

# HOME FREE

a program of five keys



A transitional cohousing community for formerly criminalized survivors of domestic violence to support their lives with dignity as they reintegrate into society after spending decades in prison.

**five  
keys**  
home free

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# OUR WOMEN'S STORIES



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## SUSAN

After serving 31 years in prison, everything on the outside seemed novel to Susan Bustamante: existing without guards hovering nearby, looking out windows to see trees and sky, rather than barbed wire, hugging loved ones freely.



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## ROSEMARY

"My name is Rosemary Dyer. I am 67 years-old. I've had no criminal history, no history of violence, no history of drug abuse, and had no idea that the man I had chosen to marry would turn out to be a monster."



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## LAVELMA

"I was a mother of two daughters. Now, I only have one daughter as my youngest daughter died of cancer while I've been here. I was unable to be there for my baby girl, unable to nurse my daughter as she suffered with and died from this painful disease."



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## CRYSTAL

"When a store manager told me to apply online, I thought, 'Where?' I was looking for a line on the floor to stand in."

# fivekeyshomefree.org

FIVE KEYS HOME FREE, in collaboration with YOUNG WOMEN'S FREEDOM CENTER (YWFC)\*, is a transitional cohousing community for formerly criminalized survivors of domestic violence to support their lives with dignity as they reintegrate into society after spending decades in prison.

HOME FREE programming fosters the pride and self-worth and aspirations of each woman survivor as she takes her first steps back into society. For some, who are experiencing the changes of the 21st century for the first time, it is both thrilling and terrifying.

HOME FREE includes individualized case management along with practical life skills, job training and retention, permanent housing transition, guided reconnection with family, and participation in peer groups that support the development of healthy relationships.

Many existing programs for formerly incarcerated women focus on treating substance disorders, even when women have long demonstrated sobriety and readiness to take responsibility for making healthy life decisions.

HOME FREE focuses on addressing the trauma that the women have experienced by offering community, life coaching, and opportunity for service work. Home Free's commitment is to foster self-determination through trauma-informed and gender competent programs as the women pursue their chosen areas of development.

**Home Free supports women survivors of domestic violence as they return to their families and society and forge new paths toward self-determination.**

\*Founded in 1993, Young Women's Freedom Center (YWFC) is a leadership and advocacy organization led by systems-involved young and adult women and transgender gender non-conforming (TGNC) people of color who have grown up in poverty, worked in the underground street economy, and have been criminalized by social services such as foster care, welfare, and the mental health systems. YWFC believes that those most impacted by cycles of poverty, violence, exploitation and incarceration are the experts in their own lives and best positioned to identify and lead the change needed to support true and transformative justice. By offering safety, sister- & siblinghood, economic opportunities, accessible education and healing, we build self-determination, confidence and self-worth.



Photo courtesy of Sin By Silence, [www.sinbysilence.com](http://www.sinbysilence.com)

*Women incarcerated for crimes of self-defense against abusive partners meet regularly inside prison to support one another.*



# SUNNY SCHWARTZ

## SOCIAL JUSTICE MUST INCLUDE GENDER JUSTICE

During the last 39 years, I've worked with reformers who believe that people entangled in the criminal justice system can evolve beyond their pasts to become vibrant members of our communities.

I founded Five Keys 18 years ago, at a time when there was little discourse about the school-to-prison pipeline or the injustice of mass incarceration. Five Keys started as a high school for adults in county jails. It has grown to address the underlying causes of incarceration, including access to education, workforce development, housing and therapeutic needs.

I recently learned about a sub-population of imprisoned women – survivors of domestic violence who have served decades in prison for killing their batterers or because they were present under the coercion of abusive partners during the commission of a crime.

Many of these women were not allowed to introduce evidence of the abuse they suffered, nor were they allowed to make claims of self-defense in their trials or at parole hearings.

Some of these women have served more than 30 years in prison.

Recent legislation and reforms are reducing severe sentences that should never have been imposed, and some of these women are being paroled. While this is good news, transitional housing for California parolees was not designed to serve the needs of these mature women survivors.

While drug treatment is critical for many people reentering our community, it is not appropriate nor helpful for everyone.

Current protocol is to send most of the criminalized survivors to drug treatment programs upon their release from prison, even when they have never had a substance abuse problem, or they long ago demonstrated their commitment to sobriety.

After decades of confinement and lack of autonomy, they can be forced to attend up to 30 hours of weekly drug treatment programming – another delay on their path toward reaching their goals. The California Department of Corrections

and Rehabilitation recognizes the need for alternative reentry housing and supports Home Free.

In a system where men make up more than 90% of jail and prison populations, reentry programs are not typically designed to meet the needs of the 90% of incarcerated women who have experienced trauma, repeated sexual violence, or intimate partner violence prior to their arrest.\* Their time in custody, away from family and community, has added another layer of trauma.

Five Keys Home Free focuses on reintegration with family and society. It helps women build new skills for employment in a changed world; find permanent and safe housing; and prioritize recovery from traumas of violence during childhood, in adult relationships, and because of isolation during decades of imprisonment.

I invite you to read the stories of several women featured in this case for support. Remarkably, they are not embittered, but rather, are eager to attend school, to work, to rebuild relationships, to restart their lives and contribute to their communities.

If you are moved by this effort, we welcome your help in realizing this dream.

Sincerely,



Sunny Schwartz • sunnyschwartz@mac.com

*Sunny Schwartz founded Five Keys Schools and Programs, and the Resolve to Stop the Violence Project, a restorative justice program for incarcerated adults.*

**“ As a result of legislation introduced by former California Assemblywoman Fiona Ma in 2012, more than 100 women have been (or will soon be in the foreseeable future) paroled after serving 20 to 40 years in California prisons. ”**

**A California state prison study found that 93% of the women who had killed their significant others had been severely battered by them; 67% of these women indicated the homicide resulted from an attempt to protect themselves or their children.**

\* Source: Studies cited by the Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Justice in its report entitled *Review of the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Management of its Female Inmate Population*, September 2018



# FIONA MA

## THE NEXT STEP: AFTER LEGISLATIVE SOLUTIONS

In my time on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and through my work as a California Assembly member, I made it a priority to advocate on behalf of survivors of domestic violence. I am deeply moved by the stories I heard from dozens of women survivors, some of whom were incarcerated for convictions resulting from self-defense.

Many of these women underwent horrific trauma as children, adults, and later, as prisoners. Hearing their stories spurred me, in 2012, to successfully pass legislation which has enabled the California parole board to consider the role of intimate partner violence in an individual's commission of alleged crimes. As a result, some women who have been behind bars for 10, 20 and 30 years are regaining their freedom.

These women are coming out of prison with notable emotional maturity and self-knowledge. Many have completed years – sometimes decades – of therapeutic, academic, and vocational work in prison. Yet it is ironic that as a condition of their transitional reentry housing, they are sometimes required to spend upwards of 30 hours per week

in substance use treatment programs, even when they never had such a need.

As these women transition back to society, they deserve a supportive community like Home Free. I reached out to Sunny Schwartz at Five Keys to create this reentry housing program because Five Keys has a proven track record of creating innovative and sensitive programming that responds to individuals' needs.

There is nothing like Home Free in California, and it is desperately needed now. I am pleased to be a founding member of the Home Free Advisory Panel to support this worthy and necessary project.

Sincerely,



Fiona Ma  
California State Treasurer

*Fiona Ma is the California State of Treasurer, and former member of the California Board of Equalization, the California Assembly where she served as Speaker pro Temp, and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.*

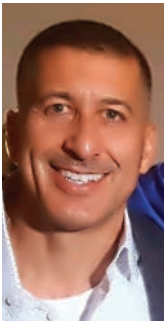
# THE NEED: A DIFFERENT KIND OF REENTRY



“Home Free is a call to action to right a terrible wrong experienced by convicted battered women. After spending 20 to 30 years in prison, they are paroled to drug treatment housing where they spend a majority of their time in substance abuse treatment programming despite the fact that they are not addicts. A program like Home Free is greatly needed where they can get gender-specific and trauma-informed supportive housing that provides them tools and support to live in the 21st century.”

- Doug Bonds, CEO of Amity Foundation

**The Amity Foundation is dedicated to the inclusion and habilitation of people marginalized by addiction, trauma, criminality, incarceration, poverty, racism, sexism, homelessness and violence.**



“Women parolees need an alternative like Home Free, which will respond to their differing circumstances by providing more time to pursue school and work.”

- Martin Figueroa, San Francisco Parole Unit Supervisor

## HOME FREE PARTNER



“Substance use treatment programs focus on helping users to get clean and sober and take responsibility for their actions. Survivors of family violence need a different approach that includes blameless empowerment, underscoring their worth, potential and dignity. These women need transitional housing that offers healing and culturally-relevant support with opportunities to choose programing pathways tailored to their individual needs.”

- Jessica Nowlan, Executive Director of Young Women’s Freedom Center and Home Free partner

**Jessica works to transform the conditions, systems and policies that lead to intergenerational cycles of violence, incarceration and poverty.**



Committed to transforming the systems that keep all cis and trans women, non-binary, and gender non-conforming folks stuck in cycles of poverty, violence, and incarceration.

# SUSAN'S STORY



*Susan carries her belongings as she exits prison after 31 years of incarceration.*

## STARTING A NEW LIFE AFTER DECADES IN PRISON

After serving 31 years in prison, everything on the outside seemed novel to Susan Bustamante – FaceTime, selfies, self-flushing toilets, ordering off a menu, looking out windows to see trees and sky rather than barbed wire, and hugging loved ones without guards hovering nearby.

Susan, now 64, was locked up when her daughters were ages 8 and 11 on a conviction in the death of her husband. She had no prior criminal history.

She did her best to stay close with her daughters through phone calls and emails for over 30 years, but didn't see them outside of prison until they were middle-aged women.

Susan was molested from the age of 12 by her father. As a young woman she married a man who took to controlling her with violence. Once, enraged by a stranger who had asked her the time at a Christmas party, her husband pulled her into a bathroom, threw her against the wall and screamed, "Why are you flirting?"

"I learned then never to look up when someone talked to me," she recalls.

"When he was at work, he called to make sure I was home. He turned off his motorcycle a few houses down in order to sneak up and check on me. He timed me when I went to the grocery store. I wasn't allowed to take my daughters out of the house without him. He threatened to kill my mother and sister if I left him. I stayed and he beat me."

Susan confided in her brother, who killed her husband in her defense. Susan was also charged with the murder and they both went to prison.

In prison, Susan worked to develop greater self-understanding and sustain her spirit. For 14 years, she trained service dogs to work with disabled people. She crocheted blankets and made hats for homeless veterans and ill children. She attended groups to understand people with addictions; for anger management; and



for peer support with other women survivors of domestic violence.

Thanks to criminal justice reforms she was released to a transitional housing facility. But, she was required to wake up early to attend 6:35 a.m. sessions of Alcoholics Anonymous and participate in up to eight hours of daily programming, much of it focused on substance abuse. There was no other place for the authorities to place her.

After living under a regimented schedule for 31 years, Susan wants to decide what programming is relevant to her goals.

**“ I want to be an activist because so many women are warehoused and treated unfairly. ”**

Despite these obstacles, Susan lives each day with gratitude. She shares her story to support Home Free because she wants others to have more appropriate housing when they are released from prison.

Susan’s dream is to live among family and friends, to give back to other survivors, to support herself by training dogs, and to burden no one.

“I want to be an activist, to speak out because so many women are warehoused and treated unfairly. I want to be with my daughter and grandson and give back to the community.” ●



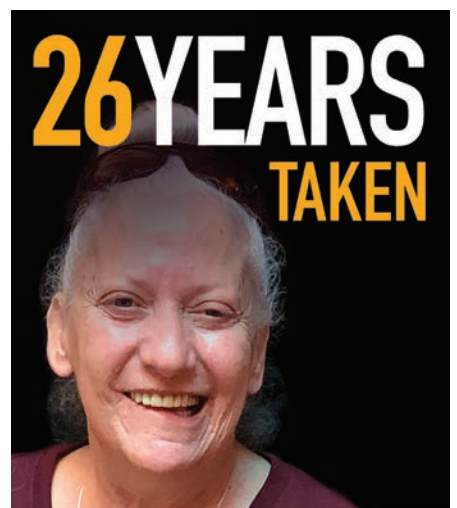
# MAKING IT HAPPEN: HOME FREE AT TREASURE ISLAND

Home Free is launching its first transitional co-housing community in six, two-bedroom units on Treasure Island in San Francisco. It houses up to 11 women, with a sixth unit converted into a vibrant program and community center for the women to participate in responsive programs and have communal meals as they reintegrate into the 21st century.

Incarcerating an inmate in a California prison costs about \$81,000 a year.\* Home Free will cost about \$36,000 per year to provide women housing and resources to rebuild their lives.

Home Free's innovative programming is funded through a combination of public and private support. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) recognizes the need for a program that is responsive to the reentry needs of mature women. The CDCR will provide partial support for Home Free operations, once facilities are established.

\*Source: California Legislative Analysts Office



# JOIN US AS WE BUILD HOME FREE

Safe housing is a prerequisite for all people to live in dignity.

## FUNDRAISING GOALS

**\$700K/YR AT TREASURE ISLAND**

**\$700K/YR IN LOS ANGELES AREA**  
(LOCATION TBD)

Includes rent, maintenance, meals, supplies, programs and staffing (program director, workforce/case manager, and evening and weekend staff on site 24/7).

Your support is needed to sustain Home Free in both locations for years to come.

## RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

Includes community-designed displays recognizing donors, naming opportunities for the units, libraries and computer labs, common areas, and more. Home Free is the subject of an in-progress documentary film, a national podcast, a major news magazine and will be featured in additional national and international press.

# SUPPORT US TODAY

Donate online:

[fivekeyshomefree.org](https://fivekeyshomefree.org)

[sheila@fivekeyshomefree.org](mailto:sheila@fivekeyshomefree.org)



Five Keys Schools and Programs is a 501(c)3 nonprofit. HOME FREE is a program of Five Keys. Tax ID: 81-0622701.





# ROSEMARY'S STORY

## A 34-YEAR SURVIVOR WAITING TO BE HOME FREE

In 1985, after more than eight years of marriage and countless beatings, Rosemary took the life of the man she had loved since her early 20's. She had been physically, sexually, and emotionally abused; tortured, raped, beaten, and repeatedly humiliated. The night that she took David's life was no different.

Rosemary (who prefers to be called Rosie), doesn't remember picking up the gun and shooting him, but she knows she did it. She was terrified for her life. She says she knows she committed a crime that she is repulsed by in order to save her own life.

But, she still regrets David's loss, every day.

Before that fateful day, she attended church regularly, and worked (sometimes two jobs at a time), so she could put David through school to further his aviation career. She was a dedicated homemaker and she truly loved her husband.

She can't explain why the man she married turned into such a monster. She only knows that she went

from loving and trusting David WITH her life – to fearing FOR her life. She feared his very existence in her life, never knowing what he would do to her each day - whether THAT day would be the day she died at his hands. It didn't matter to him whether someone else had upset him, or if she had somehow done something he didn't like – she was 'PUNISHED.' His words.

David became the ultimate controller. He timed her each time she left the house to go shopping or to go on an errand. The odometer was checked also. She was not allowed to talk to *anyone*. She had no friends, because he didn't allow her any friendships. She had cats – the only source of love and affection in her married life.

According to the National Resource on Domestic Violence, nearly 20% of women experience violence during pregnancy, with unintended pregnancies at an increased risk. Rosemary lost two pregnancies due to the violence she suffered during her marriage.

In a recent interview, she said, "I still regret taking David's life, I regret that David couldn't love me and treat me as a valued wife. I regret the waste of both of our lives."

Throughout the decades in prison, she's taken many classes and gone to a myriad of psychological counseling groups to help her deal with the trauma in her past life. To heal as an individual. To learn that she is a worthwhile person, worthy of respect and love and being treated as such – that her life has value. "I am NOT the stupid, ignorant, worthless, unlovable woman that David tried to convince me that I was," she said.

Throughout the past 10 years, Rosie has been active in domestic violence advocacy – by mail. She receives mail from all over the globe due to her appearance in the documentary *Sin by Silence*. Letters from victims of domestic violence and even

their children come; also from men and women who support the cause of education on domestic violence and she is thanked for sharing her story. She says, "I know that I have helped women find the courage to leave their domestic violence situations and to seek professional help. I do have a calling to help other victims of domestic violence and would love the opportunity to continue that calling in the free world."

Home Free, Fiona Ma, and many others have written Governor Gavin Newsom to ask for Rosie's commutation, as she battles breast cancer, Chronic Obstruction Pulmonary Disease (COPD), heart disease, and can barely walk due to the need of a hip replacement. If she gets out of prison, she hopes to fulfill a 34-year wish of going to Fisherman's Wharf – a place with a cherished memory of a visit she made when she was 12 years-young. ●

“ **My name is Rosemary Dyer. I am 67 years-old. I've had no criminal history, no history of violence, no history of drug abuse, and no idea that the man I had chosen to marry would turn out to be a monster.** ”

## ROSIE WAS RELEASED ON 4.3.20



**90 percent of incarcerated women experienced trauma, repeated sexual violence, or intimate partner violence prior to their arrest.**

Source: Studies cited by the Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Justice in its report entitled *Review of the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Management of its Female Inmate Population*, September 2018



# LAVELMA'S STORY

## A 27-YEAR SURVIVOR WAITING TO BE HOME FREE

Her name is LaVelma Byrd. She's 69 years-old. She's been in prison for almost three decades, 27 years to be exact.

She was married twice, and says, "I am sorry to say that both marriages were filled with physical, emotional, financial and spiritual abuse."

Her daughter's father was extremely mentally and physically abusive. He was filled with merciless jealousy. She never cheated on him, but he did – numerous times, and would consistently accuse her of infidelity.

He was filled with hate and spewed it in their home. She thought it would pass but it didn't – it only got worse. He wouldn't help support their home and child expenses, even though he was gainfully employed. "I finally came to my wits end when he beat me up because I wanted to attend college. We broke up and after that, I went to college."

Why she took him back, she still doesn't know, but she did.

The fateful night began when they were out at a club with another couple, when one of the old college guys stopped by their table to say hello. Her husband immediately started cursing at her, accusing her of flirting with him. She was in shock as was the other wife at their table. Her husband beat up LaVelma when they got home. All of that because someone said hello.

After that, she prayed that no man would ever speak to her when her husband was anywhere around because she didn't want the embarrassment, or to get beaten up.

LaVelma endured years of abuse from the age of 16-42. When she finally got free and remarried, her second husband's abuse was even more severe and she just couldn't take anymore. The courts wouldn't let her present evidence of his systemic and constant abuse. She was convicted of murder and sentenced to life without the possibility of parole.

She aches and misses her family and grieves for so much loss while she's locked up.

"I was a mother of two daughters. Now, I only have one daughter as my youngest daughter died of cancer while I've been here. I was unable to be there for my baby girl, unable to nurse my daughter as she suffered with and died from this painful disease."

She would pray that she could have provided them comfort while they struggled.

"I was also not able to take care of my mother who went home to glory on August 31, 2018."

She lost her brother to cancer in 2004 and her oldest sister to cancer in 2006, at the age of 46 from pancreatic cancer.

LaVelma has one grandson who was born almost two years after she was incarcerated in January 1994. She's unable to be a true grandmother to him from prison.

She looks forward to the day she's able to reunite with her family and friends – those that are still alive. She wants to give back to the community including churches. She wants to share with the faith-based community that *love* shouldn't mean *hurt*. "I want to urge all women that they don't need to protect him but to protect themselves!"

The reason she includes churches is because she believes women in church try to protect "his reputation and ministry" and forget to protect themselves. And, that results in suffering in silence.

"We need a home for if/when we parole into the community that will meet our needs as abused survivors. I have nothing against AA/NA – it can help save lives, but I have never been a drug addict or alcoholic and therefore residential treatment is not appropriate for those of us convicted survivors of domestic violence. I support Home Free and pray for God's blessings to help make Home Free a reality." ●

**“ I was a mother of two daughters. Now, I only have one daughter as my youngest daughter died of cancer while I've been here. I was unable to be there for my baby girl, nurse my daughter as she suffered with and died from this painful disease. ”**



# CRYSTAL'S STORY

## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES TO FIND A STABLE JOB

It took Crystal Wheeler six months to find a job after she was released from prison. She is a go-getter with a range of life experience and skills to draw upon, but surviving in the information age left her flummoxed.

"When a store manager told me to apply online, I thought, 'Where?' I was looking for a line on the floor to stand in," she said.

Crystal spent 20 years in the U.S. Air Force as a law enforcement training officer before being imprisoned at age 36. She was paroled in 2012 after serving 22 years for killing her husband while defending herself. At her trial, she was not allowed to present evidence of the prolonged abuse she had suffered, except for that which occurred on the day of his death. Attorneys with the National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women eventually took up her case, and she won parole based on her spotless disciplinary record.

Starting over at age 58 was not easy. She first found work as a horse groomer at a county fair, and later in retail, where she became a shift supervisor. She was recently fired after her employers learned of her criminal record. She has been looking for gainful employment ever since.

Despite these setbacks, Crystal is committed to making an easier path for survivors like herself. She volunteers her time teaching domestic violence awareness at colleges and emergency rooms, and is director of Every Nine Seconds, an organization for domestic violence survivors.

As a member of the Home Free advisory team, Crystal is contributing her experiences to make Home Free a place of respite and restoration. "I want these women to be able to relax, sit, and sleep," she said, "because they haven't slept well in 30 years." ●

**Crystal is committed to making an easier path for survivors like her.**



## FIVE KEYS LEADERSHIP



### FIVE KEYS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STEVE GOOD

Steve brings more than 20 years in school administration and non-profit leadership. Since taking the helm of Five Keys in 2008, programs have expanded into nine counties across California. Steve oversees 500 staff serving more than 20,000 participants annually. Steve is a frequent speaker at the U.S. Department of Education and at conferences related to adult education and reentry services.



### FIVE KEYS FOUNDER SUNNY SCHWARTZ

Sunny is nationally recognized for her work in criminal justice reform. In 2003, she founded Five Keys Charter School. In 1997, Sunny founded Resolve to Stop the Violence Project (RSVP). Both RSVP and Five Keys received the prestigious "Oscar's in Government" Innovations in Government Award, sponsored by the Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University and the Ash Institute. She is the author the bestseller "Dreams from the Monster Factory," published in 2010, which gives a comprehensive insider's perspective on America's failing prison system and recounts her own real-world implementation of a targeted strategy that both saves taxpayers' money and dramatically reduces recidivism.

## HOME FREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



### ROBERTA ACHTENBERG

Roberta has spent more than 30 years engaged in private/public activism and leadership. She served in the Clinton Administration as Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity and as Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).



### SUSAN BUSTAMANTE

Susan spent 31 years in prison. She was locked up when her daughters were ages 8 and 11. She confided in her brother about her abusive husband and he killed him in her defense. She was also charged with the murder and they both went to prison. Now in her sixties, Susan is an activist and advocate for womens.



### BRENDA CLUBINE

Brenda spent more than 25 years in prison for the death of her abusive husband. While incarcerated, she founded the group Convicted Women Against Abuse. Her story is featured in the documentary "Sin by Silence" by Olivia Klaus.



### DAWN DAVISON

Former Warden of the California Institution for women. Dawn's leadership at CDCR has brought great humanity and responsive programs for incarcerated women and Dawn continues to be committed to breaking the intergenerational cycle of incarceration, assisting women with their successful reintegration into society and the rebuilding of family and community relationships.



### PAMELA S. DUFFY

Pamela is a partner in the Law Office of Coblenz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP. She has acted as lead counsel for major projects, including one of the largest rebuilding projects in San Francisco history, the \$2.5 billion Sutter Health/California Pacific Medical Center.



### DOREE FRIEDMAN

Doree is founder and CEO of Fine Line Construction, which has completed more than 15,000 affordable housing units. Friedman has been a Bay Area contractor for 38 years.



### **LISA GELFAND**

Lisa is managing principal of Gelfand Partners Architects, where she participated in the design of more than 40 education projects and 4,000 units of affordable housing projects.



### **ROMA GUY**

Roma is an American LGBT- and women’s-rights activist. She, and her partner, Dianne were two of The Women’s Building’s cofounders. She was a cofounder of La Casa de las Madres, SF Women Against Rape, and The Women’s Foundation of California. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Metta Fund, a private foundation committed to San Francisco’s aging population and those furthest from access and opportunity.



### **LESLIE GRISANTI**

Leslie is executive creative director of the award-winning Long Story Short Media. She developed her craft at CNN, PBS, The Oprah Winfrey Show and Harpo Studios.



### **SHANA HELLER**

Shana is a civil rights attorney with the federal government. Prior to her legal career, Shana was a fundraiser for criminal justice and civil liberties issues.



### **GENEVIEVE V. JOPANDA**

Genevieve is currently Chief of Staff to CA State Treasurer Fiona Ma. She served as district staff jockey for AB593 & AB1593 authored by Assembly Speaker Pro Temp Fiona Ma from 2010 - 2012. Genevieve has been dedicated to increasing awareness around Domestic Violence in policy development and as the director of the Filipina Women’s Network’s production of “The Vagina Monologues” since 2005.



### **DANNA KOZERSKI**

Danna is a partner in the Law Office of Coblenz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP representing commercial real estate developers and companies in financing, leasing, acquisitions and dispositions. She specializes in public/private partnerships and formation of joint ventures.



### **AMELIA LEWIS**

Amelia is the Communications and Development Director for Five Keys Schools and Programs. She is passionate about the power of philanthropy to change lives and enthusiastic about connecting with individuals to understand their desires for improving communities and the world.



### **EMILY LIN**

Emily, the vice president of Fine Line Construction, has developed affordable housing in the Bay Area for 17 years, including supportive housing for very low-income and formerly homeless households.



### **SUSAN LOWENBERG**

Susan is the CEO of the Lowenberg Corporation and has been a real estate investor and civic-minded activist in San Francisco for 35 years. She is vice president of the Lowenberg Family Supporting Foundation and is a board member of the Mount Zion Health Fund, Glide Memorial Foundation, and Rhoda Goldman Plaza. Susan was appointed by President Obama to the board of the U.S. Holocaust Museum.



### **FIONA MA**

Fiona is the Treasurer of California. She was previously elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the State Assembly and served as speaker pro temp. She authored pioneering legislation allowing convicted battered women to present evidence of the abuse they endured in defending themselves through a new trial or at their parole board hearings.



### **SARA MALONE**

Sara worked at California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for 20 years and served as Chief Ombudsman and Ombudsman for incarcerated women. She was a significant participant in the implementation of Gender Responsive policies. Sara retired in 2018 and continues to consult in criminal justice issues.



### **MEGAN MCTIERNAN**

Megan spent nearly twenty years focused on youth and the working poor in Texas and California. She is an advisor to philanthropic organizations and a national board member for IGNITE, which gives young women the skills to run for office.



### **DEBBIE MESLOH**

Debbie was communications director for Kamala Harris in her role as District Attorney of San Francisco and Attorney General of California. She worked for President Obama as an appointee to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative; and as spokesperson in the Obama presidential campaigns. Debbie is a communications consultant and president of the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women.



### **PATRICIA SCOTT**

Patricia was the executive director of Booker T. Washington Community Service Center and has non-profit management expertise for 30 years. She coordinated the building of a new center and 50 units of affordable housing – half set aside for transitional-aged and youth aging out of foster care with on-site support services.



### **JESSICA STUART**

Jessica is president of Long Story Short Media, an independent firm specializing in shortform content production. She is an award-winning producer, developing her expertise at NBC, The Today Show, The Oprah Winfrey Show, and ABC News.



### **JOHN VERDOIA**

John is a banker with more than 25 years of experience in commercial real estate lending, providing tailored lending solutions to multi-family, mixed-use and commercial real estate properties.



### **SHEILA VON DRISKA**

Sheila owns White Space, Inc., a full-service design and advertising agency. She helped found two nonprofits: Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation (now the GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer) and the Addario Lung Cancer Medical Institute. She co-founded the Wilkes Bashford Helping Hands Emergency Fund dedicated to funding emergency needs for victims of domestic violence.



### **CRYSTAL WHEELER**

Crystal is the Director of Every Nine Seconds, an organization for domestic violence survivors. Crystal spent 22 years in prison for the death of her husband while defending herself.

“ I write for those women  
who do not speak,  
for those who do not have a voice  
because they were so terrified,  
because we are taught to respect fear  
more than ourselves.  
We’ve been taught that silence  
would save us, but it won’t. ”

— Audre Lorde

writer, poet, womanist, librarian, civil and social justice advocate

# Sponsorship Opportunities



# HOME FREE

a program of five keys

# About Five Keys Home Free

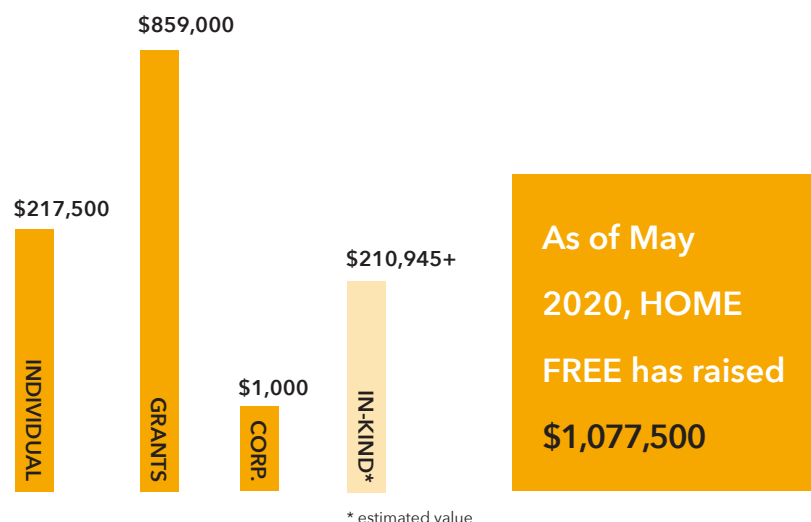


A transitional cohousing community for formerly criminalized survivors of domestic violence to support their lives with dignity as they reintegrate into society after spending decades in prison.

Many of these women underwent horrific trauma as children, adults, and later, as prisoners. Hearing their stories spurred Fiona Ma, in 2012, to successfully pass legislation which has enabled the California parole board to consider the role of intimate partner violence in an individual's commission of alleged crimes. As a result, some women who have been behind bars for 10 - 40 years are regaining their freedom.

Five Keys Home Free is raising \$7.5 million dollars (over the next five years) to give them a place to call home upon their release, and to sustain HOME FREE for at least five years in two locations.

**Please join our evergrowing list of supporters and advocates to help us right these horrific wrongs.**



## HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

\$1,000 - \$500,000

### INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Anonymous  
Drew Banks and Nick Rubashkin  
Malcolm Harris and Beverly Choe  
Debbie Mesloh  
Tony Robbins

### CORPORATE DONORS

Bank of San Francisco

### GRANTS

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC)  
Mayor's Office of the City and County of San Francisco  
Metta Fund  
La Casa de Las Madres  
The Tony Robbins Foundation  
Wilkes Bashford Helping Hands Emergency Fund

### IN-KIND SUPPORTERS

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Megan McTiernan  
Debbie Mesloh  
Mithun  
Monica Pressley

San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development + Citybuild

*Special thanks to Treasure Island Development Association (TIDA) and to the amazing Home Free advisors who have donated hundreds of hours of expertise and devotion to this program.*

# Sponsorship Confirmation Form

Every donation, large or small, will make a difference!

Women's Warriors – \$50,000

Justice Champions – \$25,000

Super Stars – \$15,000

Freedom Trailblazers – \$10,000

Treasure Troves – \$5,000

Liberty Belles – \$2,500

Angels – \$1,000

Home Free Crusaders – \$500

\$250

\$200

\$150

\$100

\$75

\$50

\$25

\$10

\$5

Company/Individual Name (Please list as how you would like your name listed on all materials):

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed (Please make payable to Five Keys)

Please invoice our company at the address above for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me for wire transfer or other arrangements

Please charge my Mastercard/VISA/American Express/Discover:

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount to be charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form to: Five Keys Home Free  
c/o Five Keys Schools and Programs  
70 Oak Grove Street  
San Francisco, CA 94017  
Attn. Sheila Von Driska  
Email: sheila@fivekeyshomefree.org

## Heroes:

If you or your company is interested in major gifts, please contact us for additional sponsorship opportunities.

Tax ID# is: 81-0622701

To donate online, please go to [fivekeyshomefree.org](http://fivekeyshomefree.org)

IMAGINE: 1,000 Angels donating \$1,000 each = \$1M

# In Kind Confirmation Form

## We need in kind donations for our units on Treasure Island!

Mithun has generously donated an amazing team of landscape architects to bring our grounds to life. Please consider donating trees, plants, flowers, wood, soil, and gardening necessities to bring our magical outside environments to life.

The Academy of Art University dedicated a class of talented interior designers to create interior living spaces that are literally heavenly homes. Please consider donating furnishings, appliances, flooring, cabinetry, paint, beds and bedding, TVs, computers, phones, microwaves, refrigerators, washers and dryers, towels, jukeboxes, record players, DVD players, and everyday living essentials for the kitchens, baths, bedrooms, living rooms, etc.

Your donation description and estimated value:

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Company/Individual Name (Please list as how you would like your name listed on all materials):

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Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form to: Five Keys Home Free  
c/o Five Keys Schools and Programs  
70 Oak Grove Street  
San Francisco, CA 94017  
Attn. Sheila Von Driska  
Email: [sheila@fivekeyshomefree.org](mailto:sheila@fivekeyshomefree.org)

**Heroes:**  
If you or your company is interested  
in major gifts, please contact us  
for additional sponsorship opportunities.

Tax ID# is: 81-0622701

To donate online, please go to [fivekeyshomefree.org](http://fivekeyshomefree.org)

**New items only, please.**