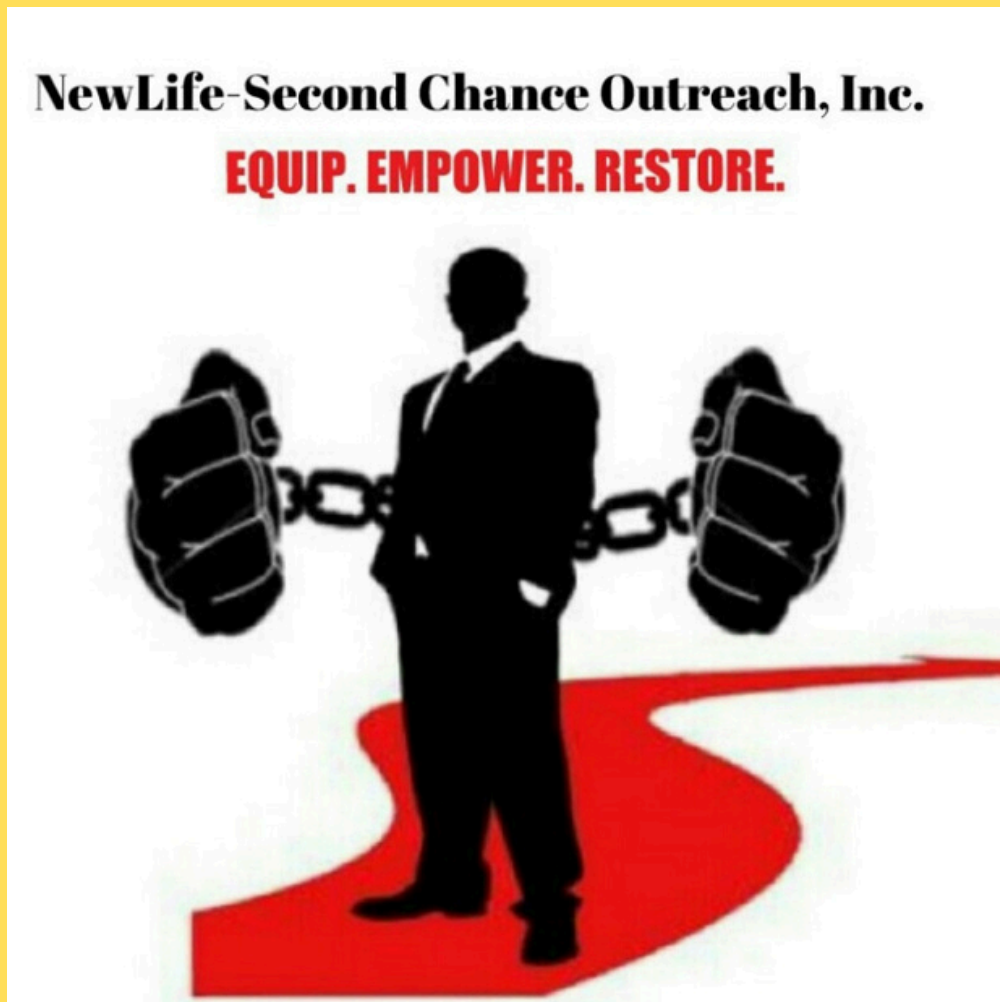

NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc.

Annual Report

2024



#weareNOTourpast

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2025**



Our board of directors are non-compensated volunteers who who have committed their time, talents and treasures to guide the direction of the nonprofit, set policies, respect donor confidentiality, ensure compliance with local, state and federal guidelines, provide fiscal oversight, transparency and ethical accountability. We are truly blessed to have such committed and dedicated board members.

(60% of the board is formerly incarcerated & 10% are impacted via parental incarceration).

[2025 Board Directors](#)

Waleisah Wilson-Menefee

Founder, President & Asst. Treasurer
Activist & Entrepreneur
Southern Center for Human Rights

Shanequa Bonvillain

Vice President
Housing Coordinator
Project Community Connections, Inc.

Tierra Walters

Secretary & Asst. Treasurer
Student & Virtual Assistant
Business Administration

Kelton Biggs

Treasurer
Business Solutions Specialist
Goodwill Career Center (Columbus)

Andez Jones

Quality Improvement Manager
Georgia DBHDD

Andrea Atkins

Librarian
Auto Graphics, Inc.

Sharon Sadler

Medical Office Specialist
University of Alabama

Dena Dickerson

Program Manager
Off**er Alumni Association

Tabatha Trammell

Doula & Founder
Woman With a Plan

Sharon Gray

Educator & Paralegal
John Foy & Associates

Dr. Chalana McFarland, Esq.

Consultant & Author

Juanisha Byrd

Public Policy & Real Estate
Professional & Co-Founder
of Prime Properties
Investment Solutions

Irma Mason

Retired Air Force & Army Veteran,
Federal Human Resources Specialist &
Co-chair of the Social Action/Political Awareness and Involvement Committee of the
Columbus (GA) Metropolitan Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



Dear Friends and Supporters,

The key challenges faced by justice-involved people is the ability to be given fair and equitable job opportunities, housing, education, access to resources, the polls and to real community inclusion. Not only do we serve as reentry navigation peer supporters where we connect those we serve to background friendly resources but we are advocates for them as well as we educate employers, housing providers and educational institutions on the benefits to the community of giving 2nd chance opportunities to justice-involved people.

Having a criminal history and/or record comes with a set of predetermined, deep-rooted social bias and systemic disparity that excludes and isolates us from fully participating as productive members of our communities. We have been working on transforming prevailing socio-economic and societal norms, building capacity of justice-impacted people, volunteers and stakeholders to challenge and change those normative practices, creating a supportive environment for those we serve, and advocating for equity, equality and access to opportunities that will allow those we serve to become included, law abiding and productive members of their communities.

Economic and housing inequity and discrimination are a complex socio-political issue, but proven solutions are in reach. This is why we volunteer our time to do this work, to connect our clients to employers, housing providers and educational institutions that see more than a criminal record. Despite the number of insurmountable barriers people with criminal records face, including those returning home from incarceration, we have found that with the services we provide, those we serve are bravely defying the odds by pursuing and securing a more prosperous future for themselves and their families.

Because we believe that equity and inclusion are the cornerstones of democracy and citizenship, we believe that EVERYONE needs and deserves equal access to the polls, employment, entrepreneurship, education, successful community integration other opportunities and pathways toward upward mobility. Multi-stakeholder partnerships are necessary to support those we serve to pursue such opportunities with persistence. NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc. continues to establish and foster partnerships and collaborations to build a social movement through its programs and advocacy work. We intend to accelerate our effort in this regard in the coming year.

I, alongside our board of directors, volunteers and network of partners, allies, supporters and donors, stand committed to redress the power dynamics and build a more equitable Georgia where **no one** is excluded, lacking or left behind.

Waleisah S. Wilson Founder & President



Dear Board of Directors
(past and present)

Several of you have been there for me and this organization since I founded it in 2012 after my release from prison and some of you have come later but no matter the time you have been a part of this team, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for believing in my vision and supporting me every step of the way. This organization couldn't have grown, made the connections and supported those we serve without your dedication, financial contributions and advocacy. Thank you for trusting my leadership and for your ongoing commitment and your continuous investment to our shared vision. Your exceptional leadership has been transformative for this organization and I can't express my gratitude enough for your guidance and the positive impact you have made at NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc. and on me as a leader.

Your selflessness to volunteer your time as a "working" board, doing everything from answering phones to locating felony friendly resources to facilitating workshops to paying for IDs and buying groceries for clients with your own time and money hasn't gone unnoticed and is truly commendable. Your hard work and dedication has been the driving force behind our accomplishments. Thank you for your commitment to excellence and for pushing us to grow and continually raise the bar.

Your expertise, professionalism, high standards and commitment to financial transparency and being good stewards of what donors have entrusted to us is priceless and have helped us achieve remarkable outcomes.

Again, from the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU and I look forward to working with you in achieving even more success and action in 2025!

Your friend & comrade,

Waleisah S. Wilson

Founder & Board Chair



Dear Friends, Donors & Volunteers

Thank you so very much for your support in 2024! Your support has enabled us to reach new heights and overcome challenges. We are grateful for your continued support of the work we do to **Equip**, **Empower** and **Restore** Georgians impacted by the criminal legal system through job & career readiness, leadership and entrepreneurship training, voter education and access to background friendly jobs and resources.

Although we went another year not reaching our #dignityinhousing campaign goal of \$300,000 to start a housing program for formerly incarcerated men and women or get an office space, through your generous financial support last year, we achieved great milestones as we were able to expand our reach to more cities such as Sandy Springs, Albany and Dublin, GA where assisted justice-involved Georgians with non-rent housing related assistance (utilities), with fee assistance (IDs, birth certificates, bus passes and ride share rides), groceries, prescript and domestic violence support.

In 2024, we were able to reach over 2,000 people through voter education and engagement activities, hired canvassers and phone bankers through our work as a part of the HOAPE Coalition.

Lastly, we cannot close without mentioning that we received over 2,000 hours of in-kind volunteer service hours and received over \$1,500 of donated professional services valued at over \$117,215!

Wow!

WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT YOU!

Again, we thank you for your support and partnerships in 2024 and look forward to your support and our journey together in 2025.

Board of Directors of NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc.

THANK YOU



Dear Partners, Funders & Sponsors

Partners, Funders & Sponsors, thank you so very much for your support in 2024! Thank you for your unwavering belief in our mission and our leadership and the opportunities you provided for our growth. We are honored to have you as a trusted partner. We express our heartfelt gratitude for your continuous investment in our mission and work as a collaborative partner and/or funder.

We want to express our sincere appreciation for your role in fostering positive and inclusive services for those we serve. Your collaboration and partnership have been crucial in achieving our mutual goals and your support has contributed to our efforts to EQUIP, EMPOWER and RESTORE Georgians impacted by the criminal legal system where they are now able to not only survive but thrive within their communities and for this we are eternally grateful.

We value your support, partnership, financial and in-kind contributions. We hope to have your support in 2025 and look forward to continued mutual success together!

Board of Directors of NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc.



OUR MISSION

The mission of NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc. is to end mass incarceration by equipping, empowering, and restoring socially, economically and civically disadvantaged Georgians impacted by an arrest, conviction or incarceration by providing services, resources, advocacy and grassroots organizing that supports the replacing of carceral systems of oppression with person and community centered solutions and access to resources that support freedom, inclusiveness, equity, and economic sustainability.

Learn more at www.nlscoinc.org

We achieve our mission in concert with advocating for social justice, equity, economic and community inclusion.

OUR GOALS

EQUIP

By providing our clients with the tools and skills needed to seek, obtain and maintain employment, housing and education and to become civically engaged, they are placed in a better position to be successful.

By achieving equity, power and upward economic mobility, they are less likely to re-offend to support themselves and their families and instead are more likely to become more successful, self-sufficient, socially engaged and contributing members of their communities.

EMPOWER

When equipped with the skills, tools, mentorship and support they need to become self-sufficient, those we serve become empowered and confident in their ability to become successful in their reentry.

RESTORE

When self-sufficient and successful, those we serve are restored to law abiding and productive members within their communities.

Expanded Our Reach & Impact

Although we stopped sending out resources via email in November 2024, our emails were received by over 1,200 individuals in Georgia (and Alabama) who are impacted by a criminal conviction or are loved ones of justice impacted people, resource providers, jail & prison staff, probation & parole officers, educational institutions, landlords, employers, transitional housing providers and legal representatives.

1,212

CONSENTED EMAIL RECIPIENTS

The number of individuals who received valuable and life-changing resources, tools, legislative updates and civic engagement information via email.

450

RESOURCE EMAILS SENT

We sent out over 450 emails to over 1,200 email recipients in 2024 regarding background friendly job openings, job fairs, housing vacancies, educational and vocational opportunities, legal assistance webinars and events, fellowships, legislative updates, voter education, food, clothing, rent and utilities assistance.



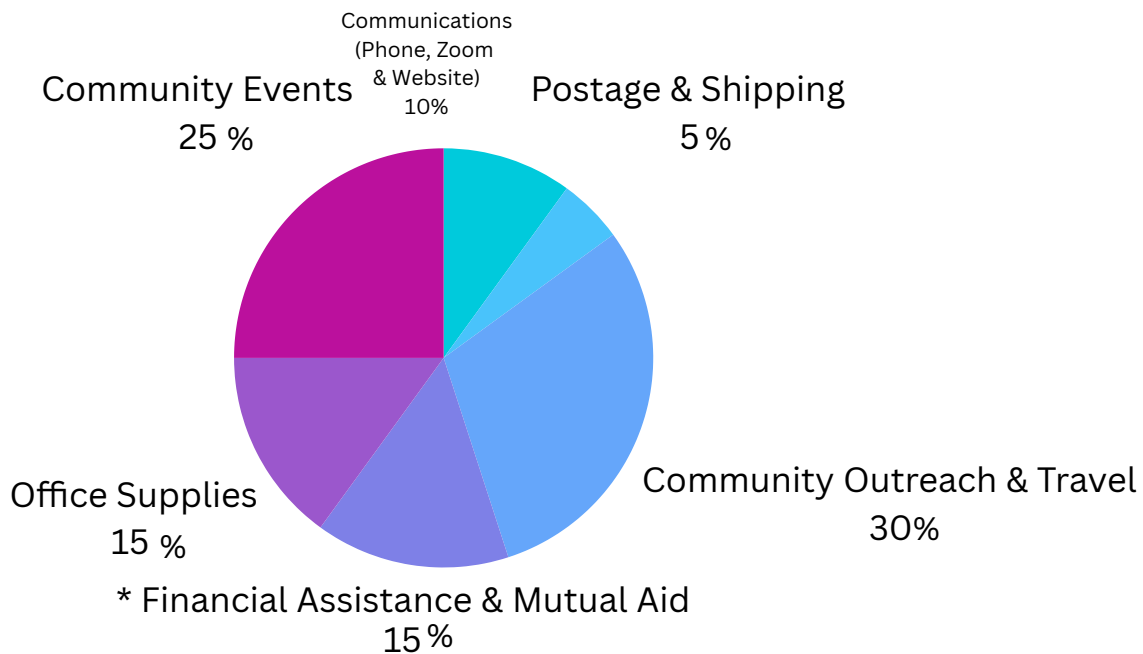
2024 Financials

Thanks to the generosity of so many, 2024 was a very impactful year yet. We were able to raise more money, assist more clients with their utilities and groceries, pay for IDs , bus passes and birth certificates, educate over 2,000 Georgians about their voting rights and hosted more reentry focused and voter engagement community events.

Operational Costs

Our operational costs are 100% funded by generous private donors, including our Board of Directors, who make it possible for us to achieve our mission to equip, empower and restore Georgians impacted by a criminal conviction.

0%
No private donations go to support any salaries.
(we are currently an all volunteer ran organization)



* Financial assistance and mutual aid was provided in the form of paying fees associated with purchasing IDs, bus/train passes and birth certificates (for recently released Georgians) and to assist with groceries & utilities for the holidays.

YOUR GIVING

15

NEW PRIVATE DONORS

The number of individuals who gave to the organization for the first time, including 7 sponsors for 2024 July Reentry Awareness Month events.

14

RECURRING PRIVATE DONORS

The number of individuals who donated more than once or regularly on a monthly basis. (up 1 from 2023)

\$500.00

LARGEST RECURRING PRIVATE DONATION

The amount of a donation that has been given more than one time by a private donor.

\$750.00

LARGEST SINGLE PRIVATE DONATION

The amount of a donation that has been given by a single, private donor in 2024.



\$117,215.00

VALUE OF IN KIND SERVICES

The value of in kind services provided by way of 3,500 volunteer hours and donated professional services in 2024. 2,509 of the hours were donated by our board directors!

2024 RECAP & HIGHLIGHTS

1 RECEIVED A NEW GRANT

October- We received a **\$5,000** grant from Fair Count to conduct Get Out the Vote and Voter Engagement Activities throughout Georgia.

2 AMPLIFIED REENTRY AWARENESS- RECEIVED PROCLAMATION FROM GOVERNOR FOR 8TH YEAR

For the 8th year, we received a proclamation from the Governor to observe July as Reentry Awareness Month throughout the State. We hosted nine events, co-hosted three events and tabled at three events that educated the community on the barriers of reentry, entrepreneurship as a viable pathway to success, the challenges of reentry for special populations (elders, trans, people with mental illness or substance dependence and those on the sex registry), voting rights and procedures for trans Georgians and those impacted by a felony, inspirational panels and hosted 3 in person FIP only fellowship, networking and restorative justice circle dinners.

3 JOINED THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REENTRY PROFESSIONALS (NARP)

In 2024, we joined the National Association of Reentry Professionals, a national network of skilled reentry advocates that represent the interests of criminal justice professionals engaged in prison reentry, people who have been incarcerated and their family members, and other justice reform advocates, that provides education, training, and professional services.

4 ESTABLISHED NEW PARTNERSHIPS, SOLIDIFIED CURRENT ONES

In 2024, we partnered with new community stakeholders and solidified permanent partnerships of current partners:

- Fair Count (Columbus)
- Taking Charge Consulting, LLC.
- Southern Center for Human Rights
- Elysium Consulting, LLC.
- CabbageTown Initiative
- Pro Med Consulting, LLC.
- New Georgia Project
- Goodwill of the Southern Rivers
- Beauty & Body by Egypt
- Down Home Southern Catering, LLC.
- VoteRiders

5 WELCOMED 2 NEW BOARD DIRECTORS

In 2024, we welcomed 2 new board directors, Irma Mason and Juanisha Byrd, both of Columbus, GA. Irma is a retired Air Force & Army Veteran and Federal Human Resources Specialist. She is the Co-chair of the Social Action/Political Awareness and Involvement Committee of the Columbus (GA) Metropolitan Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Juanisha is a public health, social justice and real estate professional who is the Co-Founder of Prime Properties Investment Solutions where she focuses on creating sustainable, community-centered housing that aligns with a commitment to equitable housing solutions. She also provides technical assistance to states and policymakers, leveraging data to reduce criminal justice spending and supporting advancements in state-level criminal justice policy. Prior experience includes leading initiatives aimed at transforming public safety.

2025 GOALS

1 SECURE FUNDING TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND HIRE AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This organization was founded in 2012 by Waleisah Wilson, after her release from prison to support others living with the challenges or navigating their reentry with a felony conviction. Since its founding, the organization has been led by Waleisah and others who have volunteered their time and personal finances to run the organization, oversee programs and provide its services. Therefore, securing funding to support the hiring of an executive director and support staff is critical to avoid burning out volunteers who have committed themselves to our mission for over a decade and thereby ensuring the future growth and success of the organization.

We have missed out on several opportunities such as grants and collaborative partnerships due to not having a physical office space. Therefore, obtaining an office space in Columbus as well as in either Atlanta, Douglasville, Hiram, Villa Rica, Sandy Springs, Lithia Springs or Marietta is vital to our expansion goals.

2 START PROGRAMS FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED WOMEN & GIRLS (LEADERSHIP & ENTREPRENEURSHIP)

It is our hope to start an intensive 2 phased virtual 10 week paid online leadership training program for justice involved and formerly incarcerated women and girls (including trans women and girls) as well as an 8 wk entrepreneurship course for women & girls.

3 START A READING & LITERACY INTERVENTION PROGRAM & DIGITAL SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM

According to the National Adult Literacy Survey, 70% of all incarcerated adults cannot read at a fourth-grade level, lacking the reading skills needed to navigate many everyday tasks or hold down anything but lower paying jobs. Data supports that those without sufficient income earned by work are the most prone to committing a crime to support themselves.

Because reading is a powerful transformative tool for personal development, increased self-knowledge and self-understanding that can help currently and formerly incarcerated people change their values, beliefs and behaviors, it is our goal to develop and start an adaptive literacy program that will develop the comprehension, proficiency and motivation of the students so they may become successful readers and in turn become more successful in their reentry.

4 PRIORITIZE REENTRY, ADVOCACY AND EDUCATION

Although we have been great at the work we do to find and share background friendly resources and connect our clients to employment and housing, we have come to realize that our work and energy needs to be prioritized on actively creating the change we seek by being more involved in advocacy (to support actions that will change the criminal legal system as a whole) and focusing on providing training to our clients have the skills and tools needed to navigate our virtual world and to BECOME the boss! Therefore, stay tuned to the new programs to come in 2025!

As always, we appreciate you and we thank you for your support!
We hope to have your support in 2025. [Please consider making tax-deductible donation](#)
because we can't do this work without **YOU!**

WAYS TO DONATE
#WeAreNotOurPast

Website
<https://www.nlscoinc.org/donate/>

GiveButter
<https://givebutter.com/Give2ndChances>

Cash App
\$NewLife2ndChance



Text to Donate
text
2ndChances
to 53-555

PayPal
NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc.
office@nlscoinc.org

Check/Money Order
Payable to: NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc.
Mail to: NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc.
Attn: Waleisah Wilson
457 Nathan Dean Blvd. STE 105 #330
Dallas, GA 30132

NewLife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc. is an IRS approved tax exempt 501c3 charity
registered in the state of Georgia (EIN# 80-0461813)

Let's Stay Connected

Facebook: [@newlifesecondchanceoutreachinc](#)

Twitter: [@NLSecondChance](#)

IG: [@newlife2ndchancega](#)

YouTube: [@NewLife-SecondChanceOutreachGA](#)

LinkedIn: [@newlifesecondchanceoutreachinc](#)

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