

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Project Kinship Celebrates Launch from Charitable Ventures Incubation Platform Marking a New Era of Hope, Re-entry, and Rebuilding

Santa Ana, CA, September 20, 2023: Project Kinship (PK) proudly announces its launch from the Charitable Ventures (CV) Incubation Platform on July 1, 2023. After nearly nine years of dynamic partnership, Project Kinship has emerged as its own 5013c entity, poised to continue its transformative work independently and forge a brighter future for the region.

The journey of Project Kinship and Charitable Ventures has been one of determination, collaboration, and unwavering commitment to transforming the re-entry landscape in Orange County. Co-founded in 2014 by social workers Mary Vu and Steve Kim, who was also a system-impacted individual himself, Kim made it his mission to address the challenges faced by individuals reintegrating into society after incarceration. Charitable Ventures, a regional incubator and supporter of emerging community solutions, took a chance on the vision of these two community leaders and brought the project in-house.

"Thanks to our successful partnerships with county agencies and community-based organizations, Project Kinship is poised for even more growth in Orange County. PK is very excited about the potential to increase services for youth, expand our hours, and focus on providing job opportunities that improve participant integration back into the communities," said Steve Kim, Executive Director of Project Kinship. "We are also grateful for the incredible mentorship from key organizations such as Homeboy Industries, The Latino Coalition, and of course, CV, all of whom have provided extraordinary support during this period of growth."

Today, Project Kinship has more than 102 staff members serving over 13,000 individuals each year making an indelible impact on their lives. The recent agreement with the County of Orange to provide 24/7 supportive services to individuals transitioning out of Orange County jails signifies a new chapter of growth and impact. "We had NO idea 9 years ago what Project Kinship would become." Said Anne Olin, President and CEO of Charitable Ventures. "It's a true testament to the founders' vision, working closely with government agencies, in the jails, bringing a trauma-informed lens to the work and advocating for the dignity and justice of all. It was worth the hard work and energy invested."

Project Kinship provides wraparound services for adult re-entry, educational advocacy and guidance, employment assistance, and mental health support groups. Additionally, PK focuses on the marginalized youth population by providing on-site specialists at 32 school campuses, focused on restorative practice and educational support groups. In partnership with Orange County's systems, community, and housing partners, PK seeks to continue its mission to reduce recidivism for all those affected by incarceration. More details about Project Kinship, their core services, and how to donate to the organization can be found at www.projectkinship.org.

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About Project Kinship:

Project Kinship provides support and training to lives impacted by incarceration, gangs, and violence through hope, healing, and transformation. Project Kinship envisions a world where hope lives and the cycle of despair ends and works to promote hope, encourage healthy life decisions, lower recidivism, provide education for employment, and offers rehabilitation services that promote healing and restorative justice in the community.

About Charitable Ventures:

Founded in 2007, Charitable Ventures is a regional incubator that fosters innovative solutions by launching and strengthening nonprofit organizations and collaborative efforts, and recently helped distribute more than \$27M in relief funds through the pandemic. For more information, visit charitableventuresoc.org.

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