



New York Re-Entry Today

December 2014

Volume 3 Number 6

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!

Welcome to

New York Re-Entry Today

This bi-monthly news-letter brings news, policy and program updates and best practice information to the 19 County Re-Entry Task Forces (CRTFs) and stakeholders. CRTFs are located in these counties:

- **Albany**
- **Bronx**
- **Broome**
- **Dutchess**
- **Erie**
- **Kings**
- **Manhattan**
- **Monroe**
- **Nassau**
- **Niagara**
- **Oneida**
- **Onondaga**
- **Orange**
- **Rensselaer**
- **Rockland**
- **Schenectady**
- **Suffolk**
- **Ulster**
- **Westchester**

DOCCS Reports Lowest Return Rate of Parolees Convicted of New Crimes

DOCCS recently reported that nine percent of those released from state prison in 2010 returned to the state's custody on new felony crime convictions within three years of release. It is the lowest return rate of new crime convictions since 1985. This data underscores the positive outcomes of collaborative work between the CRTFs and DOCCS to help releasees successfully adjust to community life.

Highlights of the 2013-14 CRTF Program Activity Report

Monthly intake data submitted by CRTFs to DCJS during the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 indicate that 4,079 persons released from state prison were assessed as Track I-eligible for intake into one of the 19 county re-entry task forces. This is a 13 percent increase in CRTF intakes over the previous year. Among the total intake admissions:

- 4,001 were under parole supervision and 78 were maximum expirations (MEs) who received assistance from the CRTFs.

- 2,397 were male, 168 were female. 1,746 were aged between 25 to 49.

The most prevalent needs identified were employment programs, social services assistance and chemical dependency treatment. While program service engagement was higher among the CRTF clients at time of discharge than in the previous year, notable service gaps were reported, especially the lack of cognitive behavioral interventions (CBI) programs, mentoring efforts and sex offender treatment.

Of the 3,654 clients discharged from the CRTFs:

- 3,241 clients spent at least 45 days in the CRTFs, while 2,496 received services for more than 90 days.

- 2,458 were successfully discharged.

- 722 were unsuccessfully discharged due to a parole violation or new arrest.

- 85 left the program for other reasons.

Click <https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/re-entryinitiatives> to review the report.

CRTF Meetings and Due dates

December 2014

Suffolk CRTF - Dec. 2

Albany CRTF - Dec. 5

Erie CRTF - Dec. 10

Niagara CRTF - Dec. 10

Bronx CRTF - Dec. 11

Broome CRTF - Dec. 17

Nassau CRTF - Dec. 18

Dutchess CRTF - Dec. 18

January 2015

Rensselaer CRTF - Jan. 7

Monroe CRTF - Jan. 12

Sch'dy CRTF - Jan. 14

Kings CRTF - Jan. 21

Ulster CRTF - Jan. 21

Onondaga CRTF - Jan. 22

Orange CRTF - Jan. 22

Westchester CRTF - Jan. 22

Rockland CRTF - Jan. 28

Dec. 15 - Nov. Snapshots due

Jan. 15 - Dec. Snapshots due

Jan. 30 - Due date for:

- 2Q GMS Reports
- 2Q Fiscal Reports
- 2Q Case-Specific Reports

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NYS Work for Success

The Work for Success (WFS) program promotes the employment of the formerly incarcerated as a matter of economic development and improving public safety. Two approaches are used to expand re-entry employment opportunities statewide. Work for Success utilizes nine non-profit agencies that offer industry-specific training to the formerly incarcerated in 20 locations statewide. This enables the program to work directly with businesses and employers by screening applicants to refer the most qualified and well-trained candidates for hiring consideration. Work for Success will support its applicants with a federal bond. For more information, or to schedule a WFS presentation at an upcoming CRTF meeting, contact Scott Melvin at 718-613-3971 or scott.melvin@labor.ny.gov

2015 Re-entry Jobs Summit

Plans are underway for a metro New York City Jobs Summit to be held in early 2015 at John Jay College in Manhattan. Co-chairs and coordinators from regional re-entry task forces will be invited to obtain information on re-entry job development and placement. Additionally, attendees will be able to discuss broader challenges they experience in helping re-entry participants obtain employment. Similar job summits will be held in the Capital District and Western New York later in 2015.

Thinking for a Change (T4C)

In 2014, nearly 150 community corrections professional staff statewide were trained as T4C facilitators. OPCA plans to provide additional CBI training in 2015. All CRTFs should assess their staff and service provider training needs to deliver cognitive behavioral interventions to re-entry participants.

Broome CRTF Bikes for Re-entry

The Broome CRTF is working with the Binghamton PD and BOCES to provide bicycles to CRTF participants. As is the case with all police departments, Binghamton impounds lost or stolen bikes with hopes of finding rightful owners. After a period of time, the impounded bikes are provided to BOCES students for maintenance and repair. The bikes are then given to CRTF participants in lieu of bus fare to get to scheduled meetings and appointments.

Around the CRTFs...

Vanda Seward, PhD was appointed Kings CRTF Coordinator within the District Attorney's Office. In Nassau County, **Victoria Roberts** was appointed the CRTF Coordinator, succeeding **Pam Lincoln**, who retired on December 5.