



# *Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail*

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## **VPRJ HOSTS VIRTUAL RE-ENTRY FAIR FOR INMATES**

Williamsburg, Virginia – The Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ) held a virtual re-entry fair for inmates yesterday in partnership with Colonial Community Corrections. Inmates were able to hear directly from representatives from organizations focused on housing, employment, and living a healthy life style via a virtual platform using the jail’s closed circuit television feature. Inmates were able to view a live presentation from each representative, and ask questions specific to their own situations.

“COVID-19 has changed the way our volunteers interact with our inmate population and the way we are able to host events,” said Superintendent Colonel Roy Witham. “We recently restarted our WAITT program with a virtual component, and are proud to offer this same virtual opportunity to the inmates in our custody. Regardless of the pandemic, these individuals will be released from jail back into the community. Many of them will need the information received during the virtual fair to prepare them for release and reduce their chances of returning to jail.”

Colonel Witham continued, “While we are unable to accommodate an in-person re-entry fair this year as we had last year, I am confident this opportunity will provide much needed information and resources to our inmate population.”

Organizations which participated in Thursday’s virtual re-entry fair were Williamsburg House of Mercy, VA Career Works, Fresh Start, and Social Services from York County and Williamsburg. Ma’Rea Proctor, the Re-Entry officer for Colonial Community Corrections, facilitated the virtual re-entry fair alongside VPRJ staff. Inmates were provided handouts and flyers from each organization with contact and resource information to assist in preparing themselves for release.