

2025 Annual Report



Dear Friends,

As I reflect on 2024, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible community that makes Journey to New Life possible. This past year has been one of growth, change, and remarkable success that would not have been possible without you.

Your unwavering support has fueled our mission, ensuring that hundreds of individuals had the resources, guidance, and hope needed to rebuild their lives after incarceration. Together, we have proven that second chances aren't just possible—they are life-changing.

Thanks to your generosity, we have deepened our impact, expanded our services, and created lasting change for the individuals we serve. Our Residential Program extended its average stay from 4 to 5.5 months, giving residents more time to build stability. Our Career Development Program helped 192 individuals gain employment or further their education and our Peer Support Program (First Stop) provided emergency services to over 1,000 individuals. We launched a new computer lab, strengthened career pathways, and celebrated the graduation of eight dedicated individuals from our internship program. And, perhaps most notably, our recidivism rate remained below 6%—a testament to the power of comprehensive reentry support.

We also navigated a bittersweet moment—celebrating the incredible career of Rita Flynn, as she stepped into a well-earned retirement. Rita's unwavering dedication to justice, dignity, and opportunity has left an indelible mark on Journey to New Life. While we will miss her daily presence, her impact lives on in the lives she has touched and the legacy she leaves behind.

Your generosity has made all of this possible. Every donation, volunteer hour, and kind word has contributed to transforming lives. Thank you for believing in the power of second chances. Thank you for being part of this journey. And thank you for ensuring that, together, we remain a team that is changing lives, one step at a time.

With gratitude,

Julia Lloyd
Executive Director
Journey to New Life



Journey to New Life Impact 2024

The Cost of Incarceration vs. Our Programs:

Missouri State Prison (per person): \$32,000

Missouri County Jail (per person): \$40,150

Our Residential Program (per woman): \$9,596

Our Nonresidential Program (with full services & rental assistance): \$4,874

The Impact:

Missouri's three-year recidivism rate (2025): 31.6%

Recidivism rate for Journey to New Life clients: Less than 6% assistance): \$4,874

For less than a third of the cost of incarceration, our Residential Program provides women with the critical resources they need to rebuild their lives—housing, clothing, meals, career coaching, recovery services, intensive case management, rental assistance, and more. By addressing the root causes of recidivism, we empower women to break the cycle and create lasting change.

Investing in second chances saves lives, strengthens communities, and reduces the burden on taxpayers. Together, we can create a future where fewer people return to incarceration—and more move forward with hope and stability.



Program Updates



Reentry Peer Support Program

Our Peer Support Program helps individuals recently released from incarceration navigate their journey with confidence and support. In 2024, **we provided 1,084 individuals with emergency services**, ensuring immediate needs such as clothing, hygiene, and identification were met.

Many engaged further by joining our weekly support groups and social events. **186 individuals were served through 127 group sessions**. We also had high participation at our monthly Freedom Celebrations, which create community and celebrate success stories, reminding participants that they are not alone in their journey.

Residential Program

In 2024, **86 individuals found safe and stable housing** through Journey House and Peace House. The average length of stay increased from 4 months to 5.5 months, allowing for deeper engagement in our services. **With a 91.9% engagement rate in work, training, or education by their 60-day check-in, our residents demonstrated incredible commitment to rebuilding their lives.**

100% of residents received essential services (clothing, hygiene products, food, transportation, and peer support).

83.7% received tailored employment services (resume-building, job applications, interview prep).

93% participated in recovery meetings, life skills workshops, and peer support groups.

86% obtained medical insurance.

91.9% met their recovery goals.

Our program continues to expand, offering a diverse range of supportive services that empower individuals to heal and thrive. Partnerships with First Call provided weekly processing groups, while monthly health advocacy sessions helped women navigate medical care confidently. Holistic wellness initiatives, including nutrition and disease prevention education, complemented these efforts. Educational and financial literacy programs, alongside creative life skills classes like cooking and arts & crafts, added depth to our offerings, equipping residents with practical and emotional tools for success. stories, reminding participants that they are not alone in their journey.

Career Development

Our Career Development Program connected 192 individuals with employment and educational opportunities, with 75% securing jobs and 4% returning to school. The launch of a computer lab and partnerships with job training programs, such as the Google Star Program, provided participants with critical tools and hands-on trade experience. In 2025 we will be expanding our program to include more workshops, which will include some great volunteer opportunities for our supporters.

Case Management

Our Case Management Program supported 174 individuals through their reentry process, reaching their individual goals, and helping 75% of participants achieve self-determined housing. A newly implemented waitlist allowed us to better quantify the demand for services and will guide our efforts to strategically enhance our programming to meet the acute needs we are seeing in our community. Plans for 2025 include expanding educational workshops to bridge the gap between walk-in services and long-term case management.



Looking Ahead

With each year, we grow stronger in our mission to break the cycle of incarceration and support individuals in their journeys to stability and success. As we move into 2025, we remain committed to expanding our services, building new partnerships, and creating a future where everyone has the opportunity for a second chance.

**Thank you for being part of this journey.
Together, we are changing lives.**

Celebrating Success:

Our Internship Program

We are proud to share the success of our internship program at the main office! After two impactful years in our residences, expanding the program to our main office has created even more opportunities for growth, leadership, and transformation.

We want to recognize the incredible contributions of our Reentry Peer Support Interns, Richard “Saint” Jimenez and Durayn Livingston. They have profoundly impacted clients, staff, and the entire JTNL community. They are client-centered, solution-focused, and trauma-informed, bringing these values into every interaction—whether leading support groups or assisting with walk-in services. Their unwavering commitment to empowering others and improving lives is truly inspiring.

As they prepare to take their next steps, we are honored to share their journey—in their own words.



“Journey to New Life equals “dreams” to me. The people who serve from their hearts, the clients that receive hope, and my opportunity to be a part of it all is simply a dream come true. I’m forever grateful to the JTNL family for this internship, it’s been one of the proudest times in my life.”

- Durayn



“My experience at Journey to New Life has been a blessing. The amazing people I work with, with like-minded qualities, are of service to men and women that need help in our community. To be engaged with people who need help and to be that pillar is what the world needs today. I love everyone here at Journey to New Life and have the best team ever! Here is a quote I cherish a lot: ‘The wolf on top of the mountain is never as hungry as the wolf climbing the mountain.’ May we all be the wolf climbing the mountain, staying focused and motivated to become better versions of ourselves everyday.”

- Saint

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Do you want to grant one of our greatest wishes for Journey to New Life in 2025? We would love a 15-passenger van! This vehicle would allow us to transport our clients to community events, provide rides to work, and make it easier for us to provide moving assistance. Your generosity can drive change—literally! Thank you for considering this opportunity to support our mission.