

Berks County Workforce Development Board

Joanne M. Judge
Chairperson

Daniel W. Fogarty
Chief Operating Officer

February 4, 2017

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing to offer our support of Berks Connections/Pretrial Services (BCPS) application for the Small Business Administration's Aspire Challenge.

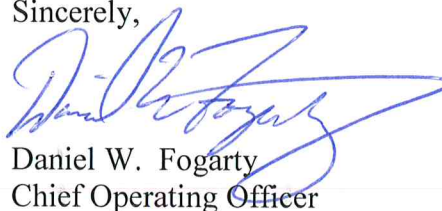
BCPS has provided services in Berks County to individuals involved in the criminal justice system and their families for over 40 years. Since 2010, they have provided reentry case management and workforce development for individuals involved in programming at the Berks County Jail System's Community Reentry Center. This past year, their reentry services greatly expanded to include individuals returning to Berks County from the state prison system.

The BCPS Employment Development Specialist participates on the PA CareerLink® Berks County's Employer Outreach Team and a Co-Executive Director is a member of the Berks County Workforce Development Board.

BCPS is very well suited to expand their reentry services to include an entrepreneurship initiative within their programming for state offenders. They have an established track record of successful workforce development programming and job placement success with returning citizens. In addition, their workforce development outreach work has resulted in well established relationships within the business community in Berks County that would be very helpful to this new initiative.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Daniel W. Fogarty
Chief Operating Officer