

Co-Convener, Madonna Flores
Norfolk Department of Human Services
201 E. Little Creek Rd.
Norfolk, VA 23505
757-664-7799



Co-Convener, Kathryn Hall
Norfolk Probation & Parole
865 Monticello Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23510
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Norfolk Re-Entry Council Minutes September 17, 2021

Introductions: Co-conveners Kathryn Hall (VADOC) and Madonna Flores (NDHS) introduced themselves and thanked attendees. Instructions were given to place phones/computers on mute and to use the chat box for attendees to state their name/role/organization for attendance and ask questions.

Presentation: Ms. Stephanie Miranda from Legal Aide Services gave an overview of the services they provide. She provided basic info on eligibility and services. She addressed questions from those in attendance. Her contact information is (757) 627-5423 ext. 155.

Program Updates:

- **Norfolk Department of Human Services:** Melissa Ross gave an update on the CARES T.E.A.M. programs including SNAPET, Gateway Academy, and CARES Project. Ashley Cilenti gave an update about the Lime Scooter Access Program. Downtown Norfolk Council is providing a Lime Scooter Access Program event, plans are for mid-October. Low Income individuals will be able to access a Lime Scooter/Bicycle at a great reduced rate of 70% off the regular price.
- **Department of Child Support Services-** Joy Sullivan gave an update on their services and they are still working hybrid. They are using the Milo New Electronic System. Applications are available online which speeds up the Intake Process. The TANF Debt Reduction Program is still available.
- **Institution:**
 - a. **Norfolk City Jail** -Tammy Lindquist reported the program activities for the female inmates. They continue to partner with many groups such as the UP Center, Second Chances, and EVMS to bring initiatives for the female inmates.
- **Probation & Parole** – Kathy Hall gave an update on their programs Cognitive Behavioral, Peer Support, Thinking for A Change and Decision Points. They continue to practice COVID Protocol.
- **Adult Community Supervision-** Alfye Ingram reported they are still utilizing the hybrid protocol.
- **Veteran Services-** Mark Cummings reported they are working with the incarcerated veterans with assistance at the Correction Center. They provide veteran recovery assistance and veteran benefits information and any additional assistance needed by them.
- **CSB-** Rachel Greenberg advised that their central office location is behind the Walmart on Tidewater Dr. Child/Adolescent 505 Robin Hood Road. Recovery Month event on 9/17/21 at the central office.
- **Friends Faith House** - David Brady reported that they provide transitional housing. They currently have 2 beds available. On the last Saturday of each month, they have a food pantry giveaway and clothing closet. Contact number is (757) 724-2273.

- ❖ Community Involvement Committee
- ❖ Hampton Roads Re-Entry Employment Committee
- ❖ Juvenile Re-Entry Committee
- ❖ Planning Committee

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- **Norfolk Court Service Unit** – Theresa McBride reported they are using the COVID Intake protocol. Mental Health is a real issue. Numbers are up with juveniles’ violent crimes with guns.
- **2-1-1** - Elaina Dariah shared information on 2-1-1 services. She is a Community Engagement Specialist. She encouraged those present to list their services in the 2-1-1 database.
- **Social Security** - Lizna Odhwani gave an update about social security. The office is not opened for in-person services. Individuals should inquire online www.ssa.gov/myaccount . She encouraged everyone to attend the virtual webinars which are free and open to the public. The Norfolk office has been renovated.
- **Commonwealth Attorney’s Office**- Krista Fulton gave an update on all their initiatives. A new initiative is that they are working with the juvenile court system to obtain a grant for restorative justice.
- **Eggleston Services** -Mary Clark reported they are helping people find employment. She does intake and other services. She shared a successful employment story for one of her clients.
- **Urban League**- Dycelia Weiss gave an update on their services. They provide one-on-one financial coaching and housing assistance.
- **Foodbank of SEVA/ES** -Heidi Grass gave an update on services provided.
- **EVMS** – Michael Jones Fatherhood Coordinator gave an update on the Loving Steps/Father’s Footprint program. The program is open to fathers who live in Norfolk & Portsmouth with infants. They provide several free services e.g., parent education, mentoring, diapers & wipes. They also provide monthly fatherhood support.

Committee Updates:

- **Employment**- Jason Ewers reported the Employment Committee met on 8/17/21. Gave an update on their brainstorming strategies. Ashley Cilenti reported about one of the strategies the “Train the Trainer” initiative that brings employers to the table to educate and better prepare the employer to help bridge the gap between reentry clients and employers. The next meeting is 9/28/21 at 9 a.m.
- **Planning** – Madonna Flores reported the 7th Annual Community Collaboration Reentry Summit will be held on 9/20/21 from 10am.-12pm. Registration is still open; it will be held virtually, and health and wellness resources is the theme. She also gave a reminder that videos are available on SNAP, MEDICAID, & TANF on www.norfolk.gov/Reentry

Closure: Kathryn Hall & Madonna Flores thanked everyone for attending. The next meeting date is November 16, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. Meeting Adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

The Next Meeting: November 16, 2021—platform to be determined

Community Involvement Committee
Hampton Roads Re-Entry Employment Committee
Juvenile Re-Entry Committee
Planning Committee