

Kentucky Department of Corrections Division of Reentry Services

JULY 2018

THE TOOL BOX

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

Division of Reentry Services New Staff Spotlight

Matt Aaron - Corrections Program Administrator

In September 2012, Matt Aaron began his career with the Kentucky Department of Corrections (DOC) as a Probation and Parole Officer (P&P) in Somerset. He shortly transferred within the district to Monticello, and supervised a mixed caseload of Parolees, Probationers, and Pre-Trial Diversion cases and was in charge of Class D releases at the Wayne County Detention Center. Aaron was also selected to be a part of the Division of Probation and Parole Field Training Officer (FTO) Committee.

In December 2016, Aaron was selected to assist with the rollout of the new Risk/Needs Assessment. This led to Aaron becoming one of the Department of Corrections Lead Trainers for the Kentucky Risk Needs Assessment and case planning.



Matt Aaron—Corrections Program Administrator

Aaron was selected to be the Reentry Officer for District 20-Somerset area and was responsible for the facilitation of Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), Parenting and Family Values (MRT Based) and Portal New Direction (PND). He also collaborated with District 8-Mt. Sterling area and co-facilitated Thinking for a Change (T4C). In February of 2017, Aaron became Interim Reentry Officer for District 20, which covers eight counties and has three offices within the district. In September 2017, he attended a Reentry Employment Specialist Training offered by the National Institute of Corrections.

In December of 2017, Aaron promoted to Social Service Clinician with the Division of Substance Abuse. In this position, Aaron covered Clinton, Wayne, McCreary, and Whitley Counties. He also became part of the Strategic Planning Team for implementing Reentry Centers. In March of 2018, he completed the Certificate of Supervisory Essentials for Executive Branch Employees. On June 16, 2018, Aaron started his position of Corrections Program Administrator with the Division of Reentry Services in the Department of Corrections.

Aaron graduated from Campbellsville University in 2010 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice Administration. He graduated from Western Governors University in 2017 with his Master’s in Business Administration.

Aaron is also a 12-year veteran of the Kentucky Army National Guard. During this time-period he deployed twice overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Inside this Issue:	
Division of Reentry Services New Employee Spotlight	1
Recent Community Collaborations	2-6
KY Reentry Councils	7
Kentuckyreentry.org	8
Upcoming Events	9

RECENT COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Success for Region 2 in Hopkinsville-

Submitted by: Joy Somero–District 2-Hopkinsville–Designated Reentry Coordinator

District two-Hopkinsville Probation and Parole Office has implemented a program that focuses on positive changes and good behavior recognition of offenders.

We have put together a board in the lobby that displays an 8X10 photo of the honoree for the month that they are being recognized for success. They provide a quote that is typed on nice paper and attached to the board underneath their photo.

The next month they are moved to a 4x6 photo section beneath representing their month. Their smaller photo will be displayed for an entire calendar year.

There have been tears of joy from both men and women honorees. The program was implemented in March of this year and appears to be a great success.



HONOREE COMMENTS:

“Don’t give up—just give hope, because you will never know who is there for you when you reach the end of your rope.”-Board Spotlight Participant-March 2018

“Through the love of the Lord and Grace & Mercy [faith based residential treatment facility}, my whole life has changed. I have joy, I have peace and I can love other people. I now feel worth of love.”
-Board Spotlight Participant-July 2018

Central KY Reentry Coalition

The Central KY Reentry Coalition was inducted into the Hardin County Chamber of Commerce as the newest 5013c nonprofit organization on Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at the Pritchard Community Center.

The Central Kentucky Reentry Coalition covers the following counties: Breckenridge, Meade, Grayson, Hardin, Larue, Nelson, Washington, and Marion counties.

The Coalition is made of up local nonprofits, state agencies, resources and others that come together to work on helping address barriers to the justice involved population in order for them to be successful in our communities.

The Coalition is currently working on starting the following programs:

- Case Management for Hardin County inmates returning to Hardin County
- Expungement Sessions
- Cover cost of IDs for returning citizens
- Transportation

Left to Right: Brad Richardson-Chamber of Commerce Chair, Bob Mayo-Central KY Reentry Coalition Secretary, Diane Kelley-Co-Chair of Central KY Reentry Coalition and Director of Heartland Skills U, Frank Anglin-Chair of Central KY Reentry Coalition, Kerry Mears-Coalition Member-Owner of KY Reentry Services, Kenny Rambo-Chair of Chamber



RECENT COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Every region in Kentucky has a way to go above and beyond the course of their normal job responsibilities. Each region is stepping up and showing returning citizens and the community that officers are fulfilling the mission of the Division of Reentry Services:

“To improve involvement within the criminal justice system by creating individualized reentry plans, empowering individuals with resources, support and programming, to promote successful reintegration into the community.”

Region 3-Written by: Tara Harrod, Corrections Program Administrator

Here are just a few ways that Region 3 is shining!

Reentry Resource Expos: Success through opportunity

On 4/27/18, the Division of Reentry Services collaborated with local vendors to host Reentry Resource Expos at Roederer Correctional Complex and Luther Lockett Correctional Complex. Over a dozen service providers from all different sectors – covering everything from mental health, employment, support groups, housing, faith based services, Medicaid, Reentry & Probation and Parole– banded together to offer information to inmates leaving the institutions and joining their communities in the near future. Nearly 500 inmates were able to participate by visiting the service providers that interested them most. Everyone was able to access new resources and make connections with vendors in, in hopes that they may be that much more likely to succeed when they are released. This aptly encompasses Kentucky’s Reentry mindset: success through opportunity.

Pre-release Informational Classes

Once a month, reentry officers in Jefferson County, along with Probation & Parole officers, visit Roederer Correctional Complex and Luther Lockett Correctional Complex to provide a pre-release informational session for inmates who are expected to be released in the upcoming months. This time is used to delve into explaining the conditions of supervision that parolees will be expected to follow once released. Officers also spend time answering questions; to help inmates has a sound understanding of what will be expected of them upon their release. This gives inmates an opportunity to engage in an “Ask a PO” type event, to satisfy any questions they may have or even get questions answered that their family has asked of them while they were incarcerated. Questions have a wide range, such as what can family expect with a Parole Officer does a home visit, to explaining how to pay on restitution, and even describing what an average report day is like for those that have never been on supervision. Reentry’s intent is to remove as many barriers as possible for people wanting to succeed while under supervision.

In addition to explaining general supervision, at Luther Lockett Correctional Complex, a Probation & Parole Officer whom supervises the sex offense caseload, accompanies the Reentry Officer and provides a separate session for sex offenders. This time allows for sex offenders to understand the supplemental conditions of supervision and ask questions that they may otherwise not be able to ask.

MRT Success: The goal is growth, not perfection

Reentry Officer Marty Johnson was facilitating a Moral Reconciliation Therapy class at Dismas Portland in Louisville, Ky. One class participant had struggled to begin the class due to battling with his severe social anxiety. Officer Johnson went above and beyond by working with his counselor, to assist in the creation of a plan for him to succeed. This plan involved regular appointments with a general practitioner for assistance with medication and encouragement through the toughest parts of MRT, specifically testimonies. With the help of Reentry Officer Johnson, this man graduated Moral Reconciliation Therapy with excellence, even giving a bonus testimony at the end about how the class has helped him, especially support he received from his fellow classmates.

RECENT COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Hygiene: The first wealth is health

Due to the support of community members offering donations, District 17 now has free basic hygiene bags available to those that are homeless. Officers have been informed that if someone says they are homeless, they can ask if that person has access to basic personal care items. If they do not, a free hygiene bag (comprised of soap, toothpaste, a pair of clean socks, a copy of the Coalition of the Homeless' 2018 Street Tips, and bags for women contain a few pads and tampons) can be provided for them. While there is not an overabundance of bags, everyone has a chance to help someone maintain their dignity in a difficult situation and help make them more job-ready by attending to basic hygiene



Cribs for Kids:

Jefferson County Probation & Parole offices have collaborated with the Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness department and the local police departments to be a member of the Cribs for Kids program. If officers do a home visit and see a parent with an infant who does not have a safe place to sleep, officers are able to help provide a free crib or pack and play for parents, teach them safe sleeping habits for their child, and connect them with free resources for further education. The crib can also be requested during a report days. These are all offered at no cost to the parent with the intent that safe families are healthy and successful families.

Teddy Bears:

While those reporting to a Probation & Parole office are not supposed to bring their children along, sometimes it does happen. If a child is staying at District 17 in West Jefferson County-whether mom or dad is unfortunately being taken into custody or there are other issues present which result in a child being at the Probation & Parole office for a period of time, teddy bears are readily available. These bears are donated from the Bears from Behind Bars program at Luther Lockett Correctional Complex.



Community Outreach:

On 4/25/18, Jefferson County Reentry Officers Sam Anderson, Amy Gilley, and Marty Johnson gave a presentation to college students at Campbellsville University - Louisville campus - who were finishing an introductory course on criminal justice. Dr. Joey Budd invited the Division of Reentry Services to give students a real life account of what careers with the Division of Reentry Services and Division of Probation and Parole entail. Students engaged in an active Q and A session after hearing a presentation covering everything from what can you expect when you go to court, how to help a family member expunge an old conviction, and opportunities to work for the Department of Corrections.



RECENT COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Libraries: There is no friend as loyal as a book

In Jefferson County, two local offices (District 17 & 19) have collaborated with the Louisville Free Public Library, in which books have been donated so that offenders can read while they wait in the lobby to meet with their Officer. Offenders are encouraged to take books home to read, no strings attached. Not only are books available, but there are current library newsletters and applications for library cards as well! The West End office (District 17) also helps maintain a Little Library that was established on the sidewalk outside the office. People who engage in prosocial activities are much more likely to succeed in their community. Reentry believes in success through opportunity, so they have created another easily accessed opportunity for offenders to find a fun and free new hobby. Thanks to Officer Adil Elmednoub (pictured right) of District 19 in Jefferson County for initiating with this great opportunity! As Dr. Seuss once wrote, “The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”



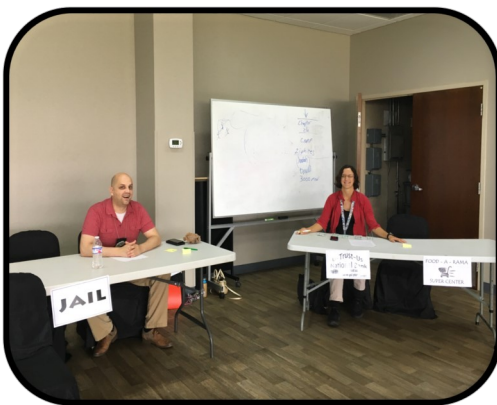
Probation and Parole
Officer Adil
Elmednoub—Louisville—
District 19

Reentry Simulation: Walk a mile in their shoes

On June 27, 2018, the Greater Louisville Reentry Coalition, with employees of the Division of Reentry Services, hosted a Reentry Simulation for the community. Officers in Jefferson County were invited to partake in the simulation and were even able to obtain training credit hours. These Reentry Simulations allow community members to experience what it is like for an individual being released from incarceration. Each participant is given a “life card” that contains their assumed identity for the simulation and lists exactly what resources they have been “released” with. They must then complete certain tasks and overcome barriers such as obtaining identification, making scheduled appointments, and earning income. Inmates at Dismas Portland attended to help run the booths for the simulation.



Left to Right: La’Sha Grace-
District 18, Megan Dickson-
District 18, and Dan Fountain
-P&P Regional Manager



Left to Right: Samson Anderson-District
16, Marty Johnson-District 17



Division of Reentry Services
staff: (Left) Assistant Director
-Erica Hargis, (Middle) Matt
Aaron-Corrections Program
Administrator, (Right) Dan
Goyette-Reentry Employment
Program Administrator

RECENT COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Expungement Sessions

On June 29, 2018, Kentucky’s Division of Reentry Services partnered with Goodwill Industries, Legal Aid and the Department of Public Advocacy (DPA) to host an expungement session. Attorneys with Legal Aid, as well as private attorneys and DPA, were present to explain the expungement process, so that those who are set on putting their past behind them can begin to move forward and obtain stronger, more stable employment. The Division of Reentry Services has collaborated with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to provide background checks with the normal \$40 fee waived. Individuals can then take their background checks and have one-on-one conversations with attorneys to discuss expungement eligibility. Legal Aid was able to cover the expungement costs for those qualifying individuals. Louisville’s Mayor, Greg Fischer was in attendance to show his support for the process and to address the crowd!



Left to Right: Jack Vance, Dan Goyette, Marty Johnson, Tara Harrod (all Division of Reentry Services) City of Louisville-Mayor Greg Fischer, Christi Sorrell-Division of Reentry Services

*** Region 3 consists of Jefferson, Oldham, Bullitt, Spencer, Shelby, Henry, Trimble, Districts 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, Luther Luckett Correctional Complex, and Kentucky Correctional Complex for Women***

Region 4-Written by: Jarvis Livingston-Lexington Reentry Employment Program Administrator

Lexington Expungement and Opportunity Fair

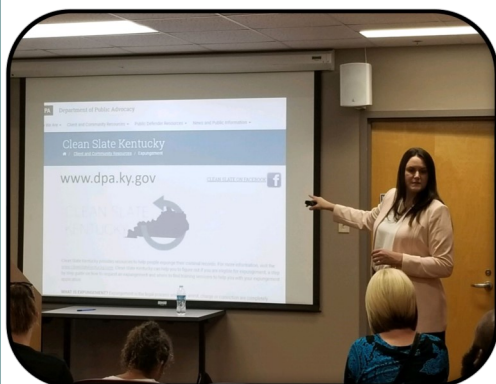
The Lexington Expungement and Opportunity Fair was an outstanding event that gathered many different community partners. Although this event was held outside, all vendors enjoyed their time networking with one another. I was absolutely humbled by the experience and nothing could have been accomplished with the help of several individuals from the Bluegrass Reentry Council and the Lexington-Fayette Health Department.

A few vendor testimonies....

“Everything went smoothly, and I feel as if a large amount of attendees benefitted from this event! I think it’s something that we should continue to do.” - Holly Clifford, BCTC

“What a great event yesterday. I wish the weather outside had been kinder, but the location, vendors, etc were great! I’m thankful for being a part of this effort.”-Annis Franklin-Urban League of Lexington

“Yes it was great! Can’t wait to do it again.” - Theodore Ware, Community Action Council



Pictured left– Melanie Foote-Staff Attorney–Department of Public Advocacy

Pictured right: Community Partner tents for event



YOU HAVE A VOICE!!! Want to use it???
 Interested in joining a Kentucky Reentry Council in your area??

Kentucky Reentry Councils

Kentucky Reentry is made up of reentry task forces or councils throughout the state of Kentucky. The reentry groups do not provide services for ex-offenders, nor do they have reentry programs. They are made up of individuals and organizations networking together to share information and improve the reentry process. The members may be organizations and/or individuals that provide services and/or have interests in helping. Each group is focused toward ex-offenders coming back to their areas, the issues involved, and making their community safer.

The basic purpose of each group are:

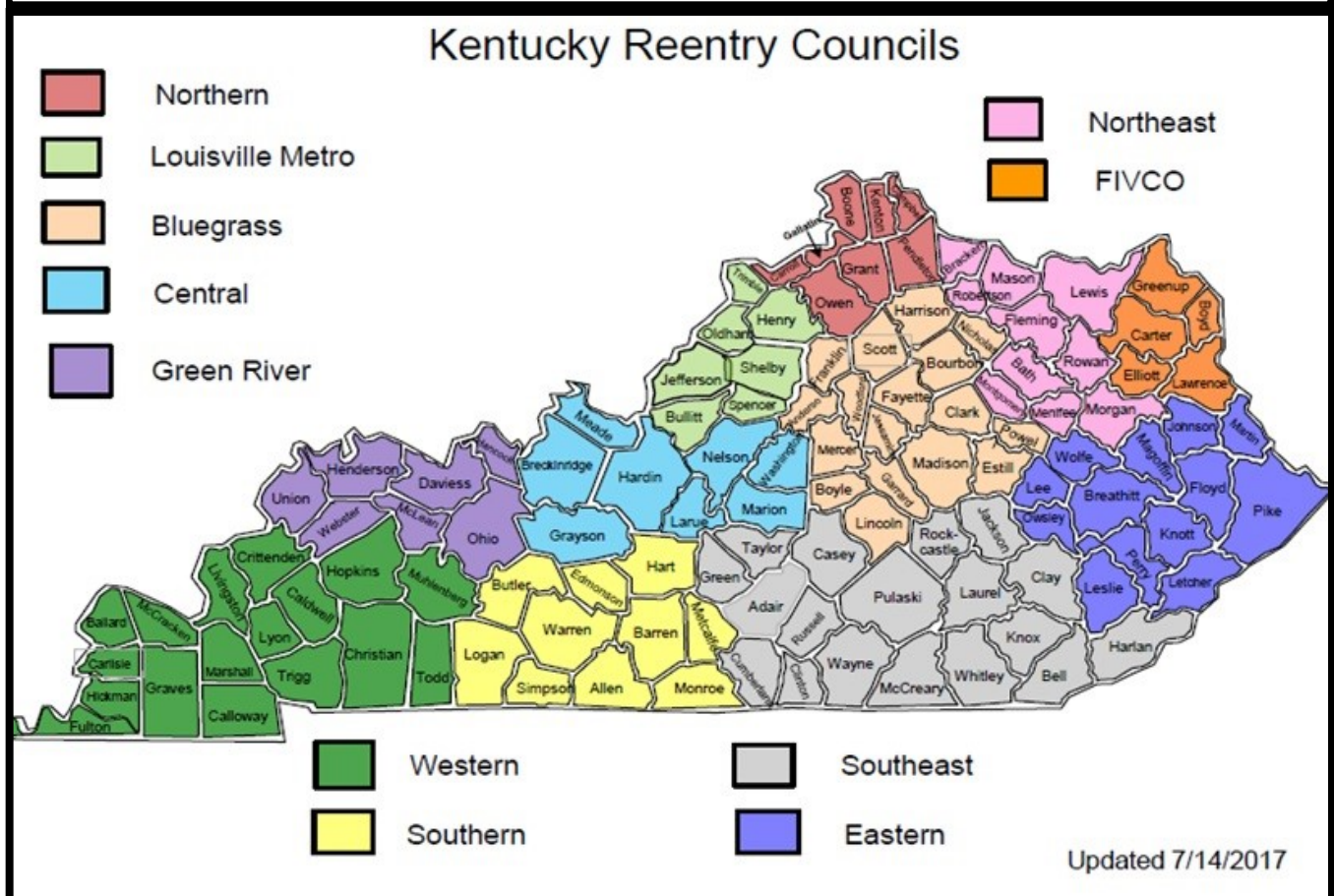
To address the current issues returning citizens face

To develop a network of resources and service providers within their area

To communicate and advocate for the justice involved population to the community and their leaders.

If you would like to join, please visit our updated website: www.kentuckyreentry.org for meeting dates, times and locations in your area!

Also, visit us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/kentuckyreentry>



KENTUCKY REENTRY

www.kentuckyreentry.org



If you need reentry information, have questions, or would like to attend your local council meeting, please contact them!

Reentry Regional Program Administrators

Reentry Employment Program Administrators

Region 1 - Andria Barkett - 270-559-5871
andria.barkett@ky.gov

Dan Goyette - Louisville area - 502-468-8657
daniela.goyette@ky.gov

Region 2 - Matt Aaron - 502-229-9638
matthew.aaron@ky.gov

Jennifer Hutchinson - Northern Ky Area - 859-391-7593
jenniferm.pelle@ky.gov

Region 3 - Tara Harrod - 502-287-7533
tara.harrod@ky.gov

Jarvis Livingston - Lexington Area - 859-327-5321
jarvis.livingston@ky.gov

Region 4 - Katie Green - 502-226-0327
Katie.green@ky.gov

Jack Vance - Somerset County Area - 606-309-0799
jack.vance@ky.gov

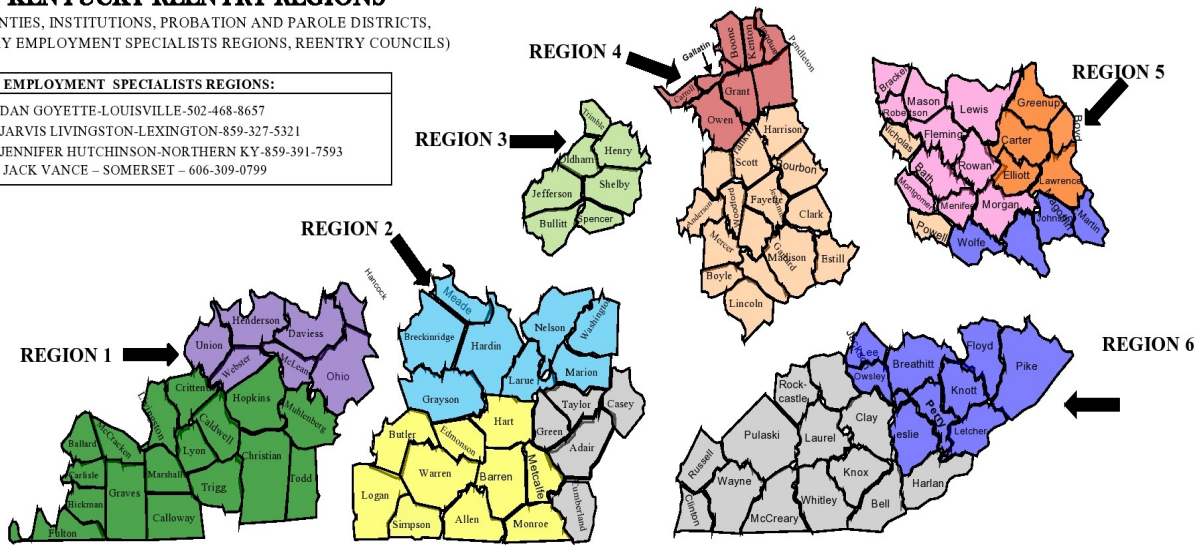
Region 5 - Christi Sorrell - 859-358-8031
christij.sorrell@ky.gov

Region 6 - Pamela Bentley - 606-260-9516
pamelad.bentley@ky.gov

KENTUCKY REENTRY REGIONS

(COUNTIES, INSTITUTIONS, PROBATION AND PAROLE DISTRICTS, REENTRY EMPLOYMENT SPECIALISTS REGIONS, REENTRY COUNCILS)

REENTRY EMPLOYMENT SPECIALISTS REGIONS:
REGION 3-DAN GOYETTE-LOUISVILLE- 502-468-8657
REGION 4-JARVIS LIVINGSTON-LEXINGTON-859-327-5321
REGION 4-JENNIFER HUTCHINSON-NORTHERN KY- 859-391-7593
REGION 6-JACK VANCE - SOMERSET - 606-309-0799



REGION 1 ANDRIA BARKETT 270-559-5871	REGION 2 MATT AARON 502-229-9638	REGION 3 TARA HARROD 502-287-7533	REGION 4 KATIE GREEN 502-226-0327	REGION 5 CHRISTI SORRELL 859-358-8031	REGION 6 PAMELA BENTLEY 606-260-9516										
CALDWELL HICKMAN CARLISLE BALLARD MCCRACKEN CRITTENDEN CALLOWAY MARSHALL LIVINGSTON HENDERSON MUHLBERG CHRISTIAN WESTERN & GREEN RIVER COUNCIL	FULTON GRAVES MCLEAN TODD TRIGG HOPKINS WEBSTER UNION LYON DAVISS OHIO HANCOCK	KSP WKCC DST. 1 DST. 13	LOGAN BUTLER WARREN WASHINGTON EDMONSON GRAYSON BRECKINRIDGE MEADE HARDIN METCALFE CUMBERLAND BARREN	SIMPSON MONROE ALLEN LARUE ADAIR GREEN TAYLOR CASEY MARION NELSON MONTGOMERY HART	GRCC NTC DST. 2 DST. 3 DST. 5 DST. 6 TAYLOR CASEY MARION NELSON HART	JEFFERSON BULLITT SPENCER HENRY SHELBY TRIMBLE	LLCC KCIW DST. 12 DST. 16 DST. 17 DST. 18 DST. 19	CARROLL BOURBON KENTON CAMPBELL JESSAMINE SCOTT GARRARD PENDLETON HARRISON GALLATIN FRANKLIN ANDERSON WOODFORD NORTHERN & BLUEGRASS	BOONE FAYETTE GRANT CLARK SCOTT ESTILL MADISON OWEN BOYLE LINCOLN MERCER	KSR RCC BCC DST. 7 DST. 9 DST. 14	BRACKEN ROBERTSON NICHOLAS MONTGOMERY MAGOFFIN LEWIS FLEMING BATH MENIFFE LAWRENCE	ROWAN GREENUP CARTER ELLIOTT BOYD MASON WOLFE JOHNSON MARTIN MORGAN	EKCC LSCC DST. 8 DST. 15	LEITCHER BREATHITT KNOTT JACKSON OWSLEY PERRY LESLIE HARLAN WHITLEY ROCKCASTLE MCCRARY CLAY LAUREL LEE BELL PULASKI WAYNE RUSSELL KNOX FLOYD PIKE CLINTON	RCFC DST. 10 DST. 11 DST. 20 LAC
	CENTRAL & SOUTHERN COUNCIL	GLRC		FIVCO & NORTHEAST COUNCIL	SOUTHEAST & EASTERN COUNCIL										

WWW.KENTUCKYREENTRY.ORG

Updated 06/14/2018

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**FREE!
Expungement
Information
Session**



Interested in clearing your criminal record, but can't afford to talk with an attorney?

Talk to an attorney for free! Learn if you are eligible for an expungement and how to clear your record.

FREE Record Check!
FOOD PROVIDED BY ANTHEM

Questions? Contact Kerry 270-883-2299 call/text or admin@centralkyreentry.org

Have a resource you'd like to share? Contact us to have a table at the event!



When?
August 7, 2018
Presentation starts at 6:15 PM EST
Doors Open at 5:30

Where?
Lebanon/Marion County Career Center
516 Workshop Lane, Lebanon, KY

NO RSVP NEEDED!

Hosted by:
Lebanon/Marion County Career Center
KY Department of Public Advocacy
KY Administrative Office of the Courts
Central Kentucky Reentry Council
KY DOC—Division of Reentry Services



WWW.CENTRALKYREENTRY.ORG

**CARTER COUNTY
CRIMINAL EXPUNGEMENT
WORKSHOP**



WHEN?
AUGUST 9TH, 2018
9:00– 11:00 AM &
1:00 PM– 3:00 PM

WHERE?
**KENTUCKY CHRISTIAN
UNIVERSITY**
100 ACADEMIC PARKWAY
GRAYSON, KY 41143
SMITH BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR

Hosted by:
Fivco Reentry Council

**CAN'T AFFORD A
LAWYER, BUT WANT
THE CHANCE TO SPEAK
TO ONE ABOUT YOUR
RECORD?**

**JOIN US & TALK TO A
LAWYER FOR FREE!
FIND OUT IF YOU'RE
ELIGIBLE FOR
EXPUNGEMENT.**

**FREE PRELIMINARY
RECORD CHECK!**

**LEARN ABOUT THE
COSTS ASSOCIATED
WITH EXPUNGEMENT!**

**GET A CHANCE TO
SPEAK TO
COMMUNITY
AGENCIES ABOUT
AREA RESOURCES !**



**EXPUNGEMENT & OPPORTUNITY
FAIR: VERSAILLES**

When: August 2, 2018 6:00pm-8:00pm
Where: First Christian Church of Versailles 160 Lexington Road Versailles, KY 40383
Who: Any and all citizens
Why: New Kentucky Law has expanded on eligible lower-level felonies and misdemeanors for expungement.

1st Annual Reentry Expo

We are looking for Vendors that work with the Justice Population in any way to have a FREE table to offer the following (not limited to these):

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Resources | Employment |
| Substance use | Mental Health |
| Health Check | Employment |
| Interview Clothing | Housing |
| Sober Living | Hair cuts on site |
| Legal | Education |
| Veterans | Medical Insurance |



SEPTEMBER 25, 2018
10:30 AM—1:30 PM
**Pritchard |Community
Center**
404 S. Mulberry St
Elizabethtown, KY

The event is free for vendors and attendees, although the event is focused on justice population, it is open to the public.

We are also looking for **SPONSORS** for the event!
Sponsorship levels available!

If you are interested in setting up a table or being a sponsor for the event, please contact
Kerry Mears
270-883-2299 or
admin@centralkyreentry.org



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