

# THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FAIR SHAKE AND A PROGRAM

Fair Shake; the Un-Program		Most Programs
Build community	When I receive questions from individuals, I turn to the 4000+ incarcerated newsletter readers to share their suggestions, reflections, ideas, and experiences. Each of us holds a wealth of information! We can look to each other for solutions, critical questions and support.	Programs address one 'need'. They rarely support people outside of that one area and almost never build community between areas and among the incarcerated or formerly incarcerated.
Encourage feelings of agency and self-determination	Fair Shake provides opportunities for people to pursue their own goals. We offer support to everyone to meet their universal human needs, including the need to understand themselves as a person-in-society vs. a person alone.	Many programs are created to address 'criminogenic needs'. Many participants 'go through the motions' to get the certificate or check the box.
Build knowledge base with incarcerated and non-incarcerated alike	I ask incarcerated people what they need to properly reintegrate into society. I share their ideas with all readers...for example, we built our free books, higher education and pen-pal lists through newsletter contributions!	Programs tell people what they must do. They then provide ways to check to see if the participants are doing it. That's how they determine if it 'worked'.
Understanding and addressing complexity	Fair Shake offers a unique blend of interdisciplinary education opportunities Including: building capabilities, helping others, understanding ourselves, ways to collaborate, and leveraging community knowledge to address today's challenges.	Programs mainly focus on fixing or addressing deficits. They target single aspects of a person, not the whole, messy, integrated person-within-community.
Multi-Stakeholder Approach	Fair Shake is the only organization that offers free information for many stakeholder groups; providing a platform for us to all work together to build mutually-beneficial success.	Programs are encouraged to work collaboratively but very few do so without funding that will support it.
Educate and Leverage staff	I share 'best practices' among the state and federal institutions, who have no opportunities to learn from each other. I strongly encourage prison staff to provide tools that returning citizens need for reentry success.	Many programs rely on staff. They rarely, if ever, focus on problem-solving with corrections to improve outcomes or usefulness.
FREE benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free of cost to anyone.</li> <li>• Free software for prisons and jails</li> <li>• DIY: no need for staff or supervision</li> <li>• Free to use and explore as you like!</li> <li>• Free National Resource Directory</li> <li>• Free from data collection and algorithms</li> </ul>	"Free" of financial costs for "Clients", but often paid for by the government to address 'needs'. Many resources are offered on 'referral' basis only.