

Milwaukee Reentry Council

Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Attendees Present: Conor Williams (Community Advocates), Liz Schwartz (Wellpath), Adam Procell (Partners in Hope), Natraj Shanker (Rotary), Nyla Al-Mujaahid (Spread The Vote), Marisola Xhelili Ciaccio (Marquette University), Niel Thoreson (DOC), Gwendolyn Lockett (America Works), Timothy Ehlinger (UWM), Peggy West (EXPO), Kyle Ashley (Rise Youth and Family Services), Ruben Gaona (2nd Chance Wisconsin LLC), Jenni Sevenich (Progressive CHC), Nazir Al-Mujaahid (Ibrahim House), Terri Strodthoff (Alma Center), Terrece Ivring (Milwaukee Jobs Work), Laurie Tenpenny (DOC), Tiodolo A. Delagarza III (MKE LGBT Community Center), LaKesha Reid (Center for Self-Sufficiency), Rick Barricelli (Milwaukee Community Service Corps), John Thomas (DWD), Michael Haas (EmpowerMKE), Jeannette Haynes (Employ Milwaukee), Kelly, Dawn Herbert, Luli Buxton (Federal Defender Services), Joseph Ellwanger (Project Return), Sylvester Jackson (EXPO), Kaelin Rapport (Northwestern University), Lacey Rither (Project Restoration), Patricia Woods, Joseph Moore (UWM Intern), Lisa Kaiser (Community Advocates), Dequana Bostick, Moriah Iverson (Independence First), Ronald Beyah, Jamie Reif (Wellpath), Katelyn Updike, Deborah Beuttler (RYOCF), Victoria Seibel-Garvey (DOC), Artis Landon (WCS), Erich, William Lipscomb (US Attorney), Quentella Perry (Covering Wisconsin), Sara Newman, Dirk, Dashal Young (WCS), Caller ***791

Staff Present: Alyssa Doman (Wisconsin Policy Forum/MCJC)

- 1) **Welcome** - Connor Williams called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm.
- 2) **Networking and Dialogue** - Attendees were placed into breakout groups to network and discuss the following: 1) One positive thing that recently happened in one's work, 2) Your vision and dreams for corrections and reentry in Milwaukee in the future. It was noted that attendees felt there needed to be more time or fewer group members in order to discuss both questions. Members are encouraged to provide additional suggested items for discussion/networking for future meetings.
- 3) **Task Force Updates/Ad Hoc Committee Updates**
 - a. **Home to Stay** – Prior to the pandemic, the Reentry Council sponsored monthly reentry resource events at community locations. Members suggested resuming the events with a drive-thru reentry resource fair at Employ Milwaukee; however, the events continue to be postponed as a precautionary measure.
 - b. **Healthcare Task Force** – Jenni Sevenich, with Progressive Community Health Centers and co-chair for the Reentry Healthcare Task Force, reported updates on the Transitions Clinic progress. Two Community Healthcare Workers have been hired at Progressive and will be beginning their work in the coming weeks. Advocate Aurora continues to recruit and hire.
 - c. **Housing Task Force** - Project RETURN recently hired and welcomed a housing intern, Mr. Joseph Moore, who will be assisting with the staffing and administrative needs of the housing taskforce. Joseph's first project will be working on a resource list and website.
- 4) **Vision for the Future: Central Door for Reentry** – Adam Procell shared his vision for creating a central door for reentry in Milwaukee. The concept of the center is to aid in helping individuals returning to their communities obtain knowledge about current technology and other aspects of our communities to assist in reentry, such as drivers licenses and obtaining social security cards.
- 5) **Project and Partner Presentations:**

Milwaukee Reentry Council

- a. **LGBT Multi-Cultural Leadership Re-Entry Program** - Tiodolo Delagarza ([email](#)) with the [Milwaukee LGBT Community Center](#), provided an overview of their organization and the reentry programming they provide. The two-month program is designed to help the community as a whole and not just individuals coming out of prison. Individuals do not need to identify as LGBT in order to participate in the program.
 - b. **Commute to Careers Program** – LaKeshia Ried ([email](#)) with the [Center for Self-Sufficiency](#) shared information on their Commute to Careers program that provides free commuting service. Transportation is provided for any employment-related training and/or employment itself.
 - c. **Milwaukee Service Corps Paid Training** – Rick Barricelli ([email](#)) from Milwaukee Service Corps shared their opportunity to participate in a seven-week paid training program, which includes a \$250 a week stipend, to earn OSHA certifications and gain on-site experience. Rick noted there is a high rate of placement into employment for individuals who complete the program. [More information can be found here.](#)
- 6) **Public Comment and any Other Business** - Conor indicated he will be distributing flyers on behalf of Peggy West-Schroder of EXPO to the group via email.
- 7) **One Word Evaluation and Adjourn** - Conor Williams closed the meeting by asking attendees for a one-word evaluation. The meeting formally adjourned at 3:25 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th, 2020, 2:00-3:30pm via Zoom (same Meeting ID and Password).