



MORCA

MAYOR'S OFFICE ON RETURNING CITIZEN AFFAIRS

FY 2018
ANNUAL REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

MORCA is the District of Columbia's hub for reentry , and is responsible for connecting previously incarcerated District residents to the essential resources and services necessary for their successful reintegration into society.

The efforts of the office on behalf of the Mayor and the District's reentry community has made it a national model for other jurisdictions as they attempt to understand how to best go about the necessary task of ensuring that all returning citizens are given a fair shot to become productive citizens after their return from incarceration. In FY18 Mayor Bowser has tasked MORCA with continuing to expand efforts to facilitate successful reintegration for returning citizens back into the communities of the District, and coordinate the efforts of several of its vital municipal, community and faith-based partners. In FY18 MORCA, has added case management allowing the office to administer needs assessments and reentry plans to all registrants with the office. MORCA also completed its comprehensive strategic plan, undertaken with input from - and in partnership with the reentry community and the partner District and Federal agencies, in order to ensure that the office organized and planned-out for the greatest possible impact in the community for years to come. MORCA created and implemented groundbreaking programs, like the MORCA Pathways to Work Driver License program, which removed financial barriers to employment for the District's returning citizens. MORCA also increased its outreach efforts in the correctional facilities and throughout the District, leading to another increase in the annual numbers of individuals who register with the office and receive the resources offered.

The opportunities and initiatives provided through MORCA assistance will continue to grow and be the keys to successful reintegration for men and women in the District.



BRIAN FERGUSON
Executive Director

Mayor's Office on Returning Citizen Affairs



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Data suggests that individuals who remain connected to their communities while incarcerated are less likely to return to prison. In the District of Columbia, over 2,000 District residents return annually from incarceration. The Mayor's Office of Returning Citizen Affairs (MORCA) provides referral services such as career development, job placement, and social services to support District residents who are recently released from incarceration. MORCA also conducts prison outreach activities to inform residents incarcerated in the Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) of the available resources available to facilitate successful reentry.

MORCA's mission is to reshape the image of reentrants through creativity and innovation, and to introduce new ideas and programs into the post-release socialization processes throughout the reentry community. MORCA regularly engages with federal, faith, and community-based organizations through partnerships to best serve reentrants throughout all eight wards.

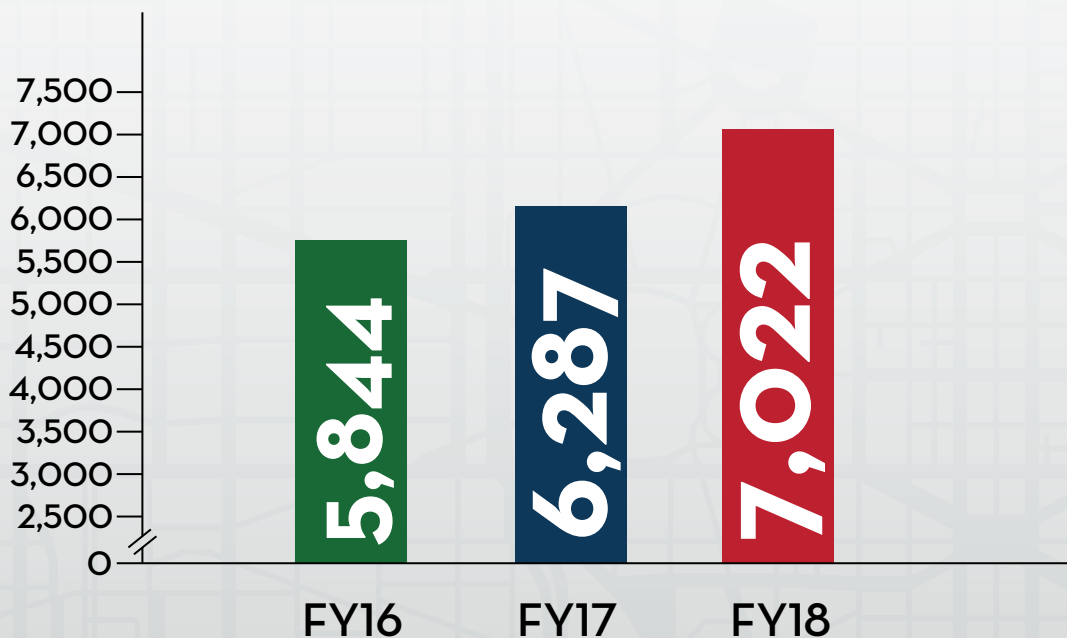


ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Throughout Fiscal Year 2018, we accomplished the following milestones:

- Implemented the Pathways to Work Driver License Initiative
- Implemented case management to provide wrap-around services to MORCA constituents
- Outreach efforts included family reunification trips, halfway house orientations, and weekly DOC outreach
- MORCA, in partnership with DOES and Georgetown University developed the Returning Citizens Paralegal Program.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED





OUTREACH

In FY18, MORCA expanded on the office’s outreach strategy through the increased frequency of family reunification trips, the development of an outreach team, the creation of a newsletter, increased media outreach efforts, reentry calendar, and innovative programming.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION TRIPS

MORCA’s Family Reunification trips allow families to maintain and strengthen relationships through visitation. Family Reunification trips are conducted once a month to different facilities where DC residents are incarcerated. These trips are meant to minimize the stressors that are compounded by the distance and separation from family. Additionally, these trips are at no cost to the family members. In FY18, over 400 family members participated in the family reunification trips.

FISCAL YEAR 2018 FAMILY REUNIFICATION TRIPS

Allenwood Federal Correctional Complex	Allenwood, Pennsylvania
Hazelton Federal Correctional Complex	Bruceton Mills, West Virginia
Rivers Correctional Institute	Winton, North Carolina
FCI Fairton	Fairton, New Jersey
FCI Fort Dix	Fort Dix, New Jersey
FCI Cumberland	Cumberland, Maryland
Hazelton Federal Correctional Complex	Bruceton Mills, West Virginia
Butner Federal Correctional Complex	Butner, North Carolina
USP Canaan	Waymart, Pennsylvania



NEWSLETTER

In FY18, MORCA continued to engage stakeholders through the office's newsletter. This publication kept 1,150+ stakeholders informed of MORCA activities and developments in the reentry community. MORCA also expanded on the office's social media presence in order to further engage stakeholders through digital platforms.



EVENTS

In FY18 MORCA participated in 135 outreach events. These events included Family Reunification trips, Ward specific outreach, tabling events and direct outreach to returning citizens. The annual events that MORCA hosts are considered the cornerstone of the office's mission.

4TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S REENTRY CONFERENCE

On November 17, 2017, MORCA hosted the 4th Annual Women's Reentry Conference. The conference empowered 80 previously incarcerated women to successfully reintegrate into their communities.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY

On December 22, 2017 MORCA hosted Holiday Party for Children with incarcerated parents. During this event, MORCA gifted 55 children with toys and books. This event was made possible by the support and assistance from the National Center for Children and Families.





5TH ANNUAL RETURNING CITIZEN FAMILY DAY COOKOUT

On July 28, 2018, MORCA hosted returning citizens and their families at the 5th Annual Returning Citizen Family Day Cookout. This event took place in partnership with the National Association for the Advancement of Returning Citizens with over 150 attendees. The purpose of the event was to foster a communal environment for children and families of formerly incarcerated individuals. This event specifically highlighted family reunification and nurtured the bond shared between formerly incarcerated District



MOTHER'S DAY GLAM EVENT

On May 12, 2018, MORCA hosted a Mother's Day Glam Event in partnership with Bennett Career Institute. The event took place at CSOSA Reentry and Sanction Center (RSC) and it included 30 women that were at RSC or residing at Fairview. This event was meant to provide women that are tethering the lines of release with a way of boosting their self-esteem and feeling great about themselves. The services included haircuts, styling, manicures and facials.





PROGRAMS

Access to programs is an important component of being able to reduce recidivism. These programs include- case management, ID vouchers, employment connections, training opportunities, pathways to work and partnerships with different organizations.

CASE MANAGEMENT

In FY18, MORCA hired two case managers to provide constituents with ongoing support with their reintegration into the community. In order to identify needs and supportive services, the case managers conducted a complete needs assessment and developed individual service plans that identify needs to connect constituents to resources to support their reintegration. In FY18, case managers created 376 case plans for constituents.

ID VOUCHER PROGRAM

Returning citizens often do not have any other form of identification other than prison and jail IDs. However, a regular form of identification, such as a Driver's license or ID card is essential to independence and livelihood. In FY18, MORCA provided 1,352 ID vouchers for returning citizens to obtain birth certificates and a social security cards, ultimately setting reentrants on the path to success.

CDL PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP & FLAGGERS CERTIFICATION

MORCA's Commercial Driving License (CDL) Class B Training and Flaggers certification programs were created to pursue the Mayor's goal of increasing pathways to the middle class for residents including, returning citizens. MORCA's CDL Partnership program with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and DCIA allowed constituents the opportunity to attend one of two training classes held monthly. In FY18, 187 individuals completed one or both trainings through MORCA.



PATHWAYS TO WORK DRIVER LICENSE INITIATIVE

MORCA fully implemented the Pathways to Work Driver License Initiative in FY18. The Pathways to Work Driver’s License Initiative eliminates barriers to employment. This program was made possible with the partnership between the Central Collection Unit (CCU) and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). In FY18, MORCA was able to provide assistance to 435 constituents.

MORCA DATA

MEASUREMENTS	FY16	FY17	FY18
Number of People Served	5,844	6,287	7,022
New Registration	3,342	2,513	2,404
Voter Registration	950	1,104	1,506
Received CDL Training	164	128	135
ID Vouchers	2,974	2,500	1,352
Flagger Certification Training	66	72	52

