Department of Health and Human Services

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## **Inaugural Reentry Awareness Week**

Office of Reentry and Community Partners to Raise Awareness About Reentry April 23-27, 2018

CUYAHOGA COUNTY - As part of the County Administration's commitment to strengthening the reentry system, the County Executive along with County Council designated the week of April 23-27, 2018, as Cuyahoga County Reentry Awareness Week. The week will feature a series of events designed to highlight the important work of successful reentry and improved outcomes for returning citizens.

"In Cuyahoga County, well over 4,000 restored citizens return home every year from local jails, state and federal prisons," said Crystal Bryant, Director of the Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry. "Many individuals who have had an encounter with the criminal justice system, have paid their debt to society but are consistently faced with obstacles stemming from their incarceration such as; inability to obtain a career, stable housing, adequate health care, quality education, and even the right to vote."

Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry leads and convenes broad coalition work that champions policy and unfair practices to improve awareness for, and acceptance of those with criminal backgrounds.

Reentry week partners include Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Edwins Leadership Institute, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Reach Success, Housing Research & Advocacy Research Center, Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries, Towards Employment, Cleveland Leadership Center, Stokes Fellowship and The North Star Reentry Resource Center.

**Featured Events:** 

Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> Public Safety Dialogue Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm

Location: Jerry Sue Thornton Center (Ford Room), 2500 E 22nd St, Cleveland, OH 44115

Cleveland Leadership Center's Stokes Fellows, in conjunction with Cuyahoga Community College, hosts the Carl B. Stokes *Battling Mass Incarceration: A Community Conversation about the Ohio Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment, and Rehabilitation Amendment* \*Free and open to public, registration required at <a href="http://reentry.cuyahogacounty.us/">http://reentry.cuyahogacounty.us/</a>.

Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> Cash Mob Bus Tour

Time: 1:45pm-6:00pm (15 Minutes per Stop)

Location: Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry 4515 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44103

The Office of Reentry in partnership with Cleveland Neighborhood Progress and Edwins Leadership & Restaurant Institute hosts a CASH MOB! Cash mob participants will help support local businesses owned and operated by returnees. Guests will be given discounts, and passport stamping. Bus participants who patronize each location will be entered a drawing to win a gift card from Edwins Leadership & Restaurant Institute.

Wednesday, April 25th

"Opening Doors, Rebuilding Community"

Time: 11:30am-12:00pm Registration, Networking

12:00pm-1:15pm Lunch & Learn

Location: NewBridge Cleveland Center, 3634 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115 Free parking available

The Office of Reentry in partnership with ACLU of Ohio, Housing Research & Advocacy Center, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Enterprise Community Partners, and Reentry's Housing Committee hosts forum on reentry. For those recently released from prison, housing can be difficult to obtain "Opening Doors, Rebuilding Community" is a convening of returnees, advocates, local leaders, and housing developers to discuss ways to alleviate barriers and rebuild community.

\*Free event, registration required at <a href="http://reentry.cuyahogacounty.us/">http://reentry.cuyahogacounty.us/</a>

Thursday, April 26th

"Not Just Returning, but Advancing"

Time: 8:30am-11:00am

Location: Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation 1201 East 55th Street, Cleveland, OH, 44103

Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry hosts its 6th Annual Community Public Meeting focused on the theme of "Not just returning, but advancing for citizens with criminal backgrounds". Event will feature new approaches to support and advocacy for returning citizens.

\*Free event, registration required at <a href="http://reentry.cuyahogacounty.us/">http://reentry.cuyahogacounty.us/</a>

Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> Resource Fair

Time: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Location: North Star Neighborhood Resource Center 1834 East 55th, Cleveland, OH, 44103

Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry, North Star Reentry Resource Center, and William Horning & Shawnee Leftwich will host a Resource Collaboration Day with panelist to discuss methods to navigate supportive systems. Focus on community resources in education, personal development, government support and employment. (Refreshments will be served)

<sup>\*</sup>Free and open to public, no registration required.