

2nd Opportunity Program- Facilitated Version
Frequently Asked Questions
Pre Trial, Probation, & Parole Agencies

What is the 2nd Opportunity Program?

An employment readiness, financial literacy, life skills, and reentry program consisting of five courses, in both English and Spanish, designed for currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, those that have struggled with substance abuse issues, and anyone seeking to get their life on a more positive track.

We believe it is the most authentic & comprehensive program available. The 2nd Opportunity Program is based on a combination of lived experience and evidence-informed research; sharing stories about challenges and successes brings hope to help individuals to create their own paths. Each course provides a Certificate of Completion to demonstrate progress to judges, probation/parole officers, and family.

How can the 2nd Opportunity Program help your population?

The 2nd Opportunity Program was created to assist those ready to move on with their lives. We help participants to navigate the challenges of the day-to-day world, get past the setbacks caused by substance use and other criminal behaviors, successful methods for securing meaningful employment, knowledgeably participate in the financial world, and prepare a personal, written plan for their future.

How can the 2nd Opportunity Program help Pre Trial, Probation, & Parole Officers?

It is both a teaching and case management tool. You don't have the time to sit with your caseload to show each one how to create a budget or help them develop an elevator pitch and practice how they will answer interview questions. You don't have time or resources to assist someone to enroll in a welding program. Let us do that.

You will be able to track the progress of each individual on your caseload and be able to hold them accountable for their efforts. Our ability to help them find employment or to provide peer support is a tool for you to assist your population in the vital first steps after incarceration or while awaiting trial.

What are the courses?

The five (5) core courses combine to provide a well-rounded, well-informed curriculum to aid individuals in transitioning from incarceration or a troubled lifestyle to a productive and purposeful life. The courses focus on employment readiness, financial literacy, life skills, finding a career path, and written planning with accountability.

What are Optional Supplemental Courses (Smartphone, Tablet, and Computer versions only)?

We offer dozens of courses that are also available to be assigned or self-selected to target certain issues and behaviors (anger management, parenting) and provide high school equivalency preparation courses.

What types of support do you offer to our population?

We provide a complete array of referrals for employment, housing, education, training, social services, and veteran services. We offer peer support to assist those that are struggling. We are available by email and telephone to help with more challenging situations as well.

How can the program be brought into my Agency?

The 2nd Opportunity Program was created to offer a variety of methods to allow access to the courses. The program is available through:

- Smart Phones/Tablets/Personal Computers
- DVDs

The program can be self-paced, instructed as a class, or both. The classroom environment provides a very powerful learning experience. It can be facilitated by staff, program participants, or interns.

What features does the Program offer?

- All courses are available in English and Spanish.
- Completion Certificates for each of the 5 Courses.
- Workbooks to create a personal re-entry plan with activities to prepare for life's challenges.
- Optional workshops to increase program completion rate.
- Optional Facilitator's Guides and Training.

How long does it take to complete the 2nd Opportunity Program?

If done in a self-paced method, it can be completed in 2 weeks, assuming several hours per day and completion of the workbooks. If offered as a class, it can be completed according to the needs of the agency. We provide classroom templates ranging from less than 30 days to 3 months, we will help custom design time frames to your specifications.

How much does the program cost?

The 2nd Opportunity Program is offered on an annual license basis. There are 3 ways in which we have seen the program deployed:

- Agency pays for a projected number of licenses based on selected content.
- The individual pays for the program via credit, debit card, or PayPal.

We are glad to discuss your preferences and provide a quote for your consideration.

What is the Facilitator Model?

The Facilitator Model prepares an individual to lead the group, making the experience more engaging through discussions and sharing experiences. We provide Facilitator's Guides and Training. The videos provide instruction on a topic, and the Facilitator will use the Guide to lead the group conversation.

How long has 2nd Opportunity been in existence and can you provide references?

The origin of the program goes back to 2012 when it was first developed and instructed in Federal Prison. It became a mandatory component of the treatment plan in the Federal Prison Residential Drug Abuse Program (RDAP) in Duluth, MN. Today it is used in jails, prisons, halfway houses, substance abuse treatment facilities, probation departments, and court-ordered diversion programs. We are glad to provide references along with their contact information, and video testimonials.