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LINC, Inc. Leadership React to Governor Roy Cooper’s Executive Order Establishing Improved Education, Rehabilitation, and Reentry Services for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Individuals

LINC, Inc., which has been providing reentry services in New Hanover County since 2000, leadership and staff applaud Governor Roy Cooper’s Executive Order to expand support and services for justice-involved citizens.

[Wilmington, North Carolina, January 30 2024] - Leadership and staff of LINC, Inc., the location of New Hanover County, North Carolina’s Local Reentry Council, are reacting positively to Governor Roy Cooper’s signing of Executive Order No. 303, which establishes a unified statewide approach to reentry services for formerly incarcerated individuals.

“LINC, Inc. has been providing reentry services since 2000, and established one of the first residential campuses that focuses only on people returning from prison. We believe that our work in the state over time has contributed to positive development and attention in the field of reentry,” says Frankie Roberts, LINC, Inc. executive director.

“The state is putting methods and measures in place that we have been working towards over the last 15 or 20 years,” adds LINC, Inc. Deputy Director Michelle Gunn. “We commend the governor for now making it standard operating procedure for state agencies to include returning citizens in their services, as well as providing access for more educational opportunities, economic development opportunities, and health and medical support opportunities like Medicaid.

LINC, Inc. is part of a network of agencies, called Local Reentry Councils (LRC), that provide support for individuals with a legal history and their families. The LINC LRC is one of 25 Local Reentry Councils across North Carolina. LINC’s Local Reentry Council is staffed with a coordinator and case workers, whose primary goal is to be the “point of contact” for returning citizens in the local reentry council process. This includes providing comprehensive case management services to returning citizens, coordinating the community’s input in the implementation of the North Carolina Reentry Council Comprehensive Plan, providing outreach to and education on the importance of reentry to the public, and recruiting and collaborating with service providers and criminal justice professionals.



“One of the other big pieces of this executive order is that it will expand Local Reentry Councils across the state,” says Roberts. The LINC, Inc. LRC will be moving its four-person staff and all operations from its current location on Princess Street in Wilmington, to the Harrelson Center, 20 North 4th Street, Wilmington, beginning February 1 2024.

LINC, Inc. provides transitional living and supportive case management to meet the immediate needs of men and women returning from prison, assisting them in becoming productive members of the community. LINC, Inc. operates the [Marvin E. Roberts Transitional Living Campus](#) which offers shelter, food, and clothing in a therapeutic environment for men and women who have been recently released from State and/or Federal prisons or local jails. LINC, Inc., is one of 25 **Local Reentry Councils** around NC, providing support for individuals in New Hanover County with a legal history and their families. LINC, Inc., founded in June 2000 by Executive Director Frankie Roberts and co-founder Tracey Ray, is a Wilmington, North Carolina 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, a member of the New Hanover County Local Reentry Council, and the first North Carolina chapter of the statewide Second Chance Alliance.

Printable LINC Inc. Local Reentry Council program flyer: <https://lincnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/LRC-Flyer.pdf>

Printable LINC Inc. Local Reentry Council orientation flyer: <https://lincnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/LRC-Orientation-Flyer-2024-1.pdf>