



Josh Stein
Governor

Leslie Cooley Dismukes
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety
FROM: Leslie Cooley Dismukes, Secretary *LED*
RE: State Reentry Council Collaborative Annual Report
DATE: November 1, 2025

Pursuant to G.S. 143B-1484.(c), beginning November 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, the State Reentry Council Collaborative (SRCC) shall report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety.

Report attached.

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FROM THE OFFICE OF:
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This document serves to meet the requirements of G.S. 143B-1484.(c) by providing status updates on the implementation of the SRCC recommendations organized by those completed, those still in progress, and those not yet started. The document also includes the SRCC Quarterly Meeting Agendas (Appendix A).

The SRCC recommendations are the result of extensive research and collaboration regarding post-incarceration transition services and programs. The findings and opinions contained herein are not official policy of the State of North Carolina and do not represent the official or personal positions of the Office of the Governor, the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction (NCDAC), or any other North Carolina state agency.

Every recommendation may not be feasible for implementation; the purpose of this document is to demonstrate a commitment to sharing the entire scope of SRCC recommendations and acknowledge the input and contributions of so many toward these efforts

Overview

The State Reentry Council Collaborative (SRCC) is a legislatively mandated state body developed in 2018 comprised of representatives of state agencies, institutions of higher education, business, faith and community-based organizations, nonprofits, and other stakeholders. The SRCC Reentry Action Plan contains the SRCC's 2018 finalized recommendations.

The full SRCC has met quarterly since early 2018 to give updates on recommendation development and implementation and to educate on reentry issues and solutions. Four implementation teams were formed in early 2019 and have continued to meet regularly to determine priority recommendations and begin implementation. The four implementation teams are as follows:

1. The Legislative Team reviews the recommendations that require legislation and prioritizes and develops strategies for getting legislation passed.
2. The Executive Team prioritizes and implements the recommendations that can be executed by Gubernatorial action, or one or more state agencies.
3. The Communications and Awareness Team implements recommendations involving better communication, data sharing, cultural sensitivity, and other issues within and between the entities that make up the SRCC.
4. The Local/Community Team works with LRCs to support their work and works closely with the Communications/Awareness Implementation Team on related recommendations.



Completed Recommendations

1. Automatically convert adult criminal convictions at ages 16 and 17 to juvenile status.

Previous Update: Effective December 1, 2019, the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act (aka Raise the Age) raises the cut-off age for juveniles from 16 to 18. For offenses committed on or after this date, if the offender is under the age of 18 on the date of offense, the case must be initiated in juvenile court. Exceptions exist for emancipated minors, 16- and 17- year-olds charged with Chapter 20 offenses, and juveniles with prior criminal convictions in district or superior court. The original "Raise the Age" legislation was enacted in 2017 with Session Law 2017-57 (Senate Bill 257). The effective date to increase jurisdiction was December 1, 2019, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date. In 2019, the General Assembly passed Session Law 2019-186 (Senate Bill 413), modifying the original legislation to facilitate its implementation.

2. Amend expunction and certificate of relief statutes to allow greater access to relief, including:

- a. **GS §15A-145.5 (Expunction of certain misdemeanors and felonies; no age limitation) to exclude up to three Class 2 misdemeanors and all Class 3 misdemeanors as disqualifying convictions.**
- b. **GS §15A-146 (Expunction of records when charges are dismissed or there are findings of not guilty) to provide for automatic expunction of dismissed charges and not guilty dispositions.**

Previous Update: Expunctions and certificate of relief statutes were amended by SL 2020-35 to allow greater access to relief.

3. Enact a statute that requires all licensing boards to remove subjective terms, such as “good moral character” and “moral turpitude”, as a licensing or certification requirement.

Previous Update: The North Carolina General Assembly passed a law (HB 770/S.L. 2019-91) that requires all licensing boards to remove subjective terms, such as “good moral character” and “moral turpitude”, as a licensing or certification requirement. The law went into effect October 1, 2019.

4. Repeal the prohibition on the offering of Associate of Arts, Associate of Sciences, and Associate of General Education degrees and repeal the contact hour reporting requirement in corrections facilities.

Previous Update: Session Law 2020-54 repealed the prohibition of utilizing funds for incarcerated individuals to obtain an Associate of Arts, Associate of Sciences, and Associate of General Education degrees. This repeal was effective July 1, 2020.



5. Host a state-wide reentry conference.

State-wide conferences are held yearly.

a. Previous Update:

- A state-wide reentry conference was held at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC from April 25-27, 2022. Over 350 people attended this conference.
- A state-wide reentry conference was held at the Sonesta Hotel in Charlotte, NC from April 3-5, 2023. Over 500 people attended this conference.
- A state-wide Rehabilitation and Reentry Conference was held on April 22-24, 2024, at Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley in Raleigh, NC with over 700 attendees.

b. 2025 Update: A state-wide Rehabilitation and Reentry Conference was held on April 1-3, 2025, at the Hilton Raleigh North Hills in Raleigh, NC with over 600 attendees.

6. Develop a roster of SRCC members for the 2019 year (the “implementation phase”) that is at least 25% people who have been justice-involved.

Previous Update: The Advocacy Workgroup developed a roster of SRCC members for the implementation phase (2019) with a quarter of the roster made up of former justice involved individuals.

7. Appropriate new funding to hire a housing support specialist and a peer support counselor in each of the state’s 17 local reentry councils (LRCs), plus 3 months of reentry rental assistance for returning citizens at all 17 LRCs.

Previous Update: NCDAC utilized grant funding to hire 7 peer support specialists to assist the LRCs. These time-limited positions were monitored by our TASC partners in various counties. During the grant, peer support specialists assisted returning citizens with housing/rental assistance. Although the grant funds have ended, housing/rental assistance is still part of the supportive services provided through LRCs current staff.

8. Ensure that individuals leaving prison who are eligible for the Transitions to Community Living Initiative (meaning individuals with disabilities transitioning from adult care homes or state hospitals and citizens who are at risk for institutionalization) can access these services, so that they can have supportive services in the community rather than in institutional settings, per the 1999 Olmstead Supreme Court decision.

Previous Update: The Transitions to Community Living (TCL) program gives eligible adults living with serious mental illness the opportunity to choose where they live and work. TCL is operated by the LME-MCOs. There is a MOA which reflects collaboration with DHHS, NCDAC Community Supervision, NC Administrative Office of the Courts, the North Carolina Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) Network, and Alcohol and Chemical Dependency Programs (ACDP) for a period of three years.



9. **Create a network of people who have completed vocational or academic programs while incarcerated. Further, NCDAC should develop support for the implementation of a Justice Involved Alumni Network to be operated by the local reentry councils (LRCs) of North Carolina.**

Previous Update: Currently, UNC-CH is managing the Facebook group they created for North Carolinians who have completed vocational or academic programs while incarcerated. NC Prison Education Consortium is an advisory group to NCDAC Education Services that includes benefactors, formerly incarcerated individuals/representatives, and colleges/universities. NCPEC exists to:

- Increase and improve partnerships,
- Provide a forum for currently and formerly incarcerated learners and postsecondary higher education institutions offering credit courses who are in partnership with North Carolina Department of Adult Corrections and other stakeholders aiming to advance the shared mission of empowering justice-involved individuals as students, professionals, and members of their communities, and
- Serve as a resource and point of contact for groups and institutions planning HEP programs.

There is a group called Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network (FICGN), which will soon become a member of the NCPEC. They are in the finalization process of membership. FICGN is a national group of formerly incarcerated individuals who have either graduated or participated in college classes.

10. **Participate in a Phase 1 Racial Equity Institute training.**

Racial Equity Institute (REI) hosted an in-person training for SRCC members in February 2019.

11. **Expand the Formerly Incarcerated Transition (FIT) program to additional sites within North Carolina. The NC FIT Program utilizes specially trained community health workers (CHWs) with a personal history of incarceration, (i.e., peer support workers) to establish rapport and trust while linking persons recently released from prison to health services.**

2025 Update: Formerly Incarcerated Transition (FIT) program receives referrals from all institutions of those incarcerated individuals, which includes the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women, who are releasing back into the counties the program serves. The NC FIT Program utilizes specially trained community health workers (CHWs) with a personal history of incarceration (i.e., peer support workers) to establish rapport and trust while linking persons recently released from prison to health services.

The FIT Program is currently in nine counties: Durham, Orange, Wake, Mecklenburg, Guilford, New Hanover, Beaufort, Buncombe, and Rockingham. There are currently 5 full-time CHWs at three program sites (Mecklenburg, Guilford, and Wake) supported by DAC funding. They have agreements for new FIT Program sites in Forsyth, Edgecombe, Nash, and Wilson counties. These sites are currently in the process of posting and hiring CHWs.



Additionally, NC FIT has created “FIT Wellness” which focuses on people being released with severe mental illness. This program started in Wake County and will be expanding to Durham, Orange and New Hanover counties. Working with the Department of Adult Correction, NC FIT has created “FIT Recovery”, which links people being released from state prisons, started on treatment for opioid use disorder, to continue care in a network of providers that covers over 60 counties across the state.

12. Define transitional housing more clearly, establish a special designation of supportive group housing for returning citizens, and provide funding to local reentry councils designated for transitional housing.

Previous Update: NCDAC created defining language and a set of rules for partners to use as a guide. Funding is provided to local reentry councils for designated transitional housing. Local Reentry Councils provide housing resources as one of the support services to justice involved persons. DAC has nine contracted transitional housing vendors in nine counties for males and females.

13. Make a range of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) options available to those who are incarcerated in reentry facilities with a history of opioid dependence.

Previous Update: The Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Pilot Program is operational in two reentry facilities – NCCIW and Orange Correctional Center and looking to expand to additional sites. Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) options are provided to those who are incarcerated in reentry facilities with a history of opioid dependence. The program has enrolled 165 participants cumulative for years one, two and three. Each participant enrolled in the program has received Narcan overdose reversal instructions and kits upon release.

2025 Update: As of June 1, 2025, Comprehensive Health Services has expanded MOUD Program to 24 Institutions and CRV Centers. MOUD treatment has been initiated for 613 individuals since June 1, 2025.

14. NCDAC and DHHS and county DSS offices should collaborate to develop and improve resources, policies, and procedures to help incarcerated parents and their children maintain their relationships during periods of incarceration.

Previous Update: DAC partnered with Coastal Horizons to create the “FRESH” project (Family Re-Entry Support and Help), that works with incarcerated parents in the facilities, families, and children in the community. The Family Re-Entry Support and Help (FRESH) project was supported by a 3-year federal grant (10/1/2020 until 9/30/2023). The grant allowed NCDAC to perform institutional activities and services for all the designated reentry facilities, including correctional staff training on the role of the family in the reentry process, review of policies and procedures to ensure protection of minor children, and support to create child-friendly visitation spaces.

FRESH was fully funded through a Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant through September 30, 2024.



2025 Update: Federal funds have been exhausted for this project as of July 31, 2025. The DAC is now working to close/complete the grant award. Our partners in the non-profit sector will have the option of continuing the program at their cost, now that the grant has concluded.

15. **Enlist the aid of SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) specialists to assist people with disabilities who are released from incarceration in their applications for Supplemental Security income (SSI), Social Security Disability (SSDI), and other benefits, including connections to outpatient care and recovery services.**

Previous Update: The aid of SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) specialists was enlisted to assist people with disabilities who are released from incarceration in their applications for Supplemental Security income (SSI), Social Security Disability (SSDI), and other benefits, including connections to outpatient care and recovery services. Specialty mental health officers are currently being educated on how SOAR works. The SOAR training is provided online for agencies and counties who hire SOAR workers. DHHS hopes to see this expanded further statewide in every county. This collaboration is being conducted through an MOU with DHHS, DAC Community Supervision, NC Administrative Office of the Courts, the North Carolina Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) Network, and Alcohol and Chemical Dependency Programs (ACDP) for a period of three years.

16. **Map all educational and vocational programs and services at NC prisons to enable prison staff, in collaboration with their partners, to plan for individuals during the rehabilitative process appropriately and efficiently.**

Previous Update: In October 2021, NCDAC and NCPEC submitted a grant proposal to the Laughing Gull Foundation to fund this mapping of services. During a NCDAC spring in-person meeting with the NC Prison Education Collaborative, the UNC-CH graduate intern presented a final project where all the prison programs have been mapped and coded using [Educational Resources Available in NCDAC Institutions \(knack.com\)](#).

NCDAC Education Services created a catalog of all educational, vocational programs and services at NC prisons. This catalog is made accessible to prison staff and the public.

The Fall 2024 catalog was published and made accessible from the Education Services website on the DAC webpage (under Educational Resources). Alternatively, it may be accessed directly here: [Programs and Services Catalog](#). The catalog is updated on a quarterly basis.



17. Conduct professional workshops with local reentry councils (LRCs) to raise their awareness of family/child reunification issues as a part of reentry services and support.

Previous Update: Lori C. Cole, AOC, and NC Courts manages the Access & Visitation Program. Their role is to identify the underlying issues creating any barriers to noncustodial parents visiting with their child(ren) and support and facilitate the noncustodial parents' access to their children. They presented to the local reentry councils in hopes of assisting with parents with their children after incarceration. In addition, Coastal Horizons Program Director Melissa Radcliff continues to conduct professional workshops with local reentry councils (LRCs) to raise their awareness of family/child reunification issues as a part of reentry services and support.

During 2024 Local Reentry Council annual training/workshops, Coastal Horizons Program Director Melissa Radcliff and staff with NC Division of Social Services Child Support Services (NCDHHS) shared updates and raised awareness of family/child reunification services and support for justice involved and incarcerated persons.



In-Progress Recommendations

1. **Amend G.S. § 20-28(a) to make retroactive the amendments of Session Law 2015-186 eliminating permanent suspensions for three or more convictions of driving while license revoked-not impaired revocation. This was part of a broad recommendation to facilitate restoring driver's licenses to incarcerated individuals prior to release and maintaining licensure during post-release supervision.**

Previous Update: Filed March 21, 2023, Senate Bill 339 would have eliminated the additional one-year suspension, the additional two-year suspension, and the permanent suspension of driving while license revoked-not impaired for convictions that happened before December 1, 2015. The bill would also have eliminated the additional one-year suspension for the first moving violation conviction during a period of suspension, amended the suspension period for the second moving violation during a period of suspension from two years to one year, and ended permanent suspensions for three or more moving violation convictions.

The bill passed the Senate but was not taken up by the House.

2. **Amend statutes to better protect people from being charged for removal of mugshot information.**

Previous Update: Second Chance Alliance placed this recommendation on their Lobby Day agenda in support of Senate Bill 104 (filed in February 2023), the Booking Photograph Privacy Act. The bill would have established that a booking photo is confidential and not a public record and that law enforcement agencies cannot provide a copy of booking photos in any format except for law enforcement purposes. The bill was filed in the Senate but did not see further movement.

2025 Update: On March 18, 2025, House Bill 446 was filed in the House. The bill would have prohibited dissemination of booking photographs by law enforcement to publish-for pay publications and websites. The bill would have also required such publishers or websites to remove and destroy a booking photograph of certain individuals within seven days of a request. The legislation would have also made requesting a fee for removal and destruction a criminal offense subject to civil penalty. The bill did not see further movement beyond filing.

Senate Bill 129 was filed in the Senate on February 21, 2025. The legislation would have made booking photographs confidential and not public records, and prohibited public law enforcement agencies from publishing, distributing, or releasing booking photographs. The bill did not see further movement beyond filing.



3. **Amend GS §15A-173.1 (Certificate of Relief) to eliminate the 12-month waiting period after a sentence is completed for eligible persons.**

Previous Update: Filed on April 20, 2023, House Bill 836 Reentry Reform/ Modification and Funding would have provided for:

- The amendment of the Certificate of Relief Statute to eliminate the 12- month waiting period to make a person immediately eligible for relief;
- Funding to create and maintain five additional Local Reentry Councils; and
- Creation of a reentry fund that will provide stipends to recently released people for six months to pay for their housing, food, clothing, and transportation.

The bill was filed in the House but did not see further movement.

4. **Amend several provisions of Chapter 20 of the North Carolina General Statutes, including:**

- a. **G.S. § 20-24.1(a)(2) to require a pre-deprivation hearing to determine if a defendant is able to pay before suspending the defendant's license for failure to pay.**
- b. **G.S. § 20-24.1(b) to provide for automatic restoration of a driver's license after a 12-month suspension period.**
- c. **GS § 20-26(b) to provide free certified driving records to nonprofit legal services providers various provisions to allow hearings on permanent suspensions to occur in the county of incarceration.**

Previous Update: House Bill 888 was filed on April 25, 2023. The bill would have eliminated the authority to suspend a driver's license for nonpayment of fine, penalty or cost or nonappearance in court for motor vehicle offenses listed in these provisions of Chapter 20.

The bill was filed in the House but did not see further movement.

5. **Expand mobile driver's license and identification unit services to all 34 minimum custody facilities.**

Previous Update: DMV will not expand mobile driver's license and identification unit services to 34 minimum custody facilities. NCDAC partnered with DMV to conduct a pilot at NCCIW to issue State Identification cards for eligible individuals prior to their release. A MOU was executed for this pilot on December 5, 2022, and the first batch of ID cards was delivered to NCCIW on December 8, 2022. The pilot ended in January of 2023. NCDAC has expanded the pilot statewide which will include a data file exchange 120 days prior to an individual being released to assist with obtaining an ID.

As of July 31, 2023, eligible individuals will receive a valid state issue identification for free prior to release from incarceration through an automation process between DMV and DAC. Since August 1, 2023, over 2,000 offenders have been offered state IDs, 1,500 offenders have requested State IDs, and 123 State IDs have been mailed to DAC facilities. As of January 12, 2024, approximately 2,182 offenders have been offered state IDs, 2,072 offenders have requested State IDs, 740 offenders declined a State ID, and approximately 198 State IDs have been mailed to DAC facilities for offenders.



The statewide automated process transmits requests from NCDAC to the DMV at approximately 90 days from release, to ensure the ID can be generated and retrieved prior to release.

As of November 1, 2024, over 8,900 individuals have been offered state IDs; with 76% (over 6,800) requesting one. The remaining 24% declined an ID. Over 850 IDs have been mailed to facilities. NCDAC Rehabilitation and Reentry staff continues to identify and work to resolve barriers between ID request and ID receipt, including lack of verified social security numbers and post-release home addresses.

2025 Update: As of September 2025, Reentry Services Technology Programs section continues to engage facility programs staff with ways to increase state issued ID requests prior to offender's release from incarceration. Cumulative Total of processed state issued IDs since inception is 2,119. Reentry Services has collaborated with NCDMV to provide resources to offenders during reentry resource and employment fairs.

6. **Educate people involved in the criminal justice system on the legal options available to people with criminal records as they transition back into their communities, including certificates of relief and expungements, waivers of criminal justice debt, and driver's license restoration.**

Previous Update: The NC Department of Justice and the NC Justice Center are working on a joint training on certificates of relief that will include CLE credits.

7. **Distribute Narcan overdose reversal kits to individuals who are about to be released and provide them instruction on the use of these kits.**

Previous Update: Contracts have been signed between DHHS and NCDAC for the distribution of Narcan to individuals on release. In collaboration with the Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Pilot Program individuals being released are receiving Narcan and information on how to administer it.

NC Commerce has provided (\$500,000) of ARPA grant funds that will allow NCDAC to purchase 20,000 units of Narcan that will be distributed to those incarcerated persons releasing back into the community who may have a high risk of overdose.

8. **Share data between NCDAC and NCDHHS to:**

- **Identify people who are incarcerated in North Carolina who have active Medicaid coverage and redirect those premium payments to Local Management Entity-Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs) to related services and support of those Medicaid-eligible people who have been released from prison in the last 12 months.**
- **Facilitate the timely re-establishment of Medicaid for eligible individuals upon their release from prison.**

Previous Update: Data is being shared between NCDAC and NCDHHS regarding those identified people who are incarcerated in North Carolina who have had Medicaid coverage suspended. Individuals who have Medicaid prior to incarceration are placed on suspended status and the Medicaid coverage is unsuspended, or activated, upon release to the community. NCDAC staff continue to hold Medicaid information sessions for individuals to apply for Medicaid prior to their



return to the community. NCDAC social workers and the hospital Medicaid cost containment program have been trained in and given access to the NC Tracks database. Paperwork is being completed by NCDAC social work department and shared with the county of return for the individual to begin the process to re-establish Medicaid upon release.

Medicaid waivers being explored will allow those who have had active Medicaid in the past to reactivate coverage 90 days prior to release in addition to completing applications to get Medicaid coverage prior to release, to continue care upon release. Coverage will cover mental health needs and Substance Opioid Use Disorder (SOUD) treatment.

Since the implementation of Medicaid expansion in NC, NC DAC staff have commenced informational meetings with Medicaid eligible offenders to provide education on Medicaid benefits and how to apply. Medicaid applications are completed and mailed by NC DAC staff to establish Medicaid benefits for offenders who are releasing to the community. Medicaid benefits will cover health and behavioral health care, including Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD).

9. Study the possibility of expanding the Medicaid Family Planning Waiver (FPW) program to cover health conditions other than those directly related to family planning to enable some recently released individuals to have health insurance that they would not otherwise be able to obtain.

Previous Update: According to the NC 1115 Waiver, the state has begun transitioning its Medicaid delivery system to managed care and offers three different plans, including:

- Standard Plans: Targeted to most of the Medicaid population. Standard Plans launched on July 1, 2021, and currently enroll approximately 1.8 million individuals.
- Behavioral Health Intellectual/Developmental Disability Tailored Plans (Tailored Plans): Targeted to individuals with behavioral health needs, I/DD, or traumatic brain injury (TBI). The Tailored Plans, which launched December 1, 2023, provide enhanced benefits and care management. The state has also received approval to provide a broader range of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment services with the goal of expanding access to the full continuum of SUD care.

With the launch of Medicaid Expansion on December 1, 2023, NCDAC worked with NCDHHS to identify those individuals who had previously received Family Planning Medicaid. The individuals who had previously received Family Planning Medicaid were released to the community with full Medicaid benefits under Medicaid Expansion.

In June 2024, S.L. 2024-34/S425 allows for all individuals who are incarcerated and eligible for Medicaid, to automatically be enrolled in NC Medicaid Direct upon release to the community. NC Medicaid Direct offers enhanced services for severe mental illnesses, intellectual and developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injuries, and substance use.



10. Recommend strategies to target outreach to employers about the benefits of certificates of relief as well as the legislature's most recent expansion of applicant eligibility.

Previous Update: State Reentry Coordinator at NC Commerce will provide reentry campaign flyers for education and awareness concerning benefits of certificates of relief and expansion of applicant eligibility out to employers. NC Commerce is considering an online option for employers to self-identify as a second chance employer and is working with the Governor's office to create a recognition event to highlight employers. NC Commerce launched a Second Chance Employer Database in August 2023 that will identify employers who are willing to hire justice involved individuals.

11. Design a reentry program, similar to the Bridges to Home model, to address the trauma that is unique to women who are reentering society post-incarceration.

Previous Update: Arise Collective formerly (IPMW) Interfaith Prison Women's has established The Women's Reentry Project (WRP), similar to the Bridges to Home model, to address the trauma that is unique to women who are reentering society post-incarceration. This has served as their blueprint and will continue to use as guidance for their work. Phase 2 addendum for the project has been completed with a Phase 3 to be implemented in 2026.

12. Appropriate \$140,000 for a pilot program creating two full-time Reentry Education Navigator positions at two different community colleges entirely dedicated to the needs of justice-involved students.

Previous Update: There are several full-time positions within the community colleges that act as coordinators for their programming. They work directly with the Prisons leadership and with Education Services to provide educational programming for their students.

Colleges that provide these are: Central Carolina Community College (Harnett CI), Pamlico Community College (Pamlico CI), Southeastern Community College (Columbus and Tabor CIs), and Stanly Community College (Albemarle CI). This list is not exhaustive. Education Services is also partnering with the federally funded TRIO program to offer services related to the educational transition needs for justice-involved students.

13. Create an Offender Family Services page (referred to in this document as The Family Reunification Resource Button/Link) to direct families to reunification and other resources that help incarcerated people have a productive and successful transition back into the community. This button would contain a digital version of the brochure that contains important information on reunification services as well as any other reunification resources not in the brochure.

Previous Update: NCDAC website is being updated with an Offender Family Services page that directs families to resources that help incarcerated people have a productive and successful transition back into the community.



- 14. Create and distribute a brochure with important conversation topics for families with an incarcerated loved one, as well as information about family reunification services in their geographic area.**

Previous Update: A brochure was created with important conversation topics for families with an incarcerated loved one, as well as information about family reunification services in their geographic area. It was approved by DAC to place in visitation areas at the facilities. Once approved by Wardens, Reentry Services will send brochures over to facilities for dissemination.

- 15. Change language within NCDAC to language that does not dehumanize people under DAC correctional control, using “person-first” language such as “incarcerated people”, whenever possible.**

Previous Update: The SRCC revised the language on the Rehabilitation and Reentry public website by removing the word “offender” and replacing with individual or justice-involved individual in as many places as possible. For example, the website now reads: “More than 15,000 individuals return to their home communities after being released from North Carolina state prisons each year. In fact, about 95 percent of people in prison will eventually return to their home communities.”

The State Reentry Council Collaborative’s Women and Incarceration Workgroup, an advisory group comprised of justice system-involved women, also recommends using person-first language.

- 16. Create two permanent State Funded Chaplain I positions specifically for the Transitional Aftercare Network (TAN).**

Previous Update: NCDAC has hired a permanent State Funded Chaplain I position under Rehabilitation & Reentry Services Division for the purpose of TAN.

- 17. Provide people who want to volunteer inside facilities with a streamlined, transparent sign-up process on the North Carolina Department Adult Correction (NCDAC) website.**

2025 Update: The statewide volunteer processes, associated policy and procedure, and documentation processes are currently under review by Rehabilitation Services. Efforts are being focused on increasing agency-wide transparency on active, approved volunteers and on application process efficiency.

- 18. Continue to research NCDAC’s current Work Release Program, as well as other states’ work release programs, to identify strategies to increase utilization of the work release program.**

Previous Update: Rehabilitative Services has established a new team, “Employment Programs” with four positions aimed toward building effective employer networks statewide that can partner with Institutions at the local level to offer work release. These positions are being hired for as of 2024 Quarter 4.

2025 Update: As of September 2025, Rehabilitative Services has 3 positions to assist with building employer networks statewide.



Recommendations Not Yet Started

1. Create statutory standards for a global, tiered approach to disposition of minor matters for persons incarcerated.
2. Allocate \$25,000 for the development of online professional development modules for faculty and staff across the state who serve individuals with criminal records. These professional development modules would be made available to all agencies and educational institutions who serve this population including community colleges, LRCs, universities, and workforce development agencies.
3. Establish a pilot voucher system to fund transportation expenses of people on post-release supervision based on need and at the discretion of post-release supervision officers.
4. Provide funding to nonprofit legal services providers to resolve indefinite driver's license suspensions under G.S. § 20-24.1
5. Pass and implement a law promoting alternatives to incarceration for people who are caregivers giving judges the discretion to sentence mothers who are primary caretakers of their children to alternative programs instead of incarceration within county jails or state prison facilities.
6. Toll the statute of limitations (stop the clock) for child support until the person is released.
7. Implement a Reentry Awareness Campaign to include comprehensively engaging broadcast, digital and print media, community advocacy resources, and faith-based communication channels.



Appendix A

State Reentry Council Collaborative **Location TBD in Raleigh, NC** **February 11, 2025**

Agenda

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Committee member to avoid both conflicts of interest and the appearances of conflicts of interest. If any Committee member has any known conflict of interest or is aware of facts that might create the appearance of such conflict, with respect to any matters coming before the Committee today, please identify the conflict or the facts that might create the appearance of a conflict to ensure that any inappropriate participation in that matter may be avoided. If at any time, any new matter raises a conflict during the meeting, please be sure to identify it at that time.

9:30 am Welcome & Leadership Greetings

Leslie Cooley Dismukes, Secretary, NC Department of Adult Correction

Tammera Hill, Chief Operation Officer, NC Department of Adult Correction

Maggie Brewer, Chief Deputy Secretary of Rehabilitative and Correctional Services, NC DAC

10:15 am Reentry 2030 Updates

George Pettigrew, Deputy Secretary of NC DAC Rehabilitation and Reentry

10:30 am Presentation – Workgroup push and announcement of new leads

Lateisha Thrash, Director of Reentry Services, NC DAC Rehabilitation and Reentry

10:45 am Presentation

11:15 am Public Comments

11:30 am Closing Remarks

Lateisha Thrash, Director of Reentry Services, NC DAC Rehabilitation and Reentry



**State Reentry Council Collaborative
Durham Technical Community College
1637 E Lawson Street, Durham, NC 27703**

May 13th, 2025

Agenda

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Committee member to avoid both conflicts of interest and the appearances of conflicts of interest. If any Committee member has any known conflict of interest or is aware of facts that might create the appearance of such conflict, with respect to any matters coming before the Committee today, please identify the conflict or the facts that might create the appearance of a conflict to ensure that any inappropriate participation in that matter may be avoided. If at any time, any new matter raises a conflict during the meeting, please be sure to identify it at that time.

9:30 am Welcome & Leadership Greetings

Leslie Cooley Dismukes, Secretary, NC Department of Adult Correction

10:00 am Reentry 2030 Updates

*Maggie Brewer, Chief Deputy Secretary of Rehabilitative and Correctional Services, NC DAC
George Pettigrew, Deputy Secretary of Rehabilitative and Correctional Services, NCDAC*

10:30 am Recidivism Reduction Services across North Carolina

Jessica Sharpe, Community Programs Manager, NCDAC

10:45 am Recidivism Reduction Services – Vendor Presentation

Michael Gray, VP Justice Services

11:15 am Public Comments

11:30 am Closing Remarks

Lateisha Thrash, Director of Reentry Services, NC DAC



State Reentry Council Collaborative
North Carolina Museum of Art
2110 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607
August 12, 2025
Agenda

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Committee member to avoid both conflicts of interest and the appearances of conflicts of interest. If any Committee member has any known conflict of interest or is aware of facts that might create the appearance of such conflict, with respect to any matters coming before the Committee today, please identify the conflict or the facts that might create the appearance of a conflict to ensure that any inappropriate participation in that matter may be avoided. If at any time, any new matter raises a conflict during the meeting, please be sure to identify it at that time.

9:30am Welcome & Leadership Greetings

Leslie Cooley Dismukes, Secretary, NC Department of Adult Correction

10:00am Reentry 2030 Updates

George Pettigrew, Deputy Secretary of Rehabilitative and Correctional Services, NCDAC

10:15am North Carolina Job, Employment, and Transition (NCJET)

John Coleman, Director of Correction Enterprises, NCDAC

10:45am Employment Post Incarceration

Eric Haddock, State Reentry Coordinator, NC Commerce

11:15am Public Comments

11:30am Closing Remarks

Lateisha Thrash, Director of Reentry Services, NCDAC