



**OCTOBER  
5-7, 2022**

**WEST PALM BEACH, FL**

Hilton Palm Beach Airport

[www.reentrysummitpbc.com](http://www.reentrysummitpbc.com)



# INFORMATION

The reentry movement is at a crucial point throughout the nation. Over the past few years, significant progress has been achieved in the field nationally, but there are still critical challenges that need to be addressed so that outcomes continue to improve. Reentry Summit Palm Beach County will leave you inspired to educate, advocate, collaborate, and innovate in support of our collective work breaking down barriers for people who are creating a new life after incarceration.

The Reentry Summit—held in beautiful West Palm Beach, Florida—is a perfect venue to share best practices and identify opportunities to collaborate on reentry solutions and programs. Sessions will address a variety of topics including integration of peer specialists, behavioral health care, housing, employment, creating a reentry system, cultural competency, gender responsiveness, evidence based practices, juvenile services, veteran-specific initiatives, and many more related topics.

## WHEN

Wednesday, October 5  
to  
Friday, October 7, 2022

## WHERE

Hilton Palm Beach Airport  
150 Australian Ave.  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

### AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD NOW!

Use the Whova app to find the agenda, event bulletin board, exchange contact info, real time event updates, lunch/dinner planning, and presentation documents.



**OFFERING  
CEUs!**

*The FAU Phyllis and Harvey Sandler School of Social Work at Florida Atlantic University is an approved provider of the Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling, the Florida Board of Psychology, the Florida Office of School Psychology, and the Florida Board of Nursing (BAP #50-6251), as well as the Florida Certification Board (#5350-A) and the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).*

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**SAULPAUL**

Musician with a Message

*Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM*



**STEPHANIE TAYLOR-THOMPSON**

Field Director - Prison Fellowship Idaho and Montana

*Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 PM*



**DAVID L GARLOCK**

Formerly Incarcerated Criminal Justice  
Reform Advocate & Reentry Expert

*Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 AM*



**JAYSON WILLIAMS**

Former NBA All-Star  
Owner of Rebound Holistic Care

*Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM*

# FEATURED SPEAKER



**SECRETARY RICKY D. DIXON**

Secretary of Corrections  
Florida Department of Corrections

*Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 PM*



Scan for speaker bios.

# AGENDA

## WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5

**4:00 PM**  
Registration Opens | Hotel Lobby  
**5:00 - 8:00 PM**  
Welcome Reception | Poolside Tiki Bar

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## THURSDAY OCTOBER 6

**7:30 AM**  
Registration Opens | Hotel Lobby  
**8:00 - 10:30 AM**  
Breakfast | Majestic Ballroom  
Keynote Address | Saul Paul  
**10:30 - 10:45 AM**  
Break  
**10:45 AM - 12:00 PM**  
Breakout Session 1 | Choose From 5 Sessions  
**12:00 - 12:15 PM**  
Break  
**12:15 - 2:15 PM**  
Luncheon | Majestic Ballroom  
Featured Speaker | Florida Department of Corrections Secretary Ricky Dixon  
Keynote Address | Stephanie Taylor-Thompson  
**2:15 - 2:30 PM**  
Break  
**2:30 - 3:45 PM**  
Breakout Session 2 | Choose From 5 Sessions  
**3:45 - 4:00 PM**  
Break  
**4:00 - 5:15 PM**  
Breakout Session 3 | Choose From 5 Sessions

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## FRIDAY OCTOBER 7

**7:30 AM**  
Registration Opens | Hotel Lobby  
**7:45 - 9:15 AM**  
Breakfast | Majestic Ballroom  
Keynote Address | David L Garlock  
**9:15 - 9:30 AM**  
Break  
**9:30 - 10:45 AM**  
Breakout Session 4 | Choose From 5 Sessions  
**10:45 - 11:00 AM**  
Break  
**11:00 AM - 12:15 PM**  
Breakout Session 5 | Choose From 5 Sessions  
**12:15 - 12:30 PM**  
Break  
**12:30 - 2:15 PM**  
Luncheon | Majestic Ballroom  
Keynote Address | Jayson Williams

# WEDNESDAY

Wednesday | 4:00 - 8:00 PM

## REGISTRATION OPENS

4:00 - 8:00 PM

Hotel Lobby

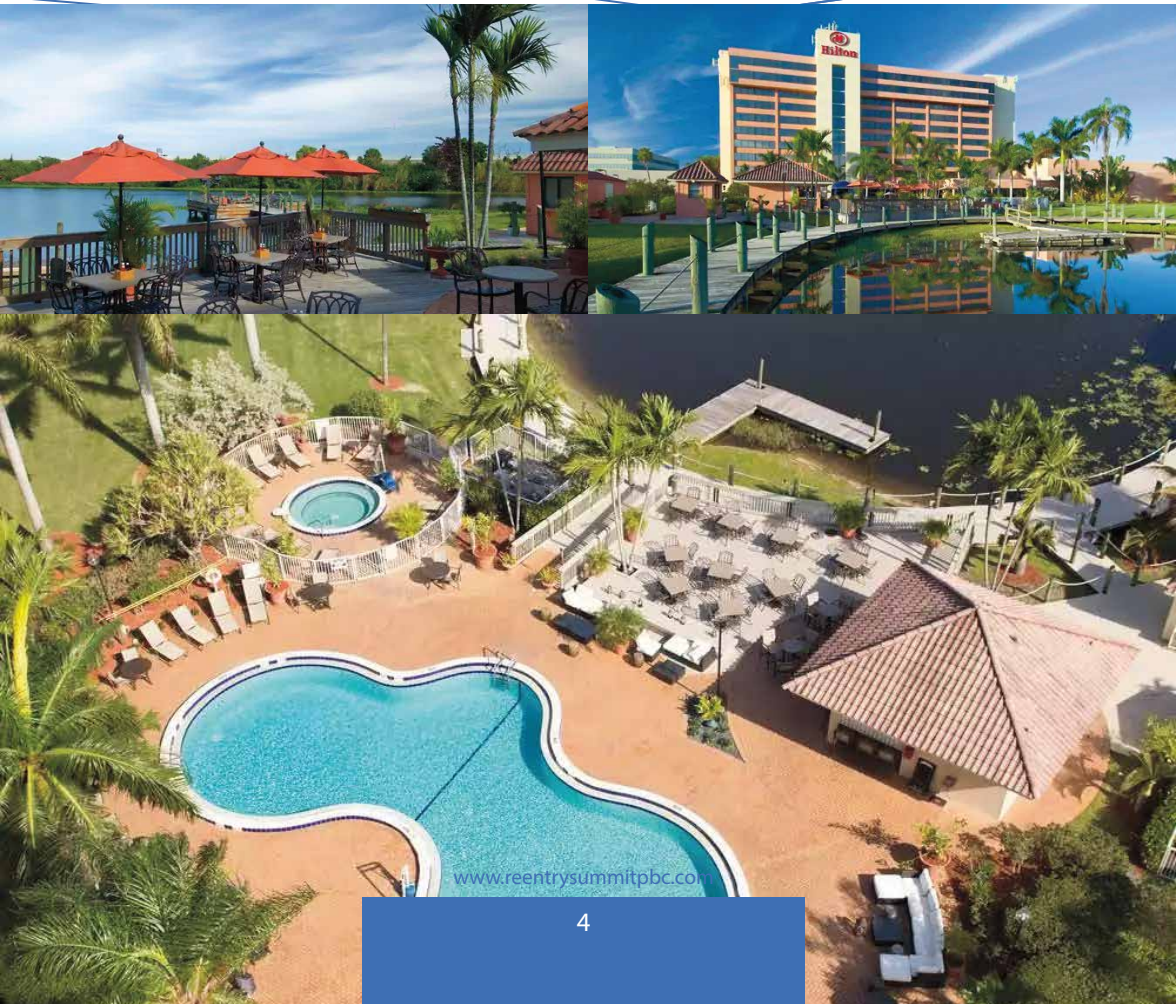
Registration will be open from 4:00 till 8:00 PM. Please register before attending the opening reception. You will receive your welcome packet, name badge, and bag.

## WELCOME RECEPTION

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Poolside Tiki Bar

The Welcome Reception will be held at the Pool Side Tiki Bar. Please join us for drinks, mingling, and festivities.



# THURSDAY - SESSION 1

Thursday | 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

## GETTING STARTED WITH REENTRY IN YOUR COMMUNITY: KEYS TO MAKING IT WORK\*

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Room: Salon A

Most reentry efforts in the country are developed and administered by law enforcement. Palm Beach County, Florida, however, utilizes a social service philosophy through community-based service providers. This session will provide a case study of Palm Beach County's community-based reentry model. The project has been a true collaboration between the federal government, state government, local government, people with lived experience, and community stakeholders. The County has successfully reduced recidivism rates for those involved in programming. The session will provide information on how to engage the community as four of the key stakeholders will provide information on organizational structure, vision, implementation, partnerships, funding, overcoming obstacles, data collection, and sustainability.

### Presenters

**Carey Haughwout** | Public Defender | Palm Beach County  
**Craig Spatara** | Director, Post-Release Services | The Geo Group  
**Diana Stanley** | Chief Executive Officer | The Lord's Place  
**Dr. Wendy Guastafarro** | Director and Professor | Florida Atlantic University

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe how establishing a collaborative body creates a wraparound network to reduce barriers for those returning from incarceration.
2. Identify barriers associated with creating and sustaining collaborative efforts.
3. Describe practices that are used to reduce those barriers.

## THE ROLE OF PEER MENTORING AND PEER SUPPORT IN SUCCESSFUL REENTRY\*

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Room: Salon B

Two under-utilized resources in reentry are peer mentoring and peer support. The lived experiences of people with previous involvement in the criminal justice system can create a powerful and authentic bond with participants seeking to change their lives. This relationship encourages increased engagement in services and greater overall social inclusion, which lowers the risk of recidivism, increases well-being, and leads to stability. This session includes a discussion of the benefits of peer mentoring and peer support, barriers and challenges to successful reentry, and the ultimate outcome: successful reentry and reintegration. In this session, attendees will hear from justice-involved individuals with lived experiences.

### Presenters

**Oswald Newbold** | Case Manager | The Reentry Center  
**Arthur H. Townes** | Alumni Coordinator Manager | The GEO Group  
**Amlak-I Foley** | Post-Release Case Manager | The GEO Group

### Learning Objectives:

1. Explain the role of peer support in the reentry process.
2. Describe how peer support can lead to improved outcomes for returning residents.
3. Discuss principles for implementing peer support in post-release programming.

## ONE LESS BARRIER: REMOVING LEGAL OBSTACLES FOR RETURNING CITIZENS

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Room: Salon C

There are over 1,100 consequences of a felony conviction in Florida. Recent legislative changes have created paths to professional licensure for formerly incarcerated people. While these processes are nuanced and guided by specific laws and policies, they are not out of reach for most people. In this session, attendees will learn, in simple terms, some of the legal options available to help formerly incarcerated people get a second chance at success. Attendees will also learn how they can be an advocate for those affected by the criminal justice system.

### Presenters

**Jonathan Bleiweiss** | Executive Director | Florida Justice Center  
**Alex Saiz** | Director of Legal Services | Florida Justice Center  
**Dr. Noel Vest** | Research Scientist | Stanford University

# THURSDAY - SESSION 1

Thursday | 10:45 AM - 12:00

## LEAVING PRISON WHEN OLDER: THE REENTRY NEEDS OF MIDDLE AGE, OLDER, AND MEDICALLY COMPROMISED PERSONS\*

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Room: Coconut Room

Much of the focus on reentry is on the experiences of younger returned residents who simply do not face reentry challenges to a similar extent as those who grew older in the system or who are released after the age of 50. Older individuals, for example, tend to exhibit chronic physical and mental health problems that often impose challenges to efficient release planning, particularly as it relates to residence planning. This session will examine the reentry challenges as they relate to housing, employment, family reunification, and healthcare of middle age and older men and women. Additionally, this session will examine the Florida Department of Corrections practices and processes for planning for the release of those with medical afflictions requiring supportive housing upon release. Session attendees will also hear from an individual who grew older in the system and was released during middle-age. Attendees will learn of the unique and pressing issues faced by those who were sentenced when young and released after spending decades incarcerated. Through this session, attendees will learn how to better prepare for and appropriately anticipate the needs of its middle age and older returning residents, a group often left out of most reentry discussions.

### Presenters

**Dr. Jessica M. Grosholz** | Associate Professor | University of South Florida

**Dr. Sandra S. Stone** | Professor | University of South Florida

**Dr. Sondra Fogel** | Associate Professor | University of South Florida

**Melissa Black** | Correctional Program Administrator, Medical Release Unit | Florida Department of Corrections

**Chasman Barnes** | Policy Professional and Advocate for Criminal and Social Justice Reform

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the challenges that older individuals face when returning to the community from incarceration.
2. Identify barriers associated with residence planning for those with medical afflictions.
3. Discuss practices for effective planning for the reentry of older incarcerated persons.

## FAIR CHANCE HIRING: WHAT IT IS AND HOW TO HELP EMPLOYERS UNDERSTAND ITS BENEFITS

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Room: Royal Princess Room

Obtaining employment upon release from incarceration is difficult for those with justice system involvement. Fair chance hiring—which is built on the premise that formerly incarcerated people should be evaluated on the merits of their qualifications, not on their criminal records—can improve employment outcomes and reduce recidivism for previously incarcerated people. This session will highlight why fair chance hiring matters, how it is beneficial, and its ability to be incorporated into business sectors, beyond governmental agencies. Session attendees will learn how one organization is educating and supporting the technology industry to incorporate fair chance hiring into their practices. Additionally, this session will discuss common myths that employers have that reduce their likelihood of hiring justice-impacted people and how to work with business owners to overcome this.

### Presenter

**Pamela Guerrier** | Director | Palm Beach County Office of Equal Opportunity

**Michael Macias** | Director of Employment Services | CROP Organization

\*Approved for 1 General CEU for Florida licensed LCSWs, LMFTs, LMHCs, psychologists, school psychologists, and nurses.

# THURSDAY - SESSION 2

Thursday | 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM

## STATE-LEVEL REENTRY INITIATIVES: HOW FLORIDA AND NEBRASKA DO REENTRY\*

2:30 – 3:45 PM

Room: Salon A

At yearend 2020, there were over one million adults incarcerated in state prisons, of which 95% will eventually be released to the community. Indeed, state correctional agencies perform an important role in the reentry of people who are incarcerated. This session will focus on reentry initiatives operated in two state correctional systems—Florida and Nebraska. Attendees will learn the significance of providing intentional programming pre- and post-release, including that of specialized-mission and transitional living facilities and the support of people with lived experience, in an effort to reduce recidivism. The session will also address the complexity of system collaboration among invested stakeholders to support reentry efforts.

### Presenters

**Kasey Moyer** | Executive Director | Mental Health Association of Nebraska  
**Tony Britten** | Reentry Program Manager | Nebraska Department of Correctional Services  
**LaVon Stennis-Williams** | Facility and Community Reentry Program Development Consultant  
**Dr. Katelynn Towne** | Research Coordinator | Nebraska Center for Justice Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha  
**Nichole Landrum** | Statewide Reentry Administrator | Florida Department of Corrections

### Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss initiatives to individualize support offered to people prior to and after release from state prison.
2. Describe the importance of intentional programming through individuals with lived experience.
3. Discuss practices for effective systemic collaboration to support reentry efforts.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL COMPETENCY IN REENTRY WORK\*

2:30 – 3:45 PM

Room: Salon B

Research has found several interrelated issues impacting successful reentry into the community that must be viewed through a culturally competent lens. These issues include the disproportionate effect of imprisonment on low-income communities and people of color, the need for stable employment, and the need to incorporate the experiences and realities of those returning to our community into culturally competent approaches taken by our service providers and employers. Additionally, in the space of public education, research and practice have proven that when children are educated in spaces where their histories, cultures, and unique experiences are affirmed, it fosters a sense of pride. This has direct implications not only for their overall academic achievement but life outcomes. This session will underscore the importance of culturally competent practices and expound on how positive representation shapes identity and how the development of proactive approaches can disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline.

### Presenters

**Barbara Cheives** | President and CEO | Converge & Associates Consulting, Inc.  
**Brian Knowles** | Manager of the Office of African, African American, Latino, Holocaust, and Gender Studies | School District of PBC

### Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss the identification and mitigation of racial and cultural barriers to successful reentry.
2. Identify the correlation between culturally relevant education and life outcomes.

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE: FAMILY AND THE REENTRY PROCESS\*

2:30-3:45 PM

Room: Salon C

Returning citizens face considerable challenges as they prepare to leave incarceration and reintegrate into the community. Providing familial support and connections in the pre- and post-release setting is vitally important to ensuring their transition is effectively supported and guided. This session will explore the role that family members and relatives play in ensuring a successful reentry process. Attendees will learn about pre-release family day programs that are designed to keep children connected with incarcerated parents, as well as how community providers can work with family members to ensure that returning citizens have the appropriate social support structures in place as they transition to the community.

### Presenters

**Clark Porter** | Program Support Specialist | United States Probation Office Eastern District  
**Lisa White** | Supervising Probation Officer | United States Probation Office Eastern District  
**Orie Bullard** | Director | The Reentry Center  
**Ron Dixon** | Reentry Coordinator | The Reentry Center  
**Oswald Newbold** | Case Manager | The Reentry Center

### Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss the role that familial support plays in successful reentry.
2. Explain programs that are effective at connecting incarcerated people with their family members.



# THURSDAY - SESSION 2

Thursday | 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM

## REIMAGINING REENTRY IN CALIFORNIA AND BEYOND\*

2:30-3:45 PM

Room: Coconut Room

Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs (CROP) is a transformational organization dedicated to reforming California's criminal justice landscape through innovative and holistic approaches to reentry that reduce recidivism. CROP envisions a society that invests in people over punishment through its mission of reimagining reentry through a holistic, human-centered approach to advocacy, housing, and skill development for the future of work. This session will discuss CROP's Ready for Life program, which is designed as a holistic one-year experience that integrates reentry and housing support with robust workforce training in the tech industry. This session will also discuss CROP's collaborative work to facilitate the entry into career pathways for living wage employment. This session will also describe how CROP forms partnerships with job placement organizations to create a pipeline for graduate Fellows, while also educating and supporting the tech industry to incorporate fair chance hiring practices of justice-involved individuals into their company DEI goals. Finally, the session will examine how CROP advocates with local, state, and federal policymakers to reform laws, eliminate employment barriers, and reallocate resources to enable justice-involved individuals so they may successfully reenter society with dignity and opportunity.

### Presenters

**Terah Lawyer-Harper** | Executive Director | CROP Organization

**Jason Bryant** | Director of Programs | CROP Organization

**Michael Macias** | Director of Employment Services | CROP Organization

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe ways in which reentry efforts can use a holistic, human-centered approach to improve the lives of formerly incarcerated people.
2. Explain how reentry organizations can form partnerships with job placement organizations to facilitate career pathways for people with justice system involvement.
3. Discuss how to improve advocacy efforts at the local, state, and federal level to reform laws that pose barriers to people returning to the community from incarceration.

## BUILDING UPON THE STRENGTH OF THE FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY TO BROADEN SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR REENTRY EFFORTS

2:30-3:45 PM

Room: Royal Princess Room

The faith-based community can play a vital role in the reentry experience of individuals during incarceration and long after. With often well-established networks of professionals and volunteers, the faith community can provide support and training to institutions to fill gaps in pre-release services in areas such as employment coaching, life skills, and spiritual motivation. Upon release, individuals leaving incarceration can benefit from this network to fill even the most basic needs such as clothing and supplies all the way to connections to housing and potential employment. When these supports are offered through a shared faith often it breaks down trust barriers and creates a bridge to trusted networks. In this session, attendees will learn how to make the most of the faith-based efforts in their community to increase the success program participants.

### Presenter

**Lazaro Lopez** | Regional Director | Prison Fellowship

**Brandon Boyce** | Field Director | Prison Fellowship

**Jim Parker** | Volunteer | Prison Ministry

\*Approved for 1 General CEU for Florida licensed LCSWs, LMFTs, LMHCs, psychologists, school psychologists, and nurses.

# THURSDAY - SESSION 3

Thursday | 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

## THE UNDERESTIMATED ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN REENTRY\*

4:00 – 5:15 PM

Room: Salon A

The collateral consequences of a criminal record create disadvantages in career mobility. Higher education provides a potential pathway that can help reduce recidivism by increasing earnings and the quality of employment for formerly incarcerated scholars. To increase retention and maintain a pipeline of skilled workers for local economies, colleges and universities should allocate resources to address students' personal barriers, enhance socialization skills, and improve wellbeing. This session will discuss the various ways partnerships have been developed between prisons and local educational institutions to increase literacy and assist formerly incarcerated people in obtaining higher education, skill development, and workforce training. Attendees will learn how collegiate recovery programs and Second Chance Pell Grants can act as effective interventions for scholars impacted by the legal system.

### Presenters

**Dr. Jennifer Brinkley** | Assistant Professor | University of West Florida  
**Dr. Richard Louis** | Assistant Professor of Speech Communication | Broward College  
**Alia Spencer** | Faculty Librarian | Palm Beach State College  
**Dr. Noel Vest** | Research Scientist | Stanford University

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the importance of developing partnerships between prisons and local educational institutions.
2. Identify solutions for overcoming barriers for accessing higher education and financial assistance.
3. Explain the need for and importance of collegiate recovery programs.

## INCORPORATING EVIDENCE-BASED REENTRY PRACTICES IN TRANSITIONAL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS\*

4:00 – 5:15 PM

Room: Salon B

Transitional employment programs rapidly place participants into temporary, subsidized jobs; provide additional support (e.g., case management, job coaching workshops, or referrals for social services); and then help participants find permanent jobs. Research suggests that such programs that incorporate cognitive-behavioral interventions (CBI) and are skill-oriented can be effective at reducing recidivism. This session will explore the development, implementation, and effectiveness of two different transitional employment programs—one from South Carolina and the other from Florida—both of which integrate CBI. The session will describe each program's design and operation, target population, and how CBI was integrated into the program. Session attendees will also learn about the effectiveness of the programs and what practices can be implemented to reduce recidivism.

### Presenters

**Dr. Cassandra Atkin-Plunk** | Associate Professor and Associate Director | Florida Atlantic University  
**Amy Barch** | Founder and Executive Director | Turn90

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe transitional employment programs.
2. Explain evidence-based reentry practices that are effective at reducing recidivism.
3. Discuss how transitional employment programs can incorporate evidence-based reentry practices to reduce recidivism.

## THE INTEGRATION OF HOUSING, PEERS, AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN REENTRY\*

4:00 – 5:15 PM

Room: Salon C

Most organizations provide either housing, peer support, or behavioral health. But what happens when an organization provides all three services under one roof for individuals released from incarceration? This session will explore the positive outcomes that occur when providers offer housing, peer support, and behavioral health services in tandem. Attendees will obtain an understanding of what it takes to utilize a collaborative, trauma-informed approach to working with those suffering from homelessness, mental illness, substance use, and lack of social support. This session will feature both evidence that demonstrates improved outcomes along with individuals' lived experiences navigating these systems.

### Presenters

**Hannah Studer** | Deputy Director | Bridges to Change  
**Monta Knudson** | CEO/Executive Director | Bridges to Change  
**Tyrina Pinkney** | Director of Clinical Services | The Lord's Place

### Learning Objectives:

1. Explain how housing, peer support, and behavioral health services can be offered in tandem.
2. Discuss the challenges to coordinating wraparound services within one organization.
3. Describe the importance of using a trauma-informed approach to working with system-impacted people.

# THURSDAY - SESSION 3

Thursday | 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

## ACHIEVING LONG-TERM RECOVERY AND REDUCING RECIDIVISM THROUGH SOCIAL CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT\*

4:00 – 5:15 PM

Room: Coconut Room

Many communities have been disproportionately impacted by the misuse of illicit opioids and prescription drugs, with Palm Beach County being considered the ‘epicenter’ of the deadly opioid crisis in Florida. The County recognizes the road to recovery requires a coordinated network of community-based services that are person-centered and recovery-oriented, which build on the strengths and resiliencies of individuals, families, and communities. Best practice programming includes peer recovery support services that incorporate a full range of social, legal, and other resources, and work together to reduce or eliminate environmental and/or personal barriers to recovery. Stable housing also plays a vital role in a person’s road to recovery, with the lack of affordable housing and the possibility of eviction being stressors. This session will present quantitative and qualitative data collected within a one-year period through a Florida Atlantic University and Palm Beach County Community Services partnership. This demonstration project seeks to define and measure housing stability standards, and other recovery support interventions in the recovery residence environment to determine their impact on long-term recovery outcomes.

### Presenters

**Dr. Heather Howard** | Associate Professor | Florida Atlantic University  
**Nancy McConnell** | Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder | Rebel Recovery Florida  
**Natalie Crespo** | Chief Operating Officer | Rebel Recovery Florida  
**Cristina Mitchell** | Care Coordinator | Rebel Recovery Florida

### Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss the role that familial support plays in successful reentry.
2. Explain programs that are effective at connecting incarcerated people with their family members.

## RISK-NEEDS ASSESSMENTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY: WHEN RESEARCH AND PRACTICE INTERSECT\*

4:00 – 5:15 PM

Room: Royal Princess Room

The Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model is perhaps the most influential model for the assessment and treatment of justice-involved individuals. As such, during the last 25 years, the criminal justice system has seen a significant increase in the use and number of assessment instruments available to evaluate the risk for recidivism and dynamic criminogenic needs. This session will focus on a general description of current risk-needs instruments. Attendees will also learn what they should look for in choosing a risk-needs assessment instrument and understand the strengths and limitations of risk-needs assessment instruments. Additionally, the Florida Department of Corrections will discuss their fourth-generation risk assessment—Corrections Integrated Needs Assessment System (CINAS)—and how the RNR model has influenced its development and implementation.

### Presenter

**Jennifer Rechichi** | Assistant Bureau Chief of Program Development | Florida Department of Corrections  
**Dr. Ralph Fretz** | Psychologist | Palm Beach County Youth Services Division

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the Risk-Need-Responsivity model.
2. Discuss different risk-needs instruments that exist in the United States.
3. Explain the strengths and weaknesses of risk-needs assessment instruments.

\*Approved for 1 General CEU for Florida licensed LCSWs, LMFTs, LMHCs, psychologists, school psychologists, and nurses.

# FRIDAY - SESSION 4

Friday | 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

## A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO MEETING THE REENTRY NEEDS OF WOMEN\*

9:30 – 10:45 AM

Room: Salon A

Over the past 40 years, the proportion of incarcerated women has increased at nearly double the rate of men, and women are widely considered to be the fastest growing segment of the incarcerated population. Women face unique physical, psychological, and social challenges when returning to the community. These challenges are compounded as a lack of stable housing makes it difficult to address issues of trauma, recovery from substance use, financial self-sufficiency, and family reunification. This session will illustrate how trauma-informed care, housing, employment, and other gender-specific services play a role in reducing recidivism. Attendees will learn about pre- and post-release programs operated from a trauma-informed, client-centered, and gender-responsive lens.

### Presenters

**Mahlia Lindquist** | Executive Director | Ladies Empowerment & Action Program

**Val Stanley** | Director of Women's Services | The Lord's Place

**Diana Stanley** | Chief Executive Officer | The Lord's Place

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the value of operating reentry programs from a trauma-informed, client-centered, and gender-responsive lens.
2. Discuss the different challenges that women face pre- and post-release.
3. Identify stable and secure housing options for women.

## ADDRESSING THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF YOUTH THROUGH COLLABORATION, PEERS, AND RESEARCH\*

9:30 – 10:45 AM

Room: Salon B

Youth involved in the justice system face unique challenges that must be addressed in age-appropriate ways in a coordinated and collaborative manner. This session will look at the importance of the community, schools, behavioral health services, families, peers, and other factors in the reentry journey of a child. Utilizing evidence-based practices and building on research that examines youth reentry needs across education, employment and mental health domains can help guide providers in determining appropriate levels of support to create success. In this session, practitioners will share the importance of interventions that bring together government agencies, peers, and researchers in the community and begin at the outset of incarceration and continue long after release.

### Presenters

**Dr. Wendy Cavendish** | Professor | University of Miami

**Kayla Larkin** | Instructor & PhD student | University of Miami

**Christal Carmichael** | Director of Youth Development | Communities In Schools of North Carolina

**Ricky Aiken** | Founder and Executive Director | Inner City Innovators

### Learning Objectives:

1. Recognize the Reentry to Resilience Model and define the strategic planning for reentry at admission.
2. Understand the importance of reentry programming and benefits of evaluation and partnership to enhance the program, increase public safety and reduce recidivism.
3. Recognize the value of peer support for youth in helping them shape the community to which they belong.

## IMPROVING REENTRY EFFORTS FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED VETERANS\*

9:30 – 10:45 AM

Room: Salon C

Recent reports find that over 100,000 veterans are incarcerated in state or federal prisons across the United States. While veterans who are involved in the criminal justice system have some of the same reentry-related needs as their non-veteran counterparts, they also have unique needs, risk factors, and services available to them. In this session, attendees will learn how to identify veterans in a criminal justice population. Additionally, this session will examine ways to identify and remediate veteran-specific reentry risk factors through effective clinical interventions. Session attendees will also learn what the US Department of Veterans Affairs-Veterans Justice Programs offers to federal, state, and local criminal justice partners and outcomes for justice-involved veterans who engage in VA services.

### Presenters

**James Haskell** | Veterans Justice Specialist | VA Maryland Healthcare System

**Jessica Blue-Howells** | Deputy National Director, Veterans Justice Programs | US Department of Veterans Affairs

### Learning Objectives:

1. Explain the unique needs of justice-involved veterans.
2. Describe how to improve veterans' reentry outcomes through effective clinical interventions.
3. Discuss outcomes for justice-involved veterans who engage in VA services.

# FRIDAY - SESSION 4

Friday | 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

## THE TREATMENT AND PROGRAMMATIC NEEDS FOR PEOPLE CONVICTED OF SEXUAL OFFENSES\*

9:30 – 10:45 AM

Room: Coconut Room

Despite the notion that everyone who commits a sex crime is at high risk to re-offend, they are actually a very diverse and heterogeneous group. This myth and the stigma associated with sex crimes also results in fewer reentry programs being available to individuals who have committed a sexual offense. This session will discuss how common labels obscure the realities of risk and recidivism. Participants will be introduced to risk domains, including paraphilic interests, hypersexuality, personality and mental health disorders, and social-contextual factors. The goals and implementation of sex-offending treatment will be introduced, along with suggestions for collaborative criminal justice practices to enhance success and reduce recidivism risk. This session will also examine the implementation, strengths, and challenges of the Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) program, which is designed as a year-long, voluntary program for those who committed a sexual offense. CoSA seeks to build participants' social capital, while holding them accountable to a small group of volunteers. Finally, attendees will hear from a survivor of childhood sexual abuse who now advocates for those who are on the registry.

### Presenters

**Nikki Girard** | Former CoSA Coordinator

**Vanessa Klein** | Director of Reentry Services | The Lord's Place

**Dr. Cristina Lucier** | VP of Community Programs | The Lord's Place

**Dr. Jill Levenson** | Professor | Barry University

**David Garlock** | Formerly Incarcerated Criminal Justice Reform Advocate & Reentry Expert

### Learning Objectives:

1. Explain risk domains for individuals who commit sex crimes.
2. Discuss the goals of treatment for people who commit sexual offenses.
3. Understand the Circles of Support and Accountability model.

## DIVERSE APPROACHES TO PROVIDING REENTRY SERVICES\*

9:30 – 10:45 AM

Room: Royal Princess Room

Reentry efforts must be as diverse and unique as the individuals for whom the services are designed. This session will explore two very different approaches to breaking down barriers while weaving critical best practices through both efforts. First, attendees will learn about Free Minds Book Club – designed to use the shared experience of participating in a book club, use literature to bring trauma healing to the incarcerated, and build trust for engagement in more traditional reentry services. This program, led by peers, begins pre-release and carries through post-release integration into the community. This session will also look at the approach of Lucas County, Ohio's "Going Home to Stay" model which provides services at a monthly one-stop, grass roots event. This effort minimizes the barriers and challenges of those released into the community by putting solutions all in one place on one day. Formerly incarcerated individuals can access a wide range of services on the spot, which breaks down barriers to obtaining employment, documentation, housing, and behavioral health services.

### Presenter

**Judge Timothy C. Kuhlman** | Toledo Municipal Court

**Holly Matthews** | Executive Director | Toledo Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

**Tom Luettke** | Reentry Coordinator | Toledo Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

**Tara Libert** | Co-founder and Executive Director | Free Minds Book Club & Writing Workshop

**Craig Watson** | Peer Support Specialist | Free Minds Book Club & Writing Workshop

### Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss diverse programs for improving reentry.
2. Identify barriers and challenges to collaborating in reentry efforts.

\*Approved for 1 General CEU for Florida licensed LCSWs, LMFTs, LMHCs, psychologists, school psychologists, and nurses.

# FRIDAY - SESSION 5

Friday | 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

## ENDING THE CRIMINALIZATION OF MENTAL ILLNESS THROUGH FORMAL DIVERSION AND REENTRY PROGRAMS\*

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Room: Salon A

It is estimated that more than two million arrests in the United States each year involve people with Serious Mental Illnesses (SMI) – half of whom are homeless at the time of their arrest. As a result, stakeholders in the criminal justice system have been forced to navigate an increasingly scarce system of care for people with mental illnesses. This session will focus on the legal and medical history that led to America's mental health crisis and the criminalization of mental illness. Attendees will learn about elements necessary to create an effective system of care that will transform the mental health and criminal justice systems and reduce the number of people with SMI in jail. Using the Sequential Intercept Model, attendees will also learn about standard points to intervene and divert people with SMI to appropriate treatment and reentry services.

### Presenters

Dr. Risdon Slate | Professor | Florida Southern College

### Learning Objectives:

1. Explain the legal and medical history that led to America's mental health crisis.
2. Discuss the essential elements of an effective system of care for people with serious mental illness.
3. Explain the sequential intercept model and how it can be used to intervene in the lives of people with serious mental illness.

## A TEMPORARY GUARANTEED INCOME FOR FORMERLY INCARCERATED PEOPLE\*

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Room: Salon B

Thousands of policies regulate the lives of people with criminal records, often limiting their access to opportunities and resources. Burdened by fines and fees, including restitution, court and probation fees, electronic monitoring, mandated therapy, drug testing, and more, the formerly incarcerated can face extraordinary debt alongside diminished opportunities. The inability to pay can ultimately result in reincarceration. This session will examine a unique program in Alachua County, Florida that provides unrestricted direct payments to formerly incarcerated people. This program, designed and administered by formerly incarcerated people, seeks to ease the immediate, economic burden of reentry and provide the personal stability necessary to address the individual's needs. Session attendees will learn about the program's structure, eligibility criteria, and funding mechanisms. This session will also discuss the program's evaluation that seeks to examine the relationship between income and recidivism, housing security, sense of identity, and the criminalization of poverty.

### Presenters

Kevin Scott | Director | Just Income GNV

Dr. Lucius Couloute | Assistant Professor | Suffolk University

Just Income GNV recipient

### Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss the economic barriers that formerly incarcerated people experience.
2. Describe the criminalization of poverty and the relationship between income and recidivism.
3. Explain guaranteed income and how it can assist those who were recently released from incarceration.

## JAIL REENTRY: ADDRESSING CRITICAL NEEDS IN A SHORTER TIME FRAME\*

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Room: Salon C

Jail stays are often shorter and more fluid than a prison stay. The needs of those incarcerated in jail, however, are no different and the transition back to the community must be addressed immediately given the shorter sentence lengths. This session will look at two communities who have tackled this challenge through the collaboration of local policy makers, community service providers, employers, educators, and volunteers. Attendees will learn how to build on community strengths to create transition plans that reduce barriers and increase opportunities for those serving jail sentences.

### Presenters

Dr. Lolita Johnson | Lead S.O.A.R Counselor | Davidson County (Nashville, TN) Sheriff's Office

Dr. Carmen Colquitt-Turks | Reentry Supervisor | Davidson County (Nashville, TN) Sheriff's Office

Christopher Howell | Treatment Counselor | Hillsborough County (Tampa, FL) Sheriff's Office

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe how establishing a collaborative body creates a wraparound network to reduce barriers for those returning from jail.
2. Identify barriers associated with creating and sustaining collaborative jail- and community-based efforts.
3. Describe practices that are used to reduce those barriers.

# FRIDAY - SESSION 5

Friday | 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

## USING A TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH TO PREVENTING VIOLENCE AND RECIDIVISM\*

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Room: Coconut Room

People returning from incarceration face collateral consequences that prevent them from moving forward with their lives and seeking employment, safe housing, and access to critical healthcare and other supports. Additionally, justice interactions can have a traumatic effect hindering the ability to reintegrate into society. This session will examine the traumatic nature of interactions with the criminal legal system—described as “Post-Conviction Traumatic Stress”—the collateral consequences of criminal justice sanctions, and the implications for trauma-informed practices. This session will also examine trauma through the lens of gun violence as addressed by READI Chicago. Their innovative response to preventing gun violence identifies returning men who are at the highest risk of becoming perpetrators or victims, addresses trauma, and delivers a robust program to help participants stay safe, build stability, and reduce recidivism. Services focus on both the basic and criminogenic needs of participants through a tailored, trauma-informed cognitive behavior intervention and education/employment support. Attendees will also learn about READI Chicago's outreach, program delivery, and advocacy efforts.

### Presenters

**Sophia Manuel** | Senior Program Manager | READI Chicago Heartland Alliance

**Raquel Pullums** | Reentry Program Manager | READI Chicago Heartland Alliance

**Reality Allah** | Reentry Coordinator | READI Chicago Heartland Alliance

**Dr. Jill Levenson** | Professor | Barry University

### Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the notion of “Post-Conviction Traumatic Stress” (PCTS).
2. Apply practical steps that practitioners can take to promote behavioral health and well-being with a goal to enhance successful reentry and prevention of recidivism.
3. Explain how the READI Chicago program responds to and prevents gun violence.

## INCREASING THE ODDS OF BEING HIRED THROUGH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Room: Royal Princess Room

Obtaining employment is integral to the success of people returning to the community from incarceration. Many returned residents, especially those who have been incarcerated for long periods of time, lack the skills and means necessary to obtain legitimate employment. This session will examine techniques that practitioners can use when assisting returned residents in navigating the workforce, including mock interviews and examining the community's labor needs. In this session, attendees will learn of multi-disciplinary approaches to release planning, career development, and workforce board insider secrets on techniques for winning over employers who are reluctant to give justice-impacted individuals a fair chance in the hiring process.

### Presenter

**Robert Melgaard** | Statewide Career and Technical Education Administrator | Florida Department of Corrections

**Jynelle Robinson** | Statewide Community Transition Administrator | Florida Department of Corrections

**Dhiny Mercedes** | Reentry Department Manager | CareerSource Palm Beach County

\*Approved for 1 General CEU for Florida licensed LCSWs, LMFTs, LMHCs, psychologists, school psychologists, and nurses.



# THANK YOU!

A special thank you to the 2022 Reentry Summit of Palm Beach County Committee for their leadership, vision, dedication, and continued commitment to advocacy and reentry services in our community and beyond.

## CO-CHAIRS

Dr. Cassandra Atkin-Plunk | Florida Atlantic University  
Jennifer Loyless | Palm Beach County Public Defender's Office

## SUMMIT EMCEE

Amlak-I Foley

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Dr. Jessica Younts | Justice Impact Alliance



# We Believe in Second Chances

*"Start by doing what's necessary,  
then do what's possible,  
and suddenly you are doing  
the impossible."*

*- St. Francis of Assisi*



Palm Beach County  
Board of County Commissioners  
Public Safety Department  
Justice Services Division  
Reentry Services

**Palm Beach County**  
**Board of County Commissioners**

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# CHANGING BEHAVIOR, CHANGING LIVES

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## **Harcourt M. & Virginia W. Sylvester Foundation**

is honored to sponsor this groundbreaking  
summit designed to inspire change.

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It is a perfect venue to understand the impact of  
reentry services — which provides second chances  
and makes our communities stronger and safer.





We hope the Reentry Summit Palm Beach County leaves you inspired to educate, advocate, collaborate, and innovate in support of our collective work breaking down barriers for people who are creating a new life after incarceration.