

NEW KIND OF PHILANTHROPY



PHOTO/SOMMER BROKAW

Barber Timothy McIntosh Jr. (right) trims client's Hanif Omar hair at his shop near Research Triangle Park.

Durham barber to start school for ex-cons

By Sommer Brokaw
THE TRIANGLE TRIBUNE

DURHAM — As a former member of the N.C. State Board of Barbers, Timothy McIntosh Jr. saw firsthand the difficulty ex-offenders had in retaining their barber's license.

"My heart always went out to them," McIntosh said. "These were well-meaning folk who wanted to continue with their lives, but they had obstacles in their way of transitioning out of the prison system and back into society."

McIntosh said that many ex-

offenders have families to support and sometimes the only jobs offered to them are minimum wage. He plans to help pay tuition for a small group of former inmates to attend his 10-month barber school at his shop at Park West, near Research Triangle Park, start-

ing in July.

"How many people think about a barber being socially conscious enough to do what he's doing. But he had the tool, and now he's just equipped with the information," said Athan Lindsay, acting chair for the

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