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# Acting Governor Guadagno Celebrates Opening of Martin's Place Community Resource Center

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**Trenton, NJ** – This afternoon, Acting Governor Kim Guadagno attended the opening of Martin's Place Jersey City Community Resource Center (CRC), which will provide ex-offenders and the unemployed with transitional housing, on-site addiction treatment, job training and employment. Among others, Acting Governor Guadagno was joined by former Governor Jim McGreevey, New Jersey Parole Board Chairman James Plousis, Hudson County Executive Thomas Degise and Jersey City Mayor Steven Fulop.

"We know the power of second chances, but we also know that they can be impossible without services that prepare ex-offenders for their new lives," said Acting Governor Guadagno. "That's what the Community Resource Center offers to those who have the desire to succeed: employment training and placement, addiction and mental health treatment, and resources to ensure that participants have every chance to succeed. Thanks to the Center, we face down the harsh reality of recidivism with hope."

Serving all of Hudson County, Martin's Place CRC offers resources to improve the lives of participants, assist their reintegration into the community and enhance public safety. The CRC is being launched in partnership with the New Jersey State Parole Board, the Hudson County Department of Corrections, the New Jersey Building Trades Council, Jersey City Employment and Training Program (JCETP), and Integrity House.

"It's a great honor to have the Acting Governor attend the opening of Sacred Heart Community Resource Center, which will provide employment, housing, and addiction services for returning parolees," said former Governor McGreevey, Executive Director of JCETP. "Sacred Heart Community Resource Center will provide the best opportunity to permit ex-offenders to transition their lives and become healthy, productive, law-abiding citizens."

JCETP was awarded a \$4.2 million contract over three years by the Parole Board in a competitive bidding process to serve as a CRC for Hudson County. JCETP is the first municipal non-profit to be awarded a CRC contract in New Jersey.

"Once again Jersey City and the JCETP program are leaders on the issue of prisoner re-entry and parole services," said Mayor Fulop. "We were eager to receive this contract and are excited to be able to bring the Hudson County parolee community the important services they need as they re-integrate into the work environment. This is an exciting day for Jersey City and Hudson County."

More information on the JCETP is available on its website at <http://jcetp.org/>.

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