



FREE Launches the Two Million Feet of Hope Campaign

Woodland Hills, CA - December 16, 2018 - [Freedom House Reentry Education and Employment Corp. \(FREE\)](#) announces the launch of new efforts in its platform for mentoring, providing resources and support to formerly incarcerated individuals. The initiative, known as [2mfeetofhope](#), looks establish 2 million Square Feet of commercial marijuana grow sites.. This along with retail establishments, distribution outlets and the manufacturing of marijuana based products, FREE hopes to reach a modest projected revenue in excess of \$500M annually. Up to 50% of this projected will go directly into programming and to other organizations whose mission, like FREE's is to fight to reduce recidivism.

The campaign title [2mfeetofhope](#) is representative of the of 2 million sq. ft. of cultivable grow space that is planned.. Aside from the \$500 million in gross revenues for programs mentioned above, [2mfeetofhope](#) also looks to create 2500 high-paying jobs in the areas where the grow sites are located, with average salaries of \$52,000 per year. The job benefits will include a 401(k) with savings, health benefits and tuition reimbursement programs. 52% of the workforce at the grow facility will be women.

"This facility is literally the first of its kind," remarked Dylan Hood, founder of [2mfeetofhope](#). "We are waging war on the war on drugs with weed! It is unfortunate that we are still in the middle of a society that unjustly and disproportionately jails people of color for nonviolent drug offenses. We are going to stop this cycle by providing opportunities."

[2mfeetofhope](#) is seeking \$500,000 in donations over the next six months to launch its first grow site. These initial funds will be put towards an irrigation system, grow tables, grow lights and an extraction lab. Donators can direct their donation to any of these specific causes. Those who donate \$100 or more will be entered into a naming sweepstakes to have a strain from the grow facility named after them.

[2mfeetofhope](#) is the latest anti-recidivism effort from California organization FREE. First established in July 2013, [FREE](#) was first incorporated in Illinois as a nonprofit corporation. The mission of FREE is to reduce recidivism through reentry programming and by creating social enterprise opportunities that empower the formerly incarcerated, their families and their communities.

Revenue from the [2mfeetofhope](#) program will benefit existing programs: Children with Incarcerated Parents Program (CWIP), the Vet Help Phone Program (VHAPP) and the Get Help App™. "We believe that [2mfeetofhope](#) is going to be an essential component in our growing portfolio of resources to fight recidivism and give help to the people in society who need it most," says Hood. "Helping to build this program will truly empower all of society, because we are giving people meaningful work in an industry that is going to affect all of society in the coming years."

For more information on the [2mfeetofhope](#) program, watch the [video](#) here. Donations are administered [here](#) on the website. Amazon customers can elect to automatically donate a small percentage of qualifying purchases to FREE initiatives by going to [Amazon Smile](#).

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About FREE

Established in July 2013, [Freedom House Reentry Education and Employment Corp. \(FREE\)](#) is a non-for-profit organization that provides wraparound services to formerly incarcerated adults, veterans, and their children. Our mission is to reduce recidivism through reentry programming and by creating social enterprise opportunities that empower the formerly incarcerated, their families, and their communities.

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Entrepreneur Dylan Hood celebrates success in the real estate and construction industry by giving back to those in need.



Woodland Hills, CA - December 16, 2018 California entrepreneur Dylan Hood is finding success in a different area—giving back to the community and helping adults become productive members of society in a unique way.

After starting his career as the founder of Patria Partners and Patria Construction, he became the largest Section 8 landlord in the Chicagoland area. He later founded the successful real estate brokerage firm, Dylan Hood and Associates. But despite amassing significant success in the construction industry, he realized it wasn't his calling.

“After working with numerous tenants and other people in the neighborhoods of Chicago, I realized that there was a major need for helping people re-enter society,” Hood explains. “Men and women coming directly out of prison. Children of incarcerated parents. And veterans with criminal justice involvement.”

After making a detour in his career, Dylan made the commitment to public service and enrolled at Loyola University-Chicago's School of Social Work. During that time, he began to research re-entry programs and found them increasingly lacking. So, he decided to start his own— [Freedom House Reentry Education and Employment Corporation \(FREE\)](#).

“The FREE program is designed to assist individuals and their children after incarceration. By providing support through our program, we can help reduce the risk of future legal issues and help them on the path to lead productive lives,” Hood continues.

FREE's current project includes a [first-of-its-kind marijuana grow facility](#) that employs people of color who have been formerly incarcerated for marijuana-related offenses. Appropriately nicknamed two million square feet of hope, the project is slated to create thousands of jobs with an average salary of \$52,000 plus benefits. All revenue generated goes toward the organization's programs and communities.

The FREE program has seen much success, helping dozens of families since inception. However, there's still more work to be done. The organization's grow site needs to raise a total of \$500,000 through donations and is currently accepting funds for various aspects of the project including lights, tables, irrigation, an extraction lab and more.

Despite the interest of the [FREE](#) program, Dylan says that's not where his generosity ends.



“I would love to incorporate more of the real estate and construction industry in the FREE program,” he explains. “There are so many more people we can help by bridging these two groups—people looking for jobs and those who are open to hiring employees that need a little bit of help. I really feel like we can do great things in the coming year by working together.”

Those interested in interviewing Dylan Hood about his achievements or FREE's latest project, please email info@freereentry.org.

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