

Office of Academic & Student Affairs

Building 2, Room 301 1234 Columbus Avenue Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120

To: Roxbury Community College Faculty & Staff

From: Joyce Taylor Gibson, Executive Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs

Subj.: Announcing RCC's New Project to Support Returning Citizens

Date: January 26, 2024

Roxbury Community College (RCC) is excited to announce the creation of an important new initiative to support, educate and empower returning citizens! The project will serve individuals returning from incarceration by providing them with sufficient tools to emerge as leaders, poised to create systemic, sustainable change for their communities.

Through the project, RCC will develop a curriculum and services for formerly incarcerated individuals, particularly women of color. These returning citizens will gain critical knowledge and develop valuable relationships, skills, and tools needed to successfully reenter the neighborhoods and larger communities where they live. The project builds on existing work led by the Criminal Justice Department and Honors Program.

I am pleased to welcome Rachael Rollins to support this project as special projects administrator; she will collaborate with faculty, staff, and community leaders to create a robust and responsive program that meets the needs of our community.

Rachael Rollins joins RCC as the Special Projects Administrator, a part-time position, and brings over 25 years of legal and leadership experience to this grant-funded role. In particular, Rollins' implementation of major criminal justice reforms will be essential in ensuring the Project's success. As Suffolk County District Attorney, Rollins created a Conviction Integrity Unit with one of the nation's broadest mandates and also developed our Commonwealth's first Restorative Justice Unit.

Over the coming months, Rachael will work with RCC colleagues to develop a curriculum and support services, develop metrics for success, and identify additional funding opportunities for the program.

Please join me in welcoming Rachael Rollins to RCC!

Email: dwheeler@rcc.mass.edu