



**Did you know?** 86 percent of individuals with conviction records who applied for New York State occupational licenses in 2018 were approved (Source: Institute for Justice and Opportunity).

This newsletter shares information, policy and program updates and best practice information to 20 County Re-entry Task Forces and community stakeholders.

### Upcoming Virtual Meeting Dates

- Albany – 8/7
- Bronx – 8/17
- Broome – 7/15
- Dutchess – 8/20
- Erie – 8/12
- Kings – 8/5
- Monroe – 8/11
- Nassau – 8/13
- Niagara – 8/12
- New York – 8/20
- Oneida – 7/24
- Onondaga – 7/16
- Orange – 7/23
- Queens – 7/8
- Rensselaer – 8/13
- Rockland – 7/22
- Schenectady – 7/22
- Suffolk – 8/6
- Ulster – 7/21
- Westchester – 7/23

The [New York State Council on Community Re-entry and Reintegration](#) aims to reduce barriers for New Yorkers with criminal convictions.

### A Message from DCJS

DCJS extends its best wishes to Re-entry Task Force staff and their families during these unprecedented times. Despite the challenges, each Task Force quickly developed alternate ways of conducting case conferences and intakes, making referrals and delivering stabilization services and cognitive behavioral intervention and employment readiness training. DCJS thanks the leadership and service providers of the County Re-entry Task Forces for their partnership, dedication and commitment to providing services to individuals returning from incarceration and reintegrating into the community.

### Task Force Program Updates

During the past nine months, **169 individuals** have completed **Ready Set Work!** training, both in person and virtually. Task Forces also have offered Thinking for a Change and Interactive Journaling sessions online.

DCJS has continued its work to support Task Force operations, with the following guidance and topics provided in the last several months:

- Delivery of [Thinking for a Change](#) and [Interactive Journaling](#)
- [Ready, Set, Work!](#) group facilitation
- [2020 Service Coordination and Planning Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)
- [CRTF Service Planning and Coordination Webinar](#)

DCJS also plans to share bi-monthly Task Force meeting notices with the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) so that Deputy Superintendents for Program at each DOCCS facility may participate and partner with the Task Force in their community.

### SUNY Offers Key Educational and Vocational Resources

[SUNY Educational Opportunity Centers \(EOCs\)](#) have been delivering high school equivalency and college preparation courses since 1966 and are an important resource for community corrections and re-entry professionals.

In addition, 35 communities across the state benefit from SUNY-funded Advanced Technology Training and Information Network (ATTAIN) Labs, which provide technical skills and digital literacy to state residents. ATTAIN Labs are currently providing remote access training resources and their annual Virtual Summer Institute, during which ATTAIN Labs offer Microsoft training, including MS Specialist and Technology Associate certificates.

DCJS is working with the SUNY-University Center for Academic and Workforce Development to offer a webinar so probation, re-entry and alternatives to incarceration professionals can learn more about the ways in which EOCs and ATTAIN Labs can assist the individuals with whom they work. Stay tuned for more information!

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For more information on any of the topics mentioned within, to report any difficulties you may have experienced receiving this email or if you have any information you would like included in the next issue, please contact Taylor Vogt at [Taylor.Vogt@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Taylor.Vogt@dcjs.ny.gov).

Past issues of *New York Re-Entry Today* are available on the [DCJS website](#). Bookmark the link!

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## Spotlight: Peaceprints of Western New York

Peaceprints of WNY, a comprehensive re-entry organization based in Buffalo, has four decades of experience providing pre-release, community-based and post-release services to citizens returning to the community after involvement with the criminal justice system or incarceration.

In 2018, the program received a federal Second Chance Act award – one of the first in Erie County – to develop and implement the county’s first local re-entry initiative: Project Blue. In its first year of operation, this innovative partnership with the Erie County Sheriff’s Office had a 3 percent recidivism rate among participants, with 93 percent of them successfully completing **Ready, Set, Work!** training.

The New York State Sheriffs’ Association recently recognized Peaceprints with its Innovative Program of the Year Award. For more information, visit the program’s [website](#) or follow Peaceprints on social media (@peaceprintsWNY).

## New! County Re-Entry Task Force ListServ

DCJS has created a County Re-entry Task Force ListServ to provide Task Force programs and partners a platform to share best practices and ask and answer questions in common. To add a staff member to the listserv, email [Taylor.Vogt@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Taylor.Vogt@dcjs.ny.gov) with the individual’s name and email address.

## Employment and Funding Resources

The Institute for Justice and Opportunity at John Jay College recently published [Getting to Work with a Criminal Record: New York State License Guides \(2020 Expanded Edition\)](#). These guides are designed to help individuals with convictions obtain licenses in 25, high-demand occupations and professions.

The Council of State Governments has released [Financing the Future of Local Initiatives](#), an online toolkit to help local jurisdictions identify funding, search a database of federal grant opportunities, and learn about the ways in which jurisdictions have successfully funded criminal justice and behavioral health initiatives.

## Save the Date – Annual DCJS Law Enforcement Symposium: Oct. 1, 2020

This year’s DCJS Law Enforcement Symposium will be a virtual, one-day event on Thursday, Oct. 1. The symposium will showcase innovative and evidence-based crime reduction strategies presented by renowned presenters from academia and law enforcement in New York State and the nation. For more information, email [dcjsLawEnforcementSymposium@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:dcjsLawEnforcementSymposium@dcjs.ny.gov).

DCJS also is hosting a Law Enforcement Webinar Series; click [here](#) to learn more.

## Trainings and Webinars

**Offender Workforce Development Specialist Training:** There is compelling evidence that unemployment impedes success in the community and contributes to recidivism.

The National Institute of Corrections offers this training to provide community corrections and other professionals with the skills needed to help individuals with criminal histories seek, secure and maintain employment.

Email [Frank.Cangiano@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Frank.Cangiano@dcjs.ny.gov) for more information.

**American Parole and Probation Association Upcoming Webinars:** Click [here](#) for a schedule of upcoming webinars.

**National Criminal Justice Association Upcoming and Recorded Webinars:** Click [here](#) for a schedule of upcoming webinars and transcripts and recordings of past webinars.