



March 9, 2012

John Dickert
And Common Council
Racine, WI 53403

Your Honor and Aldermen:

I respectfully request to appear before the finance and personnel committee to discuss our request to apply for the Second Chance Act Adult Offender Reentry Program for Planning and Demonstration 2012 Grant Announcement through the US Department of Justice. Last fall we received the Planning grant and this current grant will be for implementation. The grant control number is 2012-007.

We are applying for the implementation grant for up to \$750,000 that will support the Community Re-Entry Program and the community's efforts to build a comprehensive community re-entry program. The Community Re-Entry Program (CRP), a program of Racine Vocational Ministry, strives to reduce crime and recidivism and to help make our neighborhoods safer. It is designed to assist previously incarcerated individuals to become self-sufficient as they transition back into the community. The criteria for the Department of Corrections-referred participants is that they have served sentences in state or federal penitentiaries for crimes related to gangs, drugs, or guns and are released into Racine COP House neighborhoods. CRP offers support and provides a network of social, economic, educational and faith-based opportunities to participants and their families. This is possible through strong partnerships with community organizations and local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

Program outcomes include:

1. Individuals gain job readiness skills for employability
2. Individuals secure employment
3. Individuals improve earnings or levels of employment
4. Individuals improve job seeking skills
5. Reduction in crime in the Community Oriented Policing (COP) neighborhoods.
6. Reduction in the recidivism rate.

There is a 50% in-kind and cash match for this grant, however the cash requirement can be waived by the Attorney General for municipalities that are facing hardship.

Sincerely,

Deborah L. Embry, Grant Facilitator