

Community Programs Department Status Update February 2018



Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



IN 2017:

- Three-Hundred and Sixty Eight (368) Little Rock citizens were processed through the City of Little Rock's Re-Entry Program.
- Out of that number*, thirty-seven (37) new participants were hired into the City of Little Rock's Re-Entry Employment Training Program.
*This does not include citizens hired in regular full-time and part-time positions throughout our 14 Departments since we "ban the box."
- 84 non-Little Rock citizens from area communities came to the City of Little Rock seeking Re-Entry services.
- All clients (including non-Little Rock residents) complete an Intake Form and CLR Job Application. During their initial assessment, they receive: an overview of In-Demand Occupations; Job Search Techniques on **Indeed.com**; a **Help Yourself Community Resource Directory**; a list of Central Arkansas employers who are known to hire applicants with criminal backgrounds; an overview of Pulaski Technical College's Programs of Study degree plans; and Driver's Control contact information to request their driver records.

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



City Departments/Projects	Placed	Promoted	Notes
Public Works - Sidewalk Program Total # of Positions: 8	56	20	4 participants have earned their CDL's
Public Works - Right of Way Crew Total # of Positions: 12	30	3	All positions are currently filled
Fleet Services Total # of Positions: 3	16	5	Citizens lack of DL's prevents participation
Little Rock Zoo Total # of Positions: 4	26	8	2 participants recently hired for permanent jobs
Housing & Neighborhood: Animal Services Total # of Positions: 4	19	2	2 permanent jobs created and deserving applicants hired
Housing & Neighborhood: Code Enforcement Total # of Positions: 6	6	0	Temp Labor for City Parks
Police Department Total # of Positions: 4	1	1	Challenge finding participants(Background)
Community Programs Department Total # of Positions: 1	1	1	Office Assistant started August 2017

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Pending Departments

City Departments/Projects	# of Positions	Notes
Planning & Development Department	1	Job developed and hiring soon!
Fire Department	1	Working on Job Description
Finance Department	1	Working on Job Description
Parks & Recreation Department	1	Working on Job Description

Department Referrals

City Departments/Projects	# of Positions	Notes
Housing & Neighborhood: Code Enforcement	6	Temp Labor for City Parks
Parks & Recreation Department	6	Hired in Riverfront Park for Landscaping
LR Convention and Visitors Bureau	2	2 full-time permanent Maintenance Operators Hired

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Contract Providers: Employment Placement Services

368 participants have been referred to providers

- African-American: 339; Caucasian: 29
- **The Good Grid (Pro-Tech):** 133 Enrolled / # Placed: (Not Reported)
- **Our House, Inc.:** 168 Enrolled / 117 Placed

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



External Partnerships

- Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers
- Tyson Foods, Inc.
- Fed Ex Ground
- Union Pacific Railroad
- 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
- Department of Arkansas Community Corrections (ACC)
- **NEW!** Arkansas Employment Career Centers (AECC)
- **NEW!** Arkansas Department of Career Education

Community Programs Department Re-Entry Program



Mentor Program Update

The Public Works' Sidewalk and ROW crews participated in a 5-part Leadership Development Training Workshop hosted by Community Programs' Re-Entry Program at City Hall. Some of the topics discussed were: Education; Self-Discipline; Personal Growth; Responsibility; and Accountability. **Planning 2nd Annual Training**

At the completion of this professional development, a survey was administered and it was suggested by all the respondents that a Mentoring Program would be beneficial.

The Re-Entry Program Coordinator conducts a 20-30 minute assessment with each participant before being referred but a ongoing mentoring program would drastically reduce the turn-over rate.

A Mentoring Summit is being planned with Mentor Providers to determine an evidence-based best practice for the Employment Training Re-Entry participants.

Community Programs Department

“Disconnected” Youth in Transition: 18-30



Contract: Career & Life Skills Training

Our House, Inc.

- Contract is for 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 are provided to Little Rock residents ages eighteen (18) to thirty (30) years-old (“Disconnected Youth”).

Update

- Hired two highly skilled Employment & Training Coordinators to develop the program and work with clients. One started in mid-June, the other in October.
- Initially, hired a second E&T Coordinator in July, but she resigned after about a month. Hired Replacement in October.

Community Programs Department

“Disconnected” Youth in Transition: 18-30



Contract: Career & Life Skills Training

Our House, Inc.

- Confirmed full-time employment for 36 participants with 35 local employers. Please keep in mind that clients who enrolled recently are counted in our total served, but it may take a little time to secure full-time employment.
- As of December 31, 2017, 10 clients were confirmed to have maintained employment at least 90 days--that number has likely increased.
- Offered 31 family engagement opportunities since the start of the program. We are still fine-tuning our system for tracking 18-30 year old's participation in those activities, so the actual number is currently pending.

Community Programs Department

“Disconnected” Youth in Transition: 18-30



Contract: Career & Life Skills Training

Our House, Inc.

Career Life Skills 18-30 Year-Olds	
Enrollment by Month	
June	4
July	23
August	12
September	10
October	9
November	16
December	13
January	23
February to date	4
Total	114