



# OPERATION NEW HOPE *St. Augustine*

## We Believe Second Chances Matter

### *St. Augustine Location - At a Glance* -----

Men and women face many challenges integrating back into the community after incarceration. This has led to a national epidemic of recidivism and adversely impacts the already disadvantaged communities to which they return. To break this cycle, the formerly incarcerated need a second chance to gain sustainable employment and the social skills to become productive citizens. There is a solution that works with a 20-year track record of reducing the recidivism rate in half. Our Ready4Work® program is successful in helping the formerly incarcerated get a job, reunite with loved ones and make their Second Chance Matter®.

Our mission at Operation New Hope is to provide support, life and job skills training to the formerly incarcerated and places them in employment that offers a sustainable quality of life. Implementing a four-pronged approach (case management, life-coaching, job training, and job placement assistance), Ready4Work ensures each client receives custom holistic care. Additionally, strategic partnerships with faith-based organizations, local businesses, community partners, and the judicial system motivate and move individuals to become productive, responsible citizens within the community.

With 20 years of boots on the ground experience in providing reentry services, we have seen first hand that there is a serious need for expansion of our Ready4Work program. In 2017, Kevin Gay, CEO & Founder of Operation New Hope, learned about the work being done by Compassionate St. Augustine and St. Paul AME Church. Impressed by the efforts of community leaders Caren Goldman, Rev. Ron Rawls, and many other volunteers, a plan was set in motion to bring a satellite office to St. Augustine. The expansion project has been bolstered by the support of the City of St. Augustine and the St. Johns County Sheriff's Department.

Operation New Hope has presented the community with a one-year proposed budget for operating expenses, inclusive of all costs and has requested that the first year be substantially funded prior to opening the office. Once the location pilot has been launched, Operation New Hope will act as managing entity for the site.

Ready4Work saves taxpayers millions of critical dollars a year that can be reinvested back into communities to help address the root causes of incarceration, like poverty, lack of quality affordable housing, limited education, mental illness, and substance abuse. The success of the program is evident in the transformation stories of its clients, enhanced hiring practices for the employment partners, healthier communities and families, and better public safety through reduced recidivism.

## Contact

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## Year Established

Jacksonville - 1999  
St. Augustine - 2019

## Mission Statement

Operation New Hope provides support, life and job skills training for people with a history of involvement with the criminal justice system, and places them in employment that offers a sustainable quality of life.

## Services Provided

- Case Management
- Mental Health Services
- Life Coaching
- Job Readiness
- Vocational Training
- Job Placement
- Transitional Housing
- Transportation

## GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Operation New Hope and the community of support in St. Johns County involved in this project, humbly request the consideration of a donation toward the initial first year budget in the launch of a Ready4Work site in St. Augustine. The funding received by Operation New Hope, a 501(c)(3) entity in Florida, would be drawn down as first year program expenses are incurred. Future program funding would be secured through existing government and private funding resources, including the State of Florida Department of Corrections, St. Johns County and other sources. Those wishing to donate or volunteer can do so by visiting our website or by contacting Curtis Hazel.

## ST. AUGUSTINE COMMUNITY PARTNERS



**OPERATION  
NEW HOPE**

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Operation New Hope

## Client Success Story - Danielle Pryor



After three years of unemployment, with two children to support and the threat of returning to jail looming because of her inability to repay restitution totaling \$10,000, Danielle Pryor felt hopeless. The memory of that difficult period brought tears to her eyes. "I had done my time, learned my lesson, and been forgiven by God, but I still needed help to receive forgiveness from others. I needed someone to intervene."

"That's when Operation New Hope came in," she recalled as a broad smile spread across her face. "Once I was able to surrender my doubts about being a former felon and accept help, the barriers started to come down."

Danielle entered the Ready4Work program in 2013 with determination to make the most of her second chance. Her hard work and dedication paid off; she was awarded Student of the Week and quickly earned a job at Venus Swimwear. "I started at the bottom, picking and packing orders, but I didn't lose focus." After only six months of employment, Danielle applied for and was promoted to the computer division. Shortly after that, she was again promoted to Administrative Assistant and has worked hard in that role ever since.

**Tears welled again, but this time Danielle's eyes sparked with joy. "I remember God's promise to me that he would be my lawyer, judge, jury, and employer. It was my faith in him that led me to where I am now. That and Operation New Hope."**

Wanting to give back and help others overcome the barriers to reentry, Danielle recently shared her success story with the current Ready4Work class. "If I had not been given the opportunities here at Operation New Hope, I wouldn't be where I am today." Her distinctive broad smile returned. "I promise each of you – there is hope!"