

Compass Rose Collaborative

OVERVIEW

Through the Compass Rose Collaborative (CRC), FHI 360's National Institute for Work and Learning (NIWL) brings together a cohort of partners to serve youth (ages 18 to 24) impacted by the justice system in the U.S. With NIWL-designed training programs and technical assistance, partners provide direct supports and services, occupational skills training, and a learn-and-earn pathway to employment.

The CRC uses a holistic approach to meet participants' needs and equip youth with the necessary skills to thrive in professional environments while also minimizing their chances of further justice system involvement. Youth learn skills in conflict resolution, violence prevention, and work readiness so that they can navigate their paths toward credentialed education programs and fulfilling employment.

"I value myself, my family, and my community now, and I want to be a change maker for my community moving forward."
– Kadedria W., CRC Participant



Teacher Kimberly Pounds assists CRC participant Sterling Cleary in studying for the GED exam. Photo by Jessica Scranton for FHI 360

PROGRAM FEATURES

Partners support our participants in the following areas:

- Basic services such as social services, housing, and counseling
- 200 hours of paid work experience supplemented by career services, academic components, employer engagement, and more
- Mentorship activities that develop participants' conflict resolution skills and sense of self
- Leadership Development efforts that encourage the development of personal strengths, a community-centric mindset, and civic goals
- Placement in unsubsidized employment, secondary education; as well as access to job retention services

Access to these services allows the CRC program to instill a strong foundation in participants that enables successful reentry.

RECIDIVISM PREVENTION

The CRC's approach to recidivism prevention emphasizes the importance of personal connection and accountability. To this end, the CRC's violence prevention partners and local staff regularly offer mentorship activities. These activities allow participants to learn to:

- Build positive self-perceptions
- Affirm their ability for growth
- Affirm their inherent value to their families and communities
- Resolve conflicts in a healthy manner

By developing and maintaining a clearer sense of identity and goal-setting behaviors, the program's mentorship activities allow participants to better navigate the challenges of self-improvement and career development.

PARTNERS

The Compass Rose Collaborative currently partners with many different organizations around the country, including:

- Hand2HeartDC | DC
- KentuckianaWorks | KY
- Kinai 'Eha | HI
- NCIA | MD
- Phoenix Youth & Family Services | AR
- Project BUILD | FL
- Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement (VIDA) | TX

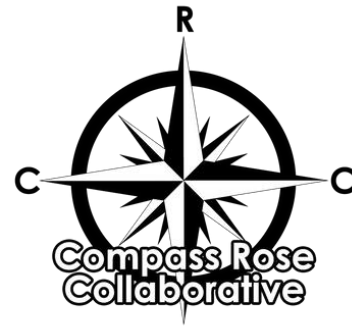
About NIWL: FHI 360's National Institute for Work and Learning (NIWL) advances access, equity, and excellence in education and workforce systems. We focus on two key drivers of individual well-being - education and employment - to improve lives. NIWL seeks to strengthen the capacity of public and private organizations, providing information, resources, and support needed to make decisions, strengthen programs, and improve outcomes for individuals.

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For more information on the Compass Rose Collaborative and FHI 360 NIWL's justice and workforce development programs, please contact the National Institute for Work and Learning: niwl@fhi360.org



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CONTACT

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