

Referral Bonus Program

Information Sheet

The Homecoming Project

The Homecoming Project is an innovative pilot program that taps into underutilized housing resources in Alameda County. Just as Airbnb enables people to monetize their extra living spaces, the Homecoming Project provides a subsidy of \$25.00 a day to homeowners in exchange for renting an extra room to people returning home from lengthy prison terms for six months.

Not only does the Homecoming Project provide opportunities for economic revitalization by using a sharing economy business model, it also facilitates participants' success in rejoining their communities, and increases the opportunity for family reunification, social inclusion, and integration.

Referral Incentives

An individual who successfully refers a qualified host will receive a bonus of \$200.00. The referred host must meet the following requirements:

1. The host meets the eligibility criteria (see next page).
2. The host must have an approved inspection of the home.
3. The host must enter into a housing arrangement with a participant and the participant moves into the host's home.

How to Refer Hosts

If you know of someone who is a homeowner¹ residing in Alameda County and has an extra room, in-law unit, or den that can house a participant, please refer them to apply as a host for our program.

The host must provide your name and contact information on their host application form, under the "Referred By" section. Once a host meets the requirements and signs a housing agreement with a participant of the program, a Referral Application will be forwarded to you so the bonus payout can be sent.

¹ Renters are also eligible to become hosts with the Homecoming Project. Renters must have the Homeowner's written consent and will be required to submit a Host Application Packet as well.

Host Eligibility Criteria

1. Willing to provide a room to a participant in their home, or in an external unit for six months.
2. The available space is suitable for habitation consistent with HUD habitation regulations, which include:
 - a. Bed for participant & closet or dresser for personal belongings;
 - b. Access to a bathroom;
 - c. Access to a kitchen or cooking appliances;
 - d. Space has electricity and heat;
 - e. Space is free of pests, mold, and other harmful conditions/substances.
3. Successful inspection (pre-move in) as well as an inspection when participant leaves (post-move in).
4. Agrees to ongoing monitoring and check-ins.
5. Understands and agrees to a search clause that allows parole agent and any law enforcement entity to enter and search those areas frequented by the parolee at any time without a warrant, when required by law enforcement officials.

Important Considerations

Deciding whether to become a host with the Homecoming Project is a sensitive and personal matter, especially considering the population we serve. When referring potential hosts to the Homecoming Project, it is imperative you are forthcoming and honest about our participants. We only place formerly incarcerated individuals who have served at least 10 years in prison into housing. We accept adult women, men, and all persons along the gender spectrum. All ages, races, sexual orientations, and religious preferences are accepted.

The participants are selected based on their positive rehabilitative behavior while in custody. They have reduced security risk level based on their good disciplinary record. All of this strongly indicates their readiness to re-enter society as contributing citizens. All approved hosts will have access to participants' complete application files, for transparency purposes, so they can best decide whom they would be most compatible with before meeting them via phone or in person.

Refer all potential hosts to:

Impact Justice – Homecoming Project
2633 Telegraph Ave, Suite 104, Oakland, CA 94612
707-794-2151
homecomingproject@impactjustice.org