

**2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Reentry Workgroup Meeting Notes**  
**April 1, 2009 2:30-4:30pm**  
**Solem Public Safety Center**  
**Multi-Purpose Room**

**Attendees:** Colleen Winter DOH, Terry Dosch Council of Mental Health, Sharon Sonnenschein DSS, Lorraine Polak SD Housing Development, Mark Lauseng SD Housing Development, Todd Kolden DOL (phone), Grady Kickul DHS, Jeff Bathke DHS, John Fette Dept. of Military & Veteran's Affairs, Aske Whitebird Tribal Govt. Relations, Keith Moore DOE, Amy Iversen-Pollreisz DHS, Ryan Thornell Board of Pardons and Paroles (phone), Kevin McLain DOC Administration, Laurie Feiler DOC Administration, Roland Loudenberg, and Robyn Seibel DOC Administration.

Laurie Feiler reviewed the attached PowerPoint presentation handout.

**Information points:**

1. Reentry focus will be on communities of Rapid City and Sioux Falls due to the volume of offenders sentenced from and releasing to Pennington and Minnehaha Counties and the resources available in these communities.
2. Recidivism rates were reviewed highlighting differences by race and gender.
3. Key reasons for parole failure were reviewed: absconding, substance use and law violation.
4. Structure of Reentry Council, Workgroup and Taskforces was reviewed. The responsibilities of the Council as outlined in the Executive Order include the following:  
Coordinate state policy and working relationships on issues affecting releasing inmates; develop collaborative strategies and best practices to prevent recidivism; look at ways of pooling resources and funding streams; minimize effects of offender's time in prison on families and communities; recommend changes regarding resources and access to services alleviate recidivism; provide information to the public on recidivism factors and appropriate responses and get input from stakeholders.
5. Impetus of this work is Federal Second Chance Act – signed into law in April, 2008 with the idea of helping states reduce recidivism. The Act authorizes grants for demonstration projects to reduce recidivism. The stated goal is to reduce recidivism 50% in 5 years. Up to \$750,000 per year is available with an equal match of half in kind and half cash. SD's application will be submitted by April 16<sup>th</sup>. Target population for the grant program is those offenders who will be releasing who are identified as high risk to recidivate.
6. Information was provided on the resources used by parolees.
7. Workgroup agencies were asked for information on the programs their respective agencies provided for reentering offenders, ideas for service/program enhancement and letters of support for the grant application.
8. Discussion on current services and service structure and anticipated needs.