



VOLUME 20 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2022

# Creating Lasting Change

*We call it Home, others call it Hope.*

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## Mission

To empower disenfranchised low income individuals and families by building leadership through evidence-based programs and housing to create self-sufficiency and thriving communities.



The Black & Brown Opportunities for Profit (BBOP) Center is in full effect! We have officially broken ground and begun construction! The BBOP Center is the first of its kind! An economic HUB where black and brown women will have access to the space, support and resources they need to innovate, become entrepreneurs and elevate their financial acumen in order to build generational wealth.

Stay tuned for updates!





# BBOP BUSINESS Academy

The BBOP Business Academy is a high-touch, high-access hybrid program designed to give women of color access to tools, strategies and needed support to build, grow, and scale successful businesses. The BBOP BUILD program helps businesses lay the foundation for taking innovative ideas to market, grow a business, and/or advance a product or service.

To learn more visit [www.bbopbusinessacademy.com](http://www.bbopbusinessacademy.com)

## Welcome our FIRST cohort!



## Program Highlights...

*I've never had a program structured quite like this. It has made the learning and growth experience one that encourages me to keep pushing forward to completion. That's the highlight for me!"*

*"The Q&A calls give an open space to discuss and get answers to our questions. We get to vibe with others, and celebrate each other through the process, and the platform is very user friendly!"*

# Brighter Futures Hayward, California

**S**till reeling from the effects of the pandemic, women, especially those with children struggle to access the most basic of services. Fortunately, our Northern California housing project is designed to address the immediate needs of our families while ensuring that progress happens one day at a time. It's on the FIRST DAY, when they commit to our housing and supportive services, with its rigorous self-help activities and trauma-informed case management that makes the difference.

There are over 1,500 collateral consequences impacting children with mothers that have been homeless or incarcerated. The most obvious is their inability to focus on school, behavior issues and constant feelings of anxiety. With the utilization of our 2-pronged approach, where children receive direct services and consistency, we see immediate results. We believe that all kids should be able to laugh, smile and have some fun without worry. Here, our kids matter and so do their moms!

## Andrea's Story

**Andrea** grew up in San Jose, Ca in a safe and happy family with faithfully married parents and 3 sisters. She was raised not to steal or lie at a young age. Throughout her youth and young adult life Andrea struggled with weight issues and obesity accompanied by a bit of the “wild middle child” complex. Andrea says she was always a very hardheaded, willfully, strong-minded girl. She went to school for her Associates of Science in Child Development and worked as the Director for a Christian preschool for 8 years.

At the age of 20 Andrea married her high school sweetheart, her very first boyfriend. She was very young and naïve, following in the footsteps of her older sister who also married young. The marriage lasted less than a year. The death of Andrea's mother and the loss of her twin nieces began the start of a deep depression in her life. This took her to a low that no matter what she did or what medication she took she couldn't seem to pull out from it. This began her substance abuse.

Andrea spiraled in and out of parties, alcohol, drugs, and reckless behavior for some years. This path led to domestic violence, unhealthy relationships, jail, and legal problems. During this time Andrea was in a horrific car accident that broke her neck caused a spinal injury, and caused her to eventually lose her right leg below the knee. This further caused her to struggle with substance abuse.

Andrea's wake up call came after serving 44 days in county jail for a DUI. She found AA and the 12-step program as a way out for the next 6 years. She had 2 beautiful children, Luke, and Donna with her new spouse who she met in AA.

Two years after giving birth to her daughter, Andrea relapsed on drugs and alcohol, followed with depression which led her to bad life decisions, chaos, and more loss.

Andrea came to Time for Change Foundation holding firmly to the goal of getting her children back from foster care, correcting her financial burdens, legal problems, and the consequences of her actions. Currently she is attending TFCF's drug and alcohol classes, parenting classes, is part of the PFFR Program and has since accomplished a goal by resolving her DMV issues and purchasing a car! Her motivator in her journey to self-sufficiency is her children. Next she hopes to use the structure and stability gained from TFCF to get her own place.



*Andrea visiting with her children*

# Self-Sufficiency Successes

## Tantunia's Story



**Tantunia** grew up in an addiction filled family with a single mother who worked a lot. By the time she was 19 years old Tantunia fell in love young, giving birth to 2 beautiful children. She knew she was too young and disappointed her mother. Though the relationship with her mother wasn't always the best, she helped with raising the children. The father of her children was still around, but was just as irresponsible as her. With addiction and dysfunction being all that she knew, she started smoking marijuana. At this point she was meeting the wrong people, living unhealthy, fighting with family, the children's father and started to rely on using drugs to cope. Years past and her mother continued to help financially.

The children's father ended up going to jail to get sober for a couple of years, not realizing that recovery programs were an option. The kids started school, and so did she. Tantunia was doing well for a while despite never getting the help needed for her underlying issues. The addiction, depression and traumatic events that happened while growing up led to a relationship with an older man who used drugs. With a lack of knowledge of recovery, she started using again. This time, however, Tantunia used harder drugs. She was 23 when the relationship turned into one of domestic violence. She stayed in this relationship for 2 years without support from family, ended up in jail, and lost custody of her children.

After a year of fighting to gain back custody, Tantunia was introduced to NA and recovery rooms. She left her toxic relationship, got a restraining order, and never looked back. Still fighting addiction, the kids moved to Texas with her mom, giving her time to get sober and financially stable. It took Tantunia 3 years to work on this. She eventually found a partner that supported her sobriety, they got their own place and were engaged. While the couple planned on having a baby, her children came back from Texas. Soon she was pregnant with her third child but unfortunately, Tantunia failed to stay on top of her recovery. She stopped going to meetings, therapy, and self-care. Even though her family was back together, a part of Tantunia slipped away. Before she knew it, she was pregnant and using. Her baby tested positive. "My decision ripped away my family, home, and stability. My kids went back to Texas, my newborn baby stayed with the father, and I had to leave my home. I was so hurt by my actions."

After that she realized enough was enough and entered TFCF on December 9, 2021. Her goals were to reunite with her son, remain in sobriety, become self-sufficient and graduate from a drug and alcohol program. As a participant of the Positive Family Future Reunification Program, she has been given the opportunity to garner the skillset that breaks the cycle of generational domestic violence. She got her job at Stater Bros on February 10, and a promotion with the company within a couple weeks! She has completed participation in all of TFCF's classes and programs: Life Skills, 12 –Step Education, and Relapse Prevention. She is also well on her way to completing and receiving her certificate for drug and alcohol. Recently, Tantunia went to court and was awarded her rights back to her son, she has achieved her goal of reunifying with her baby boy! Next is getting her own home for her and her son. We are so proud of her!

*Reunifying families...*

"I've realized addiction is a disease, and I will forever need to stay connected to NA, recovery and seek help when I need it. I enrolled in drug and alcohol programs and I'm about to graduate. I had a relapse, but am still fighting to remain sober and not be homeless again." -Tantunia



# Self-Sufficiency Successes

## Rita's Story



**Rita** is the middle child with an older brother of one year and a younger sister of five years. Both Rita's mom and dad were addicts. Although they never verbally spoke about it, she was aware. Her mother has since passed after having several years of sobriety. After her husband died, she suffered a hard relapse. Rita watched as her mother's life went into oblivion. Her mother died in her arms in the hospital after becoming septic from all the poison.

Throughout her teenage years Rita used heroine all the time.

She ran away at 15-years-old. She lived up north for a few years before being sent back home. She was living with her grandparents when her grandmother moved to Highland. Rita chose to stay in Rialto, a major decision that altered her life forever. She had no guidance, no authority, no rules. Rita was completely alone. Not finishing high school, she returned home at 20 years old, after giving birth to her daughter in 1992.

Rita was on-and-off drugs ever since, in-and-out of institutions and prison, and in a relationship that overtook her life well into her 30's. Her entire life was based on one man and drugs. In 2016, after a case she was granted a chance at drug court. Rita graduated drug court, with honors, and even made the front of the Yucca Valley newspaper.

Rita began working and trying to maintain her recovery for 4 years. But she never really got past her mother's death, along with several friends soon after. She ended up getting 3 DUI's and entered Cedar House to get a grip on herself. "You see at 47 years old you realize more than you did at 22. This is me saving myself, this is me surrendering to Yeshua, this is me loving myself enough to save myself. So now Time for Change Foundation is helping me change so that this time will be the last time I fall."

Rita came to TFCF January 6th of this year. She has excelled in our Legal Employment Accessing Profit. The LEAP Program is for formerly incarcerated individuals and individuals impacted by the war on drugs that want to gain employment. On February 25, Rita got a job at Stater Bros. So far, she has received both her 30-day and 60-day certificates for Life Skills. She is also on her way to completing and receiving her certificate for 12-step Education and Relapse Prevention. With newly found confidence, Rita has now reached self-sufficiency, is maintaining her sobriety, and has since moved in to her own home.

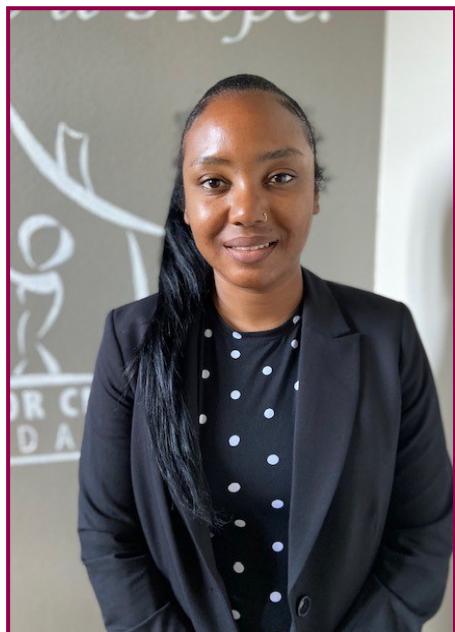
"I couldn't have done it without TFCF. Key point is having a place to lay your head and rejuvenate your body is important. You feel a rested body and clear head, so you don't have to worry about not having a place to go or going back to a place where there are triggers. Having a safe place is key to accomplishing anything." - Rita

## Tamara's Story

**Tamara** came from a family that did things "by the book" to provide for the family, but emotionally and mentally they weren't there. That caused her to do everything on her own, making her mature at a young age. This made her feel like she lacked things, such as compassion. She chose the wrong men and friends wanting to be liked, no matter how they treated her. All Tamara saw in her family was struggle. No one really loving or caring for one another, no support, no positivity, just negativity and doom. She left home after high school at 18. She was on her own ever since, struggling to support her children without the help and support from family. Tamara did her best to not be like her family, she wanted to change the narrative, learn to break the habits that would pass down to her children and hold her back, and she was tired of not living up to her best self.

Tamara came to TFCF on January 21, 2022. Along with her 2 beautiful daughters, she had a goal to work toward building stable income and finding her own home. Tamara has completed 30 and 60 day Life Skills classes, Leadership Development, Mommy and Me, Employment Development and parenting classes. With an interest in education, she started working on March 11. As a substitute teacher, she has worked in San Bernardino and Chino school districts. Tamara has made her way to self-sufficiency, and has moved into her own place in April 2022. She is proving motherhood is a powerful driving force!

"Moving forward I won't live in fear or trauma- only my purpose and future. My kids deserve the best of me. I deserve to have more for myself. I will not give up on myself anymore. This program is the start of my journey and I believe God brought me here for a reason." - Tamara



# Workforce Development

The Workforce Development program provides innovative ways to help women improve their lives, their kids' lives, and create an environment where they can thrive.

Our goal is to equip our women with the latest job market tools and techniques that propel them into the workforce. By assisting them with mock interviewing, resume building, dress for success, and more, these women are learning how to obtain and maintain gainful employment.

Additionally, our Workforce Development Department has established relationships with a network of local employers to directly place women into immediate employment opportunities.

## Empowering Women



**61%** employment rate

**95%** completion rate



## Our G.L.O.W.

TFCF's Girls Leading Our Way project lifts up the leadership of young girls of color. We understand the need to empower the next generation of leaders and believe Washington D.C. needs these girls to take their rightful roles in society. By developing their leadership, they are stepping into who they are called to be. As we invest in their growth they are gaining confidence and learning how to lead their way.





Since early childhood Ms. Beverly Earl followed her calling to help the sick, poor, and suffering. Ms. Earl has been instrumental in the community of San Bernardino, serving on numerous boards and committees representing the voiceless.

She's been quoted saying, "I cannot ignore the poverty, discrimination or violence."

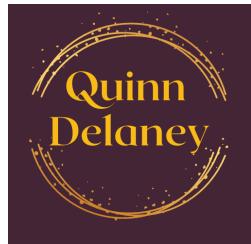
***Rest in Peace Ms. Beverly Earl***



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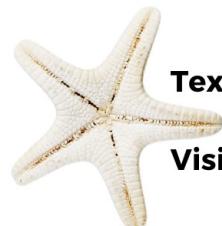
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To date we've helped over **2,600** homeless women and children reach self-sufficiency AND have reunited **311** children out of foster care back with their mothers!



*Spend the summer with us*

For volunteer opportunities email  
[info@timeforchangefoundation.org](mailto:info@timeforchangefoundation.org)



How to donate

Text LoveTFCF to 243725 to donate today

Visit [www.timeforchangefoundation.org](http://www.timeforchangefoundation.org)

