

PROMISING PRACTICES

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Center for
Justice Planning

A Mobile Approach to Reentry Service Provision

Providing reentry support services to individuals leaving incarceration represents an ongoing need for states, with many implementing innovative approaches to meet the expansive needs associated with this population, such as lack of affordable housing, unemployment assistance, and help with benefits, transportation and treatment needs. In early 2025, the first mobile reentry support hub for formerly incarcerated individuals, the Mobile Recidivism Reduction Center, launched in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The [Mobile Recidivism Reduction Center \(MRRC\)](#) represents a unique and innovative approach to reentry support. A renovated bus stocked with free resources and staffed by reentry specialists with histories of previous incarceration, the unit travels to areas around the city with the highest need for reentry services. Serving as a mobile one-stop-shop, the Center carries hygiene and cold weather supplies and provides assistance with accessing Medicaid benefits, unemployment, treatment for mental health and/or substance misuse, legal aid and housing. The MRRC also provides naloxone and fentanyl test strips.

THE MRRC IN ACTION

[The MRRC](#) opened its doors in January 2025. The idea for the project came from Kerwin Pittman, executive director of [Recidivism Reduction Educational Program Services](#). Pittman, formerly incarcerated himself, knew firsthand the struggles experienced by individuals returning to their communities, particularly barriers around transportation. To bring the idea to life, Pittman purchased a bus and hired a few formerly incarcerated individuals to help renovate it. The MRRC also has a media station with a tablet and printers, a bathroom and a microwave.



THE MRRC IN ACTION continued

The mobile reentry support center aligns with the [state's Reentry 2030 strategic plan](#). A national initiative, [Reentry 2030](#) is focused on strengthening reentry services for individuals leaving prison. The MRRC is currently open four days a week and plans to expand to three additional regions in the state by the end of the year.

The MRRC is not the only reentry support offered by Recidivism Reduction Educational Program Services (RREPS). In April 2024, RREPS launched its [Recidivism Reduction Call Center](#), an on-demand reentry support hotline. The hotline provides connections to many of the same types of services that the MRRC does. Covering all 100 counties of the state, the hotline also provides follow-up services. As of late January 2025, the hotline has received 3,700 calls.

Although the MRRC is new, it's clear the innovative approach to reentry is needed. On the first day the Center opened, reentry specialists served 100 people. In the first 20 days, the MRRC helped 622 individuals in the city of Raleigh alone. So far, most of the support provided has been for housing, employment and mental health, with other services available as needed, such as assistance with identification cards and disability claims. The MRRC has also provided specialized support, including car seats and medical aid for pregnant women. Individuals served range from as young as sixteen to senior citizens.

The MRRC is a perfect example of the strength of community-based approaches to reentry support and services, as well as the promise of innovating according to need.

Do you have a Promising Practice from your jurisdiction you want to share?
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