

Build Your Workforce. Strengthen Your Business. Invest in North Lawndale.

The Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) invites North Lawndale employers to participate in a unique professional development cohort designed to help businesses explore and implement fair chance hiring strategies that strengthen their workforce and support economic opportunity within the community.

Through engaging workshops, individualized consultation, and collaboration with fellow employers, participants will gain practical knowledge, actionable tools, and a customized implementation plan tailored to their business.

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Program Commitment for Cohort

Participants will engage in:

- Three (3) in-person workshops (2 hours each), held monthly at The Fillmore Center
- Three (3) one-hour virtual individual consultations with the BBI team
- Total program commitment: Approximately 9 hours over the course of the cohort

Each workshop builds upon the previous session, allowing participants to leave the cohort with a completed Fair Chance Hiring Implementation Action Plan tailored to their business.



What You'll Gain

As a BBI participant, you will:

- Develop a customized Fair Chance Hiring Implementation Action Plan for your business.
- Receive personalized one-on-one guidance from workforce development professionals.
- Learn practical strategies you can apply immediately within your organization.
- Explore available financial incentives and resources that support fair chance hiring.
- Build meaningful professional relationships with fellow small business owners and corporate partners throughout the North Lawndale community.
- Join a growing network of employers committed to strengthening the local workforce and expanding economic opportunity.

Who Should Participate?

North Lawndale businesses and employers interested in:

- Strengthening their hiring strategy
- Learning more about fair chance hiring
- Building connections with local employers
- Exploring innovative workforce solutions that benefit both their business and the community

Ready to Get Started?

Join the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) and become part of a collaborative network of North Lawndale employers committed to strengthening businesses, expanding opportunity, and investing in the future of the community.

Workshop Series



Workshop 1: Understanding the Business Case for Fair Chance Hiring

Discover how fair chance hiring can strengthen your workforce while learning about business benefits, financial incentives, and opportunities to identify positions within your organization.



Workshop 2: Developing a Fair Chance Hiring Strategy

Learn how to create a hiring strategy that aligns with your business goals while addressing operational, legal, and implementation considerations.



Workshop 3: Implementing Your Fair Chance Hiring Program

Develop a practical roadmap for launching a fair chance hiring program, including recruitment, onboarding, workplace inclusion, and long-term sustainability.

Participation Options

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To meet the needs of busy employers, the Building Bridges Initiative offers **two ways to participate**, both providing practical guidance on developing and implementing a fair chance hiring strategy for your business:

- **Cohort Experience:** Monthly in-person workshops paired with individualized virtual consultation.
- **Self-Paced E-Learning:** An online version covering the same core curriculum, allowing participants to learn on their own schedule. This format does not include direct business support or consultations.

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🌐 bit.ly/NLfair-chance-hiring