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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OAR NOVA Receives Significant Grant from the Office of Justice Programs to Enhance Second Chance Employment

Fairfax, VA – OAR NOVA is pleased to announce a generous \$900,000 grant from the Office of Justice Programs. This grant, disbursed over three years, will bolster OAR’s Second Chances Employment Program, which provides justice-involved clients with critical resources to secure employment, receive training, and pursue apprenticeships.

This funding aligns with OAR NOVA’s mission to rebuild lives and create a safer community opportunities, alternatives, and resources for justice-involved individuals and their families. By expanding job preparedness initiatives as well as continuing to meet the challenges of returning citizens, the organizations aims to foster long-term economic stability for clients and reduce recidivism, strengthening community safety and resilience.

“Our work at OAR is built around the belief that every individual deserves an opportunity to rebuild and thrive. This grant is a vital investment in our clients’ futures, enabling them to gain meaningful employment and move toward financial independence,” said Derwin Overton, Executive Director of OAR. “This support is critical, and will allow us to enhance our employment services and help justice-involved individuals break the cycle of incarceration.”



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Over the last 53 years, OAR has provided an evolving menu of services to justice-involved clients, The Second Chances Employment Program serves as a key component of the mission by preparing clients for sustained employment through training, résumé building, and workforce development. With this grant, OAR plans to expand these services, making pathways to stable employment more accessible for individuals facing barriers due to justice system involvement.

For more information about OAR NOVA and its programs, please visit oarnova.org or contact AJ Oskuie, Director of Development, at aoskuie@oarnova.org or 703-246-3184.

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OAR is a local non-profit restorative justice organization providing human services since 1971. Our mission is to rebuild lives and create a safer community with opportunities, alternatives, and resources for justice involved individuals and families. OAR provides diversion programs, jail-based reentry services, and community-based services to individuals and families involved in the justice system. More information about OAR can be found at oarnova.org or by calling (703) 246-3033.