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## Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable Newsletter

October 2019

### Planning Council Elects 2019-20 Leadership Team

Please join us in welcoming the newest members of the Roundtable Executive Committee for 2019-2020! At the September meeting, the Planning Council elected the following officers:



**Michelle Collins, MA, LPC, MPA**  
Integral Care  
*Chair*



**Mia Greer, RN, BSN, CLIA**  
Community Health Coalition  
*Vice Chair*



**Carl F. Hunter II, M.Div**  
Recovery People  
*RAP Representative*



**Helen Gaebler, JD**  
UT Law School  
*Past Chair*

We are thankful to Reggie Smith, Michelle Collins, Helen Gaebler, Darwin Hamilton, and Karen Keith for their dedicated service on the 2018-2019 Roundtable Executive Committee.

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## 2018-19 Reentry Roundtable Annual Report Released



**2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Roundtable is pleased to announce the release of the 2018-19 Annual Report!

Click below to read about this year's:

Accomplishments,  
Partnerships,  
Financials,  
Advocacy fellowship, and  
Progress on the Roundtable's strategic plan.

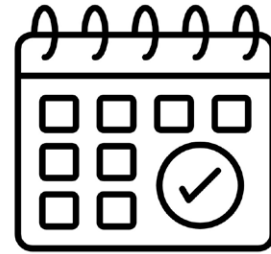
[Read the Report](#)

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## October Planning Council Meeting

Please join us for our October Planning Council meeting. We'll kick off the year with some good old fashioned networking, then

we'll spend time discussing the Travis State Jail Reentry Coordination Pilot, and we'll also be introducing a new digital platform to enable member communication in-between meetings.



**When:** Monday, October 14 from 12:30-2 PM

**Where:** Goodwill Community Center

[1015 Norwood Park Blvd Austin, TX 78753](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1015+Norwood+Park+Blvd,+Austin,+TX+78753)

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## 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:** The October RAP meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 9th** 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](#).

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## Upcoming Events

### Downtown Austin Community Court 20th Anniversary Celebration

[Downtown Austin Community Court](#) (DACC) is celebrating their 20th anniversary and invite you to attend the festivities!



**When:** October 1, 2019 from 1-2 p.m.

**Where:** 719 East 6th Street

**Cost:** Free

Downtown Austin Community Court Case Management aims to end homelessness by providing comprehensive, long term services to individuals experiencing homelessness. An example of their work is the [Road to Recovery](#), a strong collaboration between Roundtable funders [Integral Care](#) and DACC. This program serves people who, in addition to their co-occurring disorders, experience chronic homelessness and involvement with our criminal justice system. The program – now in its 14th year – offers residential services for up to 3 months, aftercare for up to 3 months and ongoing support afterwards. Annually, they help approximately 40 members of our community move towards better health and well-being.

RSVP

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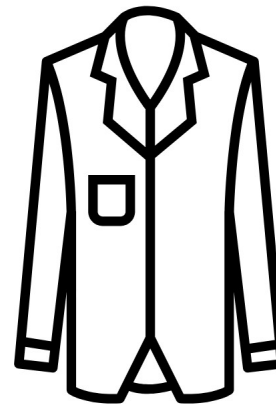
## The Gentleman's Clothing Closet

Need clothes to wear to an interview? You are invited to attend this **free clothing event for men** presented by the [City of Austin](#) and [Workforce Education Readiness Continuum](#) (WERC).

**When:** October 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Where:** Rosewood-Zaragosa Neighborhood Center (2800 Webberville Rd)

**Cost:** FREE



Donations are being accepted and can be arranged with Michele Buford, WERC Program Manager, via email [michele.buford@wfscapitalarea.com](mailto:michele.buford@wfscapitalarea.com) or phone 512-597-7238.

Please click below to view the English version of the flyer. To view the Spanish version, please [click here](#).

View the Flyer

## Substance Use Disorder Community Forum

**When:** Wednesday, October 16 from 5-7:30 p.m.

**Where:** LifeWorks East ([835 North Pleasant Valley Road Austin, TX 78702](#))

**Cost:** Free

Travis County Health & Human Services invites you to attend a [community forum on Substance Use Disorder planning](#).

[Woollard Nichols & Associates](#) will share highlights from the ATOD Needs Assessment (funded by the [Sobering Center](#) and scheduled for release in October) and facilitate small group learning.

[Travis County HHS](#) will share information about the next phase in the SUD community planning process and how you can engage moving forward.

Light refreshments and networking will be held from 5:00-5:30. Presenters will begin promptly at 5:30. The event will conclude at 7:30.

*Please RSVP as space is limited.*

RSVP

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## Central Texas Regional Summit: Expanding Workforce Opportunities



**When:** October 25 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Where:** Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos ([1001 E. McCarty Ln San Marcos, TX 78666](#))

**Cost:** FREE

Expanding Opportunity, a Central Texas Regional Summit, brings together leaders from across the five county Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos Metropolitan Area to explore how we can do a better job of improving access to economic opportunity for individuals and families in the region.

Join in a conversation with representatives of the private sector, educational institutions, area workforce boards and community leaders to gain a better collective understanding of our region's workforce needs and identify steps that we can take to ensure workers have the skills they need to succeed and that employers are able to connect with local talent in filling available job opportunities.

**Overall Summit Goals:**

- Create a clearer sense of shared challenges and opportunities
- increase awareness of the interconnectedness of seemingly disparate efforts.
- highlight collaborations already happening; and
- foster new connections, ideas and actions to create an economically inclusive future for all people.

RSVP

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

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## Grant Opportunities

### Second Chance Act Pay-For-Success Initiative



The U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has released a **new grant opportunity** called "**Second Chance Act Pay for Success Initiative: Outcomes-based Contracting To Lower Recidivism and Homelessness**" that will fund "reentry services tailored to individuals leaving incarceration who are at moderate to high risk for recidivism in the community...and also services available to individuals living in permanent supportive housing units." It will fund up to a year of planning for, and the writing of, outcomes-based contracts.

**The application deadline is October 15.** If you would like more information on how to apply for these grant dollars, please contact CSH at [impact@csh.org](mailto:impact@csh.org).

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## Voices for Economic Opportunity

## BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation

The [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#) has joined with the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#), [W. K. Kellogg Foundation](#) and the [Raikes Foundation](#) to launch [“Voices for Economic Opportunity,”](#) a call for ideas to change inaccurate and debilitating

stereotypes about poverty in the U.S. This is an effort to gather creative, compelling ideas from individuals and organizations across all sectors in the United States, to help elevate diverse voices and broaden the national conversation about the nature of poverty and economic mobility. Solving the problem of poverty requires a true understanding and telling of how people experience it.

They are asking anyone from anywhere – and especially those with lived experienced navigating poverty – to send them their ideas about how to change the discourse about poverty in the United States. Based on the decisions of external reviewers, they will award multiple grants of \$100,000 each. You can read more about the Grand Challenge [here](#).

They seek to fund a portfolio of projects that:

- Shift the conversation from one that stigmatizes to one that demonstrates “this could be someone I know and value,” signifying that we all have a common interest in expanding economic mobility and dignity
- Move from a depiction of individuals as victims to protagonists with agency who are deserving of opportunity
- Change from a sole focus on lack of money to money, power, agency, and dignity
- Pivot from characterizations of personal failures and deficits to the ongoing importance of individual and collective responsibility and a general consensus that the status quo undermines American democracy and society
- Creatively use citizen voice and data to support communications in a way that generates a deeper understanding of structural and historic barriers to mobility
- Provide insight into workable solutions for overcoming intersecting stereotypes and deep seeded values of deservingness that generate biases based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, physical and mental health, ability, and geography
- Engage partners with diverse expertise and types of resources

*Applications will be accepted until: 1:30 a.m. CST on November 13, 2019.*

[Learn More](#)

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## News & Resources

*Higher Education Programs in Prison: What We Know Now and*

## What We Should Focus On Going Forward

A new report entitled "*Higher Education Programs in Prison: What We Know Now and What We Should Focus On Going Forward*" by Lois M. Davis has recently been released as part of the [RAND Corporation Perspective series](#).

"Drawing on past RAND research on correctional education and focusing on the [Second Chance Pell Experimental Sites Initiative](#) and the [Pathways from Prison to Postsecondary Education initiative](#) in North Carolina, this Perspective summarizes research on:

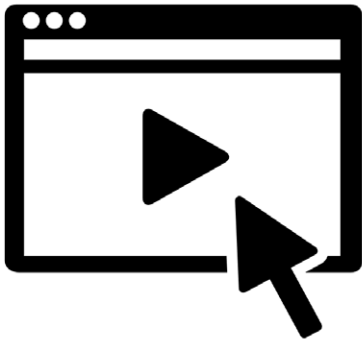
- The effectiveness of educational programs in helping to reduce recidivism,
- Key lessons learned in providing college programs to incarcerated adults, and
- Remaining issues that need to be addressed, including how to ensure long-term funding of in-prison college programs and the need for an outcomes evaluation to learn from the Experimental Initiative."



[Read More](#)

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## In Case You Missed It: Webinar on Improving Job Readiness and Retention for Higher Risk Populations



At the end of August, the [National Reentry Resource Center](#) hosted a webinar on Improving Job Readiness and Retention for Higher Risk Populations with funding support from the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance.

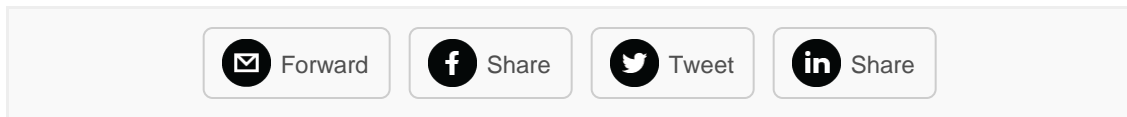
This webinar focused on the integration of social learning and/or cognitive behavioral approaches, as well as other-risk reduction strategies, in employment

program models.

These lessons are especially useful for corrections and workforce development administrators and practitioners as well as community-based reentry service providers who are interested in improving employment outcomes for people assessed as being at a moderate to high risk of reoffending.

**Please [click here](#) to watch a recording of the webinar and/or download the presentation slides.**





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