## Berks Connections/Pretrial Services (BCPS) 19 N 6th Street 4th Floor Reading, PA 19601 Vanessa Starr 484-260-3860 X3043

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**Berks Connections/Pretrial Services (BCPS)** works to create a safer, more prosperous community by providing services, support and community-based outreach program focused on reducing recidivism and promoting successful reentry of adult offenders into the community.

## **Re-Entry Care Package Items:**

Toothbrush/toothpaste Deodorant Razors

Hand lotion

Body wash

## **BCPS Volunteer Mother's Voice/Father's Voice Program:**

Volunteers go to the Berks County Jail weekly to record incarcerated parents reading books to their children. The DVD recording and book are then sent to the child. The child can have an ondemand way to see and hear his/her parent while they are reading and follow along in the book. Often children whose parents are in prison, experience the unintended trauma of separation. This program seeks to bridge this gap. This not only impacts the lives of the children, but also the parents. The feeling of detachment, isolation, and not having the ability to hold or soothe a child can be devastating to a parent. Our volunteers have shared how much this means to the parent to be able to speak to their child, even if it is not in-person.

**NEED**: Children's books, holiday books and books written in Spanish are especially appreciated. Books should be short in length, and in good condition.