



Making Second Chances Count: The Transformational Potential of Reentry Programs for Higher Education, Workforce, and Justice-Involved Adults

June 11, 2024

Welcome CAEL Members & Guests!

Please introduce yourself and add your comments and reactions in the chat - we love a lively conversation!

We will be collecting questions in the Q & A section and will answer as many as we can at the end of this webinar.

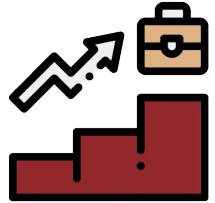
This is being recorded and will be shared along with accompanying slides and links with all registrants and CAEL members.

CAEL is a Membership Organization

The Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) is a national nonprofit membership organization working to improve education-to-career pathways for adult learners.

We help organizations succeed by providing expertise, resources, and innovative solutions that effectively support adult learners as they navigate on- and off- ramps between education and employment.

Celebrating our 50th year, we continue to expand the work we do with, and for, adult learners and workers, and our membership is key to everything we do.



Our Guest Today:

Matthew J. Scott

Regional Education Administrator,
Federal Bureau of Prisons



Who am I:



Who is the FBOP:

Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP):

- 122 Institutions: From Honolulu to Puerto Rico; Yankton, SD to Yazoo, MS

FBOP Director's Mission Statement:

- Our agency's overarching mission is not merely incarcerating people, it is "to ensure people reenter society as productive citizens. Our job is to make good neighbors, not good inmates."
- It is "our hope that we lead the way and state corrections look to our policies and our practices on how we engage with Adults in Custody."

What is Reentry:

Reentry is the process by which a person in correctional confinement prepares for release and transitions back into the community.

Reentry Programs:

- Literacy Programming: **GED / ESL**
- Career & Technical Education Programs: **CDL, Building Trades, Culinary, etc.**
- Adult Continuing Education Programs
- Post-secondary Education Programs
 - Second Chance Pell / Pell Simplification Act

Reentry Needs for Change:

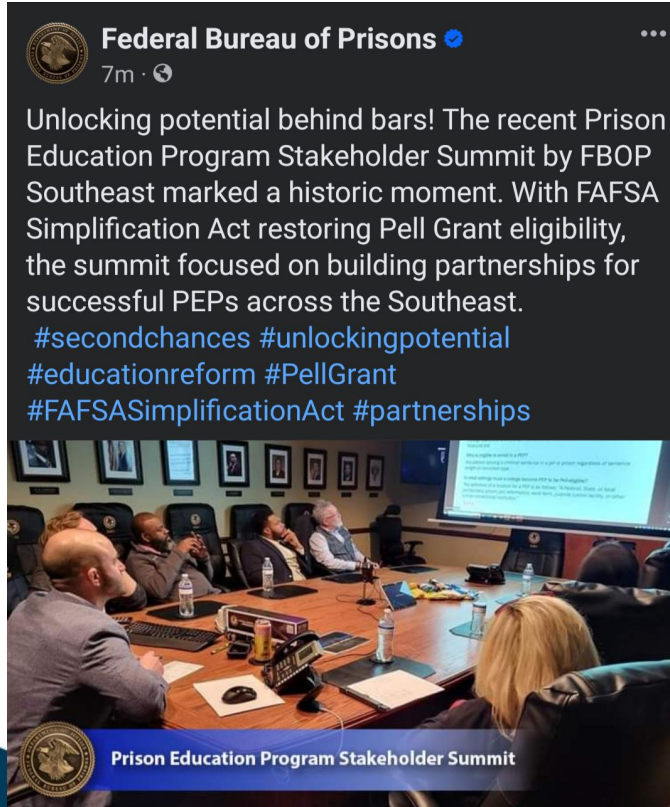
2021 Bureau of Justice Statistics study of 51,500 Adults in Custody (AIC):

- It took **seven** months for the average person to find his or her first job.
- In the first full calendar year after release, only **55%** reported earnings.
- No more than **40%** were employed at any time.
- On average, participants had **3.4** jobs.

U.S. Employment Rate:

- U.S. unemployment rate: 4%,
- Average former AIC unemployment rate: **27%**
- Great Depression Unemployment Rate: 25%

Reentry Stakeholders:



Success Stories:

SERO and USP Atlanta Participate in NCHEP



The 13th Annual National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP) was held in Atlanta, GA., November 9-11, 2023. The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) participated in the NCHEP by attending, submitting art, and livestreaming sessions.

On November 9, the Southeast Regional Office and USP Atlanta collaborated to attend the NCHEP with three Adults in Custody (AIC). The attending AICs are participants in postsecondary education programs through Morehouse College and Georgia State University. This is the first instance of currently

incarcerated individuals attending the NCHEP. The AICs received a standing ovation by all in attendance during the NCHEP opening remarks.

Multiple BOP institutions (FPC Montgomery, MDC Guaynabo, etc.) submitted poetry, essays, and visual arts to the NCHEP: Futures Without Fracture creative competition. Although none placed, the entries exhibited that higher education in prison is not simply program development and delivery, but a complex ecosystem with various symbiotic components. NCHEP sessions were available via Zoom FedRAMP agencywide. Thirteen Education Departments from eight states (California to Florida) in five regions participated in these livestream sessions. With the restoration of AIC Federal Student Aid (Pell Grant) eligibility, these sessions provided Education Staff an opportunity to learn best practices for implementing and managing Prison Education Programs from program administrators, policy experts, activists, and currently/formerly incarcerated students.

BOP participation in the 13th Annual NCHEP strengthened our education programs, enhanced our national partnerships, and contributed to the successful reintegration of adults in our custody and care.

Success Stories:

FCC Yazoo City CDL Graduate Success!



Through interdepartmental collaboration between Education, Reentry Affairs, and Unit Team, Mr. Lara earned his CDL license through Delta Technical College while an AIC at FCC Yazoo City. His licensure provided him the opportunity to be hired by Coca-Cola upon release. Subsequently he was hired by the largest food bank in Mississippi. He earns \$25.68 an hour with medical, dental and vision insurance. He is guaranteed 50 hours of work per week and already has two weeks of paid vacation. He has “never been late and never missed a day of work” and was recognized as employee of the month. In his own words, “all of this was made possible by the CDL Program you enabled me to enroll in. I am tremendously grateful for this opportunity made possible by all of you. I cannot thank you enough for making it all happen.” As the FCC Yazoo Supervisor of Education put it, this is why we should be “proud of what we do every day!”

Submitted by: Matthew Scott, Education Administrator, SERO

1/18/2024

The image shows the exterior of a large, modern building with a prominent glass facade and a dark, sloped roof. The building is illuminated from within, and the sky is a deep blue. In the foreground, there is a paved area with some low concrete walls and a circular fountain with water spraying upwards. The overall scene is captured at dusk or dawn.

BUREAU OF PRISONS **EDUCATION & REENTRY** **DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

Q&A:



Next Steps:

- **FBOP Website:** www.bop.gov
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** [Inside Influence](#)
- **Career Opportunities:** [Work on the Inside](#)
- LinkedIn: [Matthew J. Scott](#)
- [Second Chance Business Coalition](#)



Member Appreciation Month



WEEKS	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 1	3 Weekly Email & Promotion	4	5 <u>CAEL Trivia</u> 3 pm EST	6	7 <u>Friday Networking</u> 10 AM EST
Week 2	10 Weekly Email & Promotion	11 <u>Keynote-Making Second Chances Count</u> 1 pm EST	12	13	14 <u>Friday Networking</u> 12 PM EST
Week 3	17 Weekly Email & Promotion	18 <u>PD & Pre Conference Sampler</u> 12 PM EST	19 Juneteenth CAEL Closed	20 Public Webinar	21 <u>Friday Networking</u> 9 AM EST
Week 4	24 Weekly Email & Promotion	25 <u>Member Awards & New Benefits</u> 12 PM EST	26	27	28 <u>Friday Networking Scavenger Hunt</u> Winners Announced 11 AM EST
Reminders!			Show your CAEL member pride with our special Zoom background!		

THANK YOU!

In honor of our incredible members, we are hosting Member Appreciation Month. Join us in June for member connections, learning, special discounts and announcements, and, of course, appreciation.