



Hon. William H. Hall IV SBDC

**Kane County Sheriff's Office
Honorable William H. Hall IV
Small Business Development Center**

Annual Report 2024



Ribbon Cutting September 17, 2024

The Kane County Sheriff's Office, Honorable William H. Hall IV, Small Business Development Center (SBDC), is the first SBDC in a correctional facility in the United States of America.

Mission and Vision

Mission - Empower incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals (drug and specialty court participants) and women in transition centers by providing the tools, resources and support needed to form and sustain successful start-up businesses.

Vision - Reduce recidivism and enhance economic self-sufficiency through entrepreneurship and small business ownership.

Key Objectives

Establish the Kane County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and implement a comprehensive entrepreneurship education curriculum. Develop strategic partnerships and funding sources. Recruit lenders to fund graduates' business ventures. Offer post-graduation support and continuous development resources.

Accomplishments

- Opened August 24, 2024
- Hired a Coordinator
- Ribbon Cutting September 17, 2024
- Created marketing materials for detainees and justice involved individuals
- Presented program to Kane County Drug Court including the Presiding Judge, Assistant State's Attorney, Public Defender, Probation Officers and treatment providers.

Ribbon Cutting

Media

- Press Release
- Good Morning Aurora (GMA) live stream and interview
- Chicago ABC channel 7 news
- Tribune (Beacon News)
- Kane County Connects

The program included success stories from two former detainees and one current detainee. Dignitaries in attendance included: Willette LeGrant, Director of the Illinois Small Business Administration; Mark Ferguson, Deputy Director of the Illinois Small Business Administration; Ne'Keisha Stepney, Assistant Provost at Waubensee Community College (WCC); Maria Manzo from Congressman Bill Foster's Office; Corinne Pierog, Kane County Board Chair; Robert Villa, Kane County Chief Judge; Christine Downs, Judge of Drug Court; Rene Cruz, Judge of DUI Court; Anita Lewis, Kane County Board Member; Amy Johnson, Kane County Undersheriff; Retired Sheriff Pat Perez; Brian Failing, Executive Director of the Aurora Regional Fire Museum; Elyse Kennard-Leavy, President of the Glen Ellyn Chamber; Noellia Ruiz, WCC/SBDC Manager; and Ian King, Elgin Community College SBDC Manager.

<https://kanecountyconnects.com/article/KaneCountySheriff-SmallBusinessDevelopment-Jail>

Key Metrics

Counseling Sessions:

- Detainees 61
- Justice Involved in the Community 34
- Total 95

Business Plans

- Detainees 19
- Justice Involved in the Community 1
- Total 20

Businesses Incorporated 1

Success Stories

Terry Hunter is a former KCSO detainee who participated in the first KCSO's Pitch Competition in 2019. He was sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) and released in the summer of 2024. Upon release Terry immediately met with the KCSO SBDC Coordinator Rudy Gonzalez to continue working on his business plan. Terry's company "Moving towards Greatness" is a passenger and light commercial vehicle hauling and transportation company. After several counseling sessions he finalized a defined & viable business plan with formal projections. Terry incorporated the business on October 21, 2024, opened a business banking account and has applied for a Small Business Administration loan. Terry is enrolled in Waubensee Community College's associates' program.

Chef "P" Porfirio Roman is a former KCSO detainee released in 2021. A year later, Chef P started the KCSO Detainee Chef classes for Jail Kitchen workers teaching formal cooking and restaurant environment skills. In 2022 Chef P became an employee of the KSCO. He owns a catering company and is currently working with the SBDC Coordinator to finalize his business plan. His goal is to open a family breakfast and lunch restaurant.

David Williams is a KCSO detainee, participant of the 2023 Pitch Competition and founder of Plan Prepare Executive Consulting LLC and creator of Inside Out Recovery Center, a S0I(c) 3 non-profit facility where youth and young adults can connect and feel safe in a time of need. While in KSCO custody, David was inspired to become a motivational speaker and mentor for detainees helping them find their path in life. The KCSO SBDC Coordinator is helping him create his for-profit "Plan Prepare Execute Consulting" firm.

2025 Goals

- Develop the "Start Your Business" curriculum tailored for the demographic we serve. The curriculum will include PowerPoint Presentations and printed jail approved handouts.
- Conduct Two Cohorts in the jail and one in the Community
- Host two resource fairs in the community. One during Second Chance Month in April
- Speak at community partner events and social service agencies to inform and recruit clients

2025 Events

- January 7, - Drug Court Alumni Speaking Event
- February 24, - "Start Your Business" 2 Cohorts in Jail
- April 7, - Aurora Community Resource Team Speaking Event
- April 17, - Second Chance Month Re-Entry Resource Fair, Elgin, IL
- June TBD, - "Start Your Business Cohort" Community Virtual
- July 9, - Re-Entry Resource Fair, Aurora, IL

Ron Hain
Sheriff
Kane County

Judith Dawson
Kane County Sheriff's Office
Director of Diversion and
Reentry Programs
Small Business Development
Center - Manager

Rudy Gonzalez
Kane County Sheriffs Office
Small Business Development
Center - Coordinator