



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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MCSO Launches (R)IGNITE Program at Mecklenburg County Detention Center Central

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office is committed to safely operating detention facilities through progressive, innovative, and humane practices. It is in that spirit that MCSO announces the launch of (R)IGNITE: Residents Individually Growing Naturally & Intentionally Through Education.

The (R)IGNITE program aligns with MCSO's mission towards rehabilitating those in custody through non-conventional methods and returning citizens back into our community with a chance for a successful future.

(R)IGNITE is just as important to MCSO staff as it is residents and the community. The program will provide a more structured environment within general housing units for residents to better utilize their time. This will result in a safe environment for Detention Officers and residents. It will also provide officers an opportunity to be change agents in the detention facility. In addition to current adult programming, residents will have an opportunity to address the challenge that brought them into conflict with the law by participating in life-skill based programming in general housing with the goal of transferring into a specialized program housing unit. Increased participation in (R)IGNITE will increase the percentage of residents being released into the community with hope, skills, and the determination to succeed ultimately creating a greater quality of life for the entire Mecklenburg County community.

Sheriff McFadden said, "We are excited about what (R)IGNITE will do for our detention staff, residents and the general community. When Sheriff Swanson from Genesee County contacted me about the concept, I knew MCSO was the perfect place to add this initiative to what we're already doing in our progressive approach to transforming the men and men housed in our facility. We have identified detention officers who we believe are dedicated to making a positive change, but we also believe this program will create change agents in our residents."

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