



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

ETA VISION 2030

WORKFORCE CONVENING

MAY 16-18, 2023

The Maryland Reentry Initiative

Program Goal:

To develop and administer connections between American Job Centers (AJCs), businesses, community-based organizations, and correctional facilities to assist justice-involved citizens in locating self-sustaining employment.



Reentry Navigator Roles and Responsibilities

- Primary point of contact in the AJC for returning citizens, connects justice-involved jobseekers with community resources.
- Serves as the face of the AJC inside state and local correctional facilities, sharing career resources with individuals prior to their release to the community.



Reentry Navigator Roles and Responsibilities

- Interfaces with local businesses to locate job opportunities for returning citizens and to spread awareness of the justice-involved talent pool in Maryland.
- Coordinates local reentry resources on behalf of jobseekers and employers in the region.
- Provides a boots on the ground assessment for program staff and agency leadership.



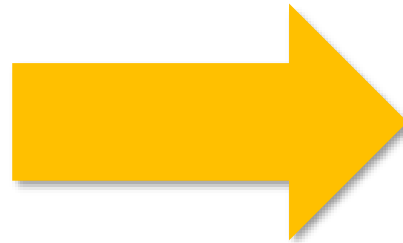
Partnerships

- Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
- Maryland Department of Labor's Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning:
 - Office of Correctional Education
 - MD Labor Business Service Navigators
 - Registered Apprenticeship Navigators
 - Regional Local Veteran Employment Representatives
 - American Job Centers

Correctional Education

Maryland's Correctional Education Program seeks to...

Move incarcerated students from prison to middle income.



Three main units within the Office of Correctional Education:

- Academic
- Occupational
- Transitional

Pilot Program Implementation

MD Labor initially deployed five Reentry Navigators throughout the State as a pilot in 2019:

- Three local areas with state correctional facilities –
 - Eastern Shore
 - Western Maryland
 - Anne Arundel County
- Two with large returning citizen population –
 - Prince George's County
 - Baltimore City

Program Expansion

Due to the success of the pilot, MD Labor expanded the program in 2022, adding six more Reentry Navigators to serve the remaining local areas in Maryland.

Outreach is focused on:

- Local detention centers
- Homeless centers
- Community-based organizations

Specialty Services for the Reentry Population

- Federal Bonding Program
- Assistance with homelessness
- Resources for free legal assistance
- Work with local businesses to connect justice-involved citizens to fill jobs and/or apprenticeship opportunities
- Connect with correctional facilities to provide education about services available upon release
- Work Opportunity Tax Credit
- Access to Support Services
- Child support and modification
- Expungement workshop opportunities
- Clothes referrals
- Document replacement
- Career guidance
- Job search assistance

Outcomes – Performance Metrics

Data for 1/23 - 3/23

- Employment 2nd Quarter after Exit - 60.1%
- Employment 4th Quarter after Exit - 65.1%
- Median Wages - \$6070.00
- # Returning Citizens served - 299
- # Bonding letters issued - 70
- # Business Outreach Contacts - 1251

Questions?

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