

DAY WON FOUNDATION

Prevention. Healing. Accountability.



“When the community wins, we ALL win.”

Presented by: Dez Alvarado, Co-Founder



WHO IS DAY WON?

- Founded in 2021 during COVID
- Unique team:
- Formerly incarcerated individuals
- Survivors & victims of crime
- Built intentionally to bridge both sides of harm

“Accountability and healing can exist together.”



THE GAP WE ADDRESS

By the time systems respond...

The damage is already done.

We work in the space **before:**

- Gang involvement
- Criminal charges
- System placement
- Incarceration

Prevention is not a theory. It's relationship.

2021 COVID IMPACT ON YOUTH

- Isolation
- Increased social media conflict
- Bullying escalated
- Gang recruitment increased
- Risky behavior & crime increased
- Severe mental health crises
- Suicide ideation





Many impacted families:

- Do not engage with institutions
- Do not feel represented
- Do not feel understood

“They don’t open up to people who don’t look like them, sound like them, or share lived experience.”

This is where Day Won bridges the gap.

COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION

- Community healing circles
- Mentorship
- Family support
- Resource navigation
- Employment & reentry support

LARGE-SCALE COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Back to School
- Trunk or Treat
- Thanksgiving
- Christmas



“We bring resources directly to the community.”

PROVEN IMPACT (SINCE 2023)

- 65+ individuals gained employment
- 20+ formerly incarcerated secured housing
- 71 youth sponsorships
- 150+ connected to trauma, DV, and substance abuse services
- 1,800–2,500 direct service hours annually

FOLLOW-UP OUTCOMES:

- 80–90% avoid returning to incarceration during engagement
- 70–80% secure employment when job-ready



“We’re not asking you to believe in a theory. This is already working.”

COMMUNITY GROWTH

Program	2023	2024	2025
Back to School	185 backpacks	487 backpacks	1,250 backpacks
Trunk or Treat	500 families	1,000 families	4,000 families
Thanksgiving	120 families	305 families (+100 grocery boxes)	467 families

“Every year, the need has grown — and so has the trust.”

We also serve youth inside:

- Decker Lake
- Gemstone
- Slate Canyon

Workshops focus on:

- Purpose
- Accountability
- Identity
- Healing without judgment



“When youth are seen before release, outcomes shift after release.”



FUNDING WOULD SUPPORT:

- Safe & consistent program space
- Curriculum & materials
- Transportation (bus passes, travel support)
- Vital documents (ID, Social Security)
- Youth registration fees
- Clothing & hygiene
- Family stabilization support

“These are small costs that prevent large system costs.”



DAY WON HAS BEEN:

- Self-funded since 2021
- Supported by family & grassroots donors
- Built through community trust

We are not asking to start.
We are asking to sustain impact responsibly.

