

“Partners in Progress”
**The State of Connecticut
Re-entry Strategy**

Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission
(CJPAC)

December 11, 2008

Acknowledgements

- Prison and Jail Overcrowding Working Group (PJOC)
 - OPM
 - DOC
 - BoPP
 - Judicial Branch, CSSD
 - DMHAS
 - Office of Chief State's Attorney
 - Office of Chief Public Defender

Executive Summary / Introduction

- Collaboration
 - offenders
 - families
 - criminal justice agencies
 - community partners
- All branches of government
 - legislative
 - executive
 - judicial

History

- Public Acts
 - 04-234
 - 05-249
 - 06-193
 - 08-1
- CJPAC incorporated PJOC to assist in fulfilling mission of CJPAC
- CJPAC responsible for re-entry strategy report

Purpose

- Enhance public safety
- Integrated, collaborative, cost-effective approach
- Manage an offender's transition from incarceration to the community
- Provide necessary support and intervention
- Foster a culture change

Success =

***An offender's transition from incarceration
dependency to responsible community self-
sufficiency***

Guiding Principles

**A principle is a general law which gives
action;
a fundamental truth as a basis of
reasoning**

Re-entry Goals

- Recidivism
- Organizational / Cultural Change
- Risk Reduction Case Management
- Treatment Services
- Employment
- Capacity of Local Communities
- Substance Abuse
- Offenders with Mental Illness
- Community Corrections
- Data and Evaluation

Current Practices

- **Institutional Phase**
- **Community-Based Program Phase**
- **Discharge Phase**

Institutional Phase

- **Institutional Assessment and Engagement**
 - Admissions
 - Classification
 - Offender Accountability Plan (OAP)
- **Institutional Services**
 - Treatment, Programs and Services
- **Re-entry Preparation**
 - Community Release Outlook
 - Transitional Services

Current Practices

- Institutional Phase
- **Community-Based Program Phase**
- Discharge Phase

Community-Based Program Phase

- **Post-Release**
 - Parole and Community Services (PCS)
- **Community Integration**
 - PCS / Specialized Units
 - Residential / Non-residential programs
- **Probation Transition Program Project**
 - Split Sentence Supervision

Current Practices

- Institutional Phase
- Community-Based Program Phase
- **Discharge Phase**

Discharge Phase

- **Discharge Planning**
 - Discharge plan for all offenders prior to release
 - Connect with community resources
 - Continuum of care with parole officers

Partnerships for a Successful Strategy

- State Agencies
- Legislative Committees & Commissions
- Community
- Non-Profits
- Federal Government

Building on Successes

- **Organizational / Cultural Change**
 - Public Policy
 - Re-entry Task Force
- **Risk Reduction Case Management**
 - Case Management / Continuum of Care
- **Employment**
 - Employment Opportunities for Offenders
- **Capacity of Local Communities**
 - Federal Funding Opportunities

Building on Successes, cont.

– Community Corrections

- Re-entry Councils
- Partnerships and Collaborations
- Information Sharing
- Outreach with victims and offenders
- Coordination with families / sponsors
- Racial and Gender Parity

Building on Successes, cont.

– Data and Evaluation

- Research and Evaluation Practices

Next Steps

- Action and Implementation Plan
- Measures of Success
- Meetings with Partner Agencies
- Meetings with Community Partners and Local Governments

Measures of Success

- Rates of recidivism and community revictimization
- Number of inmates eligible for release on parole, transitional supervision, probation or any other release program
- Number of inmates who make the transition from incarceration to the community in compliance with a discharge plan

Measures of Success, cont.

- Prison bed capacity ratios
- Adequacy of the network of community-based treatment, vocational, educational, supervision and other services and programs
- Reinvestment of any savings achieved through a reduction in prison population into re-entry and community-based services and programs

Timeline

- **February 15, 2009** - presentation to legislature
- **February 24 - 26, 2009** - Bureau of Justice Assistance, Community Safety through Successful Offender Re-entry Symposium
- **March 2009** - Reconvene transitioned PJOC - Statewide Re-entry Task Force to begin action and implementation plan

What this strategy needs

- You - your feedback and input
- Support and involvement
- Commitment of time and effort
- Your collaboration in “*Partners in Progress*”,
The State of CT Re-entry Strategy

THANK YOU!