

MEDIA/CALENDAR ADVISORY

For Wednesday-Friday, October 5-7, 2022

Reentry Summit 2022: Creating Change, Inspiring Hope

Breaking down barriers for life after incarceration.

WHAT:

Nationally, over 95 percent of people who are sentenced to prison or jail will return back to the community. The Palm Beach County Reentry Task Force is hosting the 2nd biennial Reentry Summit from Wednesday, October 5 through Friday, October 7, 2022, at the Hilton Palm Beach Airport to help people understand the challenges and impacts of reentry into society after incarceration.

[Reentry Summit Palm Beach County](#) is a grassroots initiative to bring together people from across the nation to educate, advocate, collaborate, and innovate in support of the collective work of breaking down barriers for people who are creating a new life after incarceration.

The three-day summit includes [67 speakers](#) from across the nation, including keynote addresses from four inspirational speakers: Saul Paul, Musician with a Message; Stephanie Taylor-Thompson, Field Director - Prison Fellowship; David L. Garlock, Formerly Incarcerated Criminal Justice Reform Advocate & Reentry Expert; and Jayson Williams, former NBA All-Star and Owner of Rebound Holistic Care.

Workshops and breakout sessions will address a variety of topics including: integration of peer specialists, behavioral health care, housing, employment, creating a reentry system, cultural competency, gender responsiveness, evidence based practices, juvenile services, veteran-specific initiatives and many more related topics. Speakers and attendees will share best practices and identify opportunities to collaborate on reentry solutions and programs.

Tickets to attend the three-day event cost \$325 and include a cocktail reception Wednesday evening and breakfast and lunch on Thursday and Friday. For more information or to register, visit: reentrysummitpbc.com.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

The Reentry Summit is open to anyone who is passionate about reentry and improving reentry efforts, including: community leaders, government officials, non-profits, policy makers, correctional professionals, law enforcement personnel, legal services, foundations,

YOUR MISSION IS OUR MISSION

philanthropists, academia, students, businesses, health care professionals, faith based entities, human resources professionals, returning residents and families, and others interested in reentry services.

VISUALS:

More than 300 people from across the country gathered together and engaged in conversation and advocacy for system reform related to reentry after incarceration and reducing recidivism.

Palm Beach County Reentry Task Force committee members and advisory members and keynote speakers will be available for interviews.

WHEN:

Wednesday, October 5 - Friday, October 7, 2022

WHERE:

Hilton Palm Beach Airport
150 Australian Ave, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

COST:

\$325/person

(Includes: cocktail reception on Wednesday; breakfast and lunch Thursday and Friday).

REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://thelordsplace.org/reentry-summit-palm-beach-county/>

WHY:

The reentry movement is at a crucial point throughout the nation – over the past few years, significant progress has been achieved in the field nationally, but there are still critical challenges that need to be addressed so that outcomes continue to improve.

The United States accounts for five percent of the world's population but houses 25 percent of the world's prison population. It costs taxpayers \$18,000 per year to house one adult in the Florida Department of Corrections, \$48,910 per year in the local jail, and \$81,395 per year to house one youth in the Department of Juvenile Justice facilities. People with a criminal history are faced with various obstacles in order to successfully reintegrate back into society, such as finding employment, housing, substance use treatment, and mental health treatment.

Nationally, over 95 percent of people who are sentenced to prison or jail will return back to the community. About two-thirds of these individuals are estimated to be re-arrested within three years. In PBC, about 1,200 adults are released from prison annually and about 120 youth are released from residential commitment facilities annually.

The purpose of the PBC reentry system is to provide various services to returning residents



(adults and youth) who are transitioning back to the community after a period of incarceration in jail or prison. This includes case management and client support services. Case management includes conducting validated risk and needs assessments, using motivational interviewing skills, and holding one-on-one meetings with reentry participants. Client support services include cognitive behavioral programming, pro-social activities, substance use treatment, mental health treatment, housing, employment, family reunification counseling, educational classes, and vocational training for reentry participants.

While PBC's reentry system is data-driven and uses evidence-based practices to inform systems-level changes, more work needs to be done to reduce recidivism and increase successful outcomes for reentry.

This summit will bring people from across the nation to network, share best practices, exchange ideas, and advocate for systemic reform.

SUMMIT PARTNERSHIPS:

Presented by Palm Beach County's Nationally Recognized Reentry Collaborative.

Co-chaired by: Florida Atlantic University's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice and the Palm Beach County Public Defender's Office

Community partners include: Palm Beach County Department of Public Safety, Florida Atlantic University, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Public Defender's Office – 15th Judicial Circuit, Palm Beach County School District, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, National Association of Mental Illness, Palm Beach State College, Gulfstream Goodwill Industries, Florida Department of Corrections, Riviera Beach Justice Service Center, Matthew 25 Ministries, CareerSource, Plunk Designs, Wordsmith Communications, and Phyllis and Harvey Sandler School of Social Work.

Sponsors include: Harcourt M. & Virginia W. Sylvester Foundation; The Lord's Place; Palm Beach County; The Geo Group.

ABOUT THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

SaulPaul, Musician with a Message

SaulPaul is a GRAMMY Nominated Musician with a Message. He has had two #1 songs on Sirius XM as well as a Top 5 & Top 15 album on iTunes. He has also presented 3 TEDx Talks, performed at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, and has been featured on America's Got Talent. His life story of transitioning from tragedy to triumph has been told on screen via the documentary Tower to Tower as well as via his memoir Be The Change. Most recently, SaulPaul founded Change Water, a beverage company that donates to the local community with each case of water sold. Whether via art, entrepreneurship, or community service, SaulPaul is committed to #BeTheChange.



Stephanie Taylor-Thompson, Field Director - Prison Fellowship Idaho & Montana

Stephanie Taylor-Thompson is a 38-year-old resident of Idaho Falls, Idaho. She is in long-term recovery and a formerly incarcerated person. Stephanie earned full pardons from both Idaho and Montana in 2017. She graduated from Idaho State University with degrees in Sociology and Criminology and is currently a student at Northwest Nazarene University pursuing her MSW. Stephanie is a former reentry specialist for the Idaho Department of Correction District 7 Probation and Parole Office and is now a field director with Prison Fellowship. She is also a certified peer support specialist, certified family support partner, and recovery coach. She is a graduate of the Idaho Citizens Law Academy. Stephanie is an elected board member for Community Suicide Prevention, Center for Hope, Behavioral Health Crisis Center, and Region Seven Behavioral Health board and a council member for the Idaho State Rehabilitation Council. Stephanie has received both state and national awards for her dedication to reentry and criminal justice reform. She is passionate about corrections, criminal justice, reentry, recovery, suicide prevention, and anti-human trafficking efforts.

David L. Garlock, Formerly Incarcerated Criminal Justice Reform Advocate & Reentry Expert

David L. Garlock is a successful returning citizen, reentry professional, and criminal justice reform advocate who is currently the Faith, Community and Legislative Advocate for Straight Ahead. David enjoys educating the next generation of criminal justice professionals on rehabilitation and advocating in various spheres for an effective and equitable justice system. He is a writer, author, and poet who shares his story in many written forms. He is a frequent speaker at colleges and universities, criminal and social justice conferences, and community events, and he appeared in the film *Just Mercy* (2020). He also did a TEDx at Arcadia University in April 2022.

Jayson Williams, Former NBA All-Star and Owner of Rebound Holistic Care

Jayson Williams is a survivor—born and raised on the streets of New York City’s Lower East Side. Jayson learned at an early age what street smarts and hard work were all about—hard work was life’s only option as a way out. Tragedy struck early in Jayson’s career when he lost two sisters to the aids virus and then a third sister who was murdered by her husband. With school and D-1 basketball alone as a full-time job, Jayson adopted the children of his deceased siblings and raised them while attending St. John’s University.

Despite the pressure and despair, his game flourished and he became the top draft pick of the Philadelphia 76ers in the NBA draft. Rather quickly, Jayson learned about life in the NBA and all the potential pitfalls that lurked. As a “free agent,” he signed a 6-year, \$90 million contract with the New Jersey Nets, only to suffer a career-ending injury during his initial season with the Nets.

In spite of the setback, Jayson parlayed his sense of humor and larger-than-life personality and quickly became an analyst for the “NBA on NBC.” His life, however, came to a crashing halt when he was charged and to which he served a 27-month prison term.

Upon his release, Jayson vowed to turn his life around and entered a facility for treatment for his own addictions. Jayson soon realized that something was missing for him—the traditional rehab



therapy was only part of what was imperative. For Jayson, the missing component was “Adventure Therapy.” He believed that sobriety could be achieved by adding a regiment of “Extreme Sports” to one’s treatment. In short time, The “Rebound” facility was born.

The “Rebound” facility, much like its leader, has an ultimate goal of not only survival, but also helping those in need prosper and thrive in society. There can’t be a better example of survival and, ultimately, redemption than Jayson Williams.

SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, October 5:

4:00 p.m. – Registration opens

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Welcome Reception

Thursday, October 6:

7:30 a.m. – Registration Opens

8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – Breakfast and Keynote Address

10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Breakout Sessions

12:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. – Lunch and Keynote Address

2:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. – Breakout Sessions

Friday, October 7:

7:30 a.m. – Registration Opens

7:45 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. – Breakfast and Keynote Address

9:30 a.m. to 12:15 a.m. – Breakout sessions

12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. – Lunch and Keynote Address

About the Palm Beach County Reentry Task Force

The Palm Beach County (PBC) Reentry Task Force’s mission is to reintegrate individuals returning from incarceration into the community by creating opportunities that reduce recidivism. The PBC Reentry Task Force is under the Board of County Commissioners’ Public Safety Department - Justice Services Division and consists of 13 members and over 50 community partners from across the local criminal justice system that advises the members. This includes representatives from the Public Defender’s Office, State Attorney’s Office, judges, law enforcement, mental health professionals, substance use professionals, community-based service providers, victim advocates, and people who have lived experiences. There are six subcommittees within the task force: 1) Employment, Training, and Education 2) Sustainability 3) Sexual Offenses 4) Youth Reentry 5) Data and Evaluation, and 6) Housing. The full task force and all subcommittees meet on a quarterly basis.

PBC’s reentry system is funded on the local, state, and federal levels. PBC currently contracts with three community-based service providers who use evidence-based practices to work with reentry participants: 1) The City of Riviera Beach Reentry Center, 2) The Lord’s Place, Inc. and 3) Gulfstream Goodwill Industries, Inc.

Photo IDs:

[001](#): Reentry Summit Palm Beach County 2018



[002](#): SaulPaul, Musician with a Message

[003](#): Stephanie Taylor-Thompson, Field Director - Prison Fellowship

[004](#): David L. Garlock, Formerly Incarcerated Criminal Justice Reform Advocate & Reentry Expert

[005](#): Jayson Williams, former NBA All-Star and Owner of Rebound Holistic Care

[Click here to view Reentry Summit invitation.](#)

MEDIA CONTACT:

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[Click here to view the media/calendar advisory.](#)

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REENTRY SUMMIT
OCTOBER 5-7, 2022
WEST PALM BEACH, FL

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!!
www.reentrysummitpbc.com

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

 SaulPaul Musician with a Message	 Stephanie Taylor-Thompson Field Director - Prison Fellowship Idaho and Montana	 David L. Garlock Formerly Incarcerated Criminal Justice Reform Advocate & Reentry Expert	 Jayson Williams Former NBA All-Star Owner of Rebound Holistic Care
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