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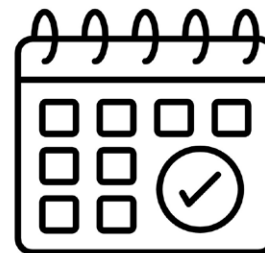
Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable Newsletter

September 2019

September Planning Council Meeting

Come ring in the new fiscal year with the Roundtable at our September meeting!

We will be electing new leadership for the next year (stay tuned for the slate of officers!), looking back at the accomplishments of the Advocacy Fellowship over the past year, receiving an end-of-year financial update and reviewing the work plan for FY19-20. You won't want to miss it!



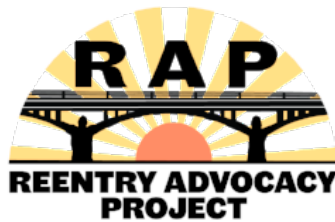
When: Monday, September 9 from 12:30-2 PM

Where: Goodwill Community Center

[1015 Norwood Park Blvd Austin, TX 78753](#)

Reentry Advocacy Project

Who: Are you or is someone you are close to directly



impacted by the criminal justice system? If so, please join the [Reentry Advocacy Project](#) (RAP) for a monthly conversation with other folks with lived experience with incarceration and reentry.

What: A project of the Roundtable, RAP engages formerly incarcerated men and women to advocate for the development and implementation of policies and practices that directly and positively impact the reentry population and their families, as well as provide guidance to the Roundtable. RAP is a place where you can get support and advice to address reentry challenges and barriers.

When: RAP generally meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 6–7:30 p.m. with pizza and informal networking starting at 5:30 p.m.

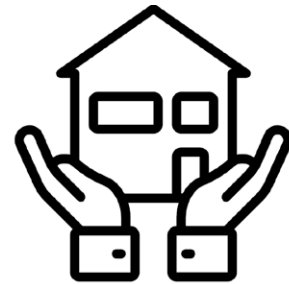
Where: Mt. Zion Baptist Church Zion Action Recovery Center at [2951 E 14th St.](#)

You can stay up-to-date with RAP meeting times and other events by following them on [Facebook](#).

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Fair Housing 101 Workshop: Anti-Discrimination & Fair Housing in Homeless & Housing Programs

[Ending Community Homelessness Coalition \(ECHO\)](#) and [Austin Tenants Council](#) are hosting an upcoming workshop that will help you become a better advocate and understand the protections offered through Anti-discrimination and Fair Housing laws.



When: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 from 9 AM – 10:30 AM

Where: Ending Community Homelessness Coalition ([300 East Highland Mall Boulevard Suite 200 Austin, TX 78752](#))

Cost: FREE

[Learn More & RSVP](#)

Webinar: The Behavioral Health Needs Framework & Collaborative Comprehensive Case Plans



The [National Reentry Resource Center](#), with funding support from the [U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance](#), is hosting a **free webinar on Wednesday, September 4 from 2-3:30pm on Behavioral Health Needs Framework & Collaborative Comprehensive Case Plans.**

This webinar will highlight two jurisdictions—the State of Oklahoma and Douglas County, Nebraska—and explain how they used [Collaborative Comprehensive Case Plans](#) to enhance their case planning processes and promote recovery, successful diversion from the criminal justice system to treatment or reentry to the community among their participants.

[Register](#)

ACC Seeks Workforce Projects Coordinator to Support Correctional Education and Skilled Trades Programs



Austin Community College is hiring a [Workforce Projects Coordinator](#) that will focus on supporting the growth and sustainability of ACC's Correctional Education and Skilled Trades programs. This position will also involve helping with state agency projects.

Candidates with experience working with justice-involved individuals and/or operating in correctional settings are encouraged to apply.

This position will require non-standard hours on a frequent basis as many activities and classes are scheduled in the evenings and on weekends.

Please note that the deadline to apply has been extended to Friday, September 6, 2019.

[Apply Now](#)

Fall 2019 Expunction Project Intakes

**DO YOU
NEED HELP
WITH
ARREST
RECORDS?**

The Expunction Project, administered by the [Mithoff Pro Bono Program](#) at the University of Texas School of Law in partnership with the Travis County Law Library and [Goodwill Central Texas](#), is hosting the following intake sessions in September 2019:

Tuesday September 17, 2019

Check-in between 5-8 p.m.
Goodwill Community Center
[1015 Norwood Park Blvd.](#)
[Austin, TX 78753](#)

Tuesday September 24, 2019

Check-in between 5-8 p.m.
Travis County Law Library
[314 W. 11th Street](#)
[Austin, TX 78701](#)

Applicants seeking legal assistance may make an appointment at any Identogo location at <http://bit.ly/identogo>, or visit 108 Denson Drive. The cost for the report is \$25, paid by credit card or money order. Applicants will be fingerprinted and the report will be mailed.

Applicants must obtain a copy of their DPS Criminal History Report to bring to the intake session.

At the intake session, law student volunteers, supervised by attorneys, will meet with applicants in the order they arrived to review Criminal History Reports, and additional court records if available, to determine eligibility to expunge or seal criminal records. **Not everyone with a criminal record is eligible for expunction or sealing of records in Texas. Please see the attached flier to determine if attending an intake session is right for you.** If eligible, the project may be able to assist in preparation of paperwork and provide instructions for filing to expunge or seal records in appropriate courts.

To receive reminders and information about the intakes, please complete this survey:

<http://bit.ly/expfall19> (you only need to complete the survey once). Applicants should not attend an intake session if they have already attended an intake session.

If you have any questions, please email expunction@law.utexas.edu.

[Download the Flyer](#)

State of the Safety Net Forum: Safety, Justice, and Engagement

When: Wednesday, September 18 from 9-11am

Where: Travis County Administration Building ([700 Lavaca Street Austin, TX 78701](#))

Cost: FREE



The [Community Advancement Network \(CAN\) Dashboard](#)

provides an overview of the socio-economic well-being of Austin and Travis County. The Dashboard reports on community conditions relating to 17 indicators, highlights specific concerns relating to equity and outlines local efforts to improve outcomes relating to these specific indicators.

In 2019, CAN is commemorating the 10th edition of the CAN Dashboard by hosting a series of forums to assess the "State of the Safety Net" using dashboard data to assess community well-being, highlight positive outcomes and identify areas requiring further attention, analysis and action.

This forum addresses the section of the CAN Dashboard that pertains to safety, justice, and engagement and presents information on the community indicators that you can view at this website: www.canatx.org/dashboard.

RSVP

Upcoming Reentry Employment Specialist Training (RES)

When: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 2nd – Friday, October 4th

Where: The City of Austin's Learning and Research Center ([5202 E. Ben White Blvd Suite 500 - Room 244 Austin, TX 78741](#))

Cost: FREE



The Reentry Workforce Development Specialists Training team of Travis County is pleased to announce the next Reentry Employment Specialist Training (RES). This training is provided **FREE** of charge to community providers that work directly with judicial customers who have multiple barriers, specifically employment.

This 3-day training is based on curriculum designed by the National Institute of Corrections. Topics covered include Assessments, Overcoming Barriers, and many more on best practices working with judicial customers seeking employment.

To RSVP, email theresa.scott@austintexas.gov by September 26th with your name,

title, company name, email address, and phone number.

Download the Flyer

Want to learn about additional events and opportunities around the country? We recommend looking up the [Council of State Governments Justice Center](#) and [Vera Institute of Justice](#).

News & Resources

"Second Chances: Lockhart Inmates Graduate From Community College"

From the [Austin American-Statesman](#):



BUY PHOTO

HIDE CAPTION

Mary Henry, right, an inmate at the Lockhart Correctional Facility, hugs her teacher Rosalba Schramm, an Austin Community College adjunct professor of engineering technology, during a graduation ceremony Saturday for 13 inmates and one former inmate who were awarded certified production technician certificates from ACC at the Lockhart facility. [JAY JANNER/AMERICAN-STATESMAN]

"Tears and cheers filled the gymnasium Saturday at the Lockhart Correctional Facility as more than 100 family members, friends and officers celebrated the graduation of 14 women from Austin Community College's certified production technician program.

For the women — 13 inmates and one who recently was released — and their families, the day was not just a recognition of the hundreds of hours they put into learning a trade, but a celebration of second chances.

"We are labeled," said Misty Campbell, one of the graduates. "There's a stigma. We're

felons. So this is an opportunity that gives us a chance to go out there and know that there's a job waiting for us, and a job that's going to pay us well, no matter that stigma."

The class was the first of its kind to use money from Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area, a nonprofit that helps direct state and federal training dollars, to educate offenders in Texas."

[Please click here to read the full article and learn more about this program.](#)

Homeward Bound: The Road to Affordable Housing



The [National League of Cities Housing Task Force](#) has released a report that analyzes the factors contributing to the housing crisis, provides case studies of cities implementing innovative solutions, and offers recommendations for both local and federal leaders.

These recommendations include supporting the needs of distinct sub-populations including people who are experiencing homelessness, seniors, and formerly incarcerated people; targeting wraparound support services; and reducing or eliminating restrictions on access to public housing that go beyond federal mandates for those with conviction histories.

[**Read the Report**](#)

Re-Entry Housing Issues in Illinois: The Current Situation, Challenges, and Possible Solutions

This update comes directly from the [The National Reentry Resource Center](#).

This [report from the Metropolitan Planning Council and the Illinois Justice Project](#) is the result of an in-depth, three-year effort to address an unresolved problem facing public officials: how to find stable living conditions for the tens of thousands of individuals who depart state prisons and jails each year.



The report includes interviews with leaders from more than 60 organizations, including the Illinois Housing Development Authority, the Illinois Department of Corrections, and others who interact daily with individuals leaving incarceration. It also offers over a dozen realistic policy proposals aimed at helping state and local government officials in Illinois facilitate a smooth reentry, reduce recidivism, and improve the quality of life for the state's justice-

involved population.

[Read the Report](#)



Forward



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