



COOK COUNTY RECONNECT

Rental Assistance and Services for Returning Residents



Cook County Reconnect is a new initiative that provides rental assistance and optional wraparound services for residents returning from incarceration.

Reconnecting our communities and reshaping reentry in Cook County

Led by the Justice Advisory Council (JAC) and Housing Authority of Cook County (HACC), Cook County Reconnect is designed to provide returning residents with the stability, resources and support needed to navigate challenges and achieve their goals.

Program Overview

- Cook County will pay rent directly to the landlord or property management:
 - Cook County pays 100% of rent for the first 3 months
 - Resident contributes 30% of their income for the rest of the lease term, with Cook County covering the remaining rent
- HACC Relocation Coordinators support resident and landlord with the leasing process
- Resident has access to optional services including employment, education, job training, legal aid, mental and behavioral health care, substance use disorder treatment and more

How Do Referrals Work?

Individuals may *only* be referred by:

- Their parole officer
- A community organization that has been established as a referral partner for Reconnect



Who Can be Referred?

- Adults (18+) who have returned from the IL Dept. of Corrections more than 30 days ago and less than 2 years ago
- Individuals who have NO prior convictions for arson or manufacturing methamphetamines
- Individuals may not be participating in other housing subsidy programs

Disclaimers

- Referral does not guarantee enrollment. Enrollment in the program does not guarantee housing. This is **not an immediate housing placement**. Reconnect is for individuals who need support establishing a lease and/or financial assistance for rent.
- Reconnect is a time-limited program that will end in November 2026



LEARN MORE: CookCountyIL.gov/JACReentry
QUESTIONS: Contact JAC.Reentry@cookcountyil.gov

