



Organizational History

The Liberty County Re-Entry Coalition, Inc. (LCRC) was founded on July 31, 2012, by State Representative Al Williams, Hinesville Mayor Pro Tem Charles Frasier, Liberty County Sheriff Steve Sikes, and a group of community-minded leaders committed to strengthening public safety and improving outcomes for justice-impacted individuals. Representative Williams led the organization during its early years and continues to actively support the initiative.

In 2014, the Coalition identified community-based reentry services as a critical strategy to reduce recidivism, improve community stability, and help individuals successfully transition from incarceration to productive citizenship. Retired Lieutenant Colonel Daisy Jones was appointed to chair the Steering and Implementation Team responsible for conducting a countywide needs assessment, engaging stakeholders, and building organizational capacity for what would become the SOAR Re-Entry Center. Team members included Morris Cockerm, Michele Freaney-Washington, and Victoria Allen.

Over a 24-month planning and implementation process, the Coalition hosted monthly stakeholder meetings and conducted focus groups with formerly incarcerated and justice-impacted individuals to better understand local barriers, service gaps, and reentry needs.

The SOAR Re-Entry Center officially opened for direct services on September 14, 2016, as a community-based adult reentry program serving Liberty County and surrounding areas. Hundreds of stakeholders attended the launch of what has since become a recognized reentry model across Georgia and nationally. Liberty County was later selected as one of seventeen Georgia Prisoner Reentry Initiative sites through the Governor's Office of Transition, Support, and Reentry (GOTSR).

Although the Liberty County Re-Entry Coalition has never received direct state operational funding, the organization has sustained and expanded services through strategic partnerships, grants, in-kind support, and strong local collaboration. Key support has included the Liberty County Board of Commissioners, the Cities of Hinesville and Flemington, local agencies, faith communities, and community partners committed to second-chance success.

The SOAR Re-Entry Center has also benefited from recurring support from Rivers of Living Water Church and past financial partnerships with Live Oak Church of God, Baconton Missionary Baptist Church, and St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, reflecting broad community investment in reentry and restoration.

In 2024, the United Way of the Coastal Empire (Savannah, Georgia) selected the Liberty County Re-Entry Coalition as the regional incubator for a highly competitive Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) workforce grant initiative. This regional leadership role further affirmed LCRC's credibility, strategic capacity, and long-standing commitment to workforce development and upward mobility for justice-impacted individuals.

Today, the SOAR Re-Entry Center continues to serve as a trusted community-based reentry hub focused on stabilization, opportunity, accountability, and long-term success.

www.libertyreentry.org

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