



April 14, 2022

To Whom it May Concern

It is with pleasure that we, the North Carolina Justice Center, write this letter to strongly recommend NC Reentry Innovators for Success, Inc. (“NCRIFS”) as a solid prospect for funding, contract opportunities, and other resources that will enable it to further assist formerly incarcerated people, people with criminal records, and their families.

I am the Director of the Fair Chance Criminal Justice Project at the North Carolina Justice Center. Since NCRIFS’ inception, the Fair Chance Project has had the opportunity to partner and work with NCRIFS on several initiatives including a virtual expungement clinic during the pandemic that served more than 50 individuals, community-based driver’s license restoration programs, and efforts to increase access to fair chance employment and reentry housing in Pitt County.

NCRIFS, through its executive director, Portia Bright-Pittman, is on the threshold of doing transformative work in Pitt County. Mrs. Bright-Pittman has been able to orchestrate and chair a working group of judges, the sheriff, the police chief, the district attorney, the public defender, the clerk’s office, community members and advocates to plan a clinic that will help people with outstanding warrants. Under Mrs. Bright-Pittman’s leadership, the clinic will allow individuals with outstanding orders for arrest and failure to appears for minor offenses to address their charges without being arrested, incarcerated and having to post a bond to be released.

It is our plea that you will join us in supporting NCRIFS as they continue to provide a foundation to those that need solid footing when they are released back into our community to re-start their lives in a productive manner.

To that end, we strongly recommend NCRIFS for consideration for a grant and other contract opportunities. If you need further information, please free to email me at laura@ncjustice.org.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Holland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Holland, Project Director
Fair Chance Criminal Justice Project
North Carolina Justice Center