



Summit Of Hope



Mar 19, 2014

DECATUR - A fresh start for ex-offenders.

The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) hosted nearly 500 former inmates, parolees and probationers in Decatur Wednesday. It was for the "Summit of Hope."

The Summit of Hope is basically a one-stop opportunity for those individuals to obtain information and services all in one location. 40 vendors provided everything from job assistance, housing information to receiving ID's and drivers licenses.

"We feel it's the number one reentry program in the nation externally outside correctional facilities," said Marcus King of IDOC. "It's ingenious."

IDOC says its program helps reduce the number of people that end up returning to prison.

Tim Browning of Decatur is an example of a former inmate that is turning his life around. Browning spent four years in the Logan Correctional Center. Today, he holds a job in Decatur. He is also attending Richland Community College where he is working to obtain his welding certification.

(Pictured is the Summit of Hope in Decatur on March 19, 2014.)