



UMOJI BUILD PROGRAM

Executive Summary: UMOJI - United, Motivated, Organized, Joyful, Inspired

Program Vision: To empower formerly incarcerated individuals to become better united and innovative leaders, fostering successful reintegration and lifelong growth.

Program Focus:

- **Skill Development:** Provide comprehensive training in essential life skills, including:
 - **Interviewing Techniques:** Master the art of effective communication and presentation in job interviews.
 - **Job Application Mastery:** Navigate the complexities of job applications, from resume writing to online portals.
 - **Government and Corporate Interactions:** Gain knowledge and confidence in interacting with government agencies and corporate entities.
 - **Interdependent Relationships:** Cultivate strong, supportive relationships to enhance well-being and resilience.



Program Impact:

- **Enhanced Self-Sufficiency:** Equip participants with the tools to secure stable employment and housing.
- **Reduced Recidivism:** Promote positive lifestyle choices and reduce the likelihood of re-offending.
- **Increased Quality of Life:** Foster personal growth, emotional well-being, and community engagement.
- **Community Empowerment:** Contribute to a stronger, more inclusive society by empowering formerly incarcerated individuals.

Program Methodology:

- **Holistic Approach:** Address the multifaceted needs of participants, including mental health, physical health, and social support.
- **Culturally Responsive Practices:** Tailor programs to the diverse backgrounds and experiences of participants.
- **Collaborative Partnerships:** Work with community organizations, government agencies, and businesses to provide comprehensive support.
- **Data-Driven Evaluation:** Continuously assess program effectiveness and make data-informed adjustments.

By investing in UMOJI, we are investing in the future of our communities.



10-Week UMOJI Curriculum: A Roadmap to Reintegration and Success

Week 1-2: Foundation and Self-Assessment

- **Module 1: Self-Discovery and Goal Setting**
 - Identify personal strengths, weaknesses, and values.
 - Set realistic short-term and long-term goals.
 - Develop a personal mission statement.
- **Module 2: Building a Strong Foundation**
 - Understanding the reentry process and challenges.
 - Developing effective coping strategies for stress and adversity.
 - Practicing mindfulness and meditation techniques.

Week 3-4: Essential Job Skills

- **Module 3: Resume and Cover Letter Writing**
 - Crafting a compelling resume that highlights skills and experience.
 - Writing effective cover letters tailored to specific job applications.
 - Utilizing online job boards and networking platforms.
- **Module 4: Interview Preparation**
 - Practicing common interview questions and techniques.
 - Conducting mock interviews with feedback and coaching.
 - Developing effective communication and body language skills.



Week 5-6: Navigating Systems and Building Relationships

- **Module 5: Government Benefits and Services**

- Understanding eligibility for public assistance programs (e.g., food stamps, housing).
- Navigating the application process and maintaining benefits.
- Developing relationships with caseworkers and other government officials.

- **Module 6: Interdependent Relationships**

- Building healthy relationships with family, friends, and community members.
- Effective communication and conflict resolution skills.
- Practicing empathy and active listening.

Week 7-8: Community Engagement and Service Learning

- **Module 7: Community Service Projects**

- Participating in volunteer activities to give back to the community.
- Developing leadership skills and teamwork.
- Building a strong work ethic and sense of responsibility.

- **Module 8: Networking and Mentorship**

- Attending networking events and industry conferences.
- Developing relationships with mentors and industry professionals.
- Leveraging social media for professional networking.



Week 9-10: Portfolio Development and Final Presentations

● Module 9: Creating a Professional Portfolio

- Documenting accomplishments, certifications, and work samples.
- Designing an attractive and professional portfolio.
- Utilizing digital tools for portfolio creation and management.

● Module 10: Final Presentations and Celebration

- Delivering persuasive presentations to showcase skills and experiences.
- Celebrating accomplishments and setting future goals.
- Providing feedback and support to peers.

Additional Considerations:

- **Group Work:** Incorporate group activities to foster teamwork, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.
- **Practice Sessions:** Dedicate time for practice sessions to reinforce learning and build confidence.
- **Individualized Support:** Provide personalized support and guidance to meet the unique needs of each participant.
- **Follow-up and Aftercare:** Offer ongoing support and resources to help participants maintain their progress and achieve long-term success.



By following this 10-week curriculum, UMOJI can empower formerly incarcerated individuals to overcome challenges, build a brighter future, and become valuable contributors to their communities.

Note: A 5-week curriculum can be created by combining modules and focusing on core skills, such as job readiness, resume writing, interviewing, and building positive relationships.