

Department of Corrections Reentry Services

Reentry & Workforce Initiatives

- ▶ Since the beginning of his administration, Gov. Beshear has announced more than 1,200 private-sector new-location and expansion projects totaling nearly \$43 billion in announced investments, creating more than 63,000 jobs. This is the highest investment figure secured during the tenure of any governor in the commonwealth's history and over \$18 billion more than the next highest total.
- ▶ To build on these successes, the Governor is focused on investing in reentry programs. A living wage job allows returning inmates to support their families and provides the promise of a better future. People with a hopeful future are far less likely to reoffend.

Team Kentucky Office of Reentry Services

- ▶ In April 2025, Gov. Andy Beshear announced more than a dozen new vocational programs at Kentucky's adult correctional facilities across the state. These include training in plumbing, basic construction skills, HVAC, and commercial vehicle operation, among others.
- ▶ The Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women has established a licensed cosmetology school. This is the first time in Kentucky that a prison has operated a cosmetology school.
- ▶ Two prisons are partnering with Ironworkers Local Union #70 for inmates to participate in a pre-apprenticeship program. Through this two-year paid program, inmates will have the opportunity to become skilled ironworkers, installing and assembling the structural steel and iron components that build the framework of our buildings and our bridges.
- ▶ The Kentucky Chamber of Commerce has identified more than 25 employers for the initial pilot program of the Fair Chance Hiring Campaign with a commitment to growing the list.

Team Kentucky Office of Reentry Services

- ▶ In 2023, the Governor was joined by members of the Kentucky State Building and Construction Trades Council to launch the [Jobs on Day One initiative](#), which aims to provide inmates with employable skills when they leave incarceration.
- ▶ On Oct. 17, 2024, the Governor signed an [executive order](#) establishing the Governor's Council of Second Chance Employers, comprising 15 business and community leaders.
- ▶ In March 2025, Gov. Beshear signed [Senate Bill 22](#), allowing inmates the opportunity to take the barbering test to obtain their license while incarcerated and secure a job upon release.
- ▶ On April 24, 2025, the Governor signed an executive order creating the Team Kentucky Office of Reentry Services, attached to the Office of the Governor, to enhance and expand reentry services.

Investing in Programming in Prisons

- ▶ There is a rich landscape for sound concepts to expand and innovate reentry programming – **this ultimately reduces recidivism, improves public safety, and strengthens the economy.**
- ▶ The goal is to produce a greater number of reentering inmates who have employable vocational skills and a credential to prove it, as well as intensive reentry services
- ▶ Gov. Beshear is committed to ensuring that each facility has meaningful offerings in programs that produce credentialed, immediately employable graduates with a focus on in-demand skills and related education

Team Kentucky is ready to **connect** you to your next employee!

We are offering training in many
trade pathways.



For further information, please
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KENTUCKY.**
JUSTICE AND
PUBLIC SAFETY CABINET



CARPENTRY

- Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex
- Lee Adjustment Center
- Little Sandy Correctional Complex
- Northpoint Training Center
- Western Kentucky Correctional Complex



CONSTRUCTION CRAFT LABORER

- Blackburn Correctional Complex
- Green River Correctional Complex
- Kentucky State Penitentiary
- Southeast State Correctional Complex



ELECTRICITY

- Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women
- Northpoint Training Center
- Western Kentucky Correctional Complex



HVAC

- Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex



IRONWORKERS PRE-APPRENTICESHIP

- Northpoint Training Center
- Luther Luckett Correctional Complex



PLUMBING

- Green River Correctional Complex
- Little Sandy Correctional Complex



WELDING

- Luther Luckett Correctional Complex
- Northpoint Training Center

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Department of Corrections Mission Statement

To **protect** the citizens of the commonwealth and to provide a safe, secure and humane environment for staff and offenders in carrying out the mandates of the legislative and judicial processes; and, to **provide opportunities** for offenders to acquire skills which facilitate non-criminal behavior.

Programming in Corrections

Reentry

Mental
Health

Addiction
Services

Faith Based

Career &
Technical
Education



Statistics

On average, 13,000 releases annually from incarceration

Probation & Parole Active Supervised Population – 46,851

State Inmate Population – 19,304

*As of 10/20/25

Second Chance Opportunities Available in Our New Kentucky Home

Over the Past Two Years, Nearly 70% of Those Released
From State Custody Have Not Returned.

- Kentucky defines recidivism as re-incarceration within 24 months of release from custody.
- Department of Corrections currently offers adult basic education and GED classes for inmates at all 14 prisons, as well as career and technical education courses.

DOC Division of Reentry Services

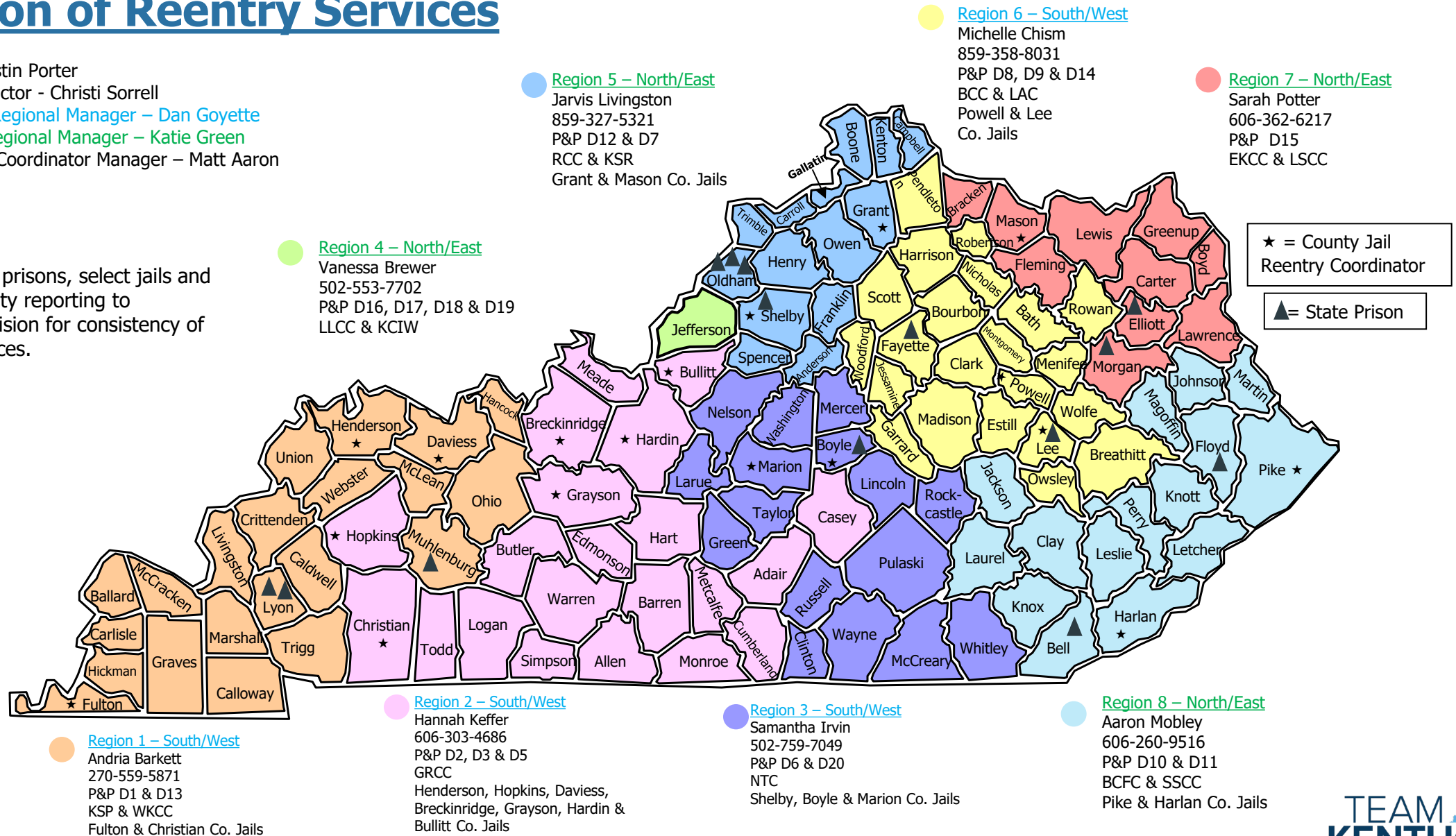
DOC Division of Reentry Services works with inmates to prepare them for release through developing reentry plans and connecting them with vital resources and support. The division also works as a bridge between employers and second chance hires, helping businesses meet the need for a skilled workforce.



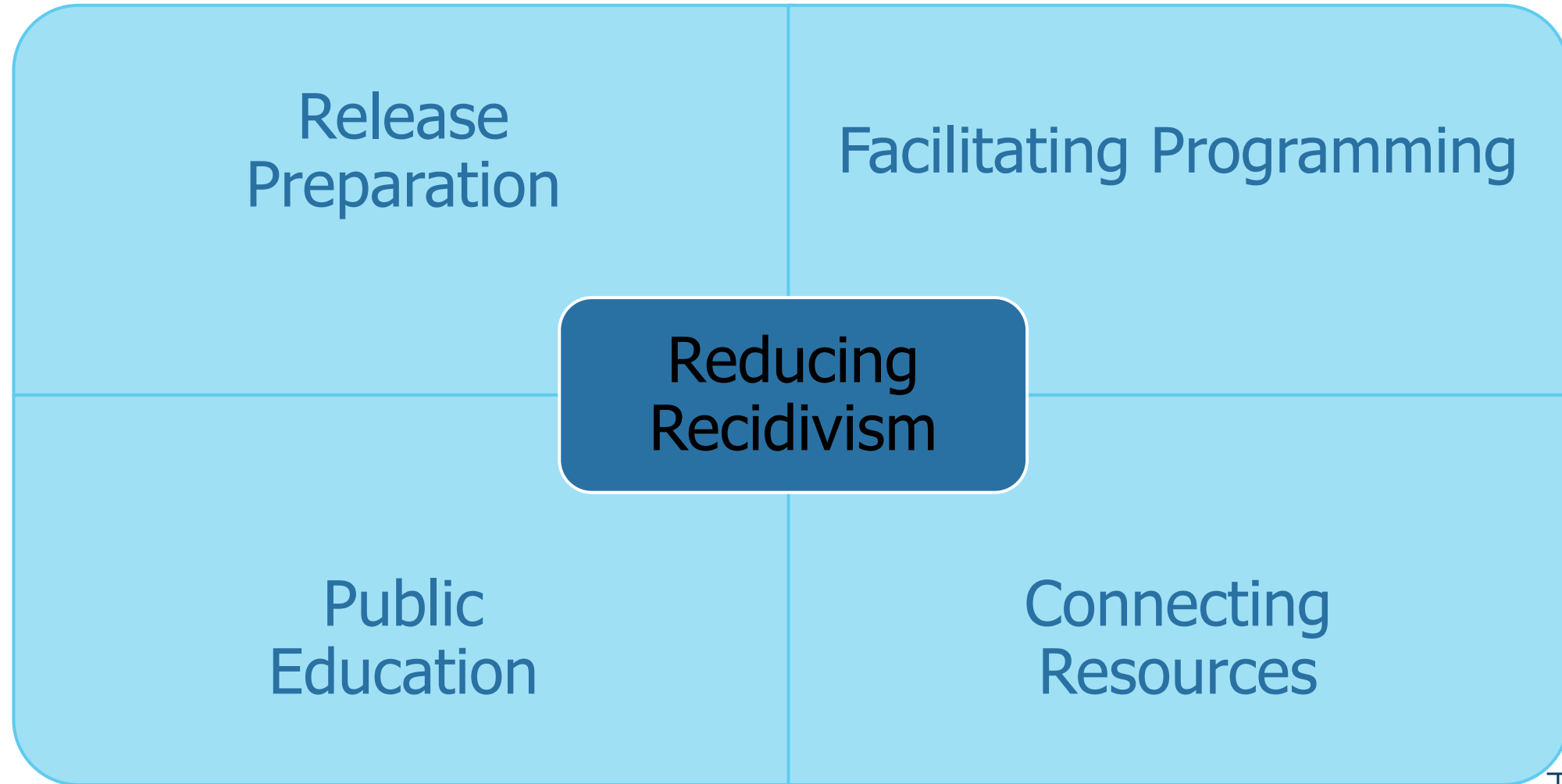
Division of Reentry Services

Director - Kristin Porter
 Assistant Director - Christi Sorrell
 South/West Regional Manager – Dan Goyette
 North/East Regional Manager – Katie Green
 Employment Coordinator Manager – Matt Aaron

*114 staff in prisons, select jails and the community reporting to the same division for consistency of reentry services.



Division of Reentry Services



Targeted Reentry Services

Beginning **18** months before release, the Department of Corrections Division of Reentry Services begins regular check-ins with inmates to ensure vital resources and documents are available and ready upon leaving state custody.

-  Healthcare needs
-  Home Placement
-  Identification Card
-  Social Security Card
-  Birth Certificate
-  Transportation from Facility
-  Addiction Services
-  Parenting Readiness
-  Social Support System
-  Clothing

Every prison has opened a reentry center staffed by Division of Reentry for more targeted reentry services.

Prison Reentry Centers

The Beshear-Coleman administration has launched reentry centers at every prison. These centers have a special emphasis on the life skills necessary to successful reentry, as well as essential connections to services *before* an inmate leaves prison. These are offered in addition to other DOC programming available, like substance abuse programming.

LIFE SKILLS

Personal Finance

Interview Skills

Success in the
Workplace

ESSENTIAL CONNECTIONS

IDs and Birth
Certificates

Housing

Transportation

SUD Treatment

Informative Workshops

Workshops are held monthly in the institutional reentry centers and are focused on topics to prepare inmates for their upcoming release into the community.

- ❖ Health Education
- ❖ Mental Health
- ❖ Life Skills
- ❖ Probation and Parole Supervision
- ❖ Continuing Education
- ❖ Reentry & Resource Assistance
- ❖ Addiction Services
- ❖ Records
- ❖ Employment

Informational Events

Expungement Sessions

- Jointly hosted with AOC, DPA & P&P in local communities
- No cost – free background check
- Attorneys present to provide direction on eligibility requirements and guidelines
- Community Partner Organizations

Job & Resource Fairs

- Hosted inside institutions, county jails and communities
- Resource tables
- Employer tables
- Pre-Release and community contacts both available
- Second chance employers present

Reentry Simulations

- Session simulates the first four weeks of release from prison for a person returning to the community
- Individualized real-life scenarios
- Held for internal DOC Staff, community members and various organizations

Reentry Simulations

- DOC recognizes the challenges individuals face when returning from incarceration.
- It is important for communities to also understand the struggles of individuals returning to their communities.
- Reentry Simulations are offered to raise awareness and foster empathy.
- Participants are given tasks to complete upon release of incarceration within a or certain timeframe or they may face consequences (i.e., jail time)

Reentry Simulations



Interested in a Reentry Simulation?

DOC provides reentry simulation kit and hosts at no cost

- ▶ Two-hour simulation
- ▶ 20-50 participants per simulation
- ▶ Ample space to host
 - ▶ 13 tables and chairs plus participant chairs



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secondchance.ky.gov

Thank You!

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