

# SHIMERE SHANKLIN

Rockford, Illinois

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Passionate advocate, organizer, and community leader with experience supporting individuals directly impacted by incarceration through community outreach, program coordination, and legal relief resource navigation. Strong communicator with proven ability to lead initiatives, build partnerships, and operate in high-pressure environments. Founder of Sisters by Love, a women-centered reentry housing initiative rooted in dignity, restoration, and second chances.

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### Founder/Director — Sisters by Love (Reentry Housing Initiative)

Rockford, IL | 2020 – Present

- Founded and leads a women-centered reentry housing and healing initiative focused on stabilization, support, and community reintegration.
- Builds partnerships with community organizations and local leaders to connect women returning home with essential resources.
- Supports program planning, resident expectations, volunteer coordination, and community engagement.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Marshalls — Retail Associate

Rockford, IL | November 2025 – Present

- Supports customer service operations in a fast-paced retail environment through professionalism, communication, and teamwork.
- Assists with daily store operations, organization, and customer experience.

### Illinois Coalition to End Permanent Punishments (ENDPP) — Campaign Manager / Northern Illinois Regional Coordinator

Illinois | 2024 – March 2025

- Organized statewide forums and expungement summits serving 200+ participants, connecting individuals with legal relief resources and community supports.

## **CORE SKILLS**

Community Organizing & Advocacy • Program Development & Facilitation • Reentry Support & Resource Navigation • Legal Relief Support (Expungement/Sealing Resources) • Partnership Building & Collaboration • Public Speaking & Storytelling • Documentation, Reporting, & Administrative Support • Microsoft Office & Database Management