



REENTRY COALITION OF NEW JERSEY

2025

Community Impact Report

Committed To Success, Changing Lives.

reentrycoalitionofnj.org

LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends and Partners,

In reflecting upon 2025, it has been a year of tremendous change, evolution and growth here in New Jersey.

The Reentry Coalition of New Jersey continues to serve our state's most vulnerable population – incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals – through our statewide, multi-agency 501c3 non-profit organization.

Reentry is a very complex, multi-faceted topic – but our Coalition continues to focus on the reentry needs and support the success of individuals post-incarceration. First established in 1990, we have a unified goal to help individuals exiting the criminal justice system establish themselves as healthy, productive and successful New Jersey citizens.

We have jointly had the honor of leading our Coalition over the past few years, and are proud of our collaborative work throughout the state supporting the needs of this vulnerable population.

In this report, we are proud to highlight our Coalition's successes and impact in 2025, and encourage you see for yourself all of our tremendous work – a variety of unique programs and services that are designed to ensure every individuals exiting the criminal justice system has the support and access to the assistance they need to guarantee long-term success.

Kevin McHugh
Executive Director

Walt Simpkins
President



WHO WE ARE

The Reentry Coalition of New Jersey is comprised of highly qualified and accredited reentry agencies who promote public safety, reduce recidivism and ensure the long-term success of those exiting the criminal justice system.

We are committed to helping individuals exiting the criminal justice system successfully reenter society and establish themselves as healthy, productive New Jersey citizens – guiding these individuals on the next step in their life’s journey and supporting their successful transition and reintegration back into the community.

Mission:

Promote evidence-based principles to reduce the risk of reoffense for individuals who are incarcerated through collaboration with community and criminal justice partners, advocacy, education and the development of public policy to better support these individuals.





OUR GOALS



Promote Public Safety Through Evidence-Based System of Programs & Services.



Expand the Array of Quality Intermediate Sanctions in Corrections in New Jersey.



Develop Cost-Effective Alternatives to Incarceration in New Jersey.



Build a Network of Organizations Committed to Improving Community Corrections.



Engage Communities as Part of the Solution.

MEET OUR AGENCY MEMBERS

Our agency members are the boots on-the-ground, comprised of dedicated professionals and brick-and-mortar buildings that run comprehensive residential and nonresidential programs throughout the State to ensure independence and continued success, and ultimately, reducing recidivism.



CURA, Inc. – Essex (Newark) county



Education and Health Centers of America – Essex (Newark) county



GEO Reentry Services – Atlantic (Pleasantville), Cumberland (Vineland), Middlesex (North Brunswick), Monmouth (Neptune) and Union (Elizabeth) counties



The Kintock Group – Cumberland (Bridgeton), Essex (Newark) and Passaic (Paterson) counties



New Jersey Association on Correction – Essex (Newark), Mercer (Trenton and Hamilton), Middlesex (New Brunswick) and Passaic (Paterson) counties



Volunteers of America Delaware Valley – Atlantic (Atlantic City), Burlington (Hainesport and Willingboro), Camden (Camden), Cape May, Cumberland (Vineland), Gloucester, Mercer (Trenton) and Salem counties

2025 AGENCY MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

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- **EHCA Names New President & CEO Steve Johnson**
- **NJAC Names New CEO Quarticha Perkins**
- **EHCA and NJLEAD Join Forces, Host Inaugural Reentry Expo at Tully House in January**
- **NJAC Hosts Annual Sexual Violence Walk & Run in Passaic Co. in April**
- **Kintock Opens New Vantage Point Program Office in Vineland in May**
- **VOADV Opens Gerard's Riverview, New Affordable Housing Community in Bordentown**
- **GEO Reentry's Pleasantville CRC held its first Resource Fair to close out Second Chance Month**
- **VOADV Supports New, Neighboring Multi-Agency Center for the Homeless in Camden in July**
- **Kintock (\$350,000) & EHCA (\$175,000) Awarded NJLEAD Grants by NJDOC**
- **CURA Inc. launches New Website in September**
- **Reentry Coalition & Kintock Celebrate Third Anniversary of the Opening of *Village of Hope* in November**
- **EHCA Awarded \$900,000 from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to support Incarcerated Veterans**



REENTRY IN NEW JERSEY

Community-based reentry programs play a vital role in reducing the prison population and the costs of incarceration while contributing to marked improvements in public safety, as evidenced by reductions in recidivism and lower crime rates.

These programs remove barriers – ensuring that those transitioning back into society after incarceration have a real second chance at life.

Community-based programs offered in New Jersey include:

- **Residential Community Reintegration Programs (RCRPs)**
- **Community Resource Centers**
- **Stages to Enhance Parolee Success (STEPS)**
- **ReEntry Substance Abuse Program (RESAP)**

Through our agencies, our Coalition is proud to be able to offer individuals access to these vital community-based programs, which offer a variety of supportive services (health, employment, mental health, substance use and more), important navigational support and guidance to ensure individuals can easily and seamlessly return to day-to-day life in their communities post-incarceration.



OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

- **215 Individuals** have been awarded assistance to secure housing through the Coalition's *Rental Assistance Program* since its inception in 2022.
- A total of **\$936,990** has been distributed to individuals through the Coalition's *Rental Assistance Program* since its inception, averaging about **\$4,358 per person**.
- In 2025 alone, **175 individuals** applied for the Coalition's *Rental Assistance Program*, of which **56 individuals** were awarded assistance totaling **\$253,834**, averaging about **\$4,532 per person**.
- In 2025, the Coalition responded to **127 e-mail inquiries** and logged **400+ hours of phone inquiries** addressing requests for reentry support throughout New Jersey.
- Coalition distributed **1,167 Tablets** and **Chromebook Computers** since program launch to support employment and navigation efforts.
- **630 Cellphones** distributed by the Coalition to individuals since program launch to foster communication and connection.
- Coalition distributed **490 Bus Tickets** to individuals since program launch to help address transportation needs.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR STABILITY & SUCCESS

We keenly understand that *housing* is the foundation for stability and, ultimately, successful reentry.

Our unique *Housing and Rental Assistance Programs*, coupled with emergency placement and creative housing options like our *Village of Hope* community in Bridgeton, give us the opportunity to provide independence and choice to individuals exiting the criminal justice system – laying a solid, stable path for continued long-term success.





HOUSING, RENTAL ASSISTANCE & MORE

Recognizing the importance of stable housing in the reentry process, we offer guidance and assistance with affordable housing and rental opportunities throughout the state of New Jersey.

- **Emergency Housing** – The Coalition provided emergency housing services to homeless parolees, many of whom were released from prison during the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, the Coalition has helped place hundreds of formerly incarcerated individuals in housing and has established a referral process and a network of landlords who are willing to work with the reentry population.
- **Housing Assistance & Placement** – For many years, our Coalition has offered a *Housing Assistance Program* to help individuals secure affordable housing. We are not just setting individuals up with temporary housing solutions. We are truly forging a path for each individual to secure permanent housing and, ultimately, long-term, sustained success.

- **Rental Assistance & Placement** – While the Coalition has offered housing assistance programs for many years, we were able to formally launch a **Rental Assistance Program** in 2022 to further support the needs of individuals post-incarceration. Through this program, individuals who have exited the criminal justice system within one to three years can apply to receive financial assistance to cover the security deposit and up to three months of rent to establish themselves in safe, stable housing. Since its inception, our *Rental Assistance Program* has assisted **215 individuals**, many of whom would have had few other options, distributing **\$936,990** in assistance awards, which averages about **\$4,358 per person**.
- **Creative Housing Solutions** – The Coalition is historically known to support creative housing solutions for formerly incarcerated individuals in need. In 2022 & 2023, we funded a **Parole Transient Program** – allocating 20-25 beds for the New Jersey State Parole Board to place homeless parolees for an average stay of 90 days.

In a similar vein, our current, continued partnership with our agency member **The Kintock Group** and the **Gateway Community Action Partnership** has proven to be extremely beneficial when it comes to **Village of Hope**. In its third year of existence, this unique tiny home community in Bridgeton provides a 6-bed temporary housing program and wrap-around services to individuals reentering society post-incarceration. *Village of Hope* continues to be full of residents and a great success, and we are currently working with our partners on plans to expand the community in new, creative ways.





GUIDANCE, ASSISTANCE & SUPPORT

Our robust *State Referral Network* gives individuals access to a variety of resources and qualified agencies right in their home communities, allowing us to meet each person exactly where they are on their reentry journey.





STATEWIDE REFERRAL NETWORK

We rely on an extensive network of resources and referrals to ensure that our services are accessible to ALL and that we have the ability to serve individuals right in their hometown communities throughout the state of New Jersey.

Our **state-of-the-art website** has become an important resource for individuals looking for support post-incarceration, as well as an easy-to-navigate hub for our vast, far-reaching referral and resource network. Adding to the user experience, our website organizes supportive reentry **resources by county** and then directly links individuals to qualified agencies and/or services and programs right in their own communities.

This is also where our **agency members** become true partners in our quest to help individuals navigate the reentry process – we rely heavily on their professional expertise to assess and then guide individuals on their unique, personal journeys, which allows us to assist more individuals exiting the criminal justice system in even more ways.



EMPLOYMENT & TREATMENT SERVICES

In recognizing the importance of employment to the reentry process, our Coalition was also able to assist formerly incarcerated individuals in securing **employment** and **treatment services**.

Through our network of agency members, we are able to connect individuals in need with the ***individualized*** treatment and support services they need at the exact moment they need it most.

Additionally, to further support employment training and placement, our Coalition has also been able to procure and supply hundreds of **tablets, Chromebook computers** and **cell phones** for individuals leaving NJDOC Residential Community Reintegration Programs (RCRPs, commonly referred to as halfway houses) and Parole Community Resource Centers (CRCs) to help individuals navigate, connect and further support employment pursuits post-incarceration.





EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

Our Coalition has expanded into the public advocacy and education spheres through **funded studies** and **commissioned reports** on various topics pertaining to reentry and recidivism.

These reports and studies were conducted by **accredited institutions**, the *Centers for Effective Public Policy (CEPP)* and *John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY*.

The information and insights contained in these reports have helped us evaluate the effectiveness of our member agencies' programs, as well as gather vital data and research on best practices in the reentry, corrections and criminal justice space.



IMPACT STORIES

The following are only a few of the stories from the 215 recently released individuals who directly benefited from support of our Coalition – made possible through a generous grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to support our *Rental Assistance Program* that directly addresses the issues of homelessness and public safety facing many formerly incarcerated individuals.

****All names below have been changed to preserve the privacy of our clients.****

“I was referred to the Reentry Coalition of New Jersey by my Parole Officer. I was stuck in an endless cycle of living paycheck-to-paycheck after I was released from Prison. My spouse, child, and I lived in motels around the Essex County area.

I completed my rental assistance application and began looking for an apartment. I looked for about 2 months and found a two-bedroom apartment for my family and me. I want to thank your organization for helping my family and me find a home.”

– Ken

A 37-year-old formerly incarcerated individual who became homeless after losing his apartment, which his significant other had been maintaining until she became unemployed and could no longer pay the rent.

“I was helped by the Reentry Coalition of New Jersey to find an apartment in Union County near my job. I was in a Federal Halfway House in Newark, and did not have a place to live. The halfway house referred me to the Reentry Coalition for help getting a place to live. I would have had to remain at the halfway house for another six months to save enough money to buy furniture and other household items.

The Reentry Coalition paid my security deposit and two months' rent, allowing me to save money for future rent payments. They saved me from having to live in motels and other places for homeless people. I want to thank God they were there in my time of need.”

– Anna

A 60-year-old grandmother who was in a halfway house in Newark. She is on Federal Parole and needed to find housing to secure her release from the halfway house. She was employed, but could not save enough money to pay a security deposit.

“I was released from Prison in 2023, and was referred by my Parole Officer to the Reentry Coalition of New Jersey for assistance finding housing. At work, my coworker was renting a room and referred me to his landlord.

After 2 years, I still live there and recently landed a job as a cook for an Atlantic City casino. I am doing well. Your program helped me to get back on my feet. You guys are outstanding. I don't know where I would be without your help – Thank you!”

- Chuck

A 62-year-old single man who was homeless after release from a halfway house in Bridgeton, NJ. He slept on a friend's couch until he secured a room lease from a private homeowner. He continues to reside in this sub-leased room after more than two years.



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

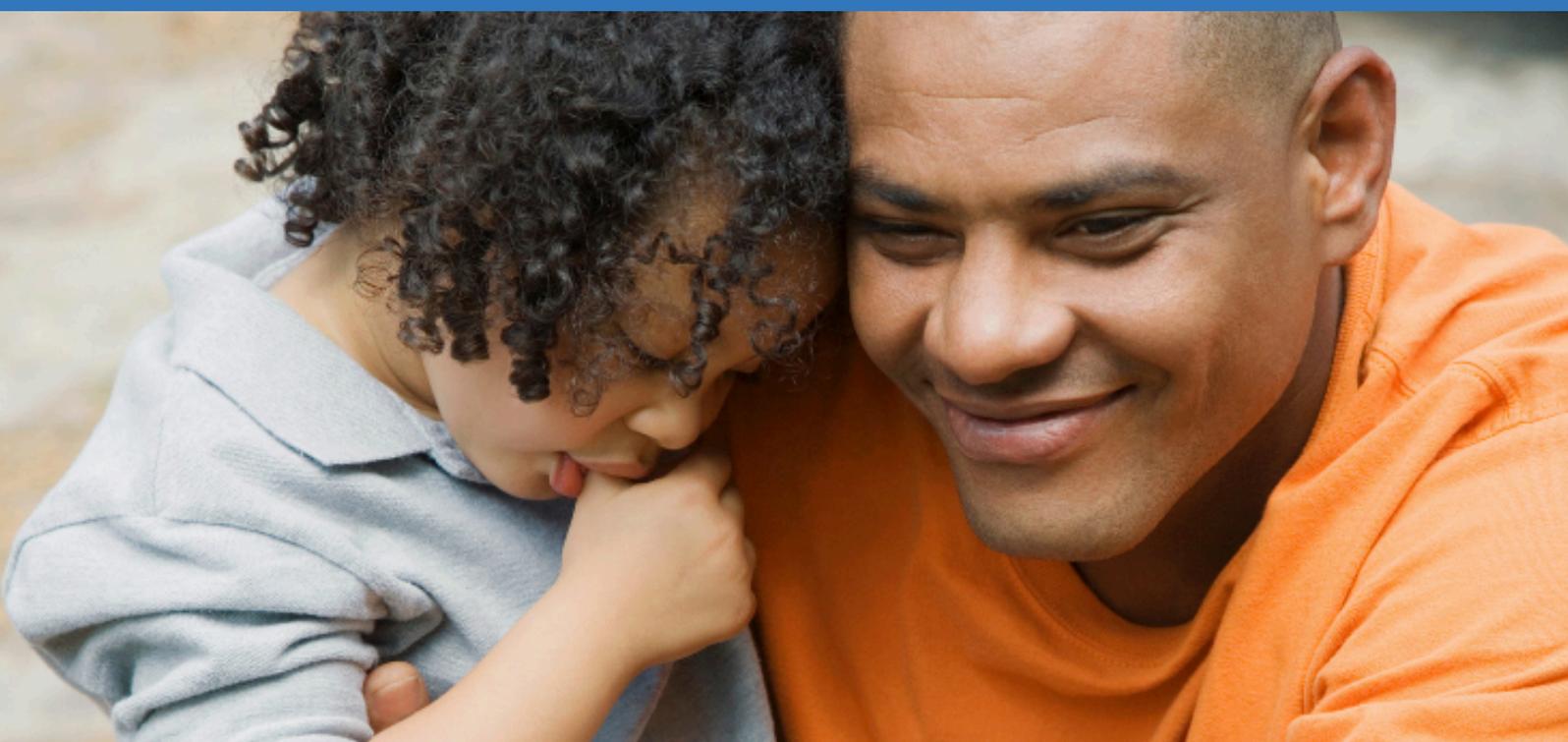
In 2025, we faced a new challenge – the devastating news that the New Jersey state budget no longer included funding for our Coalition.

If we are unable to get this funding restored in the FY2027 Budget in 2026, this drastic cut would have a devastating effect on our Coalition and, more importantly, long-term, far-reaching negative impacts on the individuals we serve – those exiting the criminal justice system and working to reenter society as healthy, productive New Jersey citizens.

No one should be left to figure out life post-incarceration on their own – here at the Reentry Coalition of New Jersey, you can see that we certainly fill that need, offering individuals a real second chance at life.

Today, we kindly ask for your help and support – continue to advocate on behalf of our work and reach out to urge our New Jersey legislators to restore our vital funding. Our combined efforts and collective goal should be to never leave a vulnerable population without a voice or supportive services to help them on their life's journey.

Our future as a Coalition is in your hands.



Join Us in Building Better, Brighter Futures TOGETHER.

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