WORC: WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RETURNING CITIZENS

The KC Chamber Believes that the criminal justice system and business community have a mutual interest in lowering recidivism rates and to help returning citizens fully integrate back into society.



Convene

The KC Chamber will convene metro area partners serving clients with prior convictions and the region's business community to promote fair-chance hiring and hire returning citizens.



Educate

Identify, educate & recruit companies to implement fair-chance hiring policies and develop support systems for returning citizens and individuals with a criminal record.



Collaborate

The KC Chamber will partner with KC Common Good and other community stakeholders to promote best practices for hiring justice-involved individuals, and to create an standardized "work ready" (soft skills) certification that will help streamline the hiring process.



Advocate

The KC Chamber will advocate for comprehensive and responsible criminal justice reform policies at the local, state and national level that delivers on rehabilitative and businessfriendly values.



WORC PARTNERSHIP MODEL







Business Training and Mentoring

WORC is open for all KC Chamber members. Members can join the initiative by self-selecting to participate. Upon joining, members mayt participate in educational programming and networking events coordinated by Chamber staff and have access to connections to non-profit and employment partners.

Employer Education Workshops

KC Chamber members will learn best practices from employers already engaged in hiring justice involved individuals, meet with probation and parole officers, learn about insurance, liability and tax credits, and hear from a returning citizens round table.

Returning Citizens Workforce Pipeline and Support

Through the KC Chamber's partnership with area non-profits, employers will have access to a talent pool of "ready to work" employees with the support of wrap-around services. Our partner nonprofit agencies have proven records in the Kansas City area as organizations who have successfully helped returning citizens re-acclimate to society upon release through mentorships, support groups, and educational programming.

Next Steps

If you would like to learn more information or join this initiative, please contact:

