What is Second Chance Month?

Each April, the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) celebrates Second Chance Month, recognizing the importance of helping individuals, communities, and agencies across the country appreciate their role in supporting the safe and successful reentry of millions of people returning from incarceration each year. Second Chance Month aims to inform and highlight the many opportunities for state, local, and tribal governments, and community-based service providers, to build meaningful second chances for our returning community members.

During Second Chance Month, the National Reentry Resource Center (NRRC) will be the nation’s one-stop destination to learn more about the live events, webinars, and resources throughout April. These events and resources are designed to support Second Chance Act grantees and communities around the country in planning, implementing, evaluating, and sustaining reentry programs and practices that support individuals transitioning from incarceration as well as their families.

What Events Will Happen in Second Chance Month?

The NRRC will work in partnership with OJP’s Bureau of Justice Assistance and Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and with the Second Chance Act training and technical assistance providers, to host a variety of events across the month, including live expert panels and webinars, and to provide resources such as publications and videos in support of reentry and those working with people who were formerly incarcerated.

What Topics Will Second Chance Month Cover?

Second Chance Month 2023 will cover a range of topics essential to successful reentry, including education, employment, housing, behavioral health, and family engagement.

To learn more about or review the events and resources on these topics from last year’s Second Chance Month, please visit the 2022 Calendar of Events. And stay tuned to the NRRC for more details about how to register for this year’s events and access resources.

How Can I Participate in Second Chance Month?

If you are interested in contributing content for Second Chance Month, please reach out to the NRRC at nrrc@air.org. You may also keep abreast of Second Chance Month 2023 activities by visiting the NRRC website.