

2nd Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Meeting Minutes
Policy Workgroup
January 6, 2010 1-3pm
Solem Public Safety Center, Pierre
Multi-Purpose Room

In Attendance: Terry Dosch Council of Mental Health, Sharon Sonnenschein DSS (on phone), Lisa Bondy SDHD (representing Lorraine Polak), Brandon Kucker DOL (representing Todd Kolden), Gib Sudbeck DHS (representing Jeff Bathke, Amy Iversen-Pollreisz, and Grady Kickul), John Fette Military & Veteran's Affairs, Kevin McLain DOC Administration, Laurie Feiler DOC Admin, Nancy Allard UJS, Colleen Winter DOH, Ed Ligtenberg Board of Pardons and Paroles (on phone), Ben Merrill BFM, and Robyn Seibel DOC Admin.

Absent: Roland Loudenburg Mt. Plains Evaluation, Roger Campbell Tribal Govt. Relations.

Previous Minutes Highlights

- Laurie Feiler asked the agencies to review the meeting minutes from 9/24/2009 and no changes were needed.
- During the last meeting there were suggestions made to support the reentry process. Laurie reviewed four of them for discussion:
 1. DSS Economic Assistance indicated developing a process to help initiate the application for benefits process for releasing inmates.
 - How can we start this process ahead of time? There was a discussion that Robert Zirpel from DSS is on the SF Taskforce will be the point person for Sharon.
 2. Department of Military and Veteran Affairs suggested veteran services staff work with incarcerated veterans before release helping them apply for eligible benefits.
 - A model needs to be developed for screening. John suggested contacting Veteran Affairs Specialists from the Veterans Justice Outreach program (VJO) from Sioux Falls and Hot Springs. John handed out the contact information for these people.

3. Vocational Rehabilitation discussed a necessary review to the policy that indicates the application process of rehabilitation services for releasing offenders.
 4. The Department of Labor discussed the possibility of a workshop for “employability soft skills”.
 - Currently this is used for veterans that are transitioning out of active duty. Is this something that may benefit the reentry inmates before being released?
- It was suggested to develop contacts for the four suggested items that would help to move the process along.

SD Reentry Initiative Overview

- Laurie explained the need to address recidivism and the objective to increase public safety. It was emphasized the Second Chance Act grant is a resource provider to the overall goal of the Second Chance Reentry Initiative which is to reduce recidivism throughout the State.

Project Task/Timeline

- The Task/Timeline has been updated and was handed out to the group.
- This is a one year grant with the ability to apply for two subsequent years of funding.
- The red highlighted box on the timeline is the primary focus at this time.
- There are three major goals that are highlighted yellow.
- Laurie reviewed Goal One, Objectives One through five, Goal Two, and Goal Three briefly and indicated these would be reviewed more in depth as the meeting moves on.

Progress on Implementation

Project Staff

- Amy Bisgard is the new Program Manager for the reentry program.

- Rapid City is interviewing for the Local Project Manager on Monday January 11, 2010 and it is a city position which is funded through the grant.
- Still working with the City of Sioux Falls on the location for the Local Project Manager.
- The Transition Case Manager position at the Women's Prison has been advertised.

Target Population

- Laurie reviewed the handout labeled DOC Reentry Workgroup Meeting Handout-Target Population which was prepared by Roland Loudenburg.
 - ◆ Two predictors will be used to screen the initial Target Population (TP) that is at high risk for recidivism. The first, Level of Service Inventory - Revised (LSI-R) score ≥ 30 . Second, age ≤ 30 years old.
 - ◆ This TP will receive services and the specific services they need and receive will be determined by the additional domains of the LSI-R and other assessments they are involved in.
- Laurie reviewed the handout labeled Project Implementation Update SD Adult Reentry Program, specifically the section labeled Target Population. Indicated the need to educate agencies about the different ways a person can parole.
 - ◆ New System Initial Parole: If the person follows the rules they will parole without seeing the parole board.
 - ◆ Discretionary Parole: People who have been out on parole and have come back because they violated. They may release on parole but it is up to the discretion of the board. Also can mean, people who were not compliant which allows the board control of when they are released on parole.
 - ◆ Flat time: Inmates who have served their time and are getting out on the date their sentence ends.
 - ◆ Suspended Sentence: Court ordered release.

Case Management

- Laurie reviewed the handout labeled Project Implementation Update SD Adult Reentry Program, specifically the section labeled Case Management.

- ◆ The items labeled under Current Release Plan elements that are in regular print are the existing release plan domains and the items in *Italics* are proposed additions to the release plan domains.
- ◆ The Release Plan was picked because the system is started by Admission and Orientation and viewable by the parole and institutional staff.

Program Design

- Laurie reviewed the handout titled SD DOC Adult Reentry Program Plan.
 - ◆ This identifies the process the TP will go through from admission to release into the community and the process if that individual receives a violation while in the community.

Policy Review/System Change

- Laurie explained the Policy Driven Response (PDR) process the DOC has. For every parole violation there is a response.
- Looking at this as a chance to offer additional services to the individual.
- Gib suggested looking at pharmacological options as a treatment option. For example, a certain drug that works to take away alcohol cravings.

Information Provision

- Laurie reviewed a packet of information containing 11 pages. This is the beginning of a process which will communicate the TP for the SF and RC taskforces. It will not contain the entire file of the offender but it will be standardized unless additional information is absolutely necessary.
 - Two lists were handed out that included names of inmates that will be releasing to MA or PE County. We are also proposing sending out an informational list of everyone that is releasing to the MA and PE County areas even if not in the TP. This would be a tool to help those that are not in the TP for grant purposes, but may need additional services.
 - Lisa Bondy from Housing Development Authority explained they received stimulus money from a grant called Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing. A three year grant with funds to house ex-sex offenders and people with felonies. They could be eligible for rental assistance for up to 18 months.
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Update on Task Forces

- The Sioux Falls and Rapid City Task Force membership lists were handed out to the Workgroup.

Sioux Falls Task Force

- Ed Ligtenberg updated the Workgroup and indicated the Sioux Falls Task Force is making progress. There are two Subcommittees of the SF Task Force and Co-Chairs have been identified.
- Betty Durfee from Goodwill and Cynthia Howard from Minnehaha County Public Advocacy office are Co-Chairs of the Mentoring Subcommittee.
- Pam Bollinger from Volunteers of America and Dave Johnson from the Glory House are Co-Chairs of the Case Management Subcommittee.
- Still waiting for an agency who will hire the local case manager.

Rapid City Task Force

- RC has been in operation before the Second Chance Act grant was awarded to the DOC.

Second Chance Act Summary

- This is a document that was put together as a summary to explain what the Second Chance Act is. Robyn will e-mail this document out to the group before the minutes are distributed. This summary is available for anyone to view.

PLEASE NOTE: The summary was emailed to this group on Thursday 01/07/2010 at 12:58 PM.

Statutory, legal and policy hurdles and barriers to reentry

- For the next meeting, please identify statutory, legal and policy hurdles and barriers to reentry. This has been indicated as part of the Taskplan/Timeline and a report is due to explain these issues.

Next Meeting

- April 21, 2010 1:00 – 3:00 pm in the DOC Multipurpose Room.
- Among the agenda items for the next meeting are:
 1. Discussion involving Barb Garcia regarding work for RC taskforce.

2. Rolands review of the evaluation.
3. Evidence Based Practices information.
4. Supporting the Reentry process update from the suggestions made on the 9/24/2009 meeting.

Robyn Seibel, Corrections Specialist 01/11/10