

Reentry Part II: Getting Back to Work Episode Guide

Focus: Helping formerly incarcerated Black men navigate the workforce

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Key Findings

- There are major barriers that formerly incarcerated men face when they leave prison, and when seeking employment
- There are not many resources, organizations, and services that are focused on reentry
- Re-entry takes time
 - Services should cater to how long it actually takes individuals to become acclimated
- As the individual looking for the job, there is a great deal of time and waiting between when services are available and when they need the services
- One of the challenges is the effect of that traumatic experience in many ways of being incarcerated and then being immediately thrust back into the community and expected not only to, "act accordingly", but also survive while you are waiting on these services that may take weeks or months
- Formerly incarcerated individuals may become deterred by job propositions because they will have to answer to address their past conviction

Key Recommendations

- Listen to formerly incarcerated men and let them share their stories
- Encourage rapport among community of formerly incarcerated people
- Patience with oneself is key

Resources

- New York City Small Business Services Workforce1 Centers: <https://maps.nyc.gov/sbs/>
- CASES Reentry Services: <https://www.cases.org/reentry-services/>