



# Barriers to Reentry

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# What is Reentry?

## Why is it important?

- Reentry refers to the transition of offenders from prisons or jails back into the community.
- 95% of those incarcerated will someday become our neighbors
- Reentry & Institutionalization

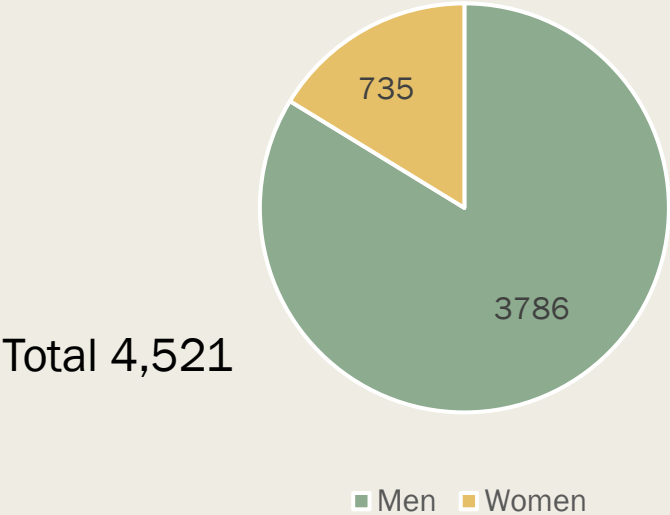


# NYS and Local Statistics

Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS)

- In 2022, Spectrum Health and Human Services' reentry program enrolled 304 individuals who were released on parole supervision

Released from incarceration  
- Erie County 2022



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# Phrases to Avoid

- Inmate
- Felon
- Ex-convict
- Ex-offender
- Criminal
- Prisoner

# Phrases to Use

- Incarcerated individual
- Returning citizen
- Justice involved person
- Person in jail
- Person in prison
- Formerly incarcerated

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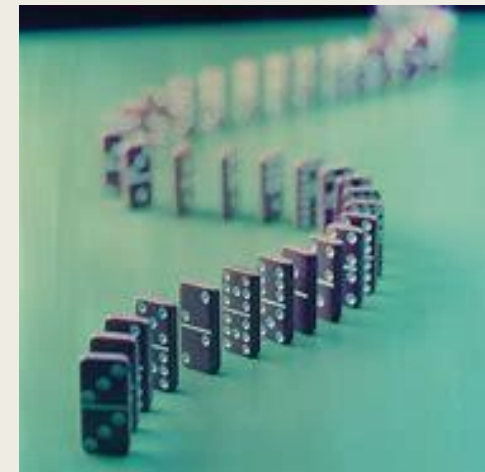
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# Barriers

- Housing
- Employment
- Identification
- Accessing and reactivating benefits (health and public)
- Long wait times for mental health, substance use and medical appointments
- Stigma
- Access to higher education
- Transportation
- Supervision (probation/parole)
- Social isolation
- Lack of family support
- Computer literacy
- Food insecurity
- Lack of Mental Health, Substance Use and medical care/follow up





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# A light of hope?

- Although the U.S. remains a world leader in imprisonment, The Sentencing Project reports that nine states have been successful in decreasing their incarcerated population by more than 30% in recent years as a result of policy reforms and reduced prison admissions and lengths of stay. These states include Alaska, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Alabama, Rhode Island, Vermont, Hawaii and California.
- Clean Slate Act, Less is More Act
- Erie County Reentry Services:
  - *Project Blue*
  - *Service Link Stop*
  - *Erie County Reentry Task Force Program*
  - *MAT Program*
  - *Erie County Reentry Coalition*

# What can you do as a provider?

- Listen
- Learn
- Educate
- Be Open
- Second Chances
- Provide resources

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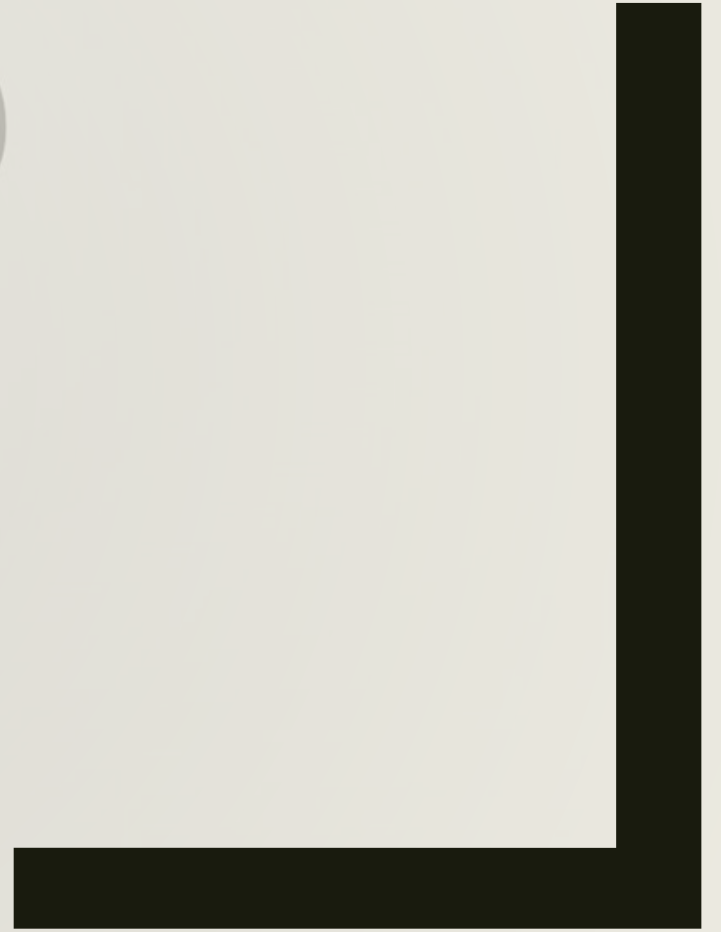
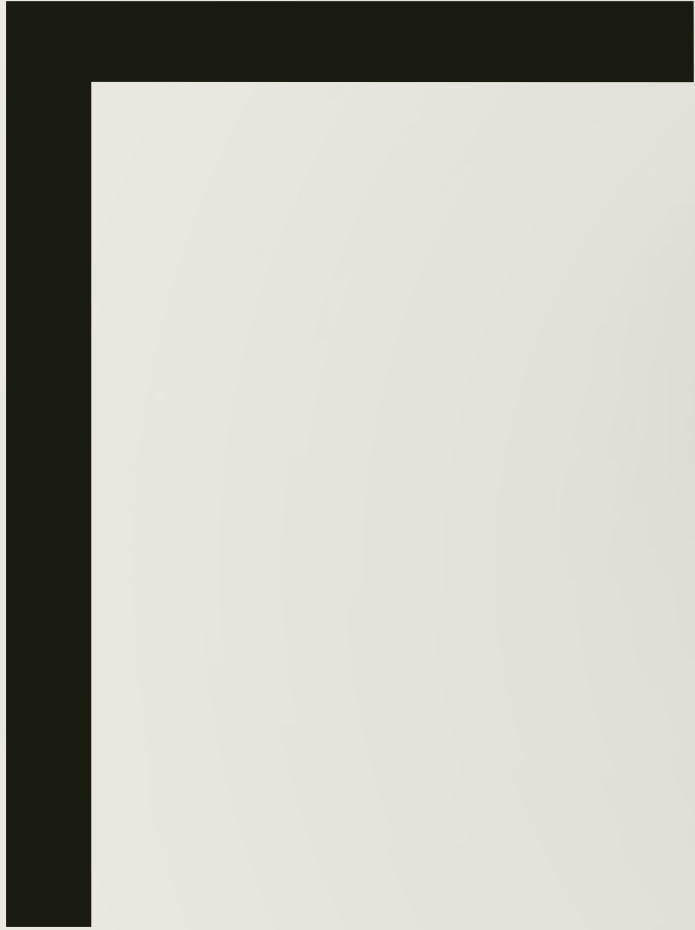
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Q&A



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Videos: [Brooks Was Here - Hanging Scene - The Shawshank Redemption \(1994\) - Movie Clip HD Scene - YouTube](#)

[WATCH: 'Searching for Justice: Life After Lockup,' a PBS NewsHour special report | PBS NewsHour](#)