## Proclamation



## SECOND CHANCE MONTH

**APRIL 2018** 

WHEREAS, everyone deserves an opportunity to rebuild their lives, reach their fullest potential and become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 70 million Americans have a criminal record; and returning citizens account for one in every ten District residents; and



WHEREAS, individuals returning from prison and those who have paid their debt after committing a crime, face significant barriers when reintegrating back into society; and

WHEREAS, individuals with a criminal history often struggle to find housing, secure employment pursue higher education, regain voting rights, volunteer in their community, and pay for significant debt that arises as a result of their conviction and incarceration; and



WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office of Returning Citizens Affairs (ORCA) provides services and information for those individuals who are returning to their community through programmatic activities and outreach:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim April 2018, in Washington, DC as "SECOND CHANCE MONTH".