



Opening Doors to a

OAR of Fairfax County, Inc. understands that employment is a key factor in breaking the cycle of crime. For that reason, we are committed to assisting you with your search for as long as it may take to secure full-time, stable employment.

It is your responsibility to be diligent in your search and keep your case manager / employment developer up-to-date on your progress, your successes, and your needs.

Remember, only you can bring about long-term success in your situation. OAR is here to assist you in starting down that path.

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United Way / CFC #8285



*Providing **O**pportunities, **A**lternatives, and **R**esources to offenders and their family members.*

Work Empowerment Program

Do you need a job?

Are you worried about getting hired because you have a criminal record?

Now that your spouse or significant other is in jail, are you having a hard time making ends meet?

Do you need support looking for work in this difficult economy?

If you answered yes to one or more of these questions, please read on to learn more about OAR's Work Empowerment Program.

Serving ex-offenders and their immediate family members in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties

The Work Empowerment Program (WEP)

The *Work Empowerment Program* is designed to assist people who have been affected by their own incarceration, or the incarceration of their family member, to obtain and maintain stable employment. Through guidance, support and employment referrals the program can give ex-offenders and their family members the knowledge and tools they need to become self-sufficient.

The Work Empowerment Program is a four step program, that can be tailored to meet your individual level of need:

Step 1— Case Management

- Case managers are available to meet with you one-on-one to assure that all of your basic needs have been addressed. This includes helping you to obtain identification, obtain interview clothing, and develop a resume if needed.

Step 2— Work Empowerment Group

- This group is designed to instruct participants on how to tackle the task of job search with the added barrier of having a criminal record. Participants are equipped with the tools to promote themselves in a competitive market.
- Group members will receive instruction on how to conduct a job search, how to interview (what to and not to say), and how to keep the job once you're in.
- Group members will receive information about opportunities to enroll in work-related training programs, and receive information about options such as federal bonding and on-the-job training.

Step 3— Job Search

- WEP participants can meet one-on-one with the employment developer to help you identify employers who are willing to hire ex-offenders.
- *Participants are eligible to request assistance with the initial costs of transportation to seek work.
- WEP participants are required to maintain a verifiable employment search record.

Step 4—Employment

- *Once you gain employment, notify your case manager or the employment developer immediately. Participants are eligible to request transportation assistance to and from work until your first pay.
- *Participants are eligible to request assistance in acquiring the necessary tools, uniform or other required items that may be needed to start your new job.
- OAR wants you to know that you still have a support system even after you start your job, so do not hesitate to keep in contact with your case manager or the employment developer.
- Follow—up with your case manager / employment developer monthly to ensure that any issues that may arise are addressed immediately, so that employment is maintained and your career continues to grow.

For more information call OAR's main office at : 703-246-3033, and tell the receptionist that you need assistance in finding a job.

*Financial assistance is provided as funds are available.