Durham Local Reentry Council Minutes

May 15, 2024

Ontario Joyner, LRC Coordinator, starts the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

Introductions from everyone in attendance.

Ontario introduces the house rules and the purpose of the LRC. He explains that LRC aims to make positive connections with community members to serve and provide opportunities and resources for people returning from incarceration. The LRC’s main goal is to reduce recidivism and provide ample support for justice-involved individuals in Durham. He introduces the subcommittee structure of housing, employment, and other supportive services.

**Partner Presentation**

***Durham Co. Veterans Services*** – Shawna Fuller

Veterans Services is to actively provide effective counsel to veterans and/or their family members on veterans' benefits offered by the federal, state and local government. Assistance is provided in the preparation of forms and the supporting documents necessary to file claims.

Disability Benefits

Veterans Affairs disability compensation if a disability occurred as a result of your military service. You can also apply for a disability pension if you are a wartime veteran and have limited income and cannot work. Medicare requires that you apply for VA benefits first if you are eligible.

Dependent and Survivor Benefits

For spouses, unmarried children under 18, helpless children, and low-income parents of service members: Dependency and Indemnity Compensation if the service member died on active duty or as a result of service-related disabilities (rated at 100% service connected for 10 years); Death Pensions; and VA Civilian Health and Medical Programs.

Hospital and Medical Care

Medical care from VA facilities, outpatient medical treatment, dental pharmacy and prosthetic care, care from nursing homes, domiciliary and home health care organizations. Referrals for readjustment counseling and drug and alcohol treatment are made, as appropriate.

Burial Benefits

The VSO honors our nation's deceased veterans and assists family members in applying for headstones and markers for graves, burial flags, burial expenses reimbursement and Presidential Memorial Certificates.

Education and Training

Educational benefits if you are in an approved training program. You can use your Montgomery GI Bill, Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP), Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance, Federal Employment and On-the-Job Training benefits to further your education.

Vocational Rehabilitation

Service-disabled veterans may be eligible for VA-funded special retraining in order to obtain suitable employment (may include the costs of training, monthly living expenses, counseling, and related medical and dental treatments).

Home Loans

Assistance with obtaining a VA-guaranteed loan for a home, a manufactured home, a lot or a condominium. Assistance is also available with building, repairing or improving a home (including special grants for adapting homes to accommodate special needs), and/or mortgage refinancing.

State of NC Division of Veterans Affairs

The State of North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs provides scholarships for children of certain deceased, disabled or POW/MIA veterans. NCDVA also offers employment hunting and fishing licenses, special auto license plates, certified records and other special programs. The Wake County VSO is available to help access these resources and services.

Dependents Education Assistance Program

[Dependents Education Assistance Program](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.va.gov%2feducation%2fsurvivor-dependent-benefits%2fdependents-education-assistance%2f&____isexternal=true): Chapter 35 college assistance for spouses and dependents. This can be up to $1,018 per month for a full-time student.

CHAMPVA

[CHAMPVA](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.va.gov%2fCOMMUNITYCARE%2fprograms%2fdependents%2fchampva%2findex.asp&____isexternal=true): A comprehensive health care program in which the VA shares the cost of covered health care services and supplies for eligible beneficiaries

Student Loan Discharge

[Student loan discharge](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fdisabilitydischarge.com%2f&____isexternal=true) for you (your name on the loan)

Social Security Disability Insurance

Program to expedite 100% P&T veterans (also Wounded Warriors) program:

[SSA program overview](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.ssa.gov%2fpeople%2fveterans%2f&____isexternal=true) for 100% P&T

[SSA details](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.ssa.gov%2fOP_Home%2fhallex%2fI-02%2fI-2-1-40.html&____isexternal=true) for flagging your claim as VPAT for 100% P&T for special processing

State Benefits

[State benefits](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.military.com%2fbenefits%2fveteran-state-benefits%2fstate-veterans-benefits-directory.html&____isexternal=true): These vary greatly from state to state. Summary of benefits each state and territory offers.

Commissary and Exchange Privileges

Get your [permanent military ID card](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.cac.mil%2fNext-Generation-Uniformed-Services-ID-Card%2f&____isexternal=true) to access Commissary and Exchange Privileges at a base near you. The military ID card/and or Common Access Card (CAC) you get may vary depending on if you are retired/TDRL/PDRL/Reserve/Guard, etc. Typically, if you are just 100% P&T you will get the ID card DD form 2765.

Life Insurance

[Life Insurance](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.benefits.va.gov%2finsurance%2fpdfs%2fsdvi.pdf&____isexternal=true): This may not apply to all 100% P&T veterans (this is a PDF)

Other Benefits

Specially Adapted Housing

Special Home Adaption Grant

Automobile and Adaptive Equipment

Dental Treatment

Resource Links

US Dept of Veterans Affairs: [https://www.va.gov/](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.va.gov%2f&____isexternal=true)

NC Dept of Veterans Affairs: [https://www.milvets.nc.gov/](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.milvets.nc.gov%2f&____isexternal=true)

Request DD-214, personnel, service treatment records, and metals:
[https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.archives.gov%2fveterans%2fmilitary-service-records&____isexternal=true)

eBenefits: [https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.ebenefits.va.gov%2febenefits%2fhomepage&____isexternal=true)

Military ID Cards; Online Rapids Appointments:  [https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fidco.dmdc.osd.mil%2fidco%2f&____isexternal=true)

NC Scholarships of Wartime Veterans: [https://scholarships.milvets.nc.gov/](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fscholarships.milvets.nc.gov%2f&____isexternal=true)

Resources: [https://veteransbridgehome.org/connect-to-resources/](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fveteransbridgehome.org%2fconnect-to-resources%2f&____isexternal=true)

Local Resource: [https://www.alcovets.org/](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.alcovets.org%2f&____isexternal=true)

State Veterans Cemeteries: [https://www.cem.va.gov/find-cemetery](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.cem.va.gov%2ffind-cemetery&____isexternal=true)/

ChampVA:
[https://www.va.gov/health-care/family-caregiver-benefits/champva/](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.va.gov%2fhealth-care%2ffamily-caregiver-benefits%2fchampva%2f&____isexternal=true)

Hunting and Fishing license: Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Licenses: [ncwildlife.org](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=http%3a%2f%2fncwildlife.org&____isexternal=true)

Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exclusion: [NCDVA-9 Certification of Disabled Veteran's for Property Tax Exclusion | NCDOR](https://www.dconc.gov/?splash=https%3a%2f%2fwww.ncdor.gov%2ftaxes-forms%2fproperty-tax%2fproperty-tax-forms%2fncdva-9-certification-disabled-veterans-property-tax-exclusion&____isexternal=true)

Military/Veteran’s Registration Plate Application: [MVR-33A.pdf (ncdot.gov)](https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/downloads/Documents/MVR-33A.pdf)

***UNC Horizons*** – Zakiya Stewart and Michelle Dempsey

Offering a continuum of services and evidence-based, women-centered, attachment and trauma-responsive programming to inspire women and their children to thrive.

Generating and applying scientific knowledge to improve women’s and children’s lives

Training local and international scholars and care providers to implement our cutting-edge model of life-changing care.

As a part of our funding, we are required to ensure that each pregnant woman who seeks or is referred for and would benefit from substance use disorder services is given preference in admission to our program. We also are required to give preference to treatment as follows:

Pregnant women injecting substances

Pregnant women with a substance use disorder

Individuals injecting substances

All others meeting our admission criteria

Horizons staff members are available to speak with any woman to see what level of treatment will work for her. Horizons offers both residential and outpatient services, as well as prenatal/postpartum care and psychiatry services. Click on the links below to learn more about our programs.

Services

A comprehensive, recovery-focused treatment program

Prenatal, postpartum and family planning care

Psychiatric services

Individual and group counseling

Medication to treat opioid use disorder

Employment and financial counseling

**LRC Updates:**

**LRC Client Update**:

LRC Meeting- July 17th

Housing Subcommittee meeting July 10th

Employment Subcommittee Meeting July 11th

Supportive Services Meeting July 9th

**Meeting Adjourn – Ontario Joyner**

Ontario thanked all for attending the meeting and for their services to the community. Explained the next meeting will be May 17th via zoom at 3PM Ontario adjourned the meeting at

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