



Women's Reentry Services Initiative



PCCD Conference 2024

A Presentation From:

Elizabeth Siegelman, Center for Alternatives In Community Justice

Keith Mernin, PA CareerLink, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit

Mark Frailey, Go Reentry Inc

Agenda

Introductions

Our Programming

What We Learned

Improving Our Programming & Future Directions

Questions & Answers

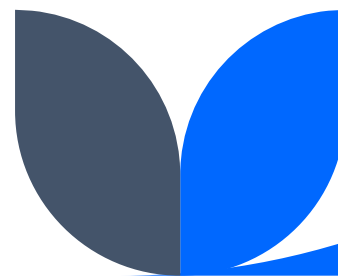


**Elizabeth Siegelman, Program Coordinator
Community Conferencing of Centre County
A Program of the Center for Alternatives in
Community Justice (CACJ)**





**Keith Mernin,
Adult Instructor
PA Career Link, Tuscarora
Intermediate Unit (TIU) #11
Community Education & Workforce
Services**



**Mark Frailey,
Founder and
Executive Director
Go Reentry
Specialists**



Three-Step Model

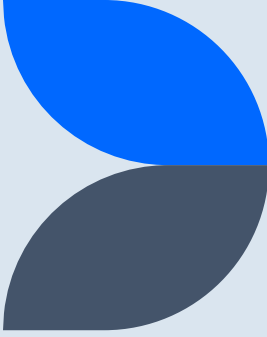
Step One: Prior to release, Community Conferencing will provide eligible reentrants with access to family reunification services.

Step Two: Prior to release, a PA CareerLink® career counselor will conduct a needs and career goals assessment class with eligible reentrants. This class runs monthly and consists of 4 modules.

Step Three: Prior to release, women will be able to attend a weekly reentry support group meeting facilitated by Community Conferencing. This group will meet for 1.5 hours per week.

Step 1

Reentry Conference Process



The facilitator guides the group through the following questions:

1. What happened?
2. How have people been affected?
3. How can the harm be repaired and prevented from happening in the future?

All participants can bring a support person (spouse, partner, family, friend). And, when necessary, resource persons (supervisor, department head, faith leader, chaplain, case worker, police officer, mental health worker, parole/probation etc.) can attend a conference.

When people participate in a conference, **they create their own set of resolutions for resolving the conflict** and preventing it from happening in the future. This process is meant to empower individuals and to restore relationships.

This process teaches that a person's crime does not define who they are as a person and demonstrates them that they have a place in their family and in the wider community.

Step 2

Career Skills Class

- Meets the first two Fridays of each month for a total of four meetings
- Morning **Group** Session: 9-10:30AM
- Afternoon **Individual** Session: 1-2:30PM

Module Topics

- "The Paper You"
- Resume Building
- Interview Preparation & Navigating the Job Market with a Record
- Connection to Other Resources: ex. The Reboot Program, etc.

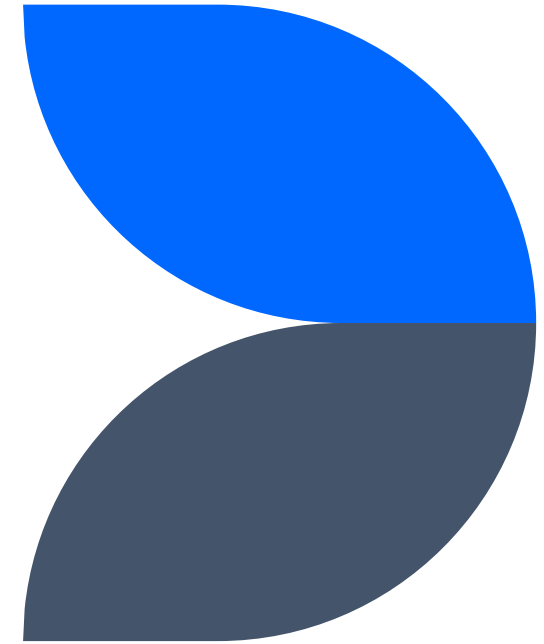
Step 3

Reentry Support Group

Group meets weekly on Wednesdays from 6-8:30PM.

Group Topics Include:

- Relapse Prevention
- Trauma Histories
- Family Reunification & Conflicts
- Depression, Anxiety, Anger, etc.



What Happens After Release?

Upon Release clients receive a "Comeback Backpack" meant to help them navigate life post-release and maintain dignity during this transition.

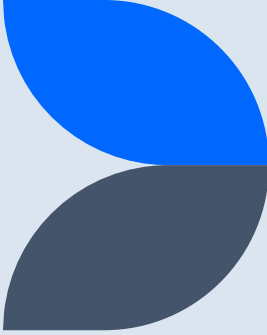
Backpacks Contain

- Toiletries
- Sanitary Items
- Snacks
- Walmart Gift Card
- Clothing
- Towel and Washcloth
- Notebook, Pen, Folder, Day Planner
- Literature about Local Resources

**THANK YOU
to the Petroff Family
for their generous
donation of 10 full
backpacks!**



2023-2024 PROGRAM STATISTICS



SERVICES	TARGET	ACHIEVED	MEASUREMENT
REENTRY CONFERENCES	25	5	25% participation
CAREER SKILLS CLASS	50	29	58% participation
REENTRY SUPPORT GROUP	50	60	120% participation!
COMEBACK BACKPACKS	25	12	48% participation
RECIDIVISM	0	5	15-20% Recidivism Rate

Go Reentry Inc: Building Relationships Inside & Providing Support Post Release



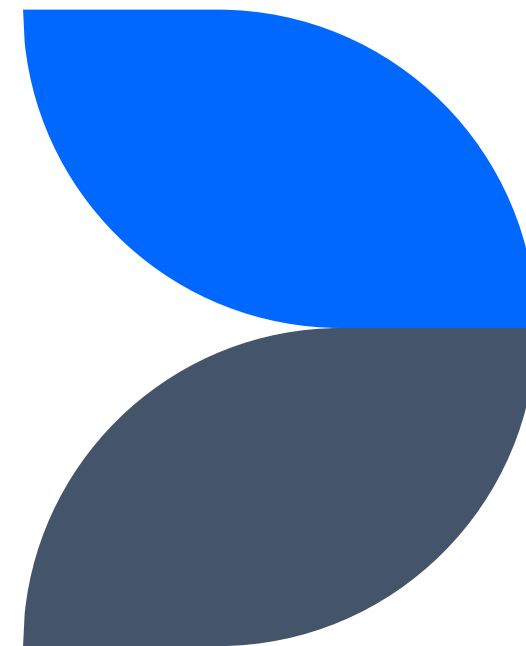
- **Main Emphasis of the Organization**

1. Sobriety
2. Housing
3. Employment
4. Support
5. Accountability
6. Education
7. HOPE!

Services Offered

- Continuation of Care
- Case Management
- The Inn (Reentry House)
- Job Placement

**WHAT WE
LEARNED**



Improving Our Programming & Future Directions

PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS

- Decrease Target to 10-15 women per year
- Mandatory Participation in:
 - 9 session Relapse Prevention and Reentry Course
 - Career Skills Class
 - Weekly Reentry Support Group
- Improved program would provide **Free** Mental Health Services through the PSU Herr Clinic
- Improved Program would connect clients to other local resources depending upon their needs:
 - Case Management
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Job Placement
 - Healthcare
 - Provide increased Funding for Barriers to Reentry (rent, childcare, utility bills, etc.)

FUTURE DIRECTION

- Apply for Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Grant: Second Chance Act Community-Based Reentry Program (36 Month)
- Improve Assessment and Limit Participation to:
 - Centre County Residents housed at CCCF
 - Substance Use History
 - Parent
 - Within 1yr-6months from release
 - Non-violent Offender
 - Willingly Agree to attend all sessions



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



Thank you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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