



Baton Rouge DRC Update



JANUARY 2022

WELCOME



Torrey Williams
Case Manager

This quarter, the Baton Rouge Day Reporting Center partnered with Champion Civil Services to support our participants in pursuing their Infrastructure Technician Certification, so that they can begin a new career with these important credentials. We are also actively involved with the Parole Project of Baton Rouge, a communication tool that has the capability to allow our program to reach more men and women who need our services and motivated to improve their lives. We at the Baton Rouge DRC are also pleased to welcome our new Assistant Case Manager, Ms. Lacarlaneshia Smith, to the DRC family.

Finally, I'd like to share a positive story from a successful participant. Lamont R. entered our program in September 2021 and worked hard to secure gainful employment. He recently shared he was able to purchase his first car! Congratulations to Lamont on his recent success and thank you to our staff for providing participants the skills they need to reach their reentry goals.

Thanks for reading our January update, and please continue to stay safe.



SPOTLIGHT ON... CASE MANAGER MIA THOMAS



DRC Case Manager Mia Thomas started out in the field of criminal justice as an officer at the South Louisiana ICE Processing Center, where she was also part of the center's emergency response team. She then started working at the DRC in December 2020, where her responsibilities include interacting with participants, leading Living in Balance and MRT groups, administering testing for the HiSET high school equivalency exam, and teaching job readiness and parenting classes.

Ms. Thomas said the best part of her job is speaking with participants, knowing they are comfortable with her, and hearing about the progress they are making. "When you know you can help, you really come to appreciate it, and it makes the job easier," she said.

DID YOU KNOW? NATURAL COMMUNITIES ARE ESSENTIAL



By actively working to improve offenders' bonds and ties to prosocial community members, non-residential and residential reentry programs provide an environment that supports and positively reinforces desired new behaviors. Community members can include family members, spouses, supportive others, religious groups, 12-step programs, and other community organizations. These bonds and ties also continue to support offenders as they complete their supervision and treatment requirements and reintegrate more and more into the community.

By Wendy Dressler, GEO Care Research Analyst