Training and workforce development initiatives have been a key focus for Dreams for Change. The organization provides training with weekly workshops focused on helping participants make significant life changes from the inside out. The social enterprise model combined with weekly work readiness and life skills training. Dreams' Cuisine workforce training class at the CARE center draws people from all or most of the major barriers to employment, and we supplement that real-world training with workshops and courses that are specifically designed to help participants overcome challenges and find meaningful employment.

Rosa, a client of Dreams for Change, was once a victim of domestic abuse who was struggling with homelessness. She was on the brink of giving up hope, but Dreams for Change helped her see a path forward. They provided her with job readiness training, social services, and a safe place to rest. Rosa worked with Dreams for Change to prepare her resume, improve her job interviewing skills, and learn how to build credit to obtain a car. She is now working at a local restaurant and living in a community where she feels safe and supported.

Over the course of 10 years, people, working families and individuals who want to work can find employment with the right support to be successful in that endeavor. Dreams for Change remained relentless and persevered through these challenges and overcame obstacles to achieve success. The organization is committed to helping people transition from hardship to hope, and dreams to reality. Dreams for Change is making a difference in the lives of the people who seek to achieve their potential.

DREAMS FOR CHANGE

- Joy Thornton, Program Manager
- Ava Blackwell, Case Manager
- Sam Collins
- Denise Consuela
- Pat Capra
- Barbara Bry
- Andy Barreto
- Christian Brinton
- John Boas
- Marls Boos
- Joe Bonforte
- Kathy Berenson
- Alana Asmussen
- Jeannette Alexander
- Women International Empowerment
- WD40
- San Diego Uptown Sunrise Rotary
- San Diego Housing Commission
- Mitchel International
- Lucky Duck Foundation
- County of San Diego Interfaith Community

To learn more about Dreams for Change and its mission, visit their website.

Photo Credit: Shana Thompson

Mr. & Ms Zumoff
Chuck Williams
Diana Whayland
Thomas Watson
Robert Wallace
Angie Vignogna-Summers
Renee Thompson
Keren Thomas
Vaness Teed
Marci Tarpy
Maria Sullivan
Paula Strauss
Rebecca Stout
Michele Stout
Ruth Shumate Vidales
Gretchen Schultz
Vanessa Sandavol
Robert Rosson
Earlin Rosa

DREAMS FOR CHANGE

- Trainees: 180
- Completed: 67
- Still Enrolled: 15

In the 2019 tax year, Dreams for Change provided tax preparation services to over 9,000 people. The organization processed thousands of tax returns and brought millions of dollars back into the local economy. Over the course of the 10 years, we were met with challenges and obstacles, but Dreams for Change remained committed to its mission. Dreams for Change provides tax preparation services to people of all ages and backgrounds, and we have helped thousands of people achieve financial stability and independence.

The Safe Parking Program provides supportive services and a safe place to park for people experiencing homelessness. The loss of a vehicle is one of the final steps to chronic homelessness. We have helped hundreds of people find refuge and community while having 3 children of their own. Over the course of 10 years, people, working families and individuals who want to work can find employment with the right support to be successful in that endeavor.

Over 2011-2015, the San Diego County Comptroller's Office provided tax credits. Over the course of the 10 years, we were met with challenges and obstacles, but Dreams for Change remained committed to its mission. Dreams for Change provides tax preparation services to people of all ages and backgrounds, and we have helped thousands of people achieve financial stability and independence.

In addition to tax preparation, our programs offer comprehensive tax resolution services. We work in partnership with the IRS to ensure that people who qualify receive the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Each year, we operate San Diego County's largest free EITC assistance program, the EITC Worksite. The EITC Worksite provides tax preparation services and education and resolution services. We work in partnership with the IRS to ensure that people who qualify receive the EITC.

The EITC Worksite provides tax preparation services to people of all ages and backgrounds, and we have helped thousands of people achieve financial stability and independence. Dreams for Change provides tax preparation services to people of all ages and backgrounds, and we have helped thousands of people achieve financial stability and independence.