

PROVIDING DIRECTION AND HOPE TO TRANSITIONING CLIENTS

The mission of the ECRSSA is to provide support and services to transitioning clients through an intentional network of community and faith-based organizations in partnership with the criminal justice system. Our vision is to be a county where "Transitioning Clients" (TC) are supported, empowered, and fully integrated into the community with case management support to include the support of a client mentor and faith-based community mentoring.

TCs are individuals released from federal, state or county prison returning to Erie County after serving a sentence for a criminal conviction and/or people reentering a law-abiding life from criminal/gang related network involvement through the ECRSSA Gun Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRS) Program.

Intensive Case Management (ICM) services are provided to those returning to Erie Co. from federal, state, or county incarceration. Returning to Erie Co is defined as a person who was residing in Erie County at the time of their conviction and returning upon release. Also the person ranks medium to high risk on their parole risk/needs assessment. All GVRS participants are eligible for ICM support.

- Referrals can be made by prison or parole staff using the ECRSSA Screening Referral Form.
- When a Screening Referral is received, it is reviewed and eligibility verified by the Program Manager.
- If meets ICM eligibility, a case manager is assigned who will come to the jail/prison to meet with the inmate. The case manager will contact the person who made the referral to set up an intake date and time to meet with the client. Individuals who are maxing out are also eligible.
- Those who have been out of prison for 6 months or less are also eligible if meet ICM eligibility.

We help the eligible ICM participant with <u>accessing</u> job training, employment, education, medical and/or mental health care, transportation, and housing (when the person has a sustainable income) while providing case management support during the initial twelve months of the Transitioning Client's return to the community.

If the person does not meet the criteria ICM services, we meet with the person once they are in the community and offer short-term, less intensive case management support, **Resource Coordination (RC)**, to help guide the person in accessing programming for job skills training, employment, education, medical and/or mental health care, & other community supports.

Contact information: Sheila Silman, MS Program Manager (814) 870-5408 <u>ssilman@gecac.org</u>

Curtis Lofton, BA Intake Coordinator (814) 459-4581 ext. 463 <u>clofton@gecac.org</u>



Funding provided by the United Way of Erie County and The Erie Community Foundation