

BLACK TABLE TALK



Summer Edition

2026



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The National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens



Our Mission

Our mission is to build a strong national network of returning citizens who support one another's successful reintegration and to elevate their leadership by advancing policy reforms that promote restorative practices and reduce incarceration.

Our Vision

Our vision is to reinvest in safe, healthy communities by expanding living-wage employment, permanent housing, and pathways to economic self-sufficiency for returning citizens.



Chairman's Thoughts

As I reflect on the first six months of this year, I can honestly say they have been some of the most difficult and revealing months I've experienced in a long time. They have not been filled with celebration or easy victories. Instead, they have required difficult decisions, uncomfortable conversations, and a renewed commitment to accountability, higher standards, and stronger organizational discipline.

At the National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens, we've had to lower expectations in some areas while raising our expectations in others. We've had to strengthen our procedures, increase accountability, create more meaningful touchpoints, and make decisions that were necessary for the health and future of the organization—even when they weren't easy.

At the same time, I've been navigating my own physical health challenges. Those experiences have forced me to slow down and reflect. They've reminded me that I can't afford to see myself as a victim. No matter what circumstances surround me, my responsibility is to look inward, work harder, work smarter, and become the leader this moment requires.

One realization has stayed with me: I've been a grown man longer than I was ever a child or a teenager. That means I have to respond to life with the maturity, wisdom, and accountability that adulthood demands.

There were moments when I found myself wanting to point fingers—at individuals, organizations, and systems that I believed should have responded differently. And truthfully, I had plenty of evidence to justify those feelings. But I also realized that being right wasn't going to solve the problems facing the National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens. It wasn't going to improve my health, strengthen our organization, or move our mission forward.

Not everyone is called to run toward the fire when a house is burning. We all have different roles to play. My responsibility is not to control how others respond. My responsibility is to meet this moment with the very best version of myself—as an individual, as CEO, as Chairman, and as a leader.

As I reflected on why I entered this work in the first place, I was reminded that my journey wasn't built on despair. It was built on hope. It was built on the countless people who invested in me, believed in me, and refused to give up on me. Their encouragement became the positive reinforcement that inspired me to dedicate my life to helping others.

But there was another side of that story.

For years, I also carried guilt. I carried the weight of knowing that there were people—my parents, teachers, mentors, neighbors, and members of my community—who tried to guide me, and too often I didn't listen. I made decisions that led me down difficult roads and caused pain that could have been avoided.

That realization humbled me.

It reminded me that the same grace I hope others receive is the same grace that was extended to me. It challenged me to stop focusing on the shortcomings of others and instead take ownership of my own growth.

That is not always an easy truth to embrace. It's a bittersweet pill to swallow. Looking inward requires courage because it removes the comfort of blame. It asks us to clean our own house before criticizing someone else's.

But I've discovered something powerful.

It works.

When you take responsibility for your own growth, when you put your own house in order, something changes. Your perspective changes. Your leadership changes. Your ability to make wise decisions becomes clearer because you're no longer reacting from frustration—you're responding from purpose.

I understand the pressure people are under today. I truly do. Pressure reveals people. Some become stronger. Others struggle beneath the weight. Every person in the village has a different role, different strengths, and different capacities. Recognizing that has helped me extend more grace without lowering my standards.

As Chairman, my responsibility is to make decisions that are in the best interest of the National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens—not decisions driven by my personal frustrations or my health journey. My personal challenges may shape my perspective, but they cannot dictate the future of this organization.

That is the commitment I make to our members, our partners, and the communities we serve.

I will continue doing the work of leading with integrity. I will continue making thoughtful decisions rooted in accountability, purpose, and service. I will continue looking inward before looking outward. And I will continue believing that our greatest growth begins the moment we stop asking who is to blame and start asking who we are becoming.

This season has reminded me that leadership is not about avoiding hardship. It is about becoming stronger because of it.

And that is exactly what I intend to do—for myself, for this organization, and for every returning citizen who is depending on us to keep moving forward.

~Courtney Stewart~

Feature Interview—Sydni Turner

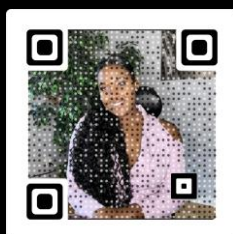


In this special episode of The National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens' Black Table Talk Podcast, we're honored to feature Sydni Turner M.A. a passionate social justice leader, educator, and storyteller dedicated to transforming how communities heal and thrive.

As Director of Social Justice Initiatives at It Takes A Village Collaborative (ITAVcollab), she leads the To Be Me wellness and empowerment program—supporting Black women and returning citizens in reclaiming their identities and building community through mentorship.

A professor at Howard University and Bowie State University, Sydni bridges academia and advocacy by bringing real-world social justice work into the classroom. Her leadership has connected hundreds of Prince George's County and D.C. residents to resources, healing spaces, and opportunities for growth. With authenticity and compassion at the core of her work, Sydni continues to create spaces where people feel seen, valued, and empowered to tell their stories.

→ For more on this interview, listen in on our NRNC Black Table Talk Podcast, or follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and Tik Tok.



Our Team



criminal justice system.

Hi, my name is Emma Dekruif, and I'm currently completing my final semester of graduate school at The University of Alabama, where I'm pursuing a degree in social work. I'm also interning with the National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens. My passions include criminal justice reform, mental health advocacy, substance abuse treatment, and LGBTQIA+ rights. I hope to use my social work degrees to expand access to resources and strengthen care within these communities. After graduation, I plan to work directly with incarcerated individuals through programs that provide guidance, support, and intervention. Ultimately, my long-term goal is to contribute to systemic change that supports and protects the most vulnerable people impacted by the



Hi! I'm Kat Lozynsky, and I'm a social work student currently in my master's program at The University of Alabama. I'm also currently an intern for the National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens. I am passionate about reform, and I value the importance of understanding people's lived experiences within the criminal justice system, so I can thoughtfully identify existing gaps where my social work background can provide meaningful support. After graduating, my goal is to provide direct services to gain insight into systematic issues that impact justice-involved individuals. Long term, I am looking to do research and reform work to enhance rehabilitative practices in the carceral system.



My name is Maryam Rassif. I am a rising junior at the University of Central Florida, majoring in Political Science and minoring in Philosophy. I am interning here at the National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens through The Washington Center Academic Internship Program. I chose to intern at the NRNRC because of my strong interests in policy and advocacy and their intersection with reentry and criminal justice reform. Here, I primarily develop educational and promotional content, research policy issues, and assist with our reentry programs. After completing my bachelor's, I intend to go to law school and pursue a career in law or lobbying.

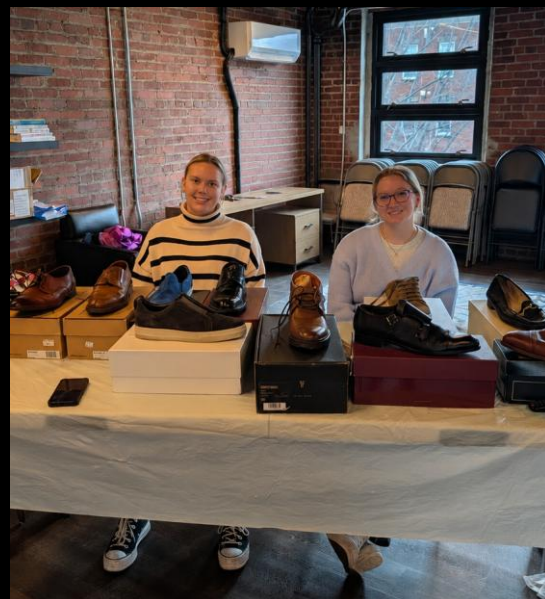


I'm Cassidy Jacobs, a rising senior at the University of Colorado Boulder studying Political Science and Sociology, with certificates in Interdisciplinary Honors and Writing and Rhetoric. I am passionate about equity-centered policy work and am exploring future paths in public service, public policy, or law. This summer, I chose to intern with the National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens because the U.S. criminal justice and carceral system urgently needs reform. Supporting returning citizens and working to expand opportunity aligns deeply with my commitment to improving the lives around me and guides the purpose behind my academic and professional goals. My

mom, Lisa Jacobs, has always echoed the phrase "perspective is everything," and it continues to shape the way I carry myself through life.



My name is David Frazier. I am a rising junior at Florida State University majoring in Political Science. I am a part of The Washington Center Summer Academic Internship program. My passions for boots-on-the-ground public service and advocacy are huge reasons for why I chose to intern with the NRRNC. I hope to make a tangible impact on policy through my research that places emphasis on putting people first. After my undergraduate career, I plan on attending law school striving to address systemic issues and promote equity through legal reform and public policy by engaging with complex legal questions and working to drive meaningful change



Reentry Spotlight— Zachary Ragone



In our podcast interview with Zachary Ragone, we discuss his status as a returning citizen and how he both navigated the system and reentered into society.

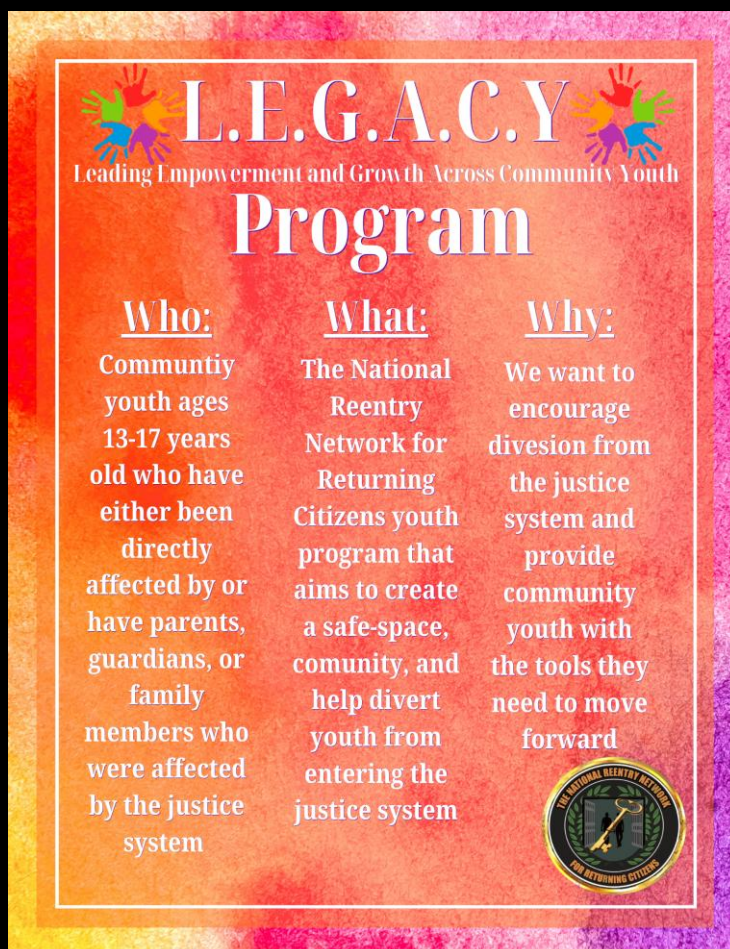
Zach holds a BA in Political Science from Christopher Newport University. Zach is currently serving as the Research and Policy Director here at the National Reentry Network For Returning Citizens.

As a returning citizen, Zach brings a unique perspective and is committed to promoting policies that support successful reentry and reduce recidivism.

- For more on this interview, listen in on our NRNC Black Table Talk Podcast, or follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and Tik Tok.



L.E.G.A.C.Y Program



The L.E.G.A.C.Y (Leading Empowerment and Growth Across Community Youth) Program serves youth ages 13 to 17 who have been impacted by the justice system—either through their own experience or because they have a parent or immediate family member who is currently or has previously been incarcerated.

Through mentoring, leadership development, academic support, financial literacy, workforce readiness, career exploration, and engaging group activities, the program helps youth build confidence and prepare for long-term success.

The program provides a safe, supportive environment where youth develop leadership skills, build healthy relationships, strengthen academic achievement, explore career pathways, and gain the tools needed to become positive leaders within their families and communities.

Ready4Work: Cohort 53 Highlights



The Ready4Work Program continued its work alongside returning citizens who were actively rebuilding their lives after incarceration. Participants entered the program carrying not only the weight of past barriers, but also a clear determination to move forward. At the beginning of the cohort, participant feedback reflected this tension—strong motivation paired with real uncertainty about employment, housing, and long-term stability.

On average, cohort 53 entered Ready4Work with moderate confidence in their employment readiness. Participant feedback showed that many felt capable of thinking critically and problem-solving, yet less confident when it came to translating those strengths into resumes,

interviews, and real job opportunities. Employment and housing emerged immediately as key concerns, signaling that while participants were ready to work, they were still navigating instability that made forward momentum difficult.

As the cohort progressed, something began to shift.

Through ongoing job coaching, group sessions, and individualized support, participants started practicing how to tell their own stories—on paper, in interviews, and in professional spaces. Resume and cover letter development became more than a task; it became a way for participants to see their experience differently. By the end of the cohort, exit interviews showed a noticeable increase in confidence. On average, participants rated their resume and interview skills above four out of five, reflecting a move from uncertainty to readiness.

Interview preparation emerged as one of the strongest areas of growth. Participants who initially expressed anxiety about interviews began to approach them with clarity and purpose. The data shows that job readiness, overall, reached its highest levels at cohort completion. This shift reflects a key factor in Ready4Work's model: consistent practice paired with encouragement and accountability.

At the same time, the story around supportive resources deepened. While the need for stable employment and housing remained present, feedback showed a modest decrease in urgency by the end of the cohort. This did not signal that challenges had disappeared, but rather that participants were beginning to navigate them with more tools and support. Notably, more participants identified mental health support as a need, suggesting increased awareness and trust—an important step in long-term stability.

Age continued to shape the journey of the cohort. Most participants were over the age of 44, carrying years of workforce exclusion and systemic barriers. Their experience reminds us that this is not a short sprint, but a long-term rebuilding process. What changed over the course of the program was not just skill level, but perspective. Participants increasingly spoke about focus, avoiding negative patterns, and preparing for sustainable—not just immediate—employment.

As participants reflected on what comes next, their answers pointed forward. They asked for hands-on training, apprenticeships, refresher courses, and certifications. They spoke about wanting stability, purpose, and a chance to prove themselves in meaningful work. These responses highlight where the story continues.

Looking ahead, Ready4Work remains in motion. The program continues to refine its approach based on what the data and participant experiences reveal. Their experience shows that when returning citizens are given space, structure, and belief, confidence grows, readiness strengthens, and the path forward becomes clearer.

This is not the end of the story. It is a chapter—one that shows progress is possible, ongoing, and worth investing in.

Public Health Inequity & Economic Injustice



Wellness: A Practice of Care, Growth, and Community by Zach Talamonti

Wellness as a whole is a very large topic. To me, wellness is the active pursuit of holistic health that encompasses physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being. It is about making intentional choices that support a fulfilling and

balanced life. Wellness is not a single destination, but an ongoing process of learning how to care for ourselves while navigating the realities of everyday life.

As the Wellness Coach for The National Reentry Network, it is not only my goal but also my passion to support our clients in anything related to wellness. This includes physical health topics such as exercise and nutrition, while also ensuring that clients with needs beyond what we can directly provide are connected to the right resources.

Many clients return home from incarceration with significant health challenges. Access to healthy food is often limited, opportunities for exercise can be scarce, and many carry the effects of trauma experienced while incarcerated. These factors can take a serious toll on both physical and mental health. Our goal at The National Reentry Network is to provide education, encouragement, and referrals so clients have the tools and support they need to rebuild their health and well-being.

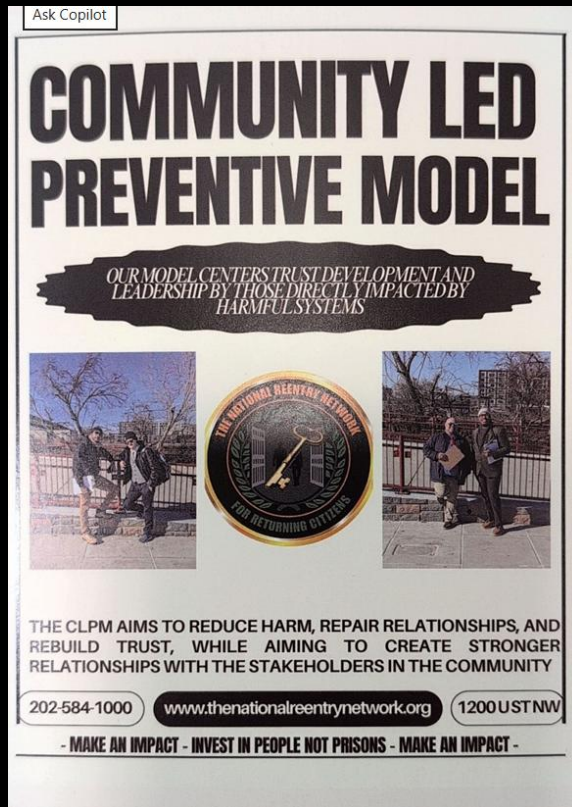
One of the most meaningful parts of my work is hosting a weekly book club. We come together not only to read but also to learn from one another. Our current book focuses on self-sabotage and achieving personal goals. Beyond the reading itself, the group strengthens literacy skills and provides a supportive space where clients can share their experiences, challenges, and progress.

We also host wellness programming focused on nutrition and exercise. I emphasize small, practical strategies that people can realistically incorporate into their daily lives. For individuals navigating the challenges of reentry, achievable goals—whether eating healthier, adding simple movement, or managing stress—can build confidence and create lasting change.

I also believe that taking care of myself allows me to better support others. Exercise has always been an important part of my life, helping me stay healthy while relieving stress and clearing my mind. I also prioritize sleep and making healthy food choices to maintain my energy and focus.

Ultimately, wellness is about recognizing that we all deserve care, support, and balance. Whether through movement, education, community, or simple daily habits, every step toward wellness matters. My hope is that people see wellness as something attainable—built through small, consistent choices that lead to healthier, more fulfilling lives.

Advocacy & Policy



Beyond Broken Windows: A Community-Led Approach to Public Safety by Zachary Ragone

The year is 1994. Rudolph Giuliani has just been elected mayor of New York City, propelled in part by public concerns about safety. Drawing on the work of scholars James Q. Wilson and George L. Kelling [1], he directed his new Police Commissioner, William Bratton, to scale up policing using the "broken windows" theory.

This theory proposed that visible signs of disorder in a neighborhood—broken windows, graffiti, loitering, open drug use—if left unaddressed, create an environment of lawlessness that invites more serious crime [1]. Put simply, ignoring minor offenses encourages major ones. Giuliani and Bratton's approach called for strict enforcement of low-level misdemeanors and increased police

presence, with the belief that doing so would lead to safer and more orderly neighborhoods.

The data shows that, in some ways, their assumptions appeared to work. Violent crime rates declined significantly following the implementation of "broken windows" policing [2]. Yet those gains came with serious costs. While crime decreased, felony arrest rates increased throughout the 1990s, and sentence lengths grew, keeping those removed from their neighborhoods disconnected for far longer periods [2]. Meanwhile, misdemeanor arrests skyrocketed, burdening more people with the lasting weight of a criminal record [3].

Because enforcement was concentrated in particular neighborhoods, these consequences fell disproportionately on the city's Black and Latino communities [4]. Over time, this heavy-handed approach eroded trust between residents and police—undermining the very goal of public safety the strategy aimed to achieve [5].

So what if there were a way to capture the benefits of addressing neighborhood disorder without the harms of over-policing? Could we see real improvements to public safety that

truly leave no one behind? That is the goal of our Community Led Preventive Model (CLPM) program.

The CLPM uses restorative principles to reduce and repair harm, leading to greater public health and public safety. Like the broken windows theory, it starts with the idea that the everyday harms and disorder neighbors experience must be addressed to create a healthy environment. But instead of relying on police enforcement or outside directives, the CLPM empowers residents to identify and resolve those harms collectively—by connecting people with resources and encouraging community-driven solutions.

The flaw of broken windows policing was never its recognition that small harms matter; it was the method used to address them. By criminalizing minor disorder, it created long-term damage through criminal records and eroded trust in law enforcement [3, 5]. Its impact on overall harm was essentially zero—simply shifting the harm and pushing it into the future.

Under the CLPM framework, issues are addressed in ways that not only respond to immediate harm but also heal relationships and tackle root causes. The result is a cycle of restoration rather than punishment—reducing harm in the present and preventing it in the future.

Through this approach, we can help foster neighborhoods that are more orderly, peaceful, healthy, and ultimately safer for everyone who lives and works within them.

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- [2] Corman, H., & Mocan, H. N. (2005). A time-series analysis of crime, deterrence, and drug abuse in New York City. *American Economic Review*, 95(3), 584-604.
- [3] U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, New York Advisory Committee. (2018). *The civil rights implications of "broken windows" policing in NYC and general policing practices*.
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Gallery

“Reentry is more than a second chance—it’s a pathway to purpose, dignity, and community. At The National Reentry Network For Returning Citizens, we walk alongside returning citizens as they rebuild, reconnect, and thrive.”



A Better Way: The Future of Reentry



By Kat Lozynsky

Women returning from incarceration represent one of the most overlooked groups in reentry conversations, even as their numbers continue to rise. As returning citizens, they are already navigating a landscape shaped by stigma, limited resources, and policies that do not consider the realities of women's lives. Their reentry is further complicated by gender-specific challenges, including pressure to immediately resume caregiving roles, difficulty securing stable housing, and

limited access to trauma-informed support for the abuse and violence that often precede incarceration. Because many women are mothers, reentry often includes navigating custody issues, rebuilding trust with children, and working with complex child welfare agencies. Recognizing and addressing their unique barriers is essential, not only for the success of individual women but for the stability of families and communities that depend on their ability to rebuild their lives.

Housing instability is one of the most prevalent barriers that women face. Women returning from incarceration are twelve times more likely to experience homelessness than men (Couloute, 2018). Safe, stable housing is harder to secure for women, particularly those with children or histories of trauma. Transitional housing programs often lack the supportive, family-friendly environments that support women. Without stable housing, every other aspect of reentry (employment, sobriety, family reunification) becomes that much more difficult to sustain. Economic barriers further complicate reentry. Women often struggle to secure employment due to limited work histories, wage inequality, and employer stigma toward justice-involved individuals. Many also face restrictions tied to past convictions that limit access to professional licenses or public benefits, making financial stability even more difficult to achieve.

A critical, but often overlooked issue is the lack of gender-responsive programming. Most reentry programs are designed around men's needs, leaving significant gaps for women. Many programs do not provide childcare, job training, or counseling. These

gaps are especially harmful given the high prevalence of trauma, mental health needs, and histories of abuse among incarcerated women (Fleming et al., 2021). Without trauma-informed, gender-specific services, women are left without the support necessary to address the experiences that contributed to their incarceration.

Despite these challenges, several strategies have proven effective in supporting women's reentry. Community-based programs offering trauma-informed counseling, job training, and mentorship tailored to women provide a foundation for healing and independence (Verbiest, 2025). Family reunification services are equally important, offering parenting classes, mediation, and guidance through complex child welfare systems so women can reconnect with their children and strengthen their family connections. Policy reforms that expand access to affordable housing, remove employment barriers tied to criminal records, and fund gender-responsive reentry initiatives are essential for addressing structural inequities. Peer networks also play a powerful role, creating spaces where formerly incarcerated women can share experiences, build confidence, and support one another.

Women's reentry experiences reveal a complex intersection of gender, trauma, and structural inequality, making it clear that their needs cannot be met through a one-size-fits-all approach. The barriers they face are deeply interconnected, but so are the solutions. When women receive support designed with their realities in mind, they become capable of rebuilding their lives and strengthening the families and communities around them. Centering women in reentry policy and practice is not only a matter of equity, but it is essential for creating systems that promote long-term stability, reduce recidivism, and support community well-being.

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Breaking The Cycle



By Emma Dekruif

The United States currently maintains the most expansive carceral system on the globe, with a population exceeding 1.8 million incarcerated individuals (Hernández, 2025). Within these walls, a staggering 70% of those held are struggling with mental illness or substance use disorders (NAMI, 2025). Since the era of institutionalization ended, prisons have effectively morphed into the nation's new mental health facilities—despite being fundamentally ill-equipped to provide competent care or manage serious psychiatric conditions.

The roots of this shift trace back to the 1963 Mental Health Act, which triggered the closure of state asylums and signaled a move away from long-term institutionalization. The intent was a paradigm shift: mental health was to be treated as a public health priority managed by local community organizations rather than isolated wards. However, these promises went largely unfulfilled. Over the decades, community resources have buckled under the weight of the need, leaving hospitals and local groups unable to sustain the influx of patients (Mental Health Board, 2023).

This chasm between community need and available inpatient beds has turned jails and prisons into default holding cells for those in crisis. Consequently, police officers have become the de facto first responders to psychiatric emergencies—interventions that more frequently result in arrest than medical aid. When dedicated mental health facilities reach capacity (a chronic issue, particularly in rural areas), jails become the only available destination for those at risk of harming themselves or others.

The environment of a correctional facility is antithetical to recovery. The punitive nature of the system is inherently isolating and high-stress, factors that typically exacerbate psychiatric symptoms rather than alleviating them. Furthermore, these facilities lack a sufficient number of qualified providers to manage complex cases. Without proper

intervention, an individual's mental health often deteriorates while in custody, fueling a cycle of recidivism and perpetual involvement in the legal system.

Resolving this crisis requires the creation of dedicated, non-carceral resources for those experiencing severe mental health episodes. For those who do remain within the system, there must be an aggressive expansion of services led by qualified providers who can shift the experience from punitive to therapeutic. By prioritizing root causes, improving the quality of care, and diverting the majority of patients toward community-based resources, we can begin to reduce recidivism and provide genuine stability for those who need it most.

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Reentry & Peer To Peer Support

The Peer Navigator Program & Returning Citizens Caring For Our Communities



The Peer Navigator Program has been a journey of growth and resilience. Peer Navigators have walked alongside fellow returning citizens as they navigated reentry, offering guidance and support. At the heart of the program are the relationships built between mentors and mentees. Navigators met mentees wherever they needed help. Even at the mentees' homes, restaurants, job sites, fitness centers, and legal offices. Mentors shared experiences, modeled coping strategies, and reinforced the program's values of responsibility and accountability. For many participants,

these relationships became a lifeline, a source of hope and encouragement. Employment was a major focus. Mentors helped mentees prepare for reentry by completing job training, practice interviews, and navigating online applications. Several mentees passed placement tests, began positions, and strengthened their confidence. When setbacks occurred, such as program exits due to attendance issues, mentors emphasized the importance of persistence and planning, helping mentees view obstacles as opportunities. Housing and system navigation were another focus. Some mentees faced inspection failures, while others balanced legal obligations with finding housing. Mentors provided guidance, advocacy, and resources to help participants maintain stability and achieve goals.

Emotional support and mental wellness were integral to the program. Mentors encouraged outlets such as physical activity, recreational engagement, and conversation. They assisted mentees in managing stress, setting boundaries, and adjusting to post-release pressures. Even for those expected to provide for families. Mentors emphasized achievable steps, fostering confidence and resilience. Community integration also played a role. Mentors encouraged participation in family events, book clubs, and leisure activities, allowing mentees to celebrate milestones, build connections, and affirm self-worth. These experiences reinforced the importance of belonging and reintegration. Challenges were part of the journey. Some mentees were exited for not meeting attendance or documentation standards. These situations prompted discussions about accountability, communication, and program expectations. Mentors balanced empathy with structure, providing support during exit planning while advocating for continued growth. The Peer Navigator Program shows that reentry is more than access to services. Our organization is about walking alongside individuals, offering guidance, and fostering potential. Mentees have achieved goals, overcome barriers, and grown stronger, guided by mentors every step of the way. This program reflects transformation, perseverance, and connection. With guidance and support, returning citizens can reclaim their lives and build a future of opportunity.

Community Bulletin Board

THE NATIONAL REENTRY NETWORK FOR RETURNING CITIZENS

Contact Us:
 info@thereentrynetwork.org
 https://thenationalreentrynetwork.org/
Headquarters:
 202-584-1000
 1200 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009
Community Building:
 202-388-6464
 733 11th St NE, Washington, DC 20002

Social Media:
 @nationalreentrynetwork
 @ReentryNetwork

We believe that it is imperative to support organizations led by returning citizens and to elevate their leadership




Ready4Work
 A work program designed to assist returning citizens in entering the job sphere.

APPLY ONLINE

5-Week Job Readiness Program

Program Information:

- Job Coaching
- Assist in Job Searching
- Learn to dress appropriately in the work place through our professional dress-code
- Receive a training stipend of \$10.50 per hour
- Offered to DC Residents
- Weekly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10 AM - 1 PM

Scan the QR Code to Apply for NNRRC's Ready4Work Program!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 202-584-1000
 jharris@thereentrynetwork.org
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 1200 U St NW Washington, DC 20009




L.E.G.A.C.Y.
 Leading Empowerment and Growth Across Communities Youth

Program

Who: Community youth ages 13-17 years old who have either been directly affected by or have parents, guardians, or family members who were affected by the justice system	What: The National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens youth program that aims to create a safe-space, community, and help divert youth from entering the justice system	Why: We want to encourage diversion from the justice system and provide community youth with the tools they need to move forward
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MONTHLY COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP

JOIN OUR DISCUSSION GROUP LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Engage, share, collaborate, and support the reentry community and learn what we are doing to advocate for returning citizens.

Stay up to date on NNRRC events on our Eventbrite!





Advocacy Training

Stay up to date on NNRRC events on our Eventbrite!

There are a multitude of barriers to reentry, but by attending Advocacy Training, you can gain a better understanding of the law and how to advocate for yourself and others

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 202-584-1000
 jharris@thereentrynetwork.org
 https://thenationalreentrynetwork.org/
 1200 U St, NW Washington, DC 20009





PEER NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

The Peer Navigator Program builds supportive, goal-focused mentoring relationships where mentees set their own direction and mentors provide guidance and resources that support stability, growth, and positive change.

MENTOR | MENTEE

Become a **mentor** and help returning citizens in your community. Lead by example, share your experience, and support someone on their reentry journey.

Participate as a **mentee** and connect with a mentor who understands your lived experience and walks alongside you as you work toward your goals.

APPLY ONLINE

Scan the QR Code to Apply for NNRRC's Peer Navigator Program!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 202-584-1000
 jharris@thereentrynetwork.org
 https://thenationalreentrynetwork.org/
 1200 U St, NW Washington, DC 20009





The National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens

BOOK CLUB

Join the Conversation
 Whether you're an avid reader or just looking to connect with others, our Book Club offers a welcoming space for discussion, learning, and community.

Every Wednesday from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Contact Information
 1200 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009
 202-584-1000
 info@thereentrynetwork.org




Summer Intern Spotlight

NRNRC BLACK TABLE TALK PODCAST

New Episodes Every Monday
 Streaming on Spotify and YouTube:
 @NRNRCBlackTableTalk





THE NATIONAL REENTRY NETWORK FOR RETURNING CITIZENS

HELPLINE

CALL
1-844-916-2577

The National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens HELPLINE, 1 844-916-2577, is a confidential, free, 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year, information service for returning citizens re-entering the community in need of reentry services. This service provides resources and referrals for employment, job training, family reunification, apprenticeship programs, food pantry, clothing, housing, and mental health and/or substance abuse support.

AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY
 www.thenationalreentrynetwork.org