

# PENNSYLVANIA

## REENTRY COUNCIL

Office of Public Engagement  
Executive Deputy Attorney General,  
Robert Reed  
Reentry Coordinator, Charla Plaines



# PARC

**Tom Wolf**  
Pennsylvania Governor

**Josh Shapiro**  
Pennsylvania Attorney General



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**PARC**



On May 15, 2017, the Pennsylvania Reentry Council (PARC) was established by Governor Tom Wolf and Attorney General Josh Shapiro to coordinate Pa's reentry efforts.

The primary mission of the Pennsylvania Reentry Council (PARC) is to make communities safer by reducing recidivism and victimization through the successful reintegration of returning citizens by supporting the efforts of county reentry coalitions and other federal, state, and local reentry focused organizations.

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The Pennsylvania Reentry Council (PARC) was established as a result of collaboration between the Governor's Office, Office of Attorney General, PA Commission on Crime & Delinquency, Office of Victims Advocate, PA State Police, Homeland Security, Departments of Corrections/Board of Probation & Parole, Human Services, Labor and Industry, Education, Transportation, Aging, and the U.S. Attorneys' Offices in the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts of Pennsylvania.

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To date there are 21 County Reentry Coalitions that meet regularly that have created County Reentry Plans under the PCCD Reentry Planning Process. These plans have identified gaps in local reentry efforts, come up with solutions and engaged local service providers to address those needs based on a collaborative approach to successful reentry.



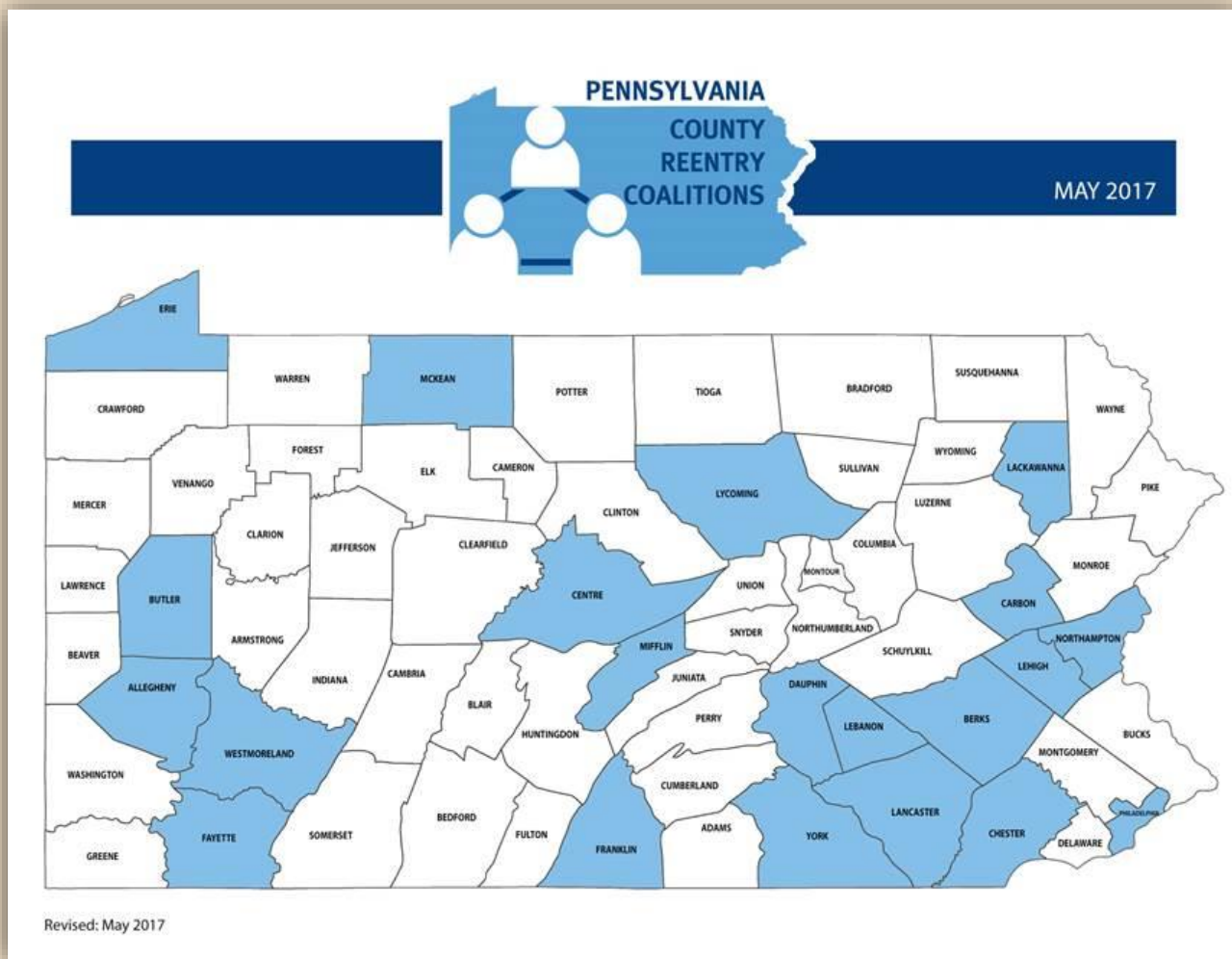
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## PARC PURPOSE

- To expand education of the public, members of law enforcement and criminal justice, and policymakers about the importance of supporting prisoner reentry efforts to reduce crime and violence.
- To promote collaboration among county reentry coalitions and state and federal agencies.
- To provide a forum for sharing best practices, including reviewing and promoting successful evidence-based reentry programs and initiatives; and supporting and promoting new programs.

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## PARC PURPOSE

- To identify barriers to successful reentry and for persons with criminal records, including but not limited to providing, facilitation, and expanding access to: housing, employment, job training, education, and transportation; driver's licenses, social security cards, and other Identification documents that are essential to obtaining employment, housing, and other governmental assistance; evidence-based treatment including mental health, trauma, addiction, and treatment to address criminal thinking; and pro-social needs, including family reunification, mentors, peer support, and faith-based services.
- To identify strategies to overcome the barriers facing the successful reentry of returning citizens and to overcome challenges faced by county reentry coalitions to implement policies to assist returning citizens.

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## HOW THE PARC WORKS

The PARC meets quarterly, prior to these meetings the PARC Steering Committee and Subcommittees meet.

*The PARC meetings include the sharing of best practices, updates on state policies and programs in the PA Department of Corrections and the PA Board of Probation and Parole, and presentations by county reentry coalitions about their best practice programs/projects. During the meetings, there is brainstorming about challenges facing reentrants as well as the reentry coalitions and discussions about what steps can overcome these challenges.*

The PARC Steering Committee provides oversight; includes the chairpersons for the subcommittees, and plans the PARC quarterly meetings.

The PARC has established eight (8) “subcommittees”. Each subcommittee has a chairperson, who is a member of the PARC Steering Committee, and they meet via conference call quarterly prior to the Steering Committee meeting.