



State Reentry Council Collaborative Quarterly Meeting Notes (June 12, 2024)

Director of Reentry Services Lateisha Thrash, NCDAC Rehabilitative and Reentry, welcomed all in attendance for the 2nd quarter SRCC meeting. Director Thrash read the “Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Reminder”.

Chief Deputy Secretary Maggie Brewer, NCDAC Rehabilitation & Reentry and Correctional Services, welcomed all in attendance and thanked everyone for their contribution in assisting justice involved individuals across the state. She thanked Policy Advisor, Ziev Dalsheim-Kahane, Office of the Governor for being in attendance and supporting DAC. CDS Brewer gave some brief/quick updates on Reentry 2030 and Joint Reentry Councils subcommittees and encouraged everyone to attend these monthly meetings. CDS Brewer shared how there is good work happening across the state with a lot of great initiatives. She referenced how this meeting will reflect some of the good work that is happening which coincides with some of our SRCC recommendations.

Deputy Secretary George Pettigrew, NCDAC Rehabilitation and Reentry Services, opened by thanking everyone for the work being done in the reentry space across the state of NC. He how Reentry 2030 Joint Reentry Council meets monthly and need everyone in attendance today to attend. DS Pettigrew shared how the work of the Strategic Plan is taking shape to be submitted next month, July 31st to the Governor. He again shared how the JRC Strategic Plan will help to energize SRCC. He discussed how he will share more later in the agenda. DS Pettigrew appreciated all who attended this year’s 2024 Rehabilitation and Reentry Conference which yielded over 700 attendees. He shared that 2025 goal is to have over 800 attendees.

Chief Deputy Secretary Maggie Brewer, NCDAC Rehabilitation & Reentry and Correctional Services, presented on HOPE University. CDS Brewer shared content, free or paid, the offender population have access to. She shared new content that has been added on the tablets. CDS Brewer provided specific details on the number of certificates and hours completed on the tablet by our offender population.

Kerwin Pittman, Founder of RREPS – Recidivism Reduction Educational Program Services, he opened to thank NC DAC Leadership for providing the opportunity to share this program to the population of those incarcerated and returning to local communities. Mr. Pittman shared his personal story of being incarcerated which brought him to an idea of implementing a resource of help to others who are returning. He shared how the Recidivism Reduction hotline was launched in April 2024, allow individuals recently released from prison/jail and those seeking re-entry information to connect with a RREPS specialist to request information about employment, housing, healthcare, public benefits services and more. The hotline is managed by others with lived experiences Monday through Friday 9am to 5pm. The hotline covers all 100 counties throughout the state of North Carolina. Mr. Pittman stated that as of to date there have been over 850 calls received through the hotline. He shared the news clip



about an individual recently released from incarceration sharing how the hotline has helped aid him upon release.

Deputy Secretary George Pettigrew, NCDAC Rehabilitation and Reentry Services, shared more details about Reentry 2030 and the JRC 7 Subcommittees. DS Pettigrew shared the goals covered through the subcommittees in the Strategic Plan which is due July 31st and the first Progress Report due December 1st to the Governor. He shared how the Strategic Plans provide strategies, goals and metrics. DS Pettigrew shared there have been 5 JRC meetings since the kick-off of Reentry 2030. The next JRC meeting will be July 24th, 10am at the Food Bank in Raleigh area.

Public Comments:

- **What is the difference between SRCC vs. JRC?** DS Pettigrew provided clarity on SRCC having specific recommendations versus JRC being directive driven. He additionally shared how Reentry2030 is a “Whole of Government Coordination” that is directly from the Executive Order 303. Ziev gave an example of the overlap with LRC expansion being part of an SRCC recommendation and part of the JRC goals.
- **Who is the chair of the JRC Housing Subcommittee?** CDS Brewer shared how the role has transitioned to Sherri Cook, Division of Community Supervision.
- **How can facility case managers and LRCs work close without hiccups?** DS Pettigrew shared how we are bridging the gap of communication through in-reach.
- **Wake LRC – James Johnson**, shared how Wake LRC is working on several initiatives for the local community. He shared a flyer about their Second Chance Initiative to help justice involved individuals find career opportunities, obtain professional development and strong support.

Director of Reentry Services Lateisha Thrash, NCDAC Rehabilitation and Reentry Services, provided closing remarks by thanking everyone for attending. She emphasized for all to view the SRCC Recommendation information given and stay tuned for the next upcoming SRCC Quarterly Meeting in August.