Supporting Formerly Incarcerated People With a Fresh Start @ Your Library

Presented by

Sherry Sandler
NJ State Parole Board

Sarah Swiderski, LSW
NJ State Library

Nicole Warren, LSW
NJ State Library
More than 650,000 ex-offenders are released from prison every year.
POLL

Which of these challenges do you think **MOST** impacts a formerly incarcerated person’s reentry success?

a. economic  
b. financial  
c. educational  
d. societal  
e. technological
REENTRY CHALLENGES

- Technological
- Economic
- Societal
- Educational
- Familial
OUR GRANT PARTNERS

INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES

NJ State Library
An affiliate of Thomas Edison State University

DOL

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

LONG BRANCH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
OUR GRANT PARTNERS

Tonya Garcia, Director
tgarcia@longbranchlib.org

David Perez, Bilingual Social Worker
dperez@longbranchlib.org
1. Gain insight into the process of conducting outreach to formerly incarcerated individuals

2. Understand the importance of relationships and partnerships in providing reentry services to formerly incarcerated individuals in the community

3. Consider their library’s capacity for using this model to provide services to formerly incarcerated individuals
GRANT PROVISIONS

- Two-year duration
- Library is the central resource for social services
- Employment referrals and job readiness training
- Reentry Resource Fairs at each location
- End-of-grant Job Fairs at each library location
- Aztec software to help students prepare for the High School Equivalency exam
- Payment for 50 people at each library to take the HSE exam
SUPPORTING CLIENTS: LOCAL RESOURCE GUIDES

2020 Resource Guide

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS ................................................................. 1
LETTER FROM THE STATE LIBRARIAN ......................................... 1
YOUR FRESH START TEAM .......................................................... 2
YOUR FRESH START SERVICES ...................................................... 3
LONG BRANCH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS & SERVICES ....... 5
IN PERSON .................................................................................... 5
ONLINE ....................................................................................... 5
GENERAL SUPPORT ................................................................. 6
VISIT YOUR LOCAL FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER ......................... 6
IDENTIFICATION ......................................................................... 7
SOCIAL SECURITY CARD ............................................................ 7
BIRTH CERTIFICATE ..................................................................... 7
GREEN CARD/ALIEN REGISTRATION CARD/NATURALIZATION OR CITIZENSHIP .............................. 8
DRIVER'S LICENSE .................................................................... 8
VETERANS' SERVICES ............................................................... 9
EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE ....................................................... 10
VISIT YOUR ONE-STOP CAREER CENTER ..................................... 10
Long Branch Free Public Library Career and Technology Center .... 10
VISIT POPULAR JOB SEARCH WEBSITES .................................... 11
ENTREPRENEURSHIP ............................................................... 11
Banking ...................................................................................... 11
OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT OR PREPAID DEBIT ACCOUNT ............ 11
Food Assistance .......................................................................... 12
Housing Assistance ..................................................................... 12
NU HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER ............................................... 12
TEMPORARY HOUSING .............................................................. 12
RENT & HOUSING ASSISTANCE ................................................ 13
Healthcare .................................................................................. 13
APPLY FOR TANF/SNAP/SAFETY NET ........................................... 13
HEALTHCARE MARKETPLACE ................................................ 13
MEDICAL & DENTAL CARE ....................................................... 13
The Dr. Barry D. Eastin Dental Center At Monmouth Family Health Center .................................................. 14
MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE ................................. 14
Education & Training ................................................................. 15
GED/HiSET/ZAC Preparation ...................................................... 15
Higher Education ....................................................................... 15
Jobs Career Training .................................................................... 15
Legal Assistance ......................................................................... 16
Reentry Services ........................................................................ 16

LONG BRANCH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

These services were made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. www.imls.gov
FRESH START RESOURCE CENTER

Start Fresh Right Here

"Fresh Start was created because no one should be defined by their worst day. We can't undo what was done in the past, but we can take ownership of today and create a new version of the future we once imagined.

Tonya Garcia, Fresh Start Founder & website creator"
FRESH START SERVICES

Start services are available at Long Branch Public Library via appointment, Skype and phone. No walk ins are being accepted but we are still here to help! Feel free to call our social worker, David Perez during regular business hours and we’ll make sure to reply shortly!

LONG BRANCH HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday - 10am-3pm
Wednesday 3pm-8pm
Closed Sunday

MONMOUTH COUNTY VIRTUAL RESOURCE FAIR

On November 19, 2020 we held our first virtual resource fair. Local social service and government agencies that serve formerly incarcerated people participated, and share valuable information about the programs and resources they provide. Watch one of the videos below to learn more information about how you can get help with:
Fresh Start at Your Library Reentry Program

If you’re on probation parole, if you’re maxed out or are on supervised release then you should be a part of FreshStart@YourLibrary. Our mission is to help Returning Citizens find employment, housing and access necessary services to be successful, and reintegrate with your family. If you wish to change your life and get a fresh start ... call us at 1-609-847-9029.

Atlantic Cape is here to help you get back into the workforce. Choose training programs and gain a new skill for an in-demand career.

Former inmates face housing hurdles. NJ looks to change that — and reduce recidivism

The Fair Chance in Housing Act would bar a landlord from asking about an applicant’s criminal history before giving them a conditional offer to rent.
SOCIAL MEDIA : YOUTUBE

Fresh Start @ Your Library

Fresh Start @ Your Library is a statewide library reentry program that is focused on reconnecting returning citizens with their communities at public libraries.
PARTNERSHIPS: NJ STATE PAROLE BOARD
From NJ State Parole’s experience with Fresh Start, we know that reentry partners can help:

- Referrals
- Collaborate outside of the box
- Talk with the folks who have walked the walk
- Conferences and professional association meetings (ACA/APPA/AJA)
- Resources
- Community coalitions (reentry/at-risk/homeless/juvenile)
- Outreach to the Agencies (Parole/Probation/Corrections/Labor/Halfway Houses)
PARTNERSHIPS: STATEWIDE REENTRY TASK FORCES
It Takes A Village

- Engage with the community
- Create your own stakeholder group
- Invite key stakeholders to the table
- Educate the public about reentry
- Engage individuals that have the capacity to drive change
- Seek Input from those you serve
Who Else?

Think in terms of meeting needs:

- Food
- Clothing
- Shelter
- Treatment
- Education
- Employment
- Medical
- Mental Health
- Spiritual
- Familial
**Your name is Angela**

**Criminal background:** Served 2 years in state prison for drug manufacturing with intent to distribute - meth

**Your education is:** HS diploma.

You have the following ID:  State ID ☐  Birth Certificate ✓  Social Security Card ✓

**Financial Situation:** Money on hand:
- $200 saved in prison
- $200/week working part time at fast food restaurant

The following are your living expenses and court ordered appointments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>1st week</th>
<th>2nd week</th>
<th>3rd week</th>
<th>4th week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treatment</td>
<td>$15/visit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>$30/month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$5/week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent/Utilities</td>
<td>$400/month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UA Test(s)</td>
<td>$5/visit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA/NA</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your housing situation is with significant other in random apartment.

**Housing situation changes:**

Check in at Career Center weekly to look for full time employment.

**Career Center:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Home Care:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Instructions:**
- It costs one transportation ticket each time you arrive at a booth. They can be purchased for $1 at the Transportation Station.
- If necessary, you may have items in your pocket you can pass.
- Plasma can be given twice per week. You will receive $35 the 1st time and $25 the 2nd.
- You must have food each week.
- You see your probation officer the 1st and 3rd weeks.
- You must attend treatment/counseling the 2nd and 4th weeks.
- You will do a UA prior to seeing your PO and upon receiving/changing employment.
- You must attend AA/NA weekly.
PARTNERSHIPS: VIRTUAL REENTRY RESOURCE FAIRS

MONMOUTH COUNTY VIRTUAL RESOURCE FAIR
On November 19, 2020 we held our first virtual resource fair. Local social service and government agencies that serve formerly incarcerated people participated, and share valuable information about the programs and resources they provide. Watch one of the videos below to learn more information about how you can get help with:

Entrepreneurship
- Union County Economic Development Corporation
- Fulfill NJ
- Gangsters Gone Goodly
- Monmouth County Division of Social Services

General Assistance
- Affordable Housing Alliance
- Monmouth Family Health Center
- Monmouth Medical Center
- Monmouth County Professioal Behavioral Health

Housing
- Shore House
- NJ Drug Court
- STAR Program

Medical Care
- RWJ Barnabas Institute for Prevention and Recovery
- VA Medical Center
- VA Suicide Prevention

Mental Health
- Lynn Seaward
- League of Women Voters of Southern Monmouth County
- Case Management Program

Voting
- Monmouth Family Health Center Website
- Monmouth Medical Center Website
- Nicotine & Tobacco Program
- All Recovery Meetings

Reentry
- START of Your Library
- GEO Reentry Services
- Hope & Healing Crisis Counseling Program
How would rate the level service you’re providing to the formerly incarcerated people in your library?

5- Excellent
4- Good
3- Fair
2- Needs Improvement
1- Poor
CONSIDERATIONS FOR ADOPTING THIS MODEL: FUNDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Librarian or Social Worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(resource guides, event flyers, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling for Outreach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special programs, events or speakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional library resources (books, videos, tablets)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONSIDERATIONS FOR ADOPTING THIS MODEL: Community & Political Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political</th>
<th>Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Legislators</td>
<td>• Social Service Agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mayor</td>
<td>• Substance abuse treatment programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• City Council</td>
<td>• Other reentry programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Religious Institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Food Pantries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Veteran’s Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Medical Clinics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Mental Health Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSIDERATIONS FOR ADOPTING THIS MODEL: MARKETING</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Billboards &amp; Bus Wraps</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Billboard Image]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Bus Wrap Image]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Media Interviews</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Interview Image]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Interview Image]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brochures</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Brochure Image]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Brochure Image]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texting Service</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>![Texting Service Image]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONSIDERATIONS FOR ADOPTING THIS MODEL: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

NEWARK
clothing drive

VINELAND/ CUMBERLAND
Celebration of Life/Reentry Fair

TRENTON
Resource Fair
CONSIDERATIONS FOR ADOPTING THIS MODEL:
FORM KEY RELATIONSHIPS
CONSIDERATIONS FOR ADOPTING THIS MODEL: Build A Collection of Resources

- Tip sheets for staff
- List of websites
- Directory of most requested agencies
- Resource guides
- Books
- Programs & events (resource fair, job fairs, GED Prep)
- Host/provide space for support groups
- Page on library website