



## ***Durham Local Reentry Council Minutes January 14, 2026***

### **I. Welcome:** Rasheeda Royster, LRC Coordinator

Ms. Royster began the meeting by welcoming everyone, wishing them a happy New Year, and thanking them for their time and participation.

(A raffle gift was presented)

### **II. Partner Presentations:**

#### ❖ **Formerly Incarcerated Transitions (F.I.T.) Program** – presented by Quanesha Archer, Program Manager

Ms. Archer presented the following:

- In 2017 F.I.T. started as a partnership with the University of North Carolina (UNC) in Durham (the first county to support this program). In the absence of a Medicaid expansion program at that time, recently released individuals did not have access to proper health care resources to treat their chronic illnesses. UNC supplied grant funding for F.I.T. to supply these gap services by partnering with Lincoln Community Health Center. These services are provided at Lincoln utilizing grant monies until long-term health care benefits can be obtained for this clientele.
- F.I.T. will pay for copays and prescriptions (out-of-pocket expenses) while the client is waiting for their Medicaid coverage to become effective. Once their Medicaid plan becomes active, clients are still able to utilize F.I.T. services.
- F.I.T. is established in several counties across NC: Orange, Wake, Mecklenburg, Guilford, New Hanover, Buncombe, Beaufort, and Rockingham; Forsythe, Nash, and Edgecombe counties are in the process of implementing this program.
- F.I.T. is currently staffed with two (2) members
- There are three (3) different types of F.I.T. Programs:
  1. General – connects recently released individuals who have chronic health issues with primary health care physicians.
  2. Recovery – this program is in partnership with several prisons where an individual who has a diagnosis of opioid use disorder while incarcerated can immediately receive continuity of services once released to prevent relapse.
    - The General and Recovery Programs serve clients that have been released within the past two (2) years from incarceration with a chronic illness i.e., diabetes, hypertension, congestive heart failure, high cholesterol, kidney or liver disease, mental health conditions, and substance use disorders.
    - All paperwork is completed and coordinated on the clients' behalf by F.I.T. and appointments are usually scheduled on Tuesdays.

- 3. Wellness –Orange County accepts referrals from Durham for individuals with *serious* mental illness diagnoses for psychiatric treatment. This program is funded at different levels where other resources are offered i.e. food gift cards, clothing vouchers, and hygiene products.
- Additional F.I.T. resources offered:
  - ↳ Housing support
  - ↳ Up to three (3) months of phone service
  - ↳ Free Uber (health) rides
- Since 2017 F.I.T. has serviced over 500 formerly incarcerated residents; have received 168 referrals this past fiscal year; assisted 99 (of the 168) clients connect to services; average over 100 active cases yearly; the bulk of F.I.T. referrals have come from LRC and other community partners

❖ **Jubilee Home** – presented by: Carlton Johnson, Director of Peer Navigation  
 Joshua Lyles, Jubilee Flowers Manager  
 Keith Curmon, Peer Navigator

Mr. Johnson began by stating that the Jubilee Home for men is located in the Hayti community at 404 E. Umstead Street with a 5-bed capacity house and recently opened a new home for women in the same area with a 4-bed capacity. This is transitional housing for men and women who have been released from incarceration within a 6-month period of time, however exceptions can be made regarding the time frame. Jubilee prepares formerly incarcerated individuals for reentry into society and is structured utilizing a Tier system:

- **Tier 1** – ensuring that all referred individuals have all documentation needed i.e. birth certificate, social security card etc. Also, Jubilee maintains copies of all pertinent documentation including driver’s licenses and health insurance cards in case of loss or theft.
- **Tier 2** – creating an individual living plan and helping clients reach goals based on the eight (8) dimensions of wellness. The staff’s focus is on empowering clients to succeed by writing letters of reference, providing AA meetings, and connecting them to community resources.
- **Tier 3** – actual preparation for transitioning begins i.e., assistance with obtaining permanent housing, a stable income, and ensuring that there are supportive relationships in place outside of the Jubilee environment.
  - ↳ A ‘Corrective Emotional Experience’ module is utilized to help clients who have experienced some form of trauma

❖ **Jubilee Flowers:** Joshua Lyles, Jubilee Flowers Manager

Mr. Lyles stated that Jubilee Flowers offers work experience and hands-on training in caring for a garden and other activities. Professionalism is taught and entrepreneurial mind sets and skills are provided via the Career Pathways Program. Applications for Jubilee Flowers will be accepted sometime around April for residents and non-residents.

❖ **Intake:** Keith Curmon, Peer Navigator

Mr. Curmon stated that he defines Jubilee as ‘supportive housing for individuals who are returning home from incarceration’.

Jubilee is in the process of working on an online appointment scheduler for interviews. There is a two-phase interview process in place:

1. A phone interview (which at times have been conducted directly in jails). This initial interview is a screening process to determine if the individual fits the criteria to be housed at Jubilee for the 12-month program stay offered and if Jubilee is a good fit for the individual.
  - a. The only disqualifier is if the potential client is a sex offender (due to the house's proximity to a school).
2. A second interview will be conducted by a different staff member as a check and balance mechanism to ensure compatibility.
  - a. Once the person is deemed acceptable by the team, then the intake process will take place (as described by Mr. Johnson previously). The turnaround time, at minimum is one (1) week.
  - b. There is a fee of \$175/week for the stay and services, and this can be negotiable.

**III. LRC Update: Rasheeda Royster, LRC Coordinator**

Since November there were:

- 62 referrals
- 31 intakes
- The Case Manager position has been posted January 9<sup>th</sup>
- Along with the Religious Coalition of Durham, 40 people were fed

**IV. Sub-Committee Updates: Committee Chairs**

- There will be a Supportive Services Meeting February 3, 2026 at 2pm – virtual
- There will be an Employment Subcommittee Meeting February 12, 2026 at 2pm – virtual
- There will be a Housing Subcommittee Meeting February 18, 2026 at 2pm

**V. Partner Updates: Council Members**

- Drew Driscoll stated that he is in the process of looking for another food bank

Meeting adjourned

## Attendees:

Robin Heath – JSD, Asst. Director – [rheath@dconc.gov](mailto:rheath@dconc.gov)  
Rasheeda Royster – LRC Housing Case Manager - [rroyster@dconc.gov](mailto:rroyster@dconc.gov) – 919-560-0543  
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