

Community Programs Department Status Update

May 2017



Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



- Since October 1, 2015, Eight hundred (1000) Little Rock residents have enrolled in the Re-Entry Program. An Additional 200 citizens from North Little Rock, Jacksonville, Sherwood, Alexander, Benton, Bryant, Maumelle, Wrightsville, ECT... have come to Community Programs seeking Re-Entry services.
- All non-Little Rock residents have been provided with Re-Entry resources but not enrolled in the Re-Entry Program. **No one is denied Re-Entry resources because of their residency.**
- The Re-Entry Coordinator conducts a 30-45 minute pre-assessment with each Citizen.

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



- The Re-Entry Coordinator provides all citizens with:
- A list of Central Arkansas employers who will hire applicants with a criminal background history.
- Help Yourself Community Resources Directory.
- Internet Job Searching Techniques (**Indeed.com**).
- An overview of Demands Occupations in the Little Rock Market.
- An overview of Pulaski Technical College's Programs of Study Degree plans for citizens who express an interest in attaining a trade.
- The Re-Entry Coordinator conducts an Application 101 crash course (Each citizens completes an City of Little Rock application, detailed and accurately).

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Little Rock Fleet Services (3 positions)

- 11 total participants have been placed in the program. (10 Fleet Technicians & 1 Administration Assistant)
- 5 participants have been hired full-time regular: (4) Fleet Technician 1; 1 Administration Assistant
- 6 participants have been interviewed since January 9, 2017.
- Multiple participants have interviewed for the Fleet Technician Position but valid Driver Licenses are a barrier to employment.
(Arears in Child Support and Unpaid Court Fees and Fines)

Ethnicity:

African American: 10

Caucasian: 1

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Little Rock Zoo (4 positions)

- 17 participants have been placed at the LR Zoo.
- 5 participants have been promoted to a full-time regular position.

<http://www.arkansasmatters.com/news/local-news/little-rock-city-program-offers-second-chance/704869460>

Ethnicity:

African American: 9

Caucasian: 5

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Housing & Neighborhood Programs - Animal Services (3 positions)

- 4 participants are currently employed at the **Animal Village**.
- The Re-Entry Program has partnered with **Code Enforcement** and 6 part-time **Weed Lot Crew** positions were filled with Re-Entry Citizens.
- 5 Re-Entry Citizens were hired as Temp Labor to Landscape/Maintenance the City's parks.
- **NOTE: Re-Entry participants with drug convictions are not eligible for full-time regular employment with Animal Services because of DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) policy.**

Ethnicity:

African American: 2

Caucasian: 2

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Little Rock Police Department (4 positions)

- Participants are in the process of being vetted and selected for 4 employment training positions. (Groundkeeper/Maintenance)
- 1 total participant has completed the employment training program and hired as full-time regular with the Little Rock Police Department. (Groundskeeper/Maintenance)
- Participant was hired full-time in the private sector.

Ethnicity:

African American: 1

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Public Works Sidewalk Program (8 positions)

- Since July 2012, 48 total participants have been placed on the **Sidewalk Crew** repairing and building new sidewalks throughout Little Rock communities.
- Re-entry participants currently in Sidewalk Program – 8
- 17 participants have been promoted to full-time regular from the **Sidewalk Crew** into other departments of **Public Works Operations**.
- 4 participants have obtained their CDL's through **Public Works** and 3 are currently training.

Ethnicity:

African American: 46

Caucasian: 2

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Public Works (ROW) Right of Way Crew (12 positions)

- The **ROW Maintenance Crew** will perform landscaping (lawn mower, weed eater, blower, etc...) duties, specifically for right-of-way areas such as medians, roundabouts, and sidewalks.
- Since August 8th, 19 participants started working with the **Public Works Department's Right of Way Crew (ROW)**.
- 9 participants are currently employed with the **Right of Way Crew (ROW)**.
- 3 positions are currently being filled.

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Human Resources Department (2 positions)

- Participant completed the employment training program as a Human Resources Clerk and was hired in the Maintenance Department at the **Newly Renovated Robinson Center Music Hall**.
- Human Resources recently created a part-time **Human Resource Technician (Labor Relations)** and interviewed and selected a participant.
- Human Resources has interviewed and selected an applicant for the vacant **Human Resources Clerk** position.

Ethnicity:

African American: 1

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Pending Departments

Little Rock Fire Department: (1 position)

- Landscaping/Warehouse Maintenance position has been approved pending job description.

Finance Department: (1 position)

- Office Assistant I position has been approved pending job description.
- Next in line:
- **Information Technology** (Re-Entry applicants are not eligible)
- **Planning & Development**

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Goodwill Industries of Arkansas

(Re-Entry Services/Transitional Employment Opportunities)

New Contract: January 2017 – December 2017

No Data Reported

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Our House, Inc. (Employment Placement Services)

New Contract: January 2017 – December 2017

Enrolled: 83 program participants

Employed: 61 participants placed

Ethnicity:

African American: 47

Caucasian: 35

Native American: 1

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Re-Entry Program Enhancements and Partnerships

- The Office of Treasurer of State of Arkansas (Family, Food, & Finance)
- Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance (Cooking Matters)
- U.S Department of Justice Attorney's Office
- U.S. Probation Officer-Eastern District of Arkansas
- Bureau of Prisons-FCC Forrest City Low
- Department of Arkansas Community Corrections (ACC)

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Private Sector Employment Partnerships

- Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers
- Tyson Foods, Inc.
- Polished Mobile Details
- Little Rock Convention Center
- Ace Glass

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



- **Youth in Transition Skills Training System**
 - **Request For Qualifications (RFQ)**
 - Contract with qualified organization with proven expertise and evidence of success in the planning, operation, and evaluation of a career and life skills development system that produces educational, employability and life skills valuable to career success. These services will be provided to Little Rock residents ages eighteen (18) to thirty (30) years-old.
 - Scope of Services/Goal - The goal of this project is to address neighborhood needs in an ongoing way by engaging community organizations in the planning and implementation of career and life skills development programming and to produce common outcomes described in the Youth Master Plan.

Community Programs Department

Youth in Transition Skills Training • 18-30



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Youth in Transition Skills Training • 18-30



– RFQ Services:

- Recruitment/Intake/Assessment
- Case Management
- Soft/Life Skills Training (curriculum)
- Employment Training
- Apprenticeships
- Partnerships
- Data Collection
- Evaluation

Awardee: Our House, Inc.