



City of Rochester, NY
Rochester City Council

City Hall Room 301A • 30 Church Street • Rochester, New York 14614-1290

Mitch Gruber Councilmember At-Large
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January 24, 2022

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to express my full support of the Reentry Association of WNY's (RAWNY) proposal to implement a Reentry One-Stop model in Monroe County, New York.

Our community needs to create a streamlined approach to reentry services, so that we can better support individuals returning to Rochester after a period of incarceration. The Monroe County area once had a coordinated, supported and resourceful response to the challenges that people in reentry regularly face. Over the years, resources have dwindled and programs have become more disparate and less coordinated.

RAWNY has stepped up and created a plan with the infrastructure to create an effective front door for reentry programs. They have an Executive Director and a Board of Directors with experience and a proven track record.

In a recent meeting with officials from City, County and State, it became clear that there is widespread support for RAWNY. I am confident that there will opportunities for RAWNY to receive funding from ARPA and other public sources in 2022. However, RAWY leadership expressed an immediate need for funding in order to keep their doors open.

I am hopeful that philanthropic dollars can help RAWNY continue to move forward while local government works collectively to create long-term, sustainable funding for a one-stop approach to reentry services. Please let me know if you are interested in discussing further.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Gruber', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mitch Gruber, PhD
City Councilmember, At-Large

