

Co-Convener, Madonna Flores  
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Co-Convener, Kathryn Hall  
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Norfolk Reentry Council Minutes  
March 16, 2018  
Workforce Development Center  
9:00 a.m.

**Welcome:**

Kathy Hall extended greetings to members and guests present. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Presentation:** The speaker Ms. Simone McKinney, Navigator for the Affordable Healthcare Act gave a presentation about the ACA Marketplace Insurance. She also noted that benefits are available to those recently released from incarceration. She discussed the requirements, exemptions, special enrollment periods, and applications are available online. She addressed questions from members present. The power-point presentation will be sent via email to the Reentry Council members.

**Child Support-** Joy Sullivan gave an update on their services. The Chesapeake DCSE office officially closed on 2/1/18. They are now housed at the Norfolk/Va. Beach DCSE office (located in Norfolk). They are now in training and transition for new policy "The Final Rule". The new policy addresses the client's ability or inability to repay their arrears. She noted the DCSE new pamphlet and copies were available to those present. She is the case manager for the Family Engagement Program. Also the Incentive Program Policy 5% Reduction in Sate Debt effective 4/1/18

**DHS Programs-** Garry Cofield gave an overview of the Family & Community Engagement Services. Two clients are in Phase II and are being matched with a mentor. He gave an example of a case management scenario. There is a need for Mentors. Co-Ed PEER Support is every Tuesday @ 6 p.m. and is open to the tidewater community. The Female Support Group led by Ms. M. Flores is open for all women on Tuesdays @ 5 p.m. All Support Groups are held at WDC.

**Fatherhood Initiative-** Ben Watterton reported he is using a new curriculum 24/7 DAD and is the best curriculum for his participants.

**Updates:**

**Institutions**

**St. Brides-** Chris Walton gave an update about their activities. They continue the Forklift Training and Inside/Outside Dad. They had 2 pardons at St. Brides. They have a Network Seminars for the participants

- ❖ Faith-Based & Community Initiatives Committee
- ❖ Hampton Roads Re-Entry Employment Committee
  - ❖ Juvenile Re-Entry Committee
  - ❖ Planning Committee

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before they attend the Resource Fairs. The next Resource Fair is 4/20/18. The Transitional Housing Summit will be held in July.

**Greenville-** Bob Edwards gave no new updates (new). It was reported by Ms. Lecroy that 57 were granted parole in one bldg. and that 75% were returning to Norfolk.

**Indian Creek-** Alan Dorrough reported their activities. They have Forklift Training and 35-40 participants in the OSHA class. There will be a Transitional Housing Fair on 6/1/18.

**Sussex I & Sussex II-** Latosha Branch reported their activities. The educational programs supplement the Reentry activities. Sussex I has the 2<sup>nd</sup> Book Program, Horticulture Class, and the CT Auto Body Painting program.

**Norfolk Public Schools-**Chris Keyes reported he does the ABE/GED classes at Norfolk City Jail.

**Norfolk City Jail-** Paula Dillon reported there will be an Open House for Transitional Housing Fair in Chesapeake on 3/23/18.

**P & P:** Kia Dunn reported their activities. They have an Anger Management class that started with 12 and 7 participants are expected to graduate on 4/5/18. Decision Points has 6 participants, 2 has recently graduated, and 1 will graduate next week. PEER Support Group meets every Wednesday. Drug Court will have 4 graduating on Thursday. T4C had 4 to graduate. Serve Safe class with St. Brides providing the training will be conducted free of charge at Norfolk P & P on 4/11- 4/13. The Family Reunification Class will be held on 3/27/18 @ 6 p.m. at WDC.

**Va. Veterans-** Joanna Winters reported there is a Justice Involved Program that connects the newly released veteran with a Veteran Representative at Central Intake. They have flyers. Donna Harrison is the Director of the program.

**New Virginia Majority-** Charles Cuffee reported they continue to assist in Voter Registration and Restoration of Voting Rights to citizens in the Tidewater area.

**VEC-** Diane Murray reported she is the Veteran Employment case manager at Veterans Employment Office and will be having a Grand Opening on 3/30/18. They are located at 861 Glenrock Road #200.

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**OAG-** Dean Rolle reported they had 6 participants to graduate from his program on 2/16/18. 2 have been released and they will start another cohort on 3/20/18.

**Childs Foundation-** Kiana Childs reported their “Go to Work” program transports people to and from work. They serve 3 regions in the State Of Virginia. They currently provide warehouse positions in Suffolk.

**CSB-** Brandi Whitman reported CSB has a GAP Clinic every Wednesday 8 a.m. -12 p.m. 3755 E. Va. Beach Blvd. 664-7699.

#### **Committee Updates:**

- **Employment Committee-** Jason Ewers stated their committee is working on an employment brochure and is advocating for fair chance hiring (power point). They are almost finished with the power point. The next meeting is 3/20/18.
- **Faith Based & Community Initiatives-** Madonna Flores reported the Health & Wellness Fair will provide free health screenings in conjunction with the National Public Health Week on 4/6/18 at the WDC from 10 a.m. -2 p.m. Flyers were distributed to members present. The next meeting is 3/19/18.
- **Juvenile Re-Entry-** Madonna Flores gave an update about their activities. She stated the “I C Success” with the SECEP students (10 students) has 3 more lessons to complete. There are plans to develop a Youth Leadership Advisory Board. They are also looking into implementing Decision Points with the schools. The next meeting is 4/20/18.
- **Planning-** Madonna Flores stated they are working on providing Norfolk Reentry Council Reentry Bags for those recently released from Norfolk City Jail. They are working on a Town Hall meeting 5/22/18. The next meeting is 3/16/18 right after the Reentry Council meeting.

The next Reentry Council meeting is Friday 05/18/18 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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