Celebrates MOCelebratesDiversity

By The Office of Equal Opportunity

We want to embrace the differences that help make us better together. The OEO believes diversity and inclusion are everyone's responsibility and we hope all State employees carry such responsibility with honor, courage, and passion. Check us out <u>here</u>!

Missouri Reentry Process (MRP)

What is The Missouri Reentry Program? On April 19, Missouri became the first state in the U.S. to join <u>Reentry</u> 2030, a national initiative that aims to dramatically improve reentry success for people exiting prison and those on probation and parole. In partnership with the Missouri Department of Corrections (DOC), The Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) is designed to prepare offenders to be successful, productive, citizens upon their release from prison.



> Over 10,000 offenders are released from America's state and federal prisons every week and arrive on the doorsteps of our nation's communities.

➤ More than 95% of people who enter the DOC's facilities ultimately are released, with about 19,000 Missourians reentering the community every year.

➤ There are multiple challenges for justice-involved individuals, including, but not limited to finding a job, housing, transportation, re-establishing family relationships, finding treatment for substance use, medical or mental health conditions, and not reoffending.

Returning can be difficult, not only for those individuals leaving prison, but for the communities to which most former offenders return. Those communities are often impoverished, disenfranchised neighborhoods with few social supports, and persistently high crime rates.

"Most people are not bad people," Gov. Parson said of Missourians leaving prison. "You never want to give up on the vast majority of people. Our job is to figure out, how we help them. That should be the first thing we think of. It's not about locking the doors. It's not about telling them what to do. It's about figuring out: 'How are we going to help you to reenter and stay in society?'"

For more information on **Reentry 2030** <u>click here</u>. To view the **Missouri kickoff event for Reentry 2030** <u>click here</u>. To get more information on **The MRP** <u>click here</u>.