

OVERVIEW

For people with significant barriers to employment, including histories of incarceration, homelessness, mental illness, addiction, and limited education, social enterprises provide paying jobs and the services they need to stabilize their lives, develop a work history, and build skills and confidence. When employees are ready, social enterprises help them find good jobs with forward-thinking, competitive employers. LA:RISE connects social enterprises to the workforce system, supportive services, and employers, thereby creating an integrated system that allows all partners to bring their expertise and resources to the table.

Program participants gain paid transitional work experience at a social enterprise in one of the following industries: call center, community beautification, construction, food service, janitorial, landscaping, maintenance and labor services, retail and technology. In partnership with workforce agencies, program participants receive job readiness preparation, including: interview prep, job search, resume building, online job application assistance and professional development workshops.

UPDATES

On February 13, 2019, Mayor Eric Garcetti and Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas announced a goal of helping 15,000 people who are currently or formerly homeless get jobs in the private sector over the next three years. LA:RISE is part of the collaborative effort to achieve this goal.

Since the start of the 2018-19 program year, LA:RISE’s city program has worked with ten social enterprises and five workforce agencies in eight council districts. The county program consists of three social enterprises and ten workforce agencies in five supervisorial districts.

To date, over 2,300 LA:RISE participants have secured subsidized employment, and over 700 participants have secured permanent employment. To see why Mayor Garcetti is a champion of this unique and effective partnership, visit: <https://redf.org/what-we-do/lead/>.

HIGHLIGHTS

In August 2018, the LA:RISE County expansion began with a month-long training series for social enterprises and AJCCs.

Since opening enrollment in October 2018, the program has enrolled 149 participants.

On October 4, 2018, the County and City of Los Angeles hosted the “From Homelessness to Employment” forum at a City Hall, convening experts, service providers and other stakeholders to examine lessons learned from LA:RISE. The event laid the groundwork for greater collaboration between the workforce development system, social enterprises, homeless services providers, employers and other partners to expand permanent employment and career opportunities for individuals with significant employment barriers.

LA:RISE was a proud partner of the Mayor’s Office “Winter Homeless Connect Day” on December 12, 2018. LA:RISE partners connected over 500 people experiencing homelessness with resources and supportive services, as well as food and clothing.

What does rising to success, one job at a time, look like? <https://bit.ly/2SpFCvy>

LA:RISE Provides Employment to the Hardest Hit via LA Weekly <https://bit.ly/2HzrWtD>

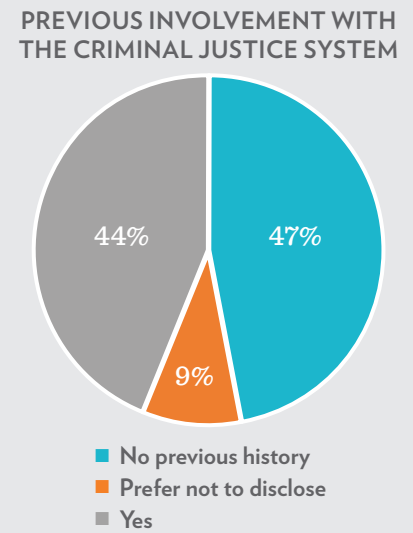
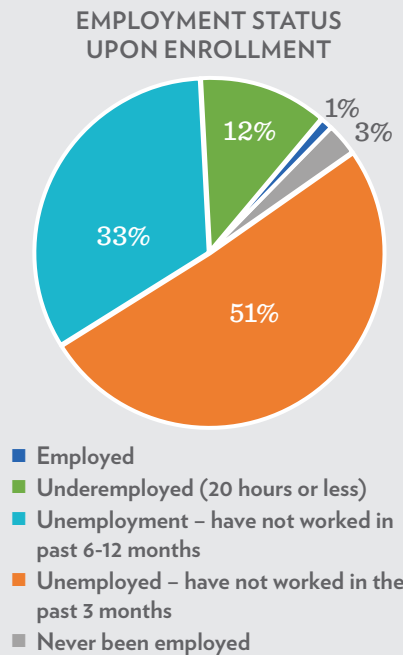
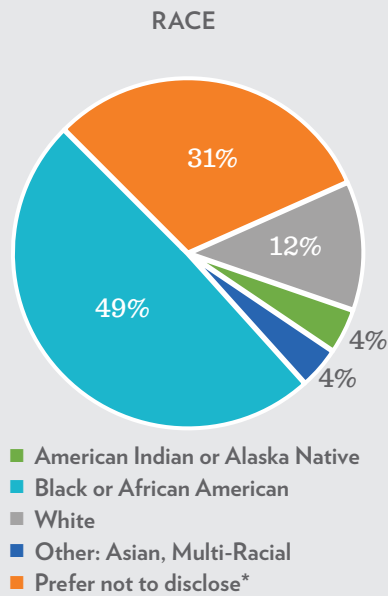
Heartland Alliance’s National Initiatives on Poverty & Economic Opportunity produced a case study on how LA:RISE integrates legal services into its employment programming approach, ensuring jobseekers receive the legal support needed to overcome structural inequities in the legal system and achieve their employment goals. The case study highlights keys to success and tips for how other communities can integrate legal services into workforce strategies. <https://bit.ly/2vWfBaT>

Transitional Employment in a Social Enterprise and Competitive Employment To-Date

	Transitional Job		Achieved	Placement		Achieved
	Goal	Achieved		Goal	Achieved	
LA:RISE 1.0	500	508	102%	150	166	111%
LA:RISE 2.0	225	326	145%	138	147	107%
LA:RISE 3.0 City	300	303	101%	150	147	98%
LA:RISE 3.0 County	400	503	126%	280	386	138%
LA:RISE 4.0 City	300	300	100%	150	63	42%
LA:RISE 4.0 County	510	429	84%	255	61	24%

*data is partner reported
Program Years: 1.0 (9/1/15-8/31/18), 2.0 (7/1/2016-6/30/2017), 3.0 (7/1/2017-6/30/2018), 4.0 (7/1/2018-6/30/2019)

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION:



* Ethnicity asked in a separate question: 34% of participants identified as Hispanic/Latino

PARTNER VOICE: LA:RISE has created an avenue for the Downtown Women’s Center to design a workforce development program tailored to meet the unique needs of homeless women, and has provided crucial support for our Social Enterprise. –**Erika Hartman, LMFT, Chief Program Officer, Downtown Women’s Center**



MEET MIGUEL (CITY)

A job at social enterprise Center For Employment Opportunities (CEO), was more than just a paycheck for Miguel—it helped him establish a career. Now a painter at Cor-Ray Painting Corp, Miguel came to CEO and the LA:RISE program because he

was at risk for homelessness, and was struggling to find a job and re-enter society after being incarcerated for 25 years. “My favorite part of working at CEO was having the chance to prove my worth,” Miguel says. CEO offers individuals just coming home from prison the ongoing support necessary to build career capital and financial stability. While working as a member of a work crew for Caltrans, Miguel proved that he was a responsible and hard worker who is prepared to make the next move and start a career. Miguel credits his experience in the LA:RISE program for giving him the tools needed to strive for a better future.



MEET CATALINA (COUNTY)

After her release from prison, Catalina faced housing instability and lacked a driver’s license and social security card. She had learned about LA:RISE partner Homeboy Industries while incarcerated and was excited about the opportunity. While with Homeboy

Industries, Catalina interned at Project 180, where she gained critical work skills, took lessons in money management, and attended self-help groups. “I’m a new and different me, and I love it,” she says. Now, Catalina is paying it forward. She works full-time, with full benefits, as a Peer Case Manager at The People Concern, helping people get housed, get stable, and dramatically improve their lives. Through the LA:RISE and Homeboy Industries’ collaboration, Catalina avoided homelessness. In fact, with a potential promotion on the horizon and new goals, including buying a house, she says “my future looks a lot brighter.”

LA:RISE is managed by the Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), Los Angeles County Workforce Development, Aging & Community Services (WDACS) and REDF, and supported by the City of LA and DOL.



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REDF LA OFFICE: 801 S Grand Ave, Suite 725, Los Angeles, CA 90017 | (213) 623-2112 | **Contact:** Reena De Asis, rdeasis@redf.org
REDF SF OFFICE (HEADQUARTERS): Two Embarcadero Center, Suite 650, San Francisco, CA 94111 | (415) 561-6677