

Workshop to focus on erasing criminal records

Saturday Posted Sep 17, 2016 at 6:41 PM
Updated Sep 17, 2016 at 11:34 PM

By Kevinisha Walker / Staff Writer

A workshop will be held Sept. 27 for people who want to learn how to suppress their criminal records to help them get jobs and other benefits.

In conjunction with the Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana, the Terrebonne Parish Main Library, 151 Library Drive, Houma, will host an Expungement Clinic Workshop from 1-6 p.m.

The program aims to stabilize employment and housing opportunities as well as government privileges such as voting rights, according to a Terrebonne Parish Library news release.

The Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana works to remove obstacles that inhibit the success of individuals leaving incarceration and facilitate expungements for low-income individuals and families.

Kara Anne Larson, founder of Equal Access Legal in New Orleans, is part of the expungement team, which will discuss the steps and requirements for getting records cleared.

"There are some circumstances in which you can't get an expungement, so we will talk about what an expungement will and won't do and set expectations for people to let them know (what their options are)," Larson said.

There will be a question-and-answer session and one-on-one consultations provided on a first-come, first-serve basis as time and space are limited.

Anyone interested in a personal consultation must bring the minutes from their court case. The minutes can be obtained from the court clerk. Certified copies are not required.

The clinic is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

Contact the library reference desk at 876-5861 (option 2) for more information.