

SVdP District Council of Attleboro Immersion Reentry Program Activity Report - January & February, 2024

Eight Immersion Components

WHAT WE DID IN January and February of this year...

1	INTAKE INTERVIEWS FOR 72 HOUR AND TRANSITIONAL PLANNING	The Reentry Program continues to serve returning citizens, most of whom are in recovery. Since the New Year, we have completed 26 intakes with returning citizens and assisted 32 continuing program participants. As needed, we provided emergency shelter, clothing, bus passes and grocery cards. We also assisted with union dues and outstanding RMV fees.
2	MENTORING	Mentor activity included encouragement and guidance with employment opportunities, assistance with housing searches and demonstrating how to find and connect with available mental health providers such as the Community Support Program (CSP) or the Behavioral Health Supports for Justice Involved Individuals (BH-JI) under the auspices of Community Counseling of Bristol County (CCBC).
3	EDUCATING RETURNING CITIZENS & FAMILIES	The Reentry team continues to support class registration fees for court system mandated coursework for returning citizens.
4	EMPLOYMENT	The Reentry team paid outstanding RMV fees to facilitate the re-issuance of driver's licenses, thereby allowing returning citizens to pursue job opportunities. The Reentry Program is partnering with the Bristol County Sheriff's Office, MassHire, the City of Attleboro and Pave Your Path, to plan and produce a job fair March 14. 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Bristol Community College, 11 Field Road, Attleboro.
5	HOUSING	The Reentry program paid for transitional housing for 53 returning citizens. Remittances represented both full and partial month's assistance.
6	COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS	The Reentry Team was represented in the monthly meetings of the New Bedford-based PAACA SouRCe Group as well as the Attleboro area Self-Sufficiency Coalition. The Reentry Team continued to work closely with District leadership to evaluate and then make application for funds to support reentry housing needs through the City of Attleboro's Community Development Block Grant Program.
7	ADVOCACY	Continued participation in a state-wide coalition of community reentry programs led by Mass. Action for Justice and Mass. Inc. to highlight the need for the House and Senate to resist the Governor's proposed cuts for funding to support reentry programs of various kinds. Supporting Housing, Job Preparedness and Employment to returning citizens and those recovering from addiction gives returning citizens a better chance to succeed with their families and become self-sufficient.
8	EDUCATING VINCENTIANS & VOLUNTEERS	The all-volunteer Reentry Team collaborated on documenting and improving the basic Helpline communications process using web, text, phone, email and voicemail systems. Groups of volunteers are using and refining the the new, first-time guidelines.
	Attleboro SDVP Immersion Reentry Program, 95 Pine Street Attleboro, Massachusetts 02703	For more information, go to svdpattleboro.org and see Reentry. Our ReEntry Help Line and business phone number is 508-445-2054. Select voicemail option #1 and leave a clear, detailed voice message. Someone will get back to you. We are open most Wednesdays at 95 Pine Street for previously scheduled appointments, which are highly recommended. Our email address is reentry@svdpattleboro.org . For more information about reentry and other programs of the National Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, go to svdpusa.org and select "Assistance & Services" and "Programs/Ways We Help". Look for "Immersion."