

Juneteenth

A CELEBRATION OF
FREEDOM, RESILIENCE
& PROGRESS

JUNE 2026

NEWSLETTER

HONORING JUNETEENTH | CELEBRATING FREEDOM | EMPOWERING FUTURES



FEATURED PARTNER



ReNforce

Diversifying the Workforce



Custom Training & Coaching for Businesses
and Career-Seekers

Freedom Forward: Honoring the Journey, Empowering the Future



In This Newsletter:

Opening Doors, Your Voice Still Matters, Building Careers Through Trade, More Than a Moment, Breaking Breaking Barriers Medical Billing Cohort

June is a month that reminds us that freedom is not something we simply celebrate. It is something we must protect, expand, and ensure is accessible to everyone.

As we honor Juneteenth, I find myself reflecting on the difference between being free and having access to opportunity. For many justice-impacted individuals, the barriers do not end when incarceration ends. Too often, people return home ready to contribute, only to face obstacles to employment, housing, education, and even civic participation.

At ReNforce, we believe freedom should include the opportunity to work, to provide for your family, to have your voice heard, and to build a future that is not defined by your past.

This month, I am proud of the work our community continues to do. From advocating for fair access through legislation like SB 207, to helping individuals explore careers in the trades and healthcare, to educating communities about voting rights, we are proving that second chances are about more than redemption. They are about restoration, economic mobility, and belonging.

Freedom is not just the absence of barriers. Freedom is having a pathway forward. That pathway is built every time an employer says yes, every time a community member gets engaged, every time a person chooses to believe that someone's future is worth investing in.

Thank you for continuing to stand with ReNforce. Together, we are opening doors, building futures, and creating communities where opportunity is not reserved for a few, but available to all.



Opening Doors:

EXPANDING ACCESS THROUGH SB 207

ReNforce was proud to stand present as Dr. Charlotte Garnes, Executive Director of ReNforce, attended the signing of [SB 207](#) alongside advocates and organizations continuing to push for fair access to employment opportunities across Georgia.

We also want to highlight the continued leadership and advocacy of the [Georgia Justice Project](#), whose work has remained instrumental in advancing conversations around occupational licensing reform and second chances for justice-impacted individuals throughout our state.

Beginning in July 2027, this legislation represents an important step toward reducing barriers tied to occupational licensing and workforce access. As these changes move forward, ReNforce remains committed to preparing our justice-impacted community, supporting workforce readiness, and helping employers build stronger and more inclusive hiring pathways.

If your organization believes in fair chance hiring and workforce inclusion, we invite you to partner with ReNforce as we continue creating pathways toward opportunity, restoration, and economic mobility.



Your Voice Still Matters:

YOUR VOTE, YOUR VOICE, YOUR COMMUNITY

ReNforce has continued expanding our civic engagement efforts throughout the community, from hosting listening sessions at local community centers to gathering in churches across Augusta to educate and empower our neighbors.

Recently, ReNforce partnered with [Harmony Baptist Church](#) to host a community conversation focused on voting rights and civic awareness. One of the most important messages shared was simple: individuals with prior felony convictions may still have the right to vote once they are no longer on probation. Many people in our communities are unaware that their voice still matters and that they still have the power to participate in shaping what happens around them. We are grateful to Pastor Whitney C. Simmons and Harmony Baptist Church for opening their doors and allowing this partnership.

Through open conversations and community engagement, we continue encouraging individuals to stay informed, get involved, and use their voice.

We invite you to stay connected and join our civic engagement efforts. If you would like to attend future meetings, listening sessions, or community conversations, please register through our referral link and select civic engagement to stay informed on upcoming events and opportunities.





Building Careers Through the Trades

CAREER EXPOSURE CREATES CAREER POSSIBILITIES

This month, we would like to highlight the opportunities available through the electrical trade industry here in Augusta, Georgia. Programs like the electrical union apprenticeship provide individuals with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience, classroom learning, and career development within a growing field.

Applications for upcoming classes are currently open, and individuals are encouraged to visit the training center on Tuesdays to complete assessments and learn more about the enrollment process.

If you are interested in exploring a future in the trades, we encourage you to learn more through the link below.

👉 [Visit the Electrical Union Apprenticeship Program Here](#)

Breaking Barriers: Medical Billing Cohort

ReNforce is excited to announce our upcoming Breaking Barriers Medical Billing & Coding Program, beginning July 6, 2026.

This scholarship-based opportunity supports justice-impacted individuals interested in entering the healthcare field through a mandatory 90-day cohort focused on workforce readiness and career growth.

Seats are limited. To register, complete the interest form and select "Support in Certifications." Our team will follow up with additional details and final enrollment confirmation.

👉 [Register now and share this opportunity with your community.](#)



More Than a Moment:

A TESTIMONY OF GROWTH

Kionna, a graduate of our March 2026 Customer Service Specialist Cohort, continues to show what growth and determination look like in real time.

With a background in the medical field, Kionna has successfully gained stable employment at Select Specialty Hospital here in Augusta, Georgia, securing a strong starting rate to support herself and her family.

These are more than moments; they are real-life transitions happening right before our eyes. We celebrate your continued success and career growth, Kionna. Keep rising!

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[BEYOND THE RECORD: INVESTING IN PEOPLE, POWER, AND POSSIBILITY](#)



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