

## **Reentry Roundtable Session (Virtual)**

**Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 2:00 PM**

### **Attendance:**

Paul Thompson  
Anita Bennett  
Shamira Wright  
Shelby Valentine  
James Johnson  
Carolyn Perry  
Tanesha Kelly

Lou Grillo  
Kisha High  
Kelly Hundley  
Deborah Cozart  
Monica Satterwhite  
Hal Muetzel  
Dr. Irene Ware

Curtis Brame  
Jerry Edmonds  
Irene Johnson  
Tony Tosh  
Durwood Hunter  
John Mattocks  
Dr. David Ware

### **Welcome and Introductions of New Members & Guests:**

Reentry partners and guests were welcomed to the meeting. Paul Thompson, owner of CPG Logistics, a small transportation company joined the meeting today. He has worked for nine years as a correctional officer before he began career as a health care worker and a pastor. He hopes to diminish some of the transportation issues faced by the reentry population. CPG Logistics covers Vance, Granville, Durham, and Franklin counties. Mr. Thompson's contact information:

**Paul Thompson**

**CPG Logistics, LLC**

**(919) 592-6737**

[paulgthompson@yahoo.com](mailto:paulgthompson@yahoo.com)

### **Introduction of Local Reentry Council Coordinator:**

Kisha High is the new local Reentry Council Coordinator and will be the lead for the council. Kisha is also the Strategic Initiatives Coordinator. She will be finding funding for reentry and help move the reentry roundtable to a reentry council. Kisha is working with Vincent Gaddy, Community Development Specialist with DPS on getting the roundtable moved to a council. He will be attending some of the roundtable meetings to get information on assisting with this process.

### **Service Provider Program Updates:**

- James shared that referrals were flowing in for the reentry program. There are 10 that will be returning to the outside and they are working with two on the outside at the moment. One of men they are working with addressed the Reentry Roundtable at the last meeting. Another young man has been working six weeks. He received his heavy equipment and forklift training and received a promotion and a raise. Eric Owens, mentor for the program, Carolyn Perry, and the case manager have helped tremendously in assisting the reentry customer with the challenges he faces. The Case Manager, Employment Specialist, and the mentor meet with clients once a week. Carolyn Perry, the Employment Specialist receives calls every day from businesses needing employees. There are many jobs out there and some begin at \$17.25 an hour

and also give a sign on bonus too. The New Start program offers on the spot job coaching. James said that they are appreciative of the partnership and to please send referrals.

- Tony Tosh is meeting with area churches about the reentry program. One of the churches offered six rooms for transitional housing. Also there is a program for reentry population to learn construction trades and also get help in finding employment. He will be sharing his outreach efforts at future meetings.
- Dr. David Ware and Dr. Irene Ware are pastors that will be providing transitional rooms for reentry population. They are providing outreach and happy to be a part of this group.
- Frank Mattocks with the Recovery Center is just getting started with the reentry population. Also people with opioid use disorder can receive help with medicated assisted treatment. The center has a grant that can help with transportation, food, clothing, and housing and would like to link up with other agencies in the area to meet the needs of the reentry population. The grant is for reentry people in Vance, Granville, Franklin, and Warren.

#### **Housing Subcommittee Update:**

Shamira, chair of the housing subcommittee, provided an update. The COVID Emergency Relief Assistance Fund is very restrictive. She received an electronic copy of the Landlord Rights and Responsibilities. The landlords are not allowed to evict tenants until around February or March of 2022. Also, there has not been any luck in getting months paid on schedule to landlords. Most of the applications take two or three months to process. There are just too many barriers.

Dr. David Ware and Dr. Irene Ware volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Volunteers are needed to be on the Housing Subcommittee. Please let Lou know if you would like to join the subcommittee. This subcommittee will be meeting separately to discuss housing solutions and ideas.

#### **Local Updates:**

##### **NC Works Career Center:**

- There is a YouTube video about the labor shortage. The video mentions reentry as a labor gap. The video will be sent out to everyone. Here are two hiring events planned. Person County will hold an event for Corning out of Durham at the B Deck on Friday, August 20, 2021 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. On Saturday, August 21, 2021, there will be a Community Job Fair and Community Resources event from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. There will be over 20 resource providers and employers present.
- A free Expungement Clinic Webinar will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 2:30 PM. said we would like to have an event in person but will check and see if the link for the webinar can be sent out to those that are unable to attend it. Kisha will look into this.
- Beginning of December 1, 2021, all dismissed cases will be expunged.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 2:00 pm.

