

## Greater Essex County Reentry Providers Network

### Need

This year approximately 2,000 adults will return to the greater Essex County area from prison. Virtually all of them will require employment and housing, and most will require some form of substance abuse or mental health treatment. Solutions for formerly incarcerated individuals historically have been defined by each provider's ideology, mission, or mandate, resulting in loosely coordinated, highly duplicated, poorly utilized services, largely ineffective on a scale required to address the overall needs of the greater Essex County area.

### Mission

The Network's mission is to improve the services available to people returning to the greater Essex County area from prison by helping local providers develop effective services that enhance an individual's humanity and dignity, and supporting self-sufficiency and family reunification.

### Goals

The Network has two main goals:

- 1) To develop a network of reentry providers that engages in open dialogue and exchanges of best practices, shares technical and intellectual resources and works toward a unified vision of reentry policy and practice.
- 2) To plan and execute strategies that make New Jersey a more welcoming home for returning formerly incarcerated individuals where they can become productive members of the community.

### Membership

The Network consists of key providers from the greater Essex County area and is open to private non-profit service providers who offer reentry related services. The Network meets monthly at the various member sites and regular participation is encouraged.