



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
RE-ENTRY
ADVISORY BOARD

RAB Preliminary Recommendations |
June 17, 2021 – Prince George's County Council

- Ashley Sharp | Chief of Staff to Chairman Calvin S. Hawkins, II
- Nathaniel Tutt | County Council, Administrative Staff

CR-49-2019...

- Evaluate & assist County agencies in implementing a comprehensive Re-Entry Program/services
- Identify gaps and existing resources/services that address employment, housing, mental health & faith-based needs
- Form direction and provide assistance to increase access to programs/services
- Develop systematic processes for pre and post incarceration release
- Review relevant legislation



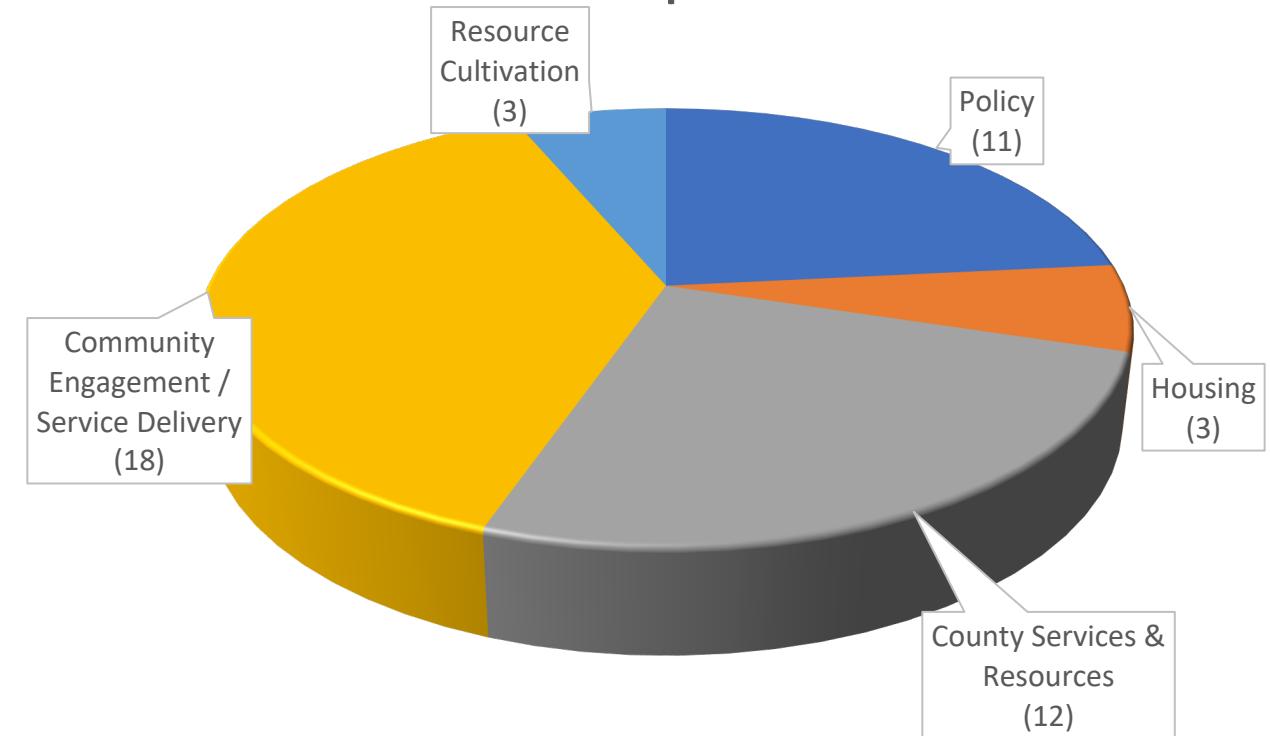
RAB TIMELINE...

- *(November 2019)* | CR-49-2019 Passed
- *(January 2020 – November 2020)* | RAB Met on Monthly Basis
- *(March 2021 – June 2021)* | RAB Incorporated Working Subcommittees
- *(June 2021)* | Preliminary Recommendations To Be Released to Leadership of 3 Branches of Prince George's Co. Government & General Public
- *(July & August 2021)* | Community Town Halls
- *(September – November 2021)* | RAB to Meet on Monthly Basis & Incorporate Public Focus Groups
- *(December 2021)* | Final Recommendations To Be Released





Recommendations per Subcommittee



Reentry Advisory Board
SUBCOMMITTEES

EXAMPLE:

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
This subcommittee recommends...		✓				✗

[Subcommittee]

Recommendation has not yet been initiated

Discussions in process surrounding feasibility among stakeholders

Action items/steps have been determined based on discussions/goals

Approval for action items/steps have been granted

Action items have been implemented



Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
A Re-entry Coordinator should serve under the Office of the County Executive at the Associate Director-level to work on behalf of the County to support the sustainment of the re-entry process		✓				
Convene key Institutional Stakeholders on an ongoing basis (coordinated by the Re-entry Coordinator) to develop plans of action to pursue public and private funding that requires cross-collaboration between State & County agencies, private sector and institutional education partners	✓					
Create a certification process for County non-profits/community-based service providers to become properly vetted as official County Re-entry Partners utilizing the Level of Service Case Management Inventory (LSCMI) Professional Development Training to assist with guiding organizations to build capacity by educating them on utilizing evidence-based tools.		✓				

Resource Cultivation

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Work with community organizations and Not-for-Profit Community Developers to housing using the Housing First model for individuals at all stages (Transitional/Short-Term/Independent Living) of their re-entry using County surplus properties	✓					
Create an MOU between the Bridge Center @ Adam's House and specific organizations who are currently facilitating reliable, accessible and safe housing to returning citizens	✓					
Increase financing tools and incentives for developers that work to reduce housing barriers	✓					
Develop an outreach strategy plan in preparation to address any concerns from the Community in pursuit of housing efforts	✓					
Amend the Housing Authority's ACOP and Admin Plan to address housing screening requirements in accordance with the 2015 HUD Notice PIH 2015-19				✓	✗	

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Enhance post-release needs in the areas of housing, health care, employment and social support		✓				
Enhance & connect the Bridge Center @ Adams House to the Community and State Correctional partners		✓				
Formalize coordination between County DoC / MD DSPCS to notify the Bridge Center of a release		✓				
Establish a working relationship with the Dept. of Parole and Probation	✓					
Coordinate with the Court System & Educate Judges About Reentry Options	✓					
Assistance with Financial Planning for Child Support Payments and other Legal Problems	✓					
Recruiting, Training & Supporting Community-Based Support		✓				

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Subsidize Transportation (i.e. - DPWT The Bus/WMATA Rail & Bus/Taxi Cabs/Uber) for a 60-90 day period of time following release	✓					
Assistance for Incarcerated individuals seeking reconsideration		✓				
Expand the capacity of the Court System's Reentry Court initiative by funding an additional case worker position	✓					
Re-open and expand the offerings of the Community Release Center (CRC) and prepare for accepting residents transferring from State to County facilities		✓				

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Establish a web-based platform that provides a central location of all vetted organizations that offer re-entry services that is updated in real time	✓					
Propose funds for FY22 budget to extend ETO (Social Solutions – Case Management) contracted platform for a 3-year contract and maintain this request as a budgeted line item				✓		
Acquire technical assistance via a cloud-based, user-friendly platform to communicate with end-users (returning citizens) to be utilized post-release, preferably one that can be integrated with the current ETO tracking system utilized by the Health Department and Data Link utilized by MD DPSCS with a GPS mapping capability to locate nearby transit and local service provider destinations		✓				

County Services & Resources (1 of 4)



Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Expand Medical Health Units within County jail to allow for separate, individual units for inmates with severe mental challenges		✓				
Increase funding to expand service capabilities of the Mobile Crisis Teams to also include Forensic Peer Recovery Specialist to support the crisis continuum of care through stabilizing therapy	✓					
Pursue discussions with partnering agencies surrounding the possibility of relocation of the Bridge Center @ Adams House to Largo in a County-owned building to better accommodate space, cost-savings, increase accessibility through being in the vicinity of multiple methods of public transit		✓				
Assign a DSS staff member on-site of the County jail to facilitate enrollment and verification of federal benefits				✓		

County Services & Resources (2 of 4)

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Increase the stock and availability of Transitional and Emergency Housing Resources for returning citizens		✓				
Expand networks and partnerships between EMPLOY Prince George's Re-entry Coordinator and industries that hire returning citizens.		✓				
Support County-funded training led by a research partner for community-based non-profits to complete and become educated on best tools/practices for reducing recidivism and to understand and track outcomes of data sets to build into the current ETO system to be tracked and published online		✓				

County Services & Resources (3 of 4)



Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Increase intentional outreach/programs for women returning while simultaneously working with the Judge AW Center for Education, Justice & Ethics to explore and gather facts/data as to why less women take advantage of re-entry services than men. Explore the feasibility of opening a Women-only Pre-release facility in the County that house special programs for women	✓					
Expand the free mediation services provided by the Circuit Court to support the family unit and the children of those formerly reincarcerated within the County re-entry process to address trauma, emotional support and increase familial support		✓				

County Services & Resources (4 of 4)

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Strategically expand the connections of faith-based networks with the DoC/Dept. of Health to target those religious organizations located in geographically strategic areas that are interested in capacity-building and receiving educational training hours to become Peer Supporters/Life Coaches		✓				
Formalize partnerships with MOUs between the Bridge Center @ Adams House and organizations with case managers on staff to assist the Bridge Center @ Adams House in connecting clients with community resources post-release and beyond (beginning with those organizations who completed the official re-entry survey)	✓					

Community Engagement / Service Delivery (1 of 6)

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Formalize partnerships via MOU between the County and community health clinics/local hospitals that offer Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment to proactively bridge the gap in treatment until individual has enrolled or reinstated successfully for health insurance and help to reduce ER visits/demand	✓					
Assign a DSS member (permanent assignment part time position) is needed at the jail to assist with enrolling/activating Medicaid				✓		
Work in partnership with the Judge AW Center for Education, Justice & Ethics to expand research and recommendations for mental/behavior health assistance for returning citizens, especially in areas of Housing for this population within the State & County		✓				

Community Engagement / Service Delivery (2 of 6)

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Train/certify eligible nonprofit service providers to be registered Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) with the State to assist residents with applying for federal assistance (SNAP, WIC, Medicaid, etc.)	✓					
Host a series of public town halls/focus groups to solicit feedback of preliminary recommendations from community residents, those formerly incarcerated and service providers		✓				
Develop a Resource Directory aka the “Reentry Playbook” that would be a roadmap for returning citizens outlining all available resources/organizations that would lead to successful reentry. Distributing this material, should be an added condition within the MOU language currently being crafted with the MD DPSCS. This information should also be shared with the County Dept. of Corrections. and the Federal BOP		✓				

Community Engagement / Service Delivery (3 of 6)

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Establish modernized IT capabilities within jail facilities that allows for secure, ongoing, virtual visits to accommodate reentry coordinators, stabilizing therapy sessions/wellness checks and workforce training.			✓			
Establish a point of contact within Dept. of Corrections (post-pandemic) to coordinate visitation of family/friends, connect them to familial support groups and actively develop partnerships between the agency and faith-based/non-profit organizations specifically with those who would enter the facility.	✓					
Dept. of Corrections and the chaplaincy vendor (Prison Ministry of America) should choose a permanent chaplain as soon as possible				✓		

Community Engagement / Service Delivery (4 of 6)

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Prioritize an expansion process for a new facility with the capability for separate housing units under the authority of the Dept. of Corrections for residents diagnosed with severe mental health illnesses. Individualized units should be utilized on a rotational basis.		✓				
Establish a workforce development/life skills training programs between the Dept. of Corrections and Employ Prince George's to receive training during pre-release		✓				
Create a process for individuals to apply for a waiver or time-extension for payment of child support for returning citizens working with the SAO and the MD Child Support Administration	✓					
Expand partnerships with the Dept. of Corrections' Community Release Center (CRC) to engage Prince George's County municipalities to determine how these entities can play an integral part in successful reentry of their citizens.	✓					

Community Engagement / Service Delivery (5 of 6)

Recommendation	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	COMPLETE
Establish a data monitoring process for all vetted County re-entry service providers to access and update individual progress and overall program success rates		✓				
Strengthen relationship between the Bridge Center @ Adams House, the Dept. of Corrections and their Federal counterparts (DOJ – BOP)		✓				
Strengthen relationship between the Bridge Center @ Adams House, the Dept. of Corrections and their State counterparts (MD DPSCS) as well as the Maryland Navigators workforce development program (under MD DLLR)		✓				

Community Engagement / Service Delivery (6 of 6)

MOST COMMONLY RAISED RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create a certification process for County non-profits/community-based service providers to become properly vetted as official County Re-entry Partners prioritizing the need for data-tracking methods
- Establish a central, online location for all vetted resources that serve returning citizens
- Increase availability of housing options
- Support methods of reliable transportation, particularly for employment purposes
- Expanding the pool of jobs with livable wages available to returning citizens and workforce programs
- Strengthen relationships with the MD DPSCS and DOJ – BOP
- Expanding jail capabilities to allow for space dedicated to addressing mental health/severe mental health needs
- Make the Bridge Center @ Adam's House more accessible to the general public

TOPICS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Transportation

PG DoC & MD
DPSCS/DLLR

Mental /
Behavioral
Health

Re-entry Courts

Housing

Jobs/Workforce
Development



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
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THANK YOU!