

NC Office of Strategic Partnerships Monthly Connect Interagency Partnerships to Address Complex Challenges

Relevant Resources

This is a follow-up to the [NC Office of Strategic Partnerships](#) (OSP) May 2024 Monthly Connect: *Interagency Partnerships to Address Complex Challenges* ([recording](#)).

OSP regularly shares information and resources after the Monthly Connect sessions. Typically, panelists or participants shared the information and resources in the virtual “chat.” This is not intended to be a comprehensive list. More about the Monthly Connect series [here](#).

Speakers at this Monthly Connect were:

Eric W. Haddock Sr., State Re-entry Coordinator, Division of Workforce Solutions, NC Department of Commerce
Jenni Owen (moderator), Director, NC Office of Strategic Partnerships
George Pettigrew, Deputy Secretary, Division of Rehabilitation and Reentry, NC Department of Adult Correction
Ebony J. Pittman, Deputy Secretary, Business Administration, NC Department of Transportation
Dr. Betsey Tilson, State Health Director and Chief Medical Officer, NC Department of Health and Human Services
Caroline Valand, Deputy Secretary for Partnership Engagement, NC Department of Public Safety

Resources

Descriptions are in alphabetical order and paraphrased from active links as of May 23, 2024. Links are organized by agency/organization.

Executive Order No. 303

Governor Cooper signed [Executive Order No. 303](#) to establish a unified approach to improving education, rehabilitation, and reentry services for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people in NC. The Order charged all Cabinet agencies with coordinating to develop a multi-agency Strategic Plan for [Reentry 2030](#).

NC Association of Workforce Development Boards ([NCAWDB](#))

The NCAWDB is dedicated to enhancing North Carolina’s labor force by supporting local workforce development boards, as well as helping advance the needs of workers and employers statewide.

NC Department of Adult Correction ([NCDAC](#))

NCDAC is a Cabinet agency whose mission is to protect the public by collaboratively focusing on rehabilitation, protection, innovation, accountability, and professionalism.

- The [Division of Rehabilitation and Reentry](#) oversees an array of reentry programs and rehabilitation services to support people in prison or under community supervision. The Division promotes the use of evidence-based practices, reduce recidivism, and cultivate collaborative reentry partnerships statewide through educational and vocational program assignments that increase self-sufficiency and employability, such as work release and apprenticeships. The Division also coordinates reentry simulations. For more information, contact Lateisha Thrash, Director of Reentry Services, Lateisha.thrash@dac.nc.gov.
- OSP and NCDAC partnered on a project to develop NCDAC’s Priority Questions Research Agenda: [Where and how does NCDAC need to develop more rigorous research and evidence for leadership, managers, and front-line staff to inform decisions about the agency’s program, policies, and operations over the next two years?](#)
- The State Reentry Council Collaborative ([SRCC](#)) was established by the NC General Assembly and Governor Roy Cooper. The SRCC is a cross representation of government, law enforcement, advocacy, faith-based, and judicial entities charged with studying the needs of formerly incarcerated individuals and increasing the effectiveness of local reentry councils.

- North Carolina has 17 [local reentry councils](#) that serve justice-involved individuals in 19 counties. Typical services include assistance with housing, employment, transportation, substance abuse, obtaining personal documentation, and other basic needs.

NC Department of Commerce (NC Commerce)

NC Commerce works closely with local, regional, national, and international organizations to propel economic, community, and workforce development for the state.

- The Division of Workforce Solutions ([DWS](#)) helps people find jobs and employers find qualified talent to make their businesses thrive. DWS accomplishes this through a statewide system of workforce programs that offer various services.
 - As part of his NC Job Ready Initiative, Governor Cooper recently announced the [NCWorks Local Innovation Fund reentry grant opportunity](#) to support local efforts to address workforce challenges for formerly incarcerated individuals. DWS will help to administer the fund.

NC Department of Public Safety (NCDPS)

NCDPS is charged with providing public safety services through safeguarding and preserving the lives and property of the people of North Carolina by means of preparation, prevention, and protection.

- The statewide [Office of Violence Prevention](#) supports a public health approach to the reduction of violence and firearm misuse in NC. Governor Roy Cooper established the Office of Violence Prevention in March 2023 through [Executive Order No. 279](#).
- NC Secure All Firearms Effectively ([NC S.A.F.E.](#)) is a statewide initiative to raise awareness about the importance of safe firearm storage by providing resources and information about best practices.

NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT)

NCDOT connects people, products, and places safely and efficiently by making transportation safer, maintaining infrastructure, and improving the reliability and connectivity of the transportation system.

- The [Office of Civil Rights](#) promotes and ensures equal access and equal opportunity for customers and employees participating in NC transportation programs that receive federal and/or state funding.
 - The [On-the-Job Training Program](#) provides workplace training focused on the skills, knowledge, and competencies an employee needs for a specific job. It was created for minorities, women, and other historically underrepresented populations in highway construction-skilled professions.
- The [Office of Historically Black Colleges and Universities \(HBCU\) Outreach Program](#) educates the public and builds strategic alliances that support NCDOT's commitment to creating an inclusive and diverse workforce through its engagement with HBCU and minority serving institutions. If you have questions, email Christy Dunston, Director of the Office of HBCU Outreach, csdunston1@ncdot.gov.

NC Office of Strategic Partnerships (OSP)

OSP develops, launches, and enhances partnerships between state government and North Carolina's research and philanthropic sectors. This includes elevating state government's internal capacity to use and generate evidence in its policy and programmatic functions. As part of this work, OSP has created numerous resources about cross-sector partnerships. If you have questions about OSP or want to connect, email partnerships@osbm.nc.gov.

- [North Carolina Project Portal](#): A tool for sharing state agency research needs and for people to express interest in partnering on those opportunities.
- OSP [Monthly Connect](#): A series of virtual and in-person panel discussions on topics relevant to partnerships among state government, research institutions, philanthropy, and others. To subscribe to the OSP Highlights e-newsletter and receive future Monthly Connect invitations, click [here](#).

[StepUp Ministry](#)

StepUp Ministry is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide pathways for the people of Wake County to overcome barriers through employment and life skills training.