IMPACT JOURNAL & ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Why Not Prosper, Inc.
As of December 31, 2022
Our mission is to help women from prison systems discover their own strength by providing them with the support and resources that will empower them to become responsible, economically self-sufficient and contributing members of the community.

Offering Women in Distress a Hand Up, Not a Hand Out

Services Provided

- Care Bags to Women at Behind the Wall, 908
- People Served at Germantown Resource Center, 142
- LOVE Bags to the Community, 276
- WNP App Downloads, 408
- Calls to WNP Hotline, 245
- Mentors in WNP Network, 132
- Women Supported with Benefit Activation, 194
- Women Served through Tele-Service Montco, 190
- People Vaccinated at WNP Clinics, 216
- People Served through Tele-Service Montco, 190
- People Served at Germantown Resource Center, 142
Our mission is to advocate and educate by amplifying the voices of those women who have been systemically silenced by the criminal justice system. We are intentional about engaging community, building partnerships and being goal-oriented for the purposes of healing trauma and creating policies to bring awareness to racial and social injustices.
Why Not Prosper

Number of Women Helped by Type of Service in 2022

Offering Women in Distress a Hand Up, Not a Hand Out

Advocacy
- Voter Registration: 222
- Expungement: 94
- Welfare: 310
- Legal Issues: 154
- Pardon Clinic: 110

Behavioral Health
- Drug and Alcohol Counseling: 247
- Mental Health Counseling: 243
- Relapse Prevention Workshops: 19

Employment Services
- PA Career Link: 90
- Job Interview Training: 90
- Computer Training: 44
- Employment Workshops: 44
- Employment Mentoring: 44

Family Services
- Individual Counseling: 130
- Parenting Class: 61
- Daycare Assistance: 128
- Family Reunification: 202

Healthcare
- Philadelphia Health Center: 76
- Private Physicians: 28
- Norristown Reg Health Center: 111

Housing
- Housing: 300
- Budget Counseling: 198
- Home Workshops (Genesis): 85

Vital Records
- Birth Certificates: 178
- State ID: 253
- GED: 114
- Social Security Cards:

Grand Total: 3,642 women

About Why Not Prosper

We are a grassroots nonprofit founded by a formerly incarcerated woman for other formerly incarcerated women. We are strong advocates for women and are committed to providing programs and services that support women in their re-entry efforts from prison to community. We provide a continuum of programs listed below and partner with resource organizations throughout the Philadelphia area.

Our Projects
- W.O.W. – Women Owning their Wellness
- Grow – Giving Real Opportunities to Women
- Barb – Breaking all Racial Barriers
- Share the Bounty
- Swag
- Break the Cycle

Our Services
- Re-entry & Recovery Resource App
- Pre-release Mentoring
- Residential On-Site Facilities
- Teleservices
- Workforce Academy
- Family and Reunification Support
- Support for Safe, Decent, and Affordable Housing
- Access to Drug and Trauma Treatment
- Command center
Why Not Prosper, Inc.

Rev Dr. Michelle A Simmons, Executive Director/Founder

Our mission is to help women from prison systems discover their own strength by providing them with the support and resources that will empower them to become responsible, economically self-sufficient and contributing members of the community. We are a grassroots nonprofit founded by a formerly incarcerated woman for other formerly incarcerated women. We are strong advocates for women and are committed to providing programs and services that support women in their re-entry efforts from prison to community. We provide a continuum of programs that includes Pre-Release Mentoring to incarcerated women, residential services at Why Not Prosper House and community services at or Resource Center located in Philadelphia PA.

2022 Advocacy Initiatives

**PCCD:** Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP). The primary purpose of the Grant Program is to provide grants to support for local efforts to stop or prevent gun and group violence that is occurring across the state. We support our Anti-Violence programs in the Philadelphia 19144 zip code and Germantown section of the city. We also partnered with Creative Mind Product ions for the Shoot Cameras Not Guns Program.

**McArthur Grant:** B.A.R.B (Breaking All Racial Barriers) program. WNP’s role is to lead a Participatory Action Research (PAR) Project, exploring the needs for justice reinvestment, informed by cost analysis developed in partnership with the Vera Institute of Justice. A select group of WNP participants, already trained in advocacy, will receive training in PAR from Dr. Darlyne Bailey of Bryn Mawr College. Based on the results of the PAR, WNP, and the CAC (Community Advisory Committee) will identify a pilot intervention for further investment and will amplify the results for City leaders.

**Prisons Workshops and Engagement Series:** Pre-Release mentoring weekly via zoom with the prisons. We provide needs assessments and group counselling on domestic violence, life skills, and anger. We also started a birthday club for women who are locked up and we send gifts to children while they are incarcerated. Additionally, we do monthly pre-release workshops inside of the prisons where we provide SWAG Love bags, lunch, and information needed for when the women are released. This year, we served 908 women.

**Health and Vaccination Equity:** We educated black individuals and families about the vaccination process and empowered them to get vaccinated during the pandemic.

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Why Not Prosper, Inc.
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Why Not Prosper Funding

Giving Totals
- Individual Donors: $21,182
- Business / Corporate Donors: $36,212
- Foundation Donors: (Including DOC & PCCD) $776,373
- In-Kind Donors: $72,413

Number of Donors
- Individual Donors: 289
- Business / Corporate Donors: 45
- Foundation Donors: (Including DOC & PCCD) 36
- In-Kind Donors: 38
Why Not Prosper Summary

Each year, 2 million women and girls are released from prisons and jails nationwide. According to national studies, 53% of women in county facilities have medical problems, 32% have serious mental health issues, and 82% have substance abuse issues.

Our Germantown Resource Center and Montgomery County Tele-Service Program provides formerly women in the community with the same services and resources offered in our residential program.

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Why Not Prosper Donors

Businesses and Foundations

Always Best Care
American Civil Liberties Foundation of Pennsylvania
Amuneal Manufacturing Company
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
BLBB Charitable Fund
Bread and Roses Gender Justice Fund
Bread and Roses Opportunity Fund
Bread and Roses Phoebus Fund
Bright Funds
Bryn Mawr Film Institute
Center for Addiction Medicine and Policy
Central Pennsylvania MLK Day of Service
Charities Aid Foundation America - CAF
Claneil Foundation
Cottage PR
CROSSROADS EVANGELISTIC CHURCH
Crowley Family Foundation
Djerassi Foundation
Door Dash
First United Methodist Church of Germantown
Grace Presbyterian Church
Graham Company
GROUPRAISE.COM
Independence Foundation
Jewish Federation Foundation of Greater Rhode Island
Johnson & Johnson
Kenya Jewels
Lenfest Institute for Journalism
Leo and Peggy Pierce Family Foundation
MacArthur Racial and Justice Fund
Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos
Mildred's Dream Foundation
Morgan Stanley Gift Fund
MUHAMMAD'S MARTIAL ARTS
New Century Trust (Gender Justice Fund)
Network for Good
Nonprofit Trust Fund
Oak Foundation
Peerstar LLC
PCCD Women’s Reentry Program
Patricia Kind Foundation
Philadelphia 250
Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity
Self-Development of Peoples Fund
St. Andrews Philoptochos Society
The Business Center for Entrepreneurship and Social Enterprise
The Hess Foundation
The Huston Foundation
The Presbytery of Philadelphia
Tria and Bar Poulet
Typewriter Tarot
Union Benevolent Association
Vanguard Charitable

Individuals

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Charlotte Dabney
Elise D’Amico-Davis
Dana Davis
We are eternally grateful to the growing list of individuals, churches, organizations, foundations and corporations who support our work. We could not do what we do with you.

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!!
Contact Information

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Why Not Prosper House
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G.R.O.W. Program
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