



Baton Rouge DRC Update



APRIL 2021

WELCOME

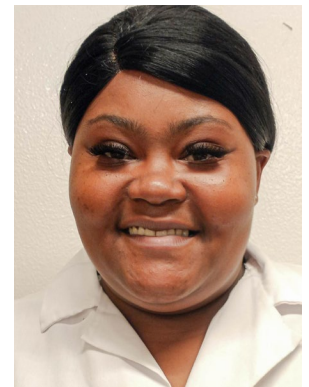


This past quarter, the Baton Rouge DRC hired a tutor from the local community to teach our HiSET program classes so participants could have the extra support as they work toward earning their high school degrees. This new tutor will work pro bono to help participants further their math, reading and writing skills, via both in-person and online classes. Online, our participants can log onto Google Classroom to complete the day's assignments and receive their grades. In the last quarter, the DRC has also moved further toward in-person classes, although virtual classes are still available for those who can't make it to the center on a particular day. The Baton Rouge DRC has also instituted a new gift card reward system to engage participants with an incentive to report to the program. Once the participant receives a perfect attendance score for two weeks, they will receive a \$25 Visa gift card, which helps keep them motivated. Thanks for reading our April update, and please stay safe!

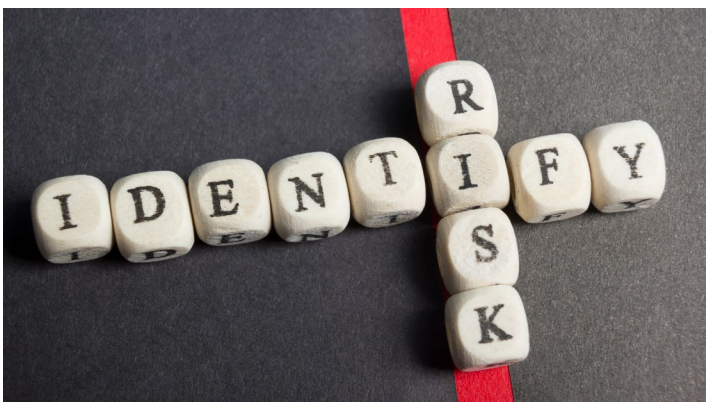
Torrey Williams
Case Manager

SPOTLIGHT ON... PARTICIPANT TYESHA S.

Since starting at the DRC in October 2020, participant Tyesha S. has developed new decision-making and critical thinking skills through the center's virtual MRT night classes, which are held in the evenings to be more convenient for program participants who work during the day. "MRT is helpful," said Tyesha. "It keeps me on the right-thinking path and away from negativity." The center also helped Tyesha find a job, she said. Center staff advised her about her resume, which she posted to Indeed.com. She received two call backs at different restaurant locations and today has a job at Albertsons. For participants who might be skeptical about the program, her advice is to "go ahead and do it because it's very helpful on different levels — mentally, but also for getting a job, finishing school. If you have issues with drugs, they can help you stop," she said. "It really helps you think about situations."



DID YOU KNOW?



Several **dynamic and static risk factors** can help determine whether a person has a high chance of recidivism. Of the eight criminogenic needs, the static risk factor that cannot be changed is the criminal history. The seven dynamic risk factors that can be affected through treatment and intervention are antisocial attitudes, antisocial peers, antisocial personality, family, education and employment, the pro-social activities, and substance abuse needs. GEO Reentry's programs target criminogenic needs using evidence-based practices aimed at changing negative thoughts and criminal behaviors. Upon entering our program, each participant's criminogenic needs are assessed, and based on the assessment individuals are placed in classes designed to address the identified needs. Some of those classes

include substance abuse prevention and/or treatment, life skills, employment readiness, and anger management or parenting, among others. Participants are encouraged to obtain employment or receive additional educational training to reduce their dynamic risk factors.

By Wendy Dressler, GEO Care Research Analyst