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Mayor Greenberg announces Louisville Free Public Library's new Reentry Resource Fair

Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. • Southwest Regional Library

Louisville, Ky. (March 31, 2025) – Today Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg announced that the Louisville Free Public Library is offering recently incarcerated individuals and/or people with criminal records an opportunity to connect with resources that can help them transform their futures. The free event, **Starting Fresh Reentry Resource Fair**, will be held at the Southwest Regional Library (9725 Dixie Hwy.) from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 12.

Starting Fresh is a one-stop shop that seeks to connect participants with tools and resources for a successful reentry into society - including support with job preparation, financial solutions, housing assistance, educational opportunities, mental health services, and substance abuse support. Attendees can receive personalized guidance from experts, join hands-on workshops, and benefit from vital services like health screenings and technology training.

"Public safety is my top priority, and part of that equation is helping break down barriers and stop the revolving door of incarceration," said Mayor Greenberg. "By providing recently incarcerated individuals with vital tools, personalized guidance, practical workshops, and support, we can help them stop the cycle of criminal behavior and provide opportunities for a successful and productive reentry into this community."

The event features a keynote address at 12:30 p.m. from Savvy Kareem Abdul Shabazz, CEO and founder of Life Coach Each One Teach One Reentry Fellowship. In addition, No More Red Dots and the Kentucky Department for Community Based Services (KY DCBS) will present two panel discussions throughout the day: Violence Reduction and Safe Practices (11 a.m.) and Family Reunification & Building Stronger Support Networks (2 p.m.).

Free childcare will be provided. Other participating organizations include: Center for Employment Opportunities, Dress for Success, Gifted by Design, Goodwill, Healthy Beginnings Connect Us, JCPS Adult Education, KY DCBS, Louisville Urban League, Black Lives Matter-Louisville, Louisville Metro Office of Financial Empowerment, Metro United Way, Norton Prevention & Wellness, Restoration House, and Simmons College of Kentucky.

Funding for the Starting Fresh Reentry Resource Fair is provided by a Civic Engagement for Racial Justice in Public Libraries (RJ@PL) grant through the Institute of Museum & Library Services' National Leadership Grants for Libraries.

For more information and to register for this free event, visit <u>LFPL.org/StartingFresh</u>.