

re*new
UPHOLSTERY
PROGRAM



FURNITURE THAT WOULD OTHERWISE
BE DISCARDED IS REUPHOLSTERED
AND RESTORED HERE.

**YOUTH AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS
LEARN THE CRAFT OF UPHOLSTERY**

—
**BUILDING SKILLS AND PATHWAYS
INTO THE TRADES.**



MISSION ALIGNMENT

Re*New sits at the intersection of three of MIH's core values: dignity, circularity, and abundance. Every piece restored is a demonstration that both people and objects deserve a second chance.

DIGNITY

Participants earn wages from day one of paid programming.

CIRCULARITY

Furniture is repaired and returned to use rather than sent to landfill.

ABUNDANCE

Re*New builds a pipeline of skilled tradespeople to meet growing regional demand.

LONGEVITY

Training produces durable, quality work — and durable, quality careers.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Re*New Upholstery Training & Incubation Program is a workforce development initiative created by Make It Home (MIH), a Bay Area nonprofit furniture bank based in Novato, California. MIH was founded on the belief that furniture inequity is a logistics problem, not a scarcity problem — and Re*New extends that mission by transforming underutilized furniture into meaningful economic opportunity.

Re*New provides participants with a structured, multi-stage pathway into the upholstery trade: from hands-on classroom instruction through a paid real-world internship, an advanced paid assistant role, and integrated entrepreneurial training. Upon completion of all five levels, participants will have logged approximately 2,490 hours — roughly 50% of the hours required to achieve Journeyman status in the upholstery trade.

RE*New is open to everyone. Classes are available to any member of the community with an interest in the upholstery trade — no prior experience is required. Scholarships and stipends are available for eligible participants, and applicants who receive scholarship support are given priority access to internship and assistantship opportunities in Levels 4 and 5.

PARTICIPANT SUPPORT OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Re*New integrates wraparound support into all levels of the program, recognizing that the participants it serves often face complex barriers to employment and stability. Technical training alone is not sufficient — participants need individualized support to engage fully and succeed long-term.

HOLISTIC EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

- Individualized career coaching and career development planning for each participant
- Instructor assessment of barriers to success, in partnership with referring agencies
- Regular check-ins for accountability, encouragement, and course correction

BARRIER REMOVAL

- Stipends available that can be applied toward transportation, childcare, and basic needs
- Access to partner agency services including childcare subsidies, family support, and legal and healthcare referrals
- Instruction designed to be inclusive of diverse cultural backgrounds, learning styles, and prior experiences

EMPLOYMENT READINESS

- Resume workshops, interview coaching, and job search assistance
- Employer partnerships for direct placement in upholstery businesses, furniture manufacturers, and interior design firms
- On-the-job coaching and mentorship for up to one year post-graduation

PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES CONTINUED

- Career ladder support enabling participants to advance to higher-wage, managerial, or entrepreneurial positions
- Completion of three levels of upholstery classroom training (90 hours total)
- Successful completion of a paid, full-time internship at a partner business (240 hours)
- One year of full-time paid employment in the upholstery trade (2,080 hours)
- Approximately 2,490 total training hours — roughly 50% of hours required for Journeyman status
- A professional portfolio of completed upholstery projects with documentation
- Resume-ready certificates of completion from each classroom level
- Business and entrepreneurial skills sufficient to pursue self-employment
- Connection to a regional network of industry professionals and employers





re*new

LEVEL ONE UPHOLSTERY

MAKE IT HOME
415-578-3205
15 PAMARON WAY
NOVATO CA 94949



MONDAYS 10AM-3PM
JULY 6, 13, 20, 27
& AUGUST 10, 17

\$650 FEE
ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED

This beginner-friendly course will teach you how to transform a piece of furniture from start to finish — from breaking it down to rebuilding it with care. Along the way, you'll build confidence using tools, learn essential upholstery techniques, and gain skills that can grow into future opportunities. A total of 30 hours of hands-on instruction

EMAIL TRAINING@MAKEITHOMEBAYAREA.ORG TO REGISTER



re*new

MAKE IT HOME
415-578-3205
15 PAMARON WAY
NOVATO CA 94949

LEVEL TWO UPHOLSTERY



WEDNESDAY, 11AM-4PM
AUGUST 19TH – SEPTEMBER 23RD

\$650 FEE
ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED

Level 2 builds on the foundational skills learned in Level 1 through more advanced upholstery projects and techniques. Students will deepen their technical abilities by learning webbing, advanced sewing, and professional finishing methods. Each student will complete a Level 2 project and sew a custom cushion with a zipper, welt, and boxing. The course concludes with a certificate of completion.

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15 PAMARON WAY
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LEVEL THREE UPHOLSTERY



MONDAYS 11AM-4PM
OCT. 12TH - NOV. 16TH

\$650 FEE
ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED

Level 3 builds on the skills developed in Levels 1 and 2 through more advanced and detailed upholstery projects. Students will focus on precision, craftsmanship, and confidence while continuing to strengthen their technical skills. Progress, not perfection, remains the goal. By the end of the course, students will have completed a Level 3 project and received a certificate of completion.

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INTRODUCTION TO SEWING

MAKE IT HOME
415-578-3205
15 PAMARON WAY
NOVATO CA 94949



TUESDAYS 10AM-1PM
JULY 28 - AUGUST 25

\$450 FEE
ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED

Learn the essentials of sewing with confidence on industrial Juki machines. This beginner-friendly class will guide you through how to use a sewing machine — including threading, winding bobbins, and basic troubleshooting. You'll complete small, hands-on projects designed to build the most useful foundational skills.

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