

Resource Guide



NEWARK FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

NJ State Library
An affiliate of Thomas Edison State University



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THE FRESH START @ YOUR LIBRARY PROGRAM

Citizens returning to communities from incarceration face numerous challenges to reconnecting with community resources after release. In response to these challenges and between 2019-2021, the New Jersey State Library, an affiliate of Thomas Edison State University, operated *Reconnecting Returning Citizens with their Communities at Public Libraries* (later renamed Fresh Start @ Your Library). The program was built on a solid service model developed and implemented by New Jersey's Long Branch Public Library, the original Fresh Start @ Your Library location. A collaborative project, it brings together library staff, the New Jersey State Parole Board, local Reentry Task Forces, local nonprofits, government agencies and businesses to address the needs of returning citizens.

Project staff provided assistance to returning citizens in pursuing educational goals and in job search and application at six public library locations in New Jersey. This **Resource Guide** grew out of the implementation of *Reconnecting Returning Citizens*; it offers housing, clothing and food support resources together with valuable information on how to utilize the resources.

The project was supported in part by a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services with in-kind contributions from eight library partners, the New Jersey State Parole Board, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The program owes its success to the finely tuned model developed by the Long Branch Public Library.

NEWARK FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

ONLINE

REENTRY INFORMATION & RESOURCES

[http://nplwebguides.pbworks.com/w/page/135163539/Prisoner Re-Entry](http://nplwebguides.pbworks.com/w/page/135163539/Prisoner+Re-Entry)

This is a collection of resources, services, and organizations in the Newark-area that meet the needs of formerly incarcerated people and their families.

IN PERSON

FREE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES: Classes are offered at the Van Buren Branch and Main Library, Monday – Friday 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. For more information, call 973-481-4713.

FREE ADULT LEARNING HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PREPARATION: work to prepare for the: Math, Science, Writing, Reading and Social Studies portions of your HSE test. *Diverse learners are encouraged to register. We will review basic skills and advanced skills so you are prepared to successfully take your HSE test. For more information, contact Nashima, nharvey@npl.org or call (973) 733-7784.



GENERAL SUPPORT

1-877-652-1148 | NJ211.org

Text your zip code to 898211

This database has over 10,000 LOCAL programs and services that are available to you.

This site will help to see if you're eligible for food assistance (SNAP), cash assistance (WFNJ/TANF or WFNJ/GA), and health insurance (Medicaid/NJ Family Care). See below for information about applying for each of these programs. njhelps.org



VISIT YOUR LOCAL FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER

Cost: \$0

What to bring: Identification

Where to go:

FOCUS Family Success Center
441-443 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-624-2528 ext. 114

LaCasa's Family Success Center I
23 Broadway
Newark, NJ 07104
Phone: 973-483-2703 ext. 2218

Weequahic Family Success
1065 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-639-7633

Ironbound Community Corporation Family Success Center - Cortland Street
29-31 Cortland Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: 973-344-5949 ext. 201

LaCasa's Family Success
282 First Avenue
Newark, NJ 07107
Phone: 973-482-9002

Ironbound Community Corporation Family Success Center - Elm Street
317 Elm Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: 973-465-0555 ext. 202

The North Ward Center
286 Mt. Prospect Avenue
Newark, NJ 07104
Phone: 973-485-5723

What they offer:

- Access to information on child, maternal, and family health services, economic self-sufficiency, and job readiness
- Housing services
- Parent education
- Parent-child activities
- Advocacy
- Information and referral services
- Life skills training

IDENTIFICATION

SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

Cost: \$0

What to bring: identification (release papers or temporary I.D.)

Where to go:

Social Security Administration
970 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102

or

247 Springfield Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 1-800-772-1213

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and
Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Website: www.ssa.gov/replace_sscard.html

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Cost: \$25

What to bring: photo identification (release papers ok); names of both parents, including mother's maiden name; clear photocopy of your I.D.

Where to go:

Borough Hall
31 Green Street, Room 312
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-733-6520

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Website: <http://www.vitalchek.com>

(City of Newark uses an outside company to process birth certificate requests online)

CERTIFICATE OF NATURALIZATION OR CITIZENSHIP

Cost: \$0

What to bring: completed Form N-565

Where to go:

US Citizenship & Immigration Service

970 Broad Street

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-220-0770 or National Hotline: 800-375-5283

GREEN CARD/ALIEN REGISTRATION CARD

Cost: \$290 for green card replacement

What to bring: completed I-90 Form

Where to go:

US Citizenship & Immigration Service

970 Broad Street

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-220-0770

Hours: Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Before going to immigration, if you have any questions of your citizenship status, call Legal Services of New Jersey at 1-888-576-5529.

DRIVER'S LICENSE

Request copy of driving record (Abstract) www.state.nj.us.mvc

Cost: \$15 abstract; \$11 license replacement fee; \$100 license restoration fee

What to bring: birth certificate, passport or current license **and** two other forms of identification, including: social security card, bank statement, ATM card, expired license, veteran affairs photo I.D.

Where to go:

228 Frelinghuysen Avenue

Newark, NJ 07114

Hours: Agency, driver testing hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Suspension/Restoration Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Inspection Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

What they offer: driver conferences, driver records (issuances and inquiries), points and surcharge inquiries, suspensions and restorations.

MVC suspension and restoration hotlines for any questions: 609-292-7500.

<https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/license/suspension.htm>

VETERANS' SERVICES

MILITARY DISCHARGE PAPERS & VETERAN'S BENEFITS

To request personnel records, visit: www.vetrecs.archives.gov

Cost: \$0

What to bring: Completed Form SF-180

Where to go:

**Veterans Benefit Administration &
Essex County Veterans Service Office**
20 Washington Place, 3rd Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-297-3336
Regional Office: 973-645-1441

Main Records Depository NPRC
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

To request personnel records, visit: www.vetrecs.archives.gov

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

What they offer: assistance requesting discharge papers and records; information about VA health care and memorial benefits

Hours: Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

GI Go Fund Transition Center

1 Gateway Center, Suite 120
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 866-389-4446

What they offer: assistance securing benefits and employment

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

VISIT YOUR ONE-STOP CAREER CENTER

Cost: \$0

What to Bring: list of education, work and volunteer experience or resume draft

Where to go:

90 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-648-3370

Fax: 973-648-4489

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

What they offer: job search assistance, training and education assistance, and on-site resource rooms

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

Essex County WAVE Shuttle - free shuttle service to agencies in the Greater Newark Area that provide work training and work assistance. Shuttles operate Monday – Friday 7:40 a.m. - 4:35 p.m., EZride.org/wave

VISIT POPULAR JOB SEARCH WEBSITES

- Indeed: www.indeed.com
- Monster: www.monster.com
- Google Careers: <https://careers.google.com/jobs>

National H.I.R.E. (Helping Individuals with Criminal Records Reenter through Employment)

Network: www.hirenetwork.org

- State and local community resources
- Information on improving your employment prospects
- Updates on laws and practices that affect you

* You must register on their website for a free membership to access many of the resources.

70 Million Jobs: <https://www.70millionjobs.com/>

This site was created by a formerly incarcerated person to help returning citizens find jobs.

- Job listings
- Resume help
- Apply for jobs directly through site

Help for Felons: <https://helpforfelons.org/temp-agencies-that-hire-felons>

Listings of employers who have a history of hiring people with criminal records

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Essex County Business Resource Guide

This guide includes the contact information for agencies and organizations that are focused on helping people start and grow small businesses. <https://ucedc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/ESSEX-COUNTY.pdf>

BANKING

OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT OR PREPAID DEBT ACCOUNT

Cost: \$0

What to Bring: Picture I.D., proof of address, birth certificate, and a social security card.

Where to go: Any local bank. Below are banks that have special accounts that might appeal to returning citizens.

PREPAID DEBIT ACCOUNTS (no credit check required):

- Bluebird: <https://bluebird.com>
- Chime: <http://chimebank.com>
- Walmart Money Card Visa: <https://walmartmoneycard.com>

BANK OF AMERICA - SAFE BALANCE BANKING® ACCOUNT

- Open account with \$25
- \$4.95 monthly service fee
- No overdraft fees
- No check writing privilege

TD BANK - TD SIMPLE CHECKING

- No minimum deposit to open
- No minimum balance
- \$5.99 monthly service fee

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Cost: \$0

What to bring: varies by location, but most request photo I.D.

Where to go:

First Hopewell Baptist Church

525 Orange Street, Newark NJ

Phone: 973-485-8100

Food Pantry: Wednesday

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Feeding Program: Saturday

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Saint John's RC

22 Mulberry Street

Newark, NJ

Phone: 973-623-0822

Meals served Tues. – Sat.,

Breakfast –

Women: 7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

Males: 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Lunch –

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Bethany Baptist Church Food Pantry & Clothes Closet

275 West Market Street

Newark, NJ 07103

973-623-8161

Salvation Army

699 Springfield Avenue,
Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 973-375-5933

Food Pantry: Friday

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Salvation Army

430 Main Street

East Orange, NJ 07018

Phone: 973-672-0262

Food Pantry:

Tuesday – Thursday

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Emergency Food Program:

Tuesday – Friday

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Soup Kitchen: 15th of the month through the end of the month 11:30 a.m. – 1:00pm

Agape Soup Kitchen

555 Martin Luther King Blvd

Newark, NJ 07103

Saint James Social Services Corp.

604 Martin Luther King

Boulevard, Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-624-4007

Soup kitchen is open Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Food Pantry is open Monday – Friday, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Clothing distribution occurs on the third and fifth Saturdays of each month.

New Community Corporation Emergency Food Pantry

220 Bruce Street

Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 973-623-6114

16th of every month from

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mondays and Thursdays,
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Referrals only for the food pantry.

Blessed Sacrament

610 Clinton Avenue
Newark, NJ 07108

Phone: 973-824-6548

3rd & 4th Tuesday of the month
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Phone: 973-622-2100

Kitchen: Monday – Friday,
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and
Tues. 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Pantry:

Wed. 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**FOCUS Hispanic Center for
Community Development**

441-443 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102

973-624-2528 ext. 112

Monday, Wednesday, and
Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**North Jersey Community
Research Initiative**

393 Central Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 866-448-5812

Website: njcri@njcri.org

**United Community
Corporation**

332 S. Eighth Street
Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 973-642-0181

Tuesday and Thursday 10:00
a.m. – 3:00 pm.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

NJ HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER

<https://www.state.nj.us/njhrc>

Find rentals, temporary housing, and homes for sale

Cost: \$0

What to Bring: identification

Where to go:

TEMPORARY HOUSING

Men (single)

Goodwill Rescue Mission
79 University Avenue
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-621-9560

Email: info@grmnewark.org

Women & Children

Apostles House
24 Grant Street
Newark, NJ 07104

Phone: 973-482-6609/

973-482-0625

**Salvation Army Cornerstone
House**

13 Trinity Place
Montclair, NJ 07042

Phone: 973-744-3312

Men & Women (single)

Urban Renewal Corporation
53 South Hackensack Avenue
Kearny, NJ 07032

Phone: 973-522-0544

Women & Children

Isaiah House
238 North Munn Avenue
East Orange, NJ 07108

Phone: 973-678-5882

**American Rescue Workers
Mission**

77 Bruen Street
Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 973-344-3450

Men & Women (single)

United Community Corporation
31 Fulton Street, Newark NJ

Phone: 973-642-0181

Men, Women & Children

Lighthouse Community
Services

487 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-802-1802

RENT & HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Newark Housing Assistance

920 Broad Street, #402
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-733-8400

Newark Housing Authority

500 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-273-6000

Urban Renewal Corp.

53 South Hackensack Avenue
Kearny, NJ 07032
Phone: 973-522-0544

HEALTHCARE

APPLY FOR TANF/SNAP/GA OR MEDICAID

Cost: \$0

What to Bring: photo I.D., social security number, proof of any income, proof residence, proof of financial resources (bank statement, credit card statement, etc.), Visa, green card or immigration papers if you are not a citizen.

Where to go: Essex County Dept. of Citizen Services Division of Welfare

Newark Office
18 Rector Street – 9th Floor, Suite 3100
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-733-3325
Fax: 973-504-9316

East Orange Office
50 South Clinton Avenue, Suite 5400
East Orange, NJ 07018
Phone: 973-395-8400
Fax: 973-395-8493

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

What they offer: debit cards to purchase food, cash assistance for eligible adults & families, Medicaid enrollment

*If you were convicted of an offense involving distribution or sale of drugs after August 22, 1996, you cannot receive cash benefits under GA or TANF.

HEALTHCARE MARKETPLACE

If you are not eligible for Medicaid, visit the Healthcare Marketplace to find affordable health insurance options.

Phone: 1-800-318-2596

Website: www.healthcare.gov

MEDICAL & DENTAL CARE

First Choice Women's Resource Center

35 Halsey Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-856-6658

First Health Urgent & Primary Care

393 Mulberry Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-645-1555

Newark Community Health Center

101 Ludlow Street
Newark, NJ 07114
Hours: Monday and Wednesday
9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.,
Tuesday and Thursday – Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

741 Broadway
Newark, NJ 07104
Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.,
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.,
Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

751 Broadway
Newark, NJ 07104
Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.,
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.,
Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Planned Parenthood

Chubb Center
151 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-622-3900

Ironbound Center
70 Adams Street, Suite 13
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: 973-465-7707

The Family Health Center Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

66 Lyons Avenue
Newark, NJ 07112
Phone: 973-926-7300

Rutgers Medical School Student Family Health Center

90 Bergen Street, #4400
Newark, NJ 07103
Phone: 973-972-3764

MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE

ReachNJ: 844-732-2465

24/7 helpline for New Jersey residents affected by a substance abuse addiction

Bethel Counseling Services

63-65 Pierce Street
Newark, NJ 07103
Phone: 973-643-6565

Newark Renaissance House (Women)

62-80 Norfolk Street
Newark, NJ 07103
Phone: 973-623-3386

Integrity House

26-28 Longworth Street
Newark, NJ 07102

Intake: 973-848-3751

Main Phone: 973-623-0600

Restoration Center

300 S 12th Street
Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 973-622-4934

Lennard Clinic

461 Frelinghuysen Ave
Newark, NJ 07114

Phone: 973-596-2850, ext. 200

New Directions Behavioral Health

9 Lincoln Park
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-242-6599

Rutgers University Behavioral HealthCare – Newark

183 S Orange Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 973-972-5430

Project Live, Inc.

465-475 Broadway
Newark, NJ 07104

Phone: 973-481-0195

University Behavioral Healthcare

150 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ 07101

Hotline: 973-623-2323

Catholic Charities Behavioral Health

56 Freeman St
Newark, NJ 07105

Phone: 973-596-4190

EDUCATION & TRAINING

HIGHER EDUCATION

Essex County College

303 University Avenue
Newark NJ 07102

Phone: 973-877-3000

What they offer: Free tuition to earn an associate's degree for eligible students via the Community College Opportunity Grant

New Jersey Institute of Technology

150 Bleeker Street
Newark NJ 07102

Phone: 973-596-3000

Rutgers University-Newark

190 University Avenue
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-353-5205

Thomas Edison State University (TESU)

111 W. State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608

Phone: 609-777-5680

What they offer: Earn a bachelor's or master's degree through online or distance learning.

JOB TRAINING

NPower

33 Washington Street, Suite 801
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 201-433-1600

What they offer: residents, ages 18 through 25, can learn basic IT skills to offer technical support

New Community Career and Technical Institute

274 South Orange Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103

Phone: 973-824-6484

What they offer: Health Care Careers, Building Trades Specialist Program, Culinary Arts Specialist Program, Automotive Technician

Urban League of Essex County

508 Central Avenue
Newark, NJ 07107

Phone: 973-624-9535 ext. 294

What they offer: skilled training programs, job readiness workshops, case management

Newark Business Training Institute

346 Mt Prospect Avenue
Newark, NJ 07104

Phone: 973-481-0415

What they offer: Adult Occupational Training: Business, Legal & Medical Office Skills, Basic Education and ESL

Program, Diesel Technician Program, Business and Computer Technologies

Essex County One-Stop Center

990 Broad Street

Newark, New Jersey 07102

Phone: 973-648-3370

What they offer: job training, re-employment orientation, ESL classes, resume help

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Newark Reentry Legal Service (ReLeSe)

920 Broad Street, Room 113

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-878-3874

Essex Newark Legal Services

5 Commerce Street, 2nd Floor

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-624-4500

Seton Hall Law School

Center for Social Justice

833 McCarter Highway

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-642-8700 or 973-761-9000 ext. 8700

Email: csj_reception@shu.edu

Essex County Legal Aid Association

465 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Room 118

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-622-0063

REENTRY SERVICES

New Jersey Reentry Corporation

Greater Newark Conservancy

32 Prince Street, Newark, NJ

Phone: 551-256-7879

Newark Reentry Initiative

City of Newark's Office of Reentry

920 Broad Street, Room 113, Newark, NJ

Phone: 973-733-3747

YOUR CHECKLIST FOR A FRESH START

	I DON'T NEED IT	I NEED IT	I HAVE IT
Email Account			
Social Security Card			
Birth Certificate			
Driver's License or State ID			
Green Card			
Military Discharge Papers			
Bank Account			
SNAP/TANF/GA			
Employment			
Health Insurance			
Housing			
Planner or Calendar App			
Library Card			
High School Diploma/GED			