



Agenda Action Form Overview

Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 20BCC000016 to recognize funds from the NC Office of State Budget and Management in the amount of \$2,000 for the Local Reentry Council (LRC).

Background/Justification

The Criminal Justice Resource Center (CJRC) has been providing comprehensive services to the criminal justice involved population for more than twenty years and is the intermediary agency leading the efforts of the Durham Local Reentry Council. Over 700 persons return from NC prisons every year and over 8,000 persons cycle through the local detention center annually. Most of the referrals received by the LRC in the past two years have been for housing, employment, transportation and legal assistance.

Employment is a primary focus of Durham's Local Reentry Council and the Employment Subcommittee is continuing to develop ways to assist justice involved individuals with finding and maintaining living wage employment. To that end, the LRC will host a job and resource fair that will offer justice involved individuals an opportunity to learn about potential employment options, training opportunities and participate in on-site job interviews.

In addition to the Job Fair/Community Forum, the LRC will host a Reentry Simulation. The simulation will be conducted in partnership with the United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of NC. The goal of the simulation is for participants to gain an understanding of the significant obstacles faced by justice served individuals attempting to navigate the system upon their release from incarceration.

The additional funding will also improve the LRC's website. The website enhancement will offer prison facilities, the Durham County Detention Center, and community-based programs and service providers access to web-based reentry resources.

Policy Impact

This work will increase community awareness and engagement about the Local Reentry Council and increase the number of justice-involved citizens with living wage employment and resources during transition.

Procurement Background

N/A

Fiscal Impact

This grant does not require a County match. The grant period is September 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommends approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment No. in the amount of \$2,000 from the NC Office of State Budget and Management for the Local Reentry Council.