



## ***Durham Local Reentry Council Minutes September 17, 2025***

*\*\*\*The recording started at some point during this presentation and parts of it are inaudible\*\*\**

- I. Urban Ministries:** presented by Hahn Youngmee
- urban Ministries is open 365 days a year
  - lack of affordable housing is one of the major problems the Ministry faces
  - the need for Urban Ministry services has increased over the past five (5) years
    - ↪ the number of homeless and unsheltered individuals have doubled since 2020; approximately 560 clients have occupied the Ministry's shelter
    - ↪ transitional housing is provided for qualified individuals
    - ↪ three (3) meals are provided seven (7) days a week and are available to anyone who is need; almost 200,000 meals have been served this year thus far
    - ↪ clients have access to a resource center where they can receive support services
      - case managers work with clients during their stay in the shelter assisting them with referrals for employment, navigating justice services, obtaining transportation etc.
      - **Entry Point Durham** is a team that helps people facing homelessness in Durham County find a safe place to sleep and connect to resources. The **contact number is 984-287-8313**
  - in order to receive items from the food and clothing pantries, identification is required and individuals must be at least 18 years of age
  - the shelter provides a 30-day length of stay for men, women and families
  - extension stays are granted for those who adhere to shelter rules

? How is Urban Ministries funded?

Answer: Monies are received from the County of Durham, the City of Durham and private donations.

***Visit <https://umdurham.org> for information regarding services provided by Urban Ministries***

- ✚ Mrs. Heath presented Mr. Ontario Joyner (who is now the Program Manager for the City of Durham's Office of Survivor Care) with an appreciation plaque for his outstanding leadership of the Durham Local Reentry Council.

**II. Addressing Food Insecurities for the Justice Involved:** presented by Drew Doll, Religious Coalition for Non-Violent Durham and Quisha Mallette, NC Justice Center

Mr. Doll began by presenting the following information regarding food insecurities:

- approximately 14% (approximately 80,000) Durham residents have food insecurities
- approximately 1 out of 4 people that are released from prison are released into homelessness state-wide
- based on a study done by the UNC School of Public Health in 2023, it was discovered that justice-involved individuals experience food insecurities at a rate of 2 ½ times more than that of the general population
- the biggest challenge is putting an operational procedure in place to get food to these individuals on a continuous basis
- in North Carolina, certain types of convictions restrict reentry individuals from qualifying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and in certain cases, there is a life-time ban from becoming eligible
- What is being distributed:
  - There is a difference in providing food and supplies for someone living in transitional housing and someone living with friends and family
  - Transitional housing occupants need basic supplies i.e. pots, pans, utensils, spices etc.
  - Individuals living with friends and/or family members generally need just nutritious foods i.e. fruits, vegetables, protein etc.
- How to better coordinate the distribution:
  - A central place to house food items, as well as the basic supplies needed to prepare the food, would be ideal for efficiently distributing appropriate goods to the food insecure population. Volunteers are also needed and instrumental in efficient food distribution.
- Drew encouraged everyone to attend the next Supportive Services Meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> to participate in the coordination of the distribution of food to the food insecure population.

**III. LRC Update:**

- a. LRC Numbers - (*Inaudible*)
- b. Status of LRC Coordinator position – still in the process of hiring
- c. Subcommittee Surveys - (*Inaudible*)
- d. Client Surveys - (*Inaudible*)

**IV. Sub-Committee Updates:** Committee Chairs - (*Inaudible*)

**V. Partner Updates:** Council Members - (*Inaudible*)

Meeting adjourned

## **Attendees:**

Robin Heath – JSD, Asst. Director – [rheath@dconc.gov](mailto:rheath@dconc.gov)  
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