

WE'RE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE:

Success Stories will be delivering programs in seven new sites!

- California Rehabilitation Center (CRC)
- Chuckawalla Valley State Prison (CVSP)
- North Kern State prison (NKSP)
- Centinela State Prison (CEN)
- Kern Valley State Prison (KVSP)
- Wasco State Prison (WSP)
- Ironwood State Prison (ISP)



Recent Success Stories Graduates during their virtual graduation from Santa Barbara County Jail.

CIRRICULA UPDATES

We are proud to announce that we have now finalized our correspondence curriculum, video curriculum, and the virtual workshop curriculum. These updated curricula will allow us to deliver programs through modified means as the current restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown continue.

RAC CREDITS UPDATE

The process to award Rehabilitative Achievement Credits (RAC) upon completion of Success Stories Program has been a battle. After 5 months of back and forth with CDCR, officials have announced that they will plan to give RAC credits for correspondence courses to 10% of the California prison population. For now, they're only willing to offer credits to the 5 prisons that have the highest percentage of people attending groups.

While Success Stories Program is included in this pilot program, we do not agree with the limited offering to participants. Success Stories plans to push back on CDCR's plan and will propose that 100% of incarcerated human beings be included within 6 months of the limited plan's launch.

WE'RE OFFICIAL!

We recently received our 501(c)3 nonprofit organization status – making Success Stories Program an official organization in the eyes of the U.S. government. Although Success Stories has been making a difference since 2014, we're proud that a program created within prison walls by incarcerated human beings is now recognized beyond any walls.

STIMULUS CHECKS for incarcerated folks!

People who are incarcerated can receive a stimulus check! If you filed taxes in 2018 or 2019 or submitted a non-filer claim, the check will be sent automatically. If you did not file or submit a non-filer claim, you must submit a filer claim. Filer claim forms can be requested from the law library.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS NOVEMBER 21ST!

SUCCESS STORY

RICHIE RESEDA



After 6 years of playing a vital role in developing Success Stories Program, Richie Reseda has decided to take a big step forward into the next chapter in his own Success Story and focus on Question Culture.

Question Culture is a social impact media company that makes music, film, TV, and podcasts that challenge oppressive narratives and push the world to be a more loving and logical place.

When asked how Question Culture aligns with his top 5, Richie responded with confidence, "Question Culture is my #1 goal in my Top 5. Working hands-on with projects *Defunding the Sheriffs*, working on 88's movie, and being fully engaged with Indigo Mateo's released album that's signed with the Question Culture label."

Richie Reseda doesn't plan on slowing down. Instead, he plans his next move as he did while in prison – supporting his core belief of standing up against toxic masculinity and patriarchy, while also questioning culture and beliefs daily. When asked about the obstacles he faced, Richie said, "an internal hurdle for me was feeling like I had to do policy organizing forever." He later realized that while policy organizing focuses on policy, Question Culture equips society to question the policies to begin with.

Richie's role in Success Stories will always be essential. Although he's stepping away from the Success Stories staff, he will continue to play a critical role as a Success Stories board member. He didn't want to end the interview without saying, "do all your planning while in there...things don't always go according to plan, but it's ok because planning still helps to prepare. Relationships were the biggest obstacle for me...figure you first out before anyone else."

ALUMNI PROGRAM

All Success Stories graduates go on to be included in our Alumni Program. To opt out of the program, please email

hugo@successstoriesprogram.org

or write to Hugo Gonzalez at the address below.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

WRITE US AT OUR NEW ADDRESS:

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