

# RECOMMENDATION TO THE LEGISLATURE OF ALASKA FROM THE ALASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

**Recommendation 3-2021, adopted May 25, 2021:**

## **Recommendation Regarding Sustained Funding for Reentry Services**

Between 2013 and 2017, the State of Alaska’s average three-year recidivism rate decreased from 67% to 60.61% for individuals convicted of felonies and released from an Alaska Department of Corrections institution.<sup>1</sup> This progress in reducing the State's recidivism rate required investment of resources and funding from the State of Alaska into services and supports provided to returning citizens by state and community partners. Some examples of reentry supports and services include case management, transition planning, housing assistance, employment and training, and access to treatment and recovery services. Investment in these services and supports contributes to increased public safety and safer communities throughout Alaska and is vital to the continued success of reentry programs, which largely consist of local stakeholders who rely on grant funding. To safeguard this investment, advance public safety, and continue to decrease recidivism, the Commission recommends that the legislature continue to support sustained and stable funding for reentry supports and services at the state, community, agency, and individual reentrant level.

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<sup>1</sup> *Alaska Department of Corrections Budget Overview Division of Health and Rehabilitative Services: Hearings before the Corrections Finance Subcommittee, 2021st Senate (Alaska Feb. 23, 2021) (testimony of Laura Brooks).*