



PURELEGACEE INC

SERVICE. HEALING. CHANGE
Where Girls Are WHOLE!

THE PROBLEM

CHILDREN EXPOSED TO THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM AND JUSTICE SYSTEM NEED SUPPORT AND SERVICES TO HELP THEM BEGIN THE TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD.



25% become
homeless



56% become
unemployed



2x more likely to
be arrested

OUR MISSION

The mission of PureLegacee Inc (PLI) is to serve as a haven of healing for females ages 16-24 who have experienced trauma as a direct result of the criminal justice system and/or aging out of foster care and facing homelessness. To accomplish this mission, PureLegacee Inc. provides an alternative to incarceration and advocates for justice reform at a grassroots level. PLI uses training and advocacy as tools to impact systemic change. PureLegacee Inc addresses the needs of individuals who identify as women, girls, non-binary and gender fluid by providing a safe space where they can come to be who they are, we encourage them to show up as their full selves and walk with them as they navigate challenges associated with race, gender and poverty. We do not turn anyone away, we do our best to serve all young women who come to us regardless of their background, income, immigration status, language, gender identity or race.

Pure Legacee Inc. envisions a world where girls obtain safety and wellness after injury directly caused by the criminal justice system; where tools and resources are provided to break the cycle of incarceration and homelessness, and where grassroots advocacy becomes tangible policy reformation. To accomplish this, our mission is to serve as a place to heal while addressing systemic trauma and advocating for the amelioration of current justice structures.

OUR VISION



FOUNDER: NAQUASIA POLLARD

Naquasia Pollard is an advocate, activist and direct service provider. She was incarcerated for 15 years in a Women's Correctional Facility at the age of 19. After being released in 2017, she worked at the Ladies of Hope Ministries where she utilized her BA in Sociology, earned in prison, to support women impacted by incarceration.

A self-motivated, dynamic professional with a diverse background in direct services and people-centered advocacy for systems change. Motivated leader with strong organizational and leadership skills, as well as extensive professional experience in social justice advocacy and client-centered crisis management strategies.

Directly impacted by the criminal justice system and deeply committed to transforming it into a more just and equitable system for women and girls.



OUR OBJECTIVES

- To train participants to become mentors, activists, and organizers
- To provide initial assessments to determine appropriate services
- To provide safe residency
- To provide educational supports and substance abuse referrals
- To address various abuse through professional counseling and group sessions
- To mobilize grassroots legislative changes within the system

OUR PROGRAMS

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

An 8-week Internship Program for girls aging out of the foster care system and impacted by mass incarceration. The goal of the program is to invest in the professional and leadership development of young women of color that are marginalized by society. As a result of this program, young women have increased financial security, access to job opportunities that pay living-wages, and skills that contribute to their professional development. After completion, participants have workforce experience and are better prepared to join the workforce. The three annual goals of the Internship Program are: a) provide soft and hard skills training for 15 girls in every cohort; b) support young women in their restoration and healing journey, helping them unpack the underlying issues that have brought them to this point in their lives; and c) partner with corporate and nonprofit organizations to provide living-wage job opportunities for young women upon completion of the 8-week program.

RESOURCE HUB

A culturally and linguistically relevant virtual resource hub accessible to any young woman within New York City, focusing on the poorest districts: Brownsville, South Bronx, Harlem, and Far Rockaway and Detroit Michigan. The resources included in the hub will be updated every week to stay relevant, accurate and timely. We partner with local service providers to participate in the virtual resource hub to connect young women with critical free and low-cost resources such as opioid training, GED classes and coding classes. The virtual resource hub also provides immediate opportunities for young women to build resiliency, wellness, and safety. The Hub is grounded in community and culture and includes resources to provide the space and tools needed to address mental health and trauma in order to ultimately heal this moment of crisis and beyond.

MENTORSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

A 16-week trauma-Informed Mentorship Training Program focusing on educating young women in community organizing, policy advocacy, and leadership development. This program trains girls to become peer mentors by giving them tools and resources to break the cycle of incarceration, overcome systemic barriers and build community with each other. The goal is to give them a better perspective of self-image to help build their communities through literature, music, art and social media. This program uses the Credible messenger framework to uplift the voices and experiences of directly impacted young women. Reiki sessions are utilized to teach participants holistic healing techniques.

OPERATION CROWN ADJUSTER

This program builds on the success of the Mentorship Training Program, which is a 16-week trauma-Informed program focusing on educating young women in community organizing, policy advocacy, and leadership development. Operation Crown Adjuster is an 8 week program created to expand opportunities for girls that have completed the Mentorship Training Program. They are paired as mentors, ages 17-24 ("Bigs"), with young girls ages 9-13 ("Lils") to engage in high-exposure field trips and activities to further enrich social emotional growth and personal development. The goal is to provide peer mentorship to young girls to create and trusting a safe space that addresses negative experiences like bullying, sexual harassment and other social issues. The annual goal is to recruit and enroll 8 little girls per cohort.

