BLUE WATERS RECOVERY FOUNDATION · YOUR WORK STARTER

Welcome home. Your next job is out there.

Worried about being turned down for jobs? That worry makes sense. Many employers hire people with records, and a record does not decide your worth. Feeling behind is normal. You do not have to figure this out alone. Start with one call. Blue Waters is simply a sober living home that has gathered resources in one place. This sheet is a jumping-off point. Your first call is a peer.

1 Your first call: a peer recovery specialist

A peer who has been through it can walk you through these steps. Fellowship RCO's **Certified Recovery Peer Specialists** meet one-on-one, help you make a plan, and link you to resources. Ask about **Back 2 Work**: job readiness, résumés, job search help.

START HERE · FELLOWSHIP RCO ·

Margate **(754) 205-7428** · Fort Lauderdale **(954) 760-6893**
Walk in Mon–Fri, 9 AM–5 PM, or call for an appointment.

NEXT · BSO REENTRY

(954) 375-6293
Ask for a **mentor**.

2 Your work plan

Start here · Honest Jobs, free for job seekers: fair-chance employers who hire people with records. **honestjobs.com/for-job-seekers**

CareerSource Broward: computer basics, résumés, training. careersourcebroward.com

Goodwill South Florida Project R.I.S.E.
Fort Lauderdale · **(954) 486-1600**

OIC of South Florida · oicsfl.org · **(954) 563-3535**
Ask about post-release employment.

Re-Entry One · reentryone.org · **(305) 990-4387**

Blue Waters jobs board · bwrfoundation.org/jobs

Fair chance means they will consider you instead of an automatic no. **Second chance** means they have said publicly that they hire people who were incarcerated. A list is not a promise. Check before you apply.

Asked about the years away? *Keep it short and true: "I'm ready to work, I show up, and I learn fast."*

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC). It has given businesses a federal tax credit of up to $2,400 for hiring someone within a year of release. It lapsed at the end of 2025. Congress has renewed it back-dated before, so ask them to fill out IRS Form 8850 with you by the day they offer you the job. dol.gov/agencies/eta/wotc

WHILE YOU LOOK

3 Your papers

Employers need these to hire you.

- **FL birth certificate** · floridahealth.gov
- **Social Security card** · ssa.gov/ssnumber
- **FL ID** · flhsmv.gov
- **Keep your DOC papers.** They back up your ID.
- A **phone and email**. Ask your peer specialist where to start.

4 Money while you look

At 65 or older, SSI can be there based on age. Income limits apply.

1-800-772-1213

- Ask for **SSI**. At 65+ you can qualify by age. **No work credits needed.**
- **Income and resource limits apply.** Food or housing help can change SSI. Tell SSA the truth.
- Have them **check old retirement credits**. Bring **release papers and ID**.

SNAP: myaccess.myflfamilies.com
Area Agency on Aging of Broward: adrcbroward.org · helpline **(954) 745-9779**
2-1-1 Broward: dial **2-1-1** for food, clothes, legal aid.

A "no" isn't the end. It's one door. The next "yes" is out there. Stuck? **Call your peer specialist.**

BLUE WATERS RECOVERY FOUNDATION
bwrfoundation.org/resources · pick the "Newly released" filter

MAIN OFFICE
(954) 344-0550

Call ahead to confirm hours and eligibility. Programs and benefit rules can change.