

# Governor's Re-entry Council

November 12, 2009  
Office of the State Fire Marshal  
4760 Portland Rd NE, Salem, Oregon 97305  
Meeting Minutes

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## **Attendees:**

*Council Members:* Todd Anderson, Kevin Cameron, Ron Chase, Aaron Felton, Ginger Martin, Tom McClellan, Michael McShane, Jerry Moore, Joe O'Leary, Colette S. Peters, Mark Royal, Ross Shepard, Cameron Smith, Max Williams

*Steering Committee Members:* Cindy Booth, Martin Burrows, Mark Cadotte, Val Conley, Pegge McGuire, Nancy Sellers, Heidi Steward

*Interested Observers:* Kimberly Allain, Jennifer Black, Krissa Caldwell, Janet Carlson, Douglas Cooper, Sharon Darcey, Vern Faatz, Chane Griggs, Douglas Harclerod, Tara Lawrence, Barry Maletzky, Sharon Shannon, Ted Smietana, Paul Solomon

## **Max Williams: Welcome and Introductions**

Max Williams, Director of Department of Corrections, thanked everyone for coming and called the meeting to order. Mr. Williams introduced Joe O'Leary, Governor's General Counsel (as of December 1<sup>st</sup>) currently the Governor's Senior Policy Advisor for Public Safety. Mr. O'Leary then introduced Cameron Smith, who will, on December 1<sup>st</sup>, become the Governor's Senior Policy Advisor for Public Safety and a member of the Re-entry Council. Mr. O'Leary also thanked the council members for all the work they have accomplished over the two years of the Council's existence. He said it is apparent progress has been made in the area of re-entry and that the Council has been a major contributor and felt privileged to have been a small part of that effort. Mr. Williams thanked Mr. O'Leary for his kind words and welcomed Cameron Smith.

## **Announcements and Information Sharing**

Nancy Sellers reported Aaron Felton, chairman of the Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision (BPPPS), was recently confirmed by the Senate. Ms. Sellers expressed Mr. Felton's regret at not being well enough to attend the Council meeting today. She said he is looking forward to attending the next Council meeting. Mr. Williams thanked Ms. Sellers and explained that former BPPPS chairperson, Vicki Walker, has recently been appointed to the position of Oregon's Statewide Director for the US Department of Agriculture Rural Development. In response to Ms. Walker's departure from the Senate, Governor Kulongoski has appointed Senator Chip Shields to the Senate seat on the Re-entry Council. Mr. Williams said people who are familiar with Senator Shields know he has a passion for this work and looks forward to him joining the Council.

Mr. Williams reported that during the implementation process of Ballot Measure 57, the legislature identified \$10 million to be provided to the counties for drug and alcohol treatment. The DOC was given the opportunity to administer that money, consistent with the statute and worked through the Community Corrections Commission to develop the administrative rule for the grant application process and the distribution formula. This funding requires a higher level of engagement by the counties, both with their community partners and the tracking and accountability, than the normal community corrections grants. The plans from each county were reviewed and the money is going to be available very soon to those with approved plans. Few counties did not apply. Reports will be forwarded to the commissioners at each county.

### **Review Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Williams asked if there were any changes needed to the minutes from the last meeting that were distributed previously. There were none and the Council unanimously adopted the minutes as submitted.

### **Public Input**

There was no public comment.

### **Re-entry Resource Centers: Lorin Dunlop, Criminal Justice Commission**

Lorin Dunlop is the grant coordinator for the Federal Byrne Grant (\$1.5 million) which was directed to this effort by Governor Kulongoski. Three counties (Multnomah, Lane and Klamath) are submitting proposals based on the framework established by the Steering Committee's Re-entry Resource Centers Workgroup led by Ross Shepard. The grant funds will be dispersed to the counties based on work load. Mr. Williams requested that the Criminal Justice Commission share the grant proposals with the members of the council.

### **Oregon Youth Authority Re-entry Grant: Paula Bauer**

Paula Bauer is with the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and is here today to present information on a \$750,000 federal grant, which will be used to target re-entry challenges of youth being released from OYA facilities. There is also an in-kind match required, which OYA is contributing through staffing and service dollars. OYA has approximately 200 people released each year and DOC has approximately 4,700. Mr. Williams requested that information be shared as barriers are identified and progress toward solutions occurs. Coordination between OYA and DOC is ideal whenever possible. (Presentation attached)

**Marion County: Second Chance Act Grant Programs  
People Can Change Breakfast and Video  
Commissioner Janet Carlson**

Commissioner Carlson distributed a document (attached) which includes information about the Marion County Re-entry Initiative, the Second Chance Act Grants and the programs being funded. The Second Chance Act Grant amount is \$302,768 for one year with the option of a 2-year renewal. The Mentoring for Non-profits grant amount is \$266,970 for 2-years. Mr. Williams congratulated Commissioner Carlson for securing the grants and praised Marion County for such a great effort. The Council wrote a letter of support for the grant application process and we look forward to reports as the work progresses.

Commissioner Carlson then talked about the history of the Call to Action breakfasts begun by local business leader Dick Withnell. "People Can Change" is this year's theme for the breakfast held on October 15, 2009. (Information included in attachment) There was a video produced that was shown at the breakfast, and also to the Council today. Mr. Williams attended and said he thought it was a very powerful message and model. Representative Kevin Cameron also attended and spoke to the group, not only as a legislator, but a businessman. Salem's local access TV station, CCTV, has been running the video of the event, which has resulted in further offers of support. Mr. Williams said the model of this breakfast has been shared with the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors and other county partners with the expectation that versions of this event would be developed in other counties because the message is clearly the same no matter where you go.

**Employment: Draft Letter from Governor to Oregon Businesses**

Ginger Martin distributed a copy of a letter (attached) being worked on by the governor's office at the request of the Washington County Re-entry Council (WCRC). Input from the DOC was requested and is brought to the Council for additional suggestions. Ms. Martin also distributed the WCRC newsletter for November. She explained that the letter was envisioned as encouragement from the Governor to potential employers to consider hiring people with criminal histories and who are otherwise fully qualified. Sharon Shannon, Chair of the WCRC said the plan is to include the letter signed by the governor in a comprehensive, systematic recruitment program being rolled out to potential employers in January. She said they already have a strong mentoring program in Washington County. Pegge McGuire suggested that the target population in the letter be referred to as people, not offenders. Discussion suggested a shorter letter. Mr. Williams asked that comments and suggestions be forwarded to Ginger Martin to be shared with the governor's office. He also invited Ms. Shannon to report results to the Council in a few months.

At the request of Patty Katz, Ms. Martin distributed a copy of a press release (attached) from the Partnership for Safety and Justice, which announces a change on the employment applications of the City of Eugene.

## **DMV Pilot Results and Recommendation**

Tom McClellan, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Administrator, explained the results and the challenges of the pilot program developed with DOC to get State ID cards for inmates prior to leaving incarceration. Over the past few years, legislative changes have tightened security measures around issuing drivers licenses and State ID cards. You must prove your legal residency status. That can be a current passport or immigration papers, Social Security Card or certified/original birth certificate. Those who have a suspended license when convicted and incarcerated must relinquish their driving privileges before applying for a State-issued ID card. The person must still have the required documents. DOC has been providing payment for application fees for birth certificates and Social Security Cards for the last two years at an unfunded cost of over \$100,000 so far. The inmates in the pilot program are housed at Oregon State Penitentiary Minimum facility and taken in small groups to a local DMV office before regular office hours. All the inmates are in restraints and transported by security officers. Completed forms were submitted and photographs taken. Following the DMV office visit, the photographs are run through facial recognition software to check for fraud. Once the ID card was issued, it is mailed either to the Parole Officer, the home address of the person or to the prison, where it is placed in the person's release folder. Mr. McClellan said the DOC has provided excellent documents for those participating in the pilot that made the process run smooth and fast for the DMV. Ron Chase isn't in attendance, but had provided Mr. Williams the suggestion that a voucher, redeemable only at the DMV for 30-days for the drivers' license fee, be included in the release packets, along with the ID Card. This is not a process that can be duplicated at every prison, so barriers remain.

## **Steering Committee Progress of Implementation Work**

Ms. Martin distributed the November 2009 Status Report (attached) and briefly explained each task.

# The Oregon Youth Offender Reentry Project

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OJJDP Second Chance Act Youth  
Offender Reentry Initiative 2009


# Project Objectives

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- To conduct a comprehensive evaluation of juvenile justice system needs for effective transition from youth correctional facilities
- To develop a comprehensive infrastructure in three identified areas of the state to provide transitional support services to target youth
- To provide the details necessary to replicate reentry infrastructure throughout Oregon's juvenile justice service system


# Goals:

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- 100% of program youth will be assessed for reentry and ongoing service needs
- 100% of program youth will receive the reentry and ongoing services identified as needed
- Recidivism\* for the target population will be reduced by 50% within 5 years


**\*For purposes of this grant, recidivism will be measured in several ways:**

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- **Reduce new criminal offenses within 12 months of parole by 50% within 5 years**
- **Reduce re-commitments to OYA YCFs within 12 months of parole by 10% per year beginning in year 2 of grant cycle**
- **Reduce new commitments to Department of Corrections within 12 months of parole by 10% per year, beginning in year 2 of grant cycle**
- **Reduce parole violations within 12 months of parole by 10% per year, beginning in year 2 of grant cycle**


# Target Population & Locations

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**High Risk youth who have ongoing AOD or co-occurring\*  
disorder treatment needs upon release from youth  
correctional facilities**

**\*alcohol/drug and mental health**

**Project sites were selected based on data showing locations  
with disproportionate numbers of youth with ongoing AOD or  
co-occurring disorder treatment needs who fail on parole**


<b>Youth Transition Failures and AOD Transition Needs by Region</b>		
Region	Parole failures within 12 months (a)	Annual parole releases with ongoing AOD needs (b)
Tri County Area	70	85
Lane County	33	41
CEOJC Counties	23	36
Other jurisdictions	81	119
Oregon Statewide	207	281
(a) Youth paroled from OYA youth correctional facilities in 2007 who were revoked or sentenced for a new felony within 12 months of release. (b) Parole releases by jurisdiction, mean average 2006 – 2008. Source: Juvenile Justice Information System		


# Project Infrastructure

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## Two primary council structures:

1. **Statewide Reentry Advisory Council** consist of grant partners and stakeholders, including state-level agency representatives
2. **Five local/regional reentry councils** consist primarily of local resources, including state agency branch personnel, county programs, local law enforcement, and other local service providers

**Whenever possible, the councils will include family members and youth who have been served by the juvenile justice system**


# Statewide Reentry Advisory Council

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The Statewide Reentry Advisory Council will be responsible for developing strategies to address the identified issues and for working collaboratively to resolve them through established interagency agreements, policy modifications, administrative rule changes, or other solutions to systemic barriers


## **Local/regional reentry councils**

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**Each local/regional council will have a project coordinator supported by grant funds**

**These project coordinators will be responsible for:**

- **working with the councils to identify existing local system resources or gaps in resources,**
- **developing a strategic plan for addressing the gaps and,**
- **developing linkages with existing community-based services to support the youth throughout reentry**


# Independent Evaluation

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The grant requires an independent evaluation. In addition to outcome evaluation, the contracted independent evaluator will conduct a process evaluation, including measures of treatment fidelity, so that any features of the interventions that are not being implemented with integrity can be adjusted periodically


# Training opportunities

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The grant supports training for community providers in OYA's treatment approaches and methodologies to ensure treatment is consistent and non-duplicative

The goal is for youth to experience minimal disruptions in their treatment as they transition from facility to community


# Project Design

The project:

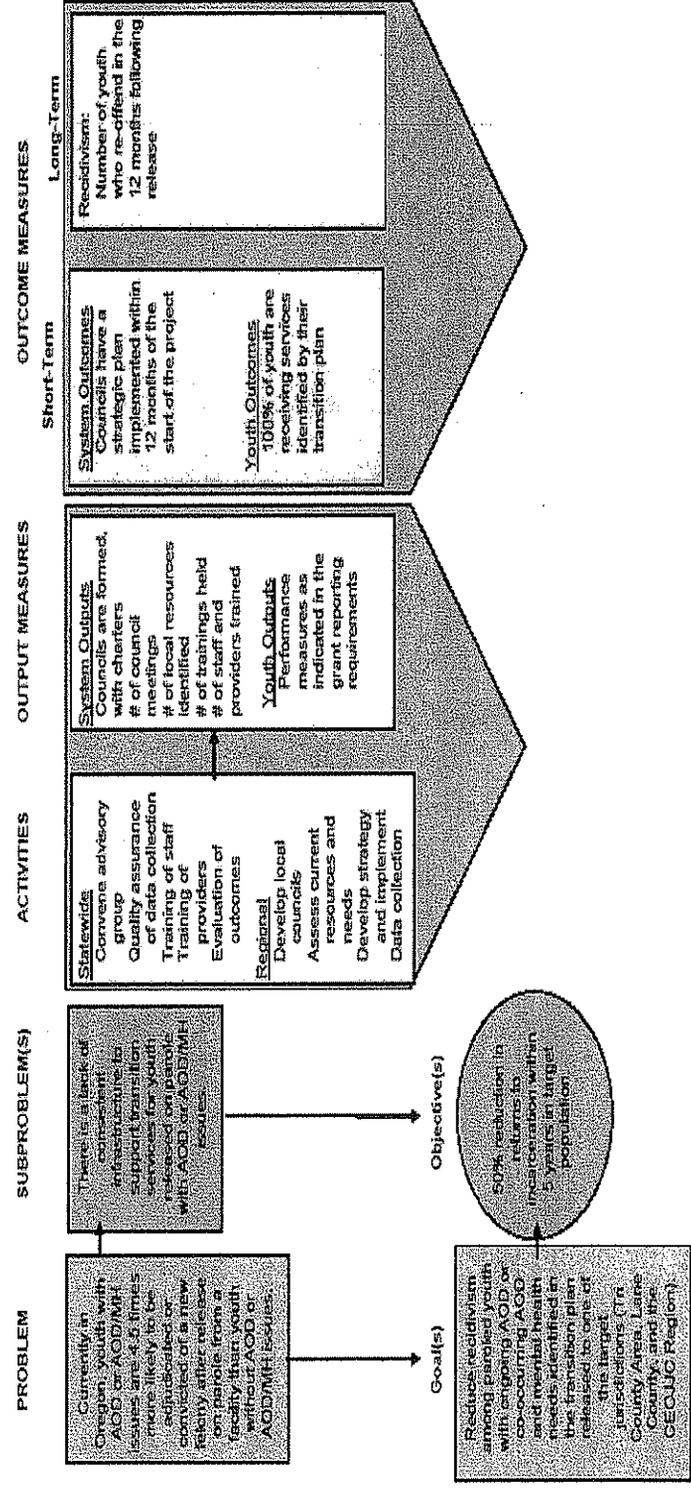
- (a) identifies youth for inclusion at the time of intake to the YCF,
- (b) develops a comprehensive transition plan based upon the youth interests, criminogenic risks, needs, and life goals,
- (c) begins treatment during incarceration and facilitates access to appropriate services prior to release from the correctional facility, and
- (d) provides follow-up treatment services and transition support


# Services:

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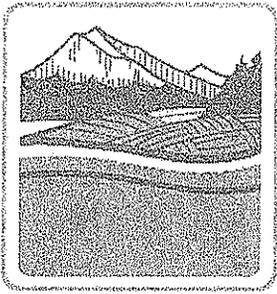
- ★ employment readiness/job training
- ★ employment support
- ★ education/vocational training
- ★ housing
- ★ substance abuse/co-occurring disorder treatment
- ★ pro-social skills development
- ★ community connectivity
- ★ independent living skills


## THE OREGON YOUTH OFFENDER RE-ENTRY PROJECT Logic Model



# Activities timeline

Oregon Youth Offender Reentry Project Timelines for activity achievement	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				
	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	
<b>Assess Current System to Determine Needs</b>	X	X											
o Develop Advisory Group	X	X											
o Evaluate existing processes and organizations/agencies involved in services	X	X											
o Identify data collection system needs	X	X											
o Establish baseline data for requisite measures	X	X											
<b>Utilize Information to Plan Needed Changes</b>													
o Develop streamlined process for service delivery				X									
o Develop data collection system to support review and interpretation of outcomes				X									
<b>Implement New System Design</b>													
o Develop training program for providers													
o Develop training program for JPPOs/Supervisors													
o Implement training for providers					X	X	X						
o Implement training for JPPOs/Supervisors					X	X	X						
o Implement service delivery								X					
o Collect data								X					
<b>Data collection</b>													
o Evaluate outcomes for target population													X
o Evaluate outcomes against performance measures													X
<b>System evaluation</b>													
o Evaluate efficacy of service system													X
o Determine course corrections needed													X
o Inform participants of course corrections													X
<b>Data collection</b>													
o Evaluate outcomes for target population													X
o Evaluate outcomes against performance measures													X
<b>Final Report</b>													
o Evaluate efficacy of grant project													X
o Determine outcomes based on performance measures													X
o Recommendations for future based on experience during grant period													X



*Marion County*  
OREGON

Board of Commissioners

(503) 588-5212  
(503) 588-5237 - FAX

BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

**Samuel Brentano**  
**Janet Carlson**  
**Patti Milne**

CHIEF  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER

**John Lattimer**

**PEOPLE CAN CHANGE  
MARION COUNTY REENTRY INITIATIVE  
OCTOBER 15, 2009 EVENT**

**Interests and commitments**

Attending:

approximately 320 people

Personal commitment of time:

72 individuals

Donations and commitments for donations:

47 individuals in the amount of \$5,966.00

Offering time to speak to employees:

25 organizations and churches

Requesting more information on the initiative:

26 individuals

**Participating organizations**

Marion County

Board of Commissioners

Sheriff's Office

Children and Families Commission

Health Department

Housing Authority

Chemeketa Community College

Community Action Agency

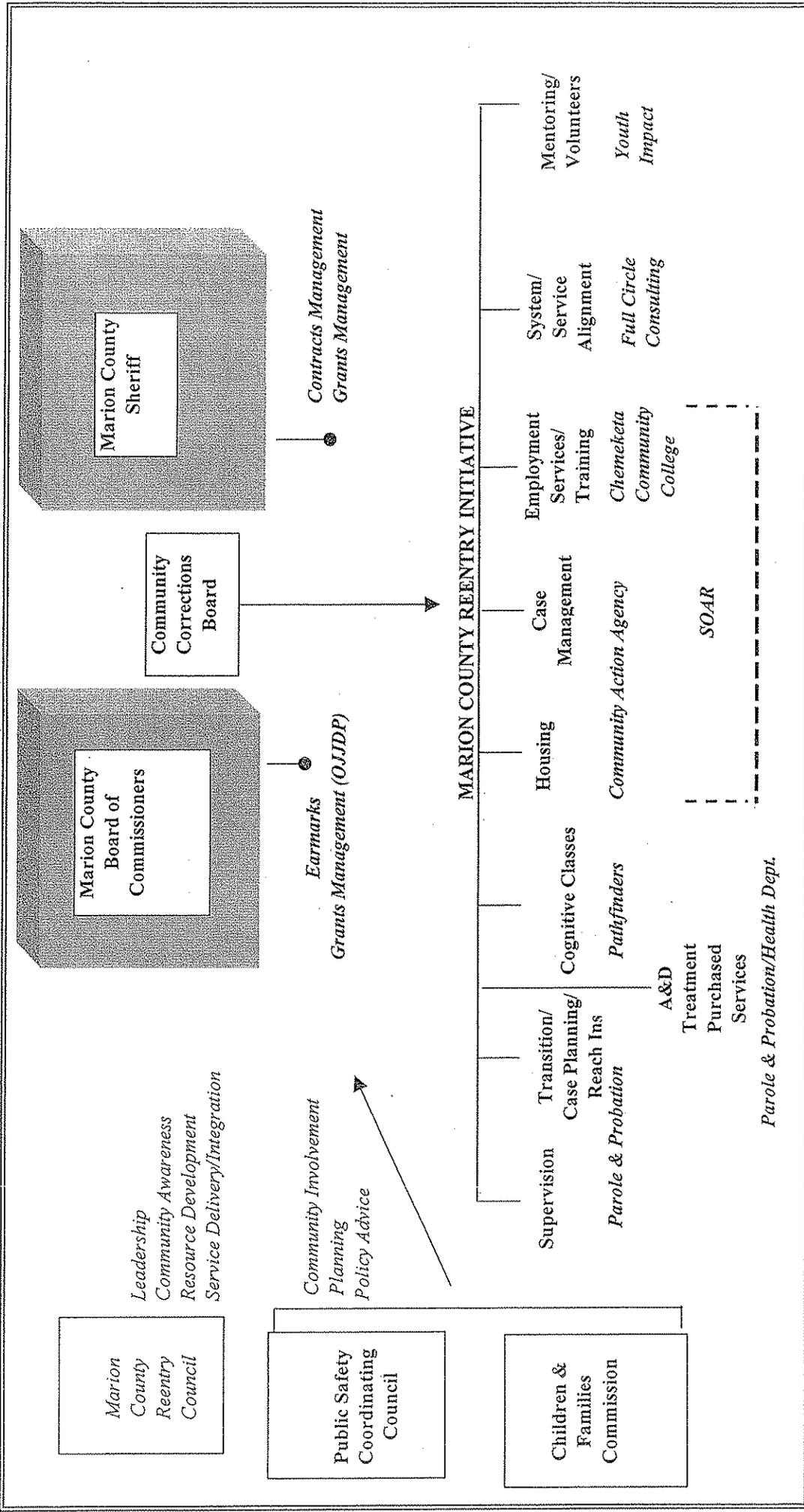
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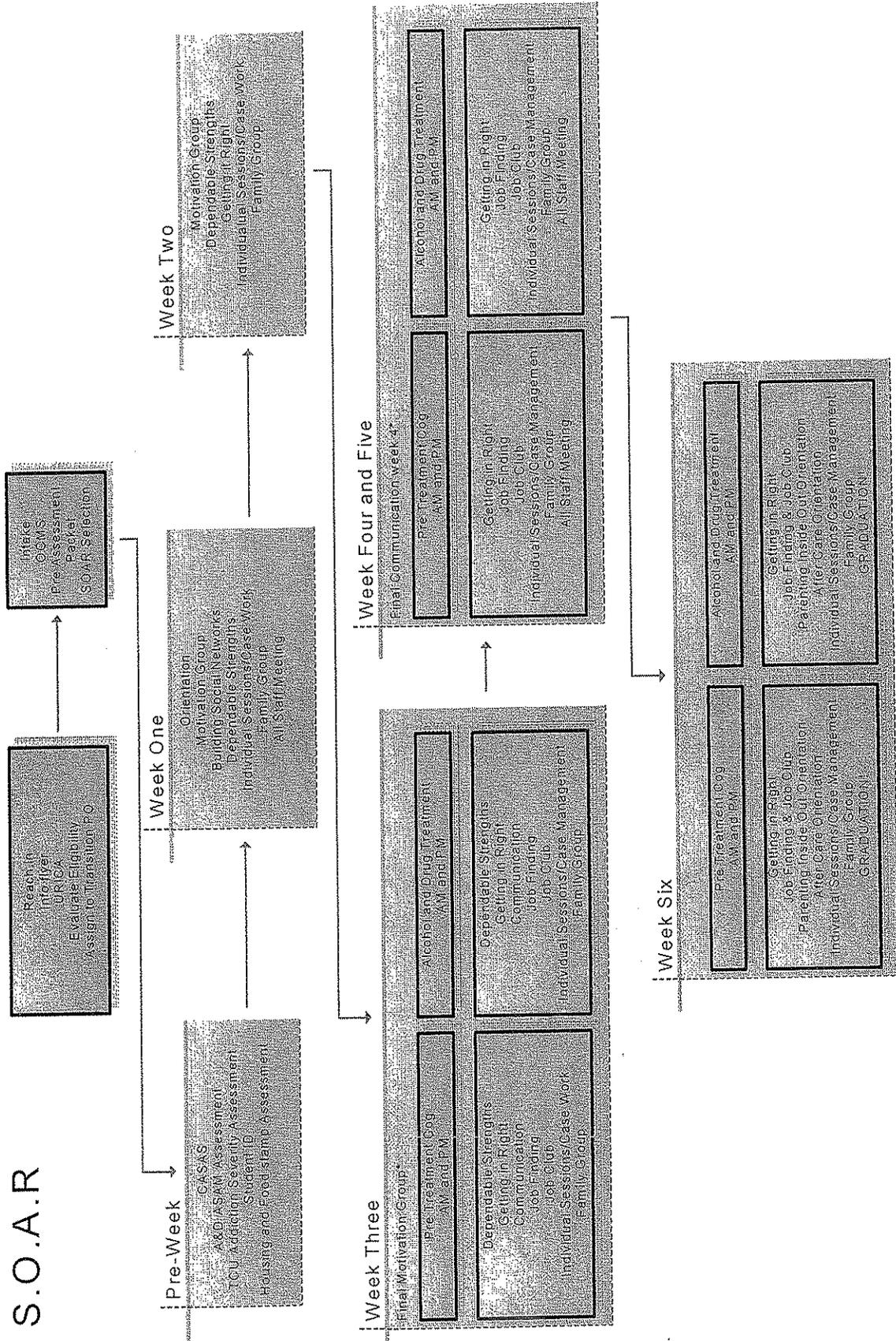
Youth Impact

Pathfinders

U.S. Department of Justice, Second Chance Act Grant



# S.O.A.R



WEEK FIVE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 – 10:30	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	Individual Sessions
10:45 – 12:15	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Communication (TCU)	Getting It Right	Individual Sessions
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 – 3:30	Job Finding	Job Finding	Job Finding	Job Club	All-Staff Meeting
3:30 – 5:30	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	
6:00 – 7:30				Family Group	

WEEK SIX	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 – 10:30	Cog Class or A&D	Individual Sessions			
10:45 – 12:15	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Individual Sessions
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 – 3:30	Job Finding	PIO Orientation	Job Finding	(1-2p)Aftercare Orient (2-3:30) Job Club	<b>SOAR Graduation!!</b>
3:30 – 5:30	Cog Class or A&D				
6:00 – 7:30				Family Group	

WEEK SEVEN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AM Session or PM Session	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	All Staff Meeting
	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	
6:00 – 7:30				Family Group	

WEEK EIGHT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AM Session or PM Session	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	
	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	
6:00 – 7:30				Family Group	

WEEK NINE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AM Session or PM Session	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	
	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	
6:00 – 7:30				Family Group	

# SOAR Schedule – DRAFT (Rev. 10/8/09)

WEEK ONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 – 10:30	Orientation	Motivation Group	Bldg Social Network	Motivation Group	Individual Sessions
10:45 – 12:15	Orientation	Bldg Social Network	Bldg Social Network	Bldg Social Network	Individual Sessions
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 – 3:30	Orientation	DSAP	DSAP	DSAP	All-Staff Meeting
3:30 – 5:30				Family Group	
6:00 – 7:30					

WEEK TWO	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 – 10:30	DSAP	Motivation Group	DSAP	Motivation Group	Individual Sessions
10:45 – 12:15	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Individual Sessions
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 – 3:30	DSAP	DSAP	DSAP	DSAP	Case Mgmt
3:30 – 5:30				Family Group	
6:00 – 7:30					

WEEK THREE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 – 10:30	DSAP Job Magnet	Motivation Group and URICA	DSAP Job Magnet	Cog Class or A&D	Individual Sessions
10:45 – 12:15	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Communication (TCU)	Getting It Right	Individual Sessions
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 – 3:30	Job Finding	Job Finding	Job Finding	Job Club	Case Mgmt
3:30 – 5:30				Cog Class/A&D	
6:00 – 7:30				Family Group	

WEEK FOUR	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 – 10:30	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Cass or A&D	Cog Cass or A&D	Cog Cass or A&D	Individual Sessions
10:45 – 12:15	Getting It Right	Getting It Right	Communication (TCU)	Getting It Right	Individual Sessions
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 – 3:30	Job Finding	Job Finding	Job Finding	Job Club	All-Staff Meeting
3:30 – 5:30	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	Cog Class or A&D	
6:00 – 7:30				Family Group	

(A)

WEEK TEN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AM Session or	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	All Staff Meeting
PM Session	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	
6:00 - 7:30				Family Group	

WEEK ELEVEN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AM Session or	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	
PM Session	Aftercare	PIO	Aftercare	PIO	
6:00 - 7:30				Family Group	

WEEK TWELVE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AM Session or	Aftercare		Aftercare		All Staff Meeting
PM Session	Aftercare		Aftercare		Aftercare Graduation!!
6:00 - 7:30				Family Group	

## **PROGRAM: STUDENT OPPORTUNITY for ACHIEVING RESULTS (SOAR)**

This program was created in partnership with Chemeketa Community College, Marion County Sheriff's Office: P&P Division and Community Action. The program's intervention approach incorporates research, and sound theory. This encompasses the inclusion of an extensive literature review, a theoretical foundation to the programs and its components, and interventions selected that are linked to criminogenic needs. It also encompasses staff knowledge of the interventions, why they are utilized and how to apply them.

The intervention approach is all inclusive of the principles of effective correctional intervention. These principles being are as follows.

- a) The Risk Principle: Focusing primarily with higher risk individuals
- b) The Need Principle: Targeting the Criminogenic predictors of crime and recidivism.
- c) The Treatment Principle: Providing treatment and services that are behavioral in nature:
  - Cognitive behavioral
  - Graduated practice
  - Reinforcement
  - Resource provision
  - Cognitive restructuring
  - Social learning models
  - Role playing
  - Extinction
  - Concrete verbal suggestions
- d) Responsivity Principle: Targeting individuals motivation
- e) Other Considerations: The following will increase treatment effectiveness.
  - Interventions in community base
  - Well-trained, interpersonally sensitive staff.
  - Assisting with other needs of individuals
  - Close monitoring of individuals whereabouts (associates)
  - Follow individuals after they have completed the program give structured relapse prevention and aftercare.

### **The treatment program design including duration and intensity is as follows.**

The SOAR Program is focused on vocational rehabilitations for re-entry individuals; from incarceration to the community. However, it also encompasses elements of motivation, cognitive behavioral applications, substance abuse treatment, family reunification, pro-social skill building, and financial planning. There are also components of 'success based' case planning and case management.

This program design incorporates initial assessments of risk, need and responsivity. At time of initial assessment there will be a minimum of four responsivity tools utilized:

- a) Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS): tool will asses reading and writing abilities.
- b) University of Rhode Island Change Assessment (URICA): determine client's stage of change.
- c) Texas Christian University (TCU) Severity of Addiction

d) Texas Christian University (TCU) Criminal Thinking Scale).

A Mid-term reassessment will occur utilizing the TCU Criminal Thinking Scale. At completion of the treatment program and completion of aftercare re-assessment will occur utilizing the URICA and TCU Criminal Thinking Scale.

Clear criteria will be outlined as to when program terminates for each individual. Completion will be defined by progress in acquiring pro-social behaviors, attitudes, and beliefs while in the program, and not engaging in behavior that seriously jeopardizes community safety. In addition to the initial assessment process there are individual sessions. The purpose of these sessions is to work in collaboration with the individual to design a case plan. This case plan is to address needs (criminogenic factors) and responsibility issues (stage of change, learning style, etc). It is also to identify and address individual strengths and successes. This plan is re-visited and revised at mid-term reassessment and completion reassessment for program and aftercare; and as required during interims.

Upon completion of the program formal discharge plans will be developed. These will include formal referrals to other services, progress to date in meeting target behaviors and goals, and areas that need continued work. This will be reflected in the individuals' program notes and case plan.

Program participants will have an individual session one week prior to program attendance. The purpose of this meeting will be to cover the following items.

1. Case planning
2. Participation agreement
3. Program components
4. Program expectations
5. Review grievance policy
6. Review participant input
7. Review questions & concerns

The program is designed to run four-days per week for six (6) weeks of intensive participation. The four day schedule is from 8:30 – 3:30 OR 10:30 – 5:30. Aftercare runs for six weeks following the treatment program. Aftercare is two-hours per day for four weeks, and then two-hours every two days for two (2) weeks. This is a gender specific program. The program targets medium and high-risk individuals who have a history of substance abuse. The programming is as follows.

The first day of the program will be an Orientation. Topics covered will be as follows.

1. Welcome to all participants.
2. Introduction of Management Team
3. Introduction of Program Facilitators
4. Success plan
5. Overview of program
6. Tour of Campus
7. Closing

## ***TWO-TRACK ASPECT OF PROGRAMMING***

- Everyone does the motivation group. Once completed the University of Rhode Island Change Assessment (URICA) is done to determine person's Stage of Change.
- Pre-contemplators move into pre-treatment Cog Class I: Changing Offender Behavior.
- Anyone over Contemplation move into Alcohol & Drug (A&D) treatment.

***\* Everyone attends all other facets of program.***

### ***1. Motivation Based Curriculum***

Elicits & effects positive change in the lives of people struggling with life choices and personal behavior, affecting their overall health, wellbeing and functioning.

- Utilizes motivational interviewing strategies.
- Evidence-based practice format and implementation process.

### ***2. Changing Offender Behavior (pre-treatment cog. class)***

This EBP curriculum targets antisocial thoughts and skill deficits by using a behavioral approach that includes modeling, rehearsing and rewarding.

### ***3. Texas Christian University (TCU) Straight Ahead: Transition Skills for Recovery (A&D treatment)***

This EBP curriculum is designed to reinforce key recovery concepts.

- On the National Registry for Evidence Based Practices (NREBP)

### ***4. (TCU) Building Social Networks***

This EBP curriculum focuses on helping corrections individuals learn ways to build and strengthen support for recovery.

- Topics Covered: Social Networks in Recovery  
Support Groups and Your Recovery  
When Other Family Members Use
- On the NREBP

### ***5. Dependable Strengths***

This program is to assist individuals in identifying their individual areas of strength, bring this to their awareness, enable the person to do their best work and experience their greatest satisfaction and effectiveness in life.

- Addresses Criminogenic factor of employment.

### ***6. Job Search and Job Club***

These programs are to assist individuals with employment.

- Topics Covered:  
Skill assessment  
Soft skills development  
Job application and resume writing  
Job search techniques, monitor of job search efforts

### ***7. Getting It Right***

This EBP curriculum is for 'successful transition and community integration.'

- Topics covered:

- Responsible Relationships (family, friends, community)
- Responsible Thinking (thinking errors and getting sidetracked)
- Managing My Life (skills to successful living in the community: financial, time management, legal issues, coping skills, employment)
- Relapse Prevention (patterns leading to old criminogenic behaviors)

### ***8. (TCU) Ideas for Better Communication***

This EBP curriculum focuses on corrections individuals for improving relationships through effective healthy communication.

- Topics covered:

- Communication Roadblocks
  - Repairing Relationships
  - Communication Style
- On the NREBP

### **AFTERCARE Program**

Aftercare development occurs during treatment and is finalized upon completion from the program. Some of the components are begun during the treatment phase of the program, and end during the aftercare phase. The intensity of treatment decreases as one enters aftercare, and then the intensity of aftercare decreases. Aftercare runs for a minimum of five sessions per week, two hours each session, for first five weeks. This is followed by three sessions per week, two hours each session for six week.

### **Three Components**

#### **1) Parenting: Parenting Inside Out**

This EBP curriculum is for parents and/or partners who have been incarcerated.

- Ten 2-hour sessions.
- Meets twice weekly.

#### **2) MATRIX: Social Support Group**

This is an EBP designed aftercare program which helps individuals learn to relearn socialization skills; develop a substance-free lifestyle that supports their recovery. This aspect of MATRIX is also beneficial to the experienced participants who often strengthen their recovery skills by serving as role models and staying mindful of the basic tenets of abstinence.

- 'Menu' of topics to choose from = 'individualized for current participants'
- Twelve 2-hour sessions
- Meets twice weekly

### 3. MATRIX: Family Education Group

This is an EBP designed family group attended by individuals and their families.

- Topics Covered: Substance abuse and/or addiction
  - Treatment
  - Recovery
  - Substance abuse and dependence affect on family members
  - How family members can support individual's recovery
- Ten 2-hour sessions
- Meets once weekly

#### MENTOR Program

The purpose of this aspect of the program is to primarily assist individuals toward a lifestyle that is conducive to recovery and education, to build pro-social support in the community, increase pro-social thoughts and behaviors, and decrease recidivism. The Mentor will work closely with the Probation Officer and other inter-related agencies. Mentor is responsible for assisting with support in finding housing, clothing, food baskets, 12 STEP meetings and/or other support groups, advocacy, and how to utilize community resources that may match the needs of the individuals. A primary responsibility is to provide support by mentoring the student during the early stages of re-entry. \*The Mentor will be part of the reach-in process.

**Student Opportunities for Achieving Results  
(SOAR)**

**Program Acronyms**

A&D	=	Alcohol & Drug
ACCBO	=	Addiction Counselor Certification Board of Oregon
AMH	=	Addiction & Mental Health Services (State of Oregon)
ASAM	=	American Society of Addiction Medicine (National)
CADC	=	Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor (This is a state of Oregon Certification @ levels of I, II or III)
CAA	=	Community Action Agency
CFS	=	Center for Family Success
CMHS	=	Center for Mental Health Services (National)
CSAP	=	Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (National)
CSAT	=	Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (National)
Cog.	=	Cognitive
Cog. Skills	=	Cognitive Skills
ODOC	=	Oregon Department of Corrections
DSAP	=	Dependable Strengths Articulation Process
EBP	=	Evidence-Based Program OR Evidence-Based Process
LADPC	=	Local Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee
MCSO	=	Marion County Sheriff's Office
NCAC	=	National Certification of Addiction Counselor
NREBP	=	National Registry of Evidence Based Programs
OCMS	=	Oregon Case Management System
OMHAS	=	Office of Mental Health & Addiction Services (Oregon)
P&P	=	Parole & Probation
QFC	=	Quest for Change (transitional housing)
QMHP	=	Qualified Mental Health Professional
SAMHSA	=	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (National)
TCU	=	Texas Christian University

**Program Curriculum:**

1. MG = Motivation Group
2. Cog. Class = Changing Offender Behavior (pre-treatment cognitive class)
3. TCU: SATSR = (TCU) Straight Ahead: Transition Skills for Recovery (A&D program)
4. TCU: BSN = (TCU) Building Social Networks
5. DSAP = Dependable Strengths
6. JS & JC = Job Search and Job Club
7. GIR = Getting It Right
8. TCU: IBC = (TCU) Ideas for Better Communication

**Assessment Tools**

1. CASAS = Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System
2. LS/CMI = Level of Service Case Management Inventory
3. LSIR = Level of Service Inventory Revised
4. OCMS = Oregon Case Management System
5. URICA = University of Rhode Island Change Assessment
6. TCU: Texas Christian University a) TCU Criminal Thinking Scale  
b) TCU Severity of Addiction

# OPINION

Opinion pages constitute a modern town square, where readers should find a variety of viewpoints — ones that will challenge their own as well as complement their own. Columns, letters, guest opinions, blogs, Sound Off posts and cartoons represent the views of their authors. Editorials — Our Viewpoint — represent the composite view of the Statesman Journal Editorial Board and are the institutional voice of the newspaper.

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## Our Viewpoint

# Program aims to break cycle of crime, jail time

**L**aw enforcement is a permanent business: There will always be bad guys and gals to arrest, prosecute and put behind bars. And then re-arrest, prosecute and incarcerate them when they commit new crimes after being released from prison.

A group of people wants to slow that revolving door. If they are right, they'll save taxpayers a lot of money during the long term while making Marion County a safer place to live and work.

The Marion County Reentry Initiative aims to help released inmates make a successful transition from prison life to civil society. The initiative has brought together people from a wide swath of the community: county agencies, business organizations, nonprofits, Chemeketa Community College, treatment programs and law enforcement.

These are not pie-in-the-sky

## Additional facts

To learn more about the Marion County Reentry Initiative, volunteer as a mentor or make a tax-deductible donation, write to P.O. Box 3078, Salem, OR 97302.

do-gooders. They are hard-nosed executives and law-enforcement professionals who take a dollars-and-cents approach to recidivism. They recognize the return on investment.

It is less expensive — a better return on investment — to provide the temporary housing, training and treatment services to help a released inmate become a law-abiding taxpayer than it is to recycle that inmate through prison again and again.

Without that intervention, the generational cycle of crime will continue unabated. Marion County Commissioner Janet Carlson notes that children of incarcerated parents are five to six times more like-

ly to commit crimes.

The reverse also is true. If released inmates make successful transitions, there will be fewer crime victims, less property damage, and less need for foster care and social services for inmate families.

An average of four inmates per day leave prison into the supervision of Marion County parole and probation officers. Already, more than 4,000 people are on parole or probation in the county.

Even more will be released from prison in the next few months under the Legislature's money-saving early release programs.

Many of the inmates leave prison with no place to stay, little money, no resources for finding a job and few friends other than their old criminal element. So it's not surprising that as many as one-third of released inmates soon commit a crime that lands them back in prison.

The Marion County Reentry Initiative uses evidence-based programs to increase the odds of success.

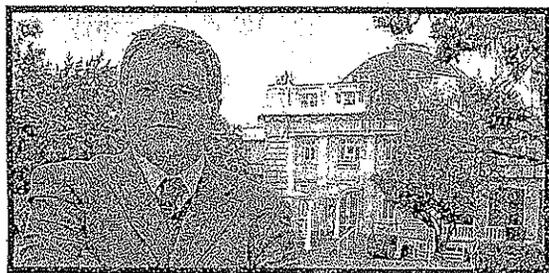
County parole and probation officers meet with the inmates before they're released. More housing, drug- and alcohol-treatment and related services are being made available, thanks to government grants. Chemeketa is starting transition and job-preparation classes for inmates in January. Volunteer mentors are being recruited.

But there aren't nearly enough mentors or services for all the released inmates who could benefit.

It's also likely that many released inmates will drop out. But even if the program can cut the recidivism rate by a few percentage points, it will have a dramatic effect on crime and social services in our county.

The alternative — an insidious revolving door that spins faster and faster at Oregon's prisons — is unacceptable.

# Education is crucial to crime prevention, recovery



## Max Williams

*This column is adapted from a speech that Max Williams recently gave at luncheon for the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation.*

As the director of the Oregon Department of Corrections, I may seem an unlikely person to be asked to speak at the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation luncheon about the importance of education. But every day I see firsthand the need for a quality education system. The relationship between Corrections and education is closer and more intertwined than you might think.

Over the past five and a half years, I have regularly heard the phrase "lock them up and throw away the key". What most people don't know is that 93 percent of all Oregon inmates will be released back into our communities. So locking up inmates and throwing away the key doesn't work if you want them to be productive members of society when they go home. For the vast majority of offenders, our job is to help give them the needed skills to be successful.

So, how do we work with offenders to help them become productive members of society

As a bit of background, we house 14,000 offenders in 14 institutions across the state. Our budget for the 2009-11 biennium is \$1.4 billion. By any standard, this is a great deal of money and a lot of offenders to supervise, house, clothe, feed and provide appropriate health care and treatment. Managing this many inmates comes with many challenges, but here are just a few.

Over 60 percent of Oregon inmates need education skill upgrades. Some need to learn to read and do math at the eighth-grade level. For others it's getting a GED. Over a third of DOC inmates are under 30 years old, meaning they have a lot of life left to live and we know that education is effective in reducing recidivism. If we can give an offender with a high risk to reoffend an education skill upgrade, his or her chance of being convicted of a new crime drops by 27 percent.

At the Department of Corrections, we are also working to help the next generation lead a successful crime-free life. It is important to not only focus on offenders, but also their children as we try to break the intergenerational

## Additional facts

About the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation:

**HISTORY:** Founded in 1982, SKEF is the oldest community-based nonprofit in Oregon dedicated to enriching the quality of education in its local public schools.

During its 27-year history, SKEF has awarded more than 1,200 grants to teachers totaling more than \$1,100,000. It currently funds an average of 30 projects and about \$50,000 each year.

**INITIATIVES:** Academy for Teaching and Learning, Enrichment Academy, Tools for Schools. Subject initiatives in Literacy, Math, Science and Technology; Environmental Studies; Multicultural Literacy; The Arts.

**FUNDRAISING:** At the fundraising luncheon this fall, \$60,000 was committed or raised, with more funds, volunteers and in-kind contributions coming in every week. SKEF is halfway toward its goal of raising \$200,000 to support its work.

**SIGNATURE EVENT:** Awesome 3000 annual children's run. This year's Awesome 3000 involved more than 3,000 children and netted \$65,000 for the foundation.

**HOW TO GET INVOLVED:** (503) 364-2933 or [krina@skeducationfoundation.org](mailto:krina@skeducationfoundation.org), or visit the SKEF offices and gallery Where the Sidewalk Begins, at 233 Commercial St. NE (next to The Blue Pepper).

**HOW TO DONATE:** Use the contact information above or go to [www.skeducationfoundation.org](http://www.skeducationfoundation.org) to make a secure online donation or see the wish list for in-kind contributions.

**SOURCE:** Salem Education Foundation

Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, our women's prison in Wilsonville. It is designed to create a lasting bond between mother and child and help the mother become an effective parent upon release.

The program provides services which include education, health and nutrition services to children, family support to mothers and caregivers through individual home visits and transitional planning for the family upon the mother's release.

Unfortunately, the Department of Corrections is dealing with these problems after the fact. But what if we could address the issue before a child or young adult begins making the choices that ultimately lead to prison? What

engaged that child or young adult at a critical time in their development? What if an after-school program provided the extra homework time and an adult role model or mentor who gave that child an example to look up to? Before these 14,000 offenders we supervise were inmates, they were children. Children are our opportunity.

Undoubtedly a robust education system, targeting the necessary protective factors, will help reduce the long-term burdensome cost of crime and corrections. I am not so Pollyannaish as to believe the Department of Corrections will ever be entirely out of work. But crime prevention can change the trajectory of prison growth, and an effective, robust education system is a

“  
As a state, we need to commit to the educational success of our children and, in doing so, we can ultimately reduce the number of people we incarcerate.”

As a state, we need to commit to the educational success of our children and, in doing so, we can ultimately reduce the number of people we incarcerate. We do not have to be bound by our prison population forecasts. We do not have to accept that a certain percentage of first-graders will drop out of high school, commit crimes and go to prison. We can do better than our forecasts. By our commitment to education, we can give all children the opportunity to make their lives happy, healthy and productive. We must hold on to our values that in Oregon all things are possible for all people. Programs supported by the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation contribute to our efforts of building the robust education system that we need.

*Max Williams of Tizard is the director of*

DRAFT—DRAFT—DRAFT

I am writing to you, seeking your partnership on an important issue for Oregonians. Due to the tremendous growth in incarceration over the past fifteen years in Oregon, offenders are returning to communities at the conclusion of their prison sentences in record numbers. Ninety-seven percent of those who go to prison will be released at some point in their lives, about 4,000 per year in our state.

Improving the rates of success for people leaving prison will result in safer communities, fewer crime victims. It also saves future government costs for incarceration, law enforcement, jails, courts, prosecution costs, property loss or damage, as well as the treatment and health care costs of crime victims.

The successful reintegration of offenders returning from prison requires the efforts of both the public and the private sectors, including local businesses. Our long-term interest in promoting safe communities requires that we address the transition from prison to community living. We do know that there is a relationship between employment and crime: multiple studies have shown that having a job is associated with lower rates of re-offending. As a result, we provide work experience through in-prison jobs, basic education for everyone without a high school credential, as well as vocational programs and apprenticeships as a first step in improving employability of inmates. Obviously, having been incarcerated can reduce the employability of these same people when employers automatically screen out anyone with a criminal record.

My request to you, and my hope, is that you will consider hiring people with criminal histories for appropriate positions within your organization. I would not ask you to give someone with a criminal history any special consideration, but rather to consider such a person who is otherwise qualified for the job rather than automatically screening him or her out of the selection process at the start.

Working together, we can achieve better results in terms of reducing the re-offending that creates new crime victims. Increasing the success rates of people leaving prison represents not only better public safety, but more responsible stewardship of limited public resources.



# WASHINGTON COUNTY REENTRY COUNCIL

from the past to the future ... together

150 N. First Avenue  
Suite 200  
Hillsboro, OR 97124  
503.846.3700  
503.709.4757  
wrcr1@comcast.net

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 18  
1-3 pm

Civic Center Complex  
Auditorium  
150 East Main Street  
Hillsboro

Free parking at Complex  
Everyone Welcome

## Newsletter Submissions

Please submit to  
wrcr1@comcast.net  
by mid-month

## Mailing List

To add or remove your  
email address, contact  
charlenedrogers@  
yahoo.com

## Mission

To improve the  
reentry process and  
increase success for  
justice-involved persons  
through resource identifi-  
cation and development,  
a centralized information  
system, employer recruit-  
ment and community  
education

## Guiding Principles

Inclusion  
Collaboration  
Transparency

## WCRC Update

WCRC has moved rapidly during its first few months toward fulfillment of its initial goals. All Washington Co. agencies, reentry organizations and interested community members have been invited to participate. Many have become active members, briefing the Council on their services and identifying available resources as well as unmet needs.

A centralized information system is building around the Newsletter and an expanding distribution list; community education under the banner: People can change...and they DO! is currently underway; and an employer recruitment effort is next.

## Subcommittees Activated

As WCRC transitions from start-up to sustained development, the role of subcommittees becomes increasingly important. The Employment and Faith committees have been activated, with others to follow. You can take a leadership role in WCRC by chairing a subcommittee. Respond to wrcr1@comcast.net.

## Jail Reach-In For Vets

Washington County Veterans' Services has begun 'train the trainer' courses at the jail in order to effectively reach more veterans. It's often difficult to get word to those in jail rather than prison regarding available benefits due to usually short jail stays, according to Paula Brown, Deputy Director of the Oregon Dept. of Veterans' Affairs.

The Sheriff's Office will be coordinating a veteran snapshot count, and has requested Classifications to add a questionnaire re veteran status to the formal class interview process.

## Eugene Bans the Box

In a big win for reentry, The City of Eugene has agreed to remove the question, "Have you ever been convicted of a felony?" from its initial job application forms starting July 1. This will increase employment access for people with conviction histories, and is the latest victory for Partnership for Safety and Justice and its Beyond Barriers Program under leadership of Director Patty Katz.

Eugene joins a growing list including Multnomah County and the entire State of Minnesota in applying best practices in regard to the hiring of justice-involved people.

Stable employment is a primary factor in making a successful transition back into the community. By removing the question about conviction history from initial applications, the hiring process will become open to all qualified applicants, who can then be asked about previous convictions later in the interview process. Eugene plans to gather data and evaluate after one year.

Patty and Dennis Stichman, HR Analyst for Washington County Corrections, will address 'The Box' at the WCRC November meeting.

It's not possible to do everything  
with nothing, but it is possible to  
do a lot with very little.

Sharon Shannon, WCRC Chair

## Reentry Breakfast Raises \$\$

Over 300 people pledged several thousand dollars in support of reentry efforts at the October 19 Marion County breakfast in Salem, according to Commissioner Janet Carlson. This is a funding model that WCRC could consider replicating in the future.



[www.safetyandjustice.org](http://www.safetyandjustice.org)

503-335-8449 • P.O. Box 40085 • Portland, OR 97240-0085 • 503-232-1922 (fax)

**For Immediate Release  
Thursday, October 15, 2009**

**Contact: Patty Katz  
503-335-8449**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **City of Eugene to "Think Outside the Box"**

One of the major barriers for people with conviction histories is getting a job. Partnership for Safety and Justice (PSJ) announced today that employment opportunities with the City of Eugene will be improved when the city becomes the second government entity in Oregon to remove the question "Have you ever been convicted of a felony?" from their initial employment application.

Instead the city will ask the question on a supplemental questionnaire or at the appropriate time during each individual hiring process.

*"The city can hire the most qualified applicants when they don't exclude people unnecessarily," says Patty Katz, director of PSJ's Beyond Barriers Program.*

*"We're not saying conviction histories shouldn't be considered at all. We're saying they shouldn't be considered on initial job applications because we don't want people to be indiscriminately screened out and we don't want to discourage people who could be the most qualified applicants from applying."* Eugene City Manager John Ruiz agreed to pilot a project to make city jobs available to qualified people with conviction histories. The city joins a number of counties and cities across the country in supporting the hiring of people with conviction histories, including Oregon's largest county, Multnomah, which changed its job application in 2007 at PSJ's urging.

Partnership for Safety and Justice was the lead organization in a local campaign to encourage the City of Eugene to "Think Outside the Box." Many local Eugene organizations, faith-based leaders and community members worked side-by-side with PSJ.

In a letter to Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy, Multnomah County Chair Ted Wheeler encouraged the city to change their employment application, saying that together the county and the city can lead the way for others in the state to do the same.

Supporting the success of people with conviction histories reduces recidivism and increases public safety. Securing stable employment is one of the primary factors in making a successful transition back into the community.

*"When a person has been convicted of a crime and paid their legal penalty, we do not want to saddle them with a life sentence of being unable to find a decent job" says Paul Solomon, PSJ's board president and Asst. Executive Director of Sponsors, Inc., a transitional housing program for formerly incarcerated people in Eugene.*

--MORE--

*"Research indicates that people who have and maintain decent jobs are less likely to re-offend. In fact, after five years of being crime free, that person is no more likely to re-offend than someone of the same age who has never been convicted of a crime. If a person with a criminal history is the most qualified applicant for a position, we should do everything we can to encourage that person to apply, and that is what the City of Eugene has done."*

Partnership for Safety and Justice is a statewide, non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to making Oregon's criminal justice system more just and better equipped to strengthen public safety.

###

## **Reentry Council Steering Committee Implementation Tasks November 2009 Status Report**

### **State issued photo ID at release**

The DOC and the DMV began a pilot program in which inmates are transported to the DMV so that they can be issued state photo ID cards prior to release. The pilot will be evaluated in August and will inform next steps in expanding the program.

- The pilot program has ended and we are tracking performance of inmates released with state ID cards. Results and recommended next steps to be presented at the November Reentry Council.

### **Strategy to increase transitional housing**

A shared investment strategy has been developed and approved by the Council. Full implementation requires development of financial resources.

- The DOC Executive Team has agreed to support a budget policy package in the agency request budget due in 2010 for 2011-2013.
- Next: Department of Corrections and Oregon Housing and Community Services will meet to develop a strategy for developing financial resources.

### **Pilot multi-service sites**

\$1.5 million in federal funds have been set aside to fund three pilot multi-service sites in Multnomah, Lane, and Klamath Counties in 2009-2011.

- Planning meetings have occurred in each community, including state and federal probation/parole and local service providers.
- Next: The Criminal Justice Commission has issued a request for proposals from each of the participating counties, showing dollars available for each: \$943,750 in Multnomah County, \$406,214 in Lane County, and \$150,035 in Klamath County.

### **Verification of work skills**

Create a process inside the prison system for verifying and/or certifying technical/work skills and soft skills

- A format for reviewing soft skills has been developed. Oregon Correctional Enterprises is currently piloting the evaluation for all of their workers within one year of release.

- For inmates participating in the Road to Success reentry program, a work history/resume is being prepared prior to release.
- Next: In the short term, for inmates who do not participate in reentry programming, the release counselor will assist that person in creating a record of prison jobs and experience until changes are made in Inmate Work Programs. In the long term plan, Inmate Work Programs will assume responsibility for conducting job interviews, evaluating job performance, and verifying work history and skills.

### **In-prison job search resources**

Information system experts from Employment and DOC are in the process of determining how to provide internet access to bring the wealth of career development and job hunting resources available from Work Source Oregon Center inside institutions.

- Next: A Salem area prison (OSCI) will pilot internet access to employment resources.

### **Continuity of care**

Offenders with serious health and/or behavioral health needs will leave custody with an appointment with a community provider, a transition plan that addresses health and/or behavioral health issues including prosocial support systems, and records will be accessible to health care providers in the community.

- A meeting with county mental health providers and corrections treatment and release staff occurred in September. The mental health directors have agreed to ongoing meetings and were agreeable to identifying a single contact in each county to assist coordination with prison mental health care providers.
- Next: DOC, DHS, and representative from the mental health director's association will meet to follow-up on issues raised at the September meeting.

### **Access to benefits**

Define a model for a community-based advocate available to assist with the application process for benefits for which a returning offender may be eligible.

- The Oregon Law Center is promoting legislation to restore general assistance (GA). ~~GA provides a competent liaison to assist disabled~~ people navigate the application and appeal process in addition to monthly cash support and health benefits to individuals while they are applying for SSI/SSDI benefits.

- Next: The Oregon Law Center will meet with the Continuity of Care Work Group to develop and promote this initiative.

### **Reentry Wiki**

Continue building the web-based directory for reentry services, programs, resources, and information listed by county.

- The Reentry Wiki was featured on the Governor's web page and is up and running.

### **Repaying Debts**

Working with Partners for Safety and Justice, conduct overview of how financial obligations are currently created by the criminal justice system, including identifying challenges and potential problems in the current system.

- Next: PSU graduate students are preparing to interview 40-60 crime victims who are owed restitution prior to the work group of experts on levying or collecting criminal justice system debt.

### **Messaging**

Bring in experts on messaging to assist Council in determining what the message should be and who the messenger should be if we are to build public understanding for supporting the success for those returning from incarceration. The proposed audiences are potential employers and landlords.

- A meeting was held 10/9/09 between members of the Ending Homelessness Advisory Council (EHAC) of the OHCS and representatives from the Reentry Council and Steering Committee's messaging workgroup, to combine efforts on "messaging tough issues to achieve maximum support."
- Representatives from this joint implementation group on messaging attended a lecture November 10, 2009 given by Patrick Bresette, titled: "A Case for Government: Reframing Public Perception."
- Next: The group will engage a facilitator to help create a messaging action plan using Patrick Bresette information as foundation.

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### **Proposals for Legislation**

The Steering Committee is reviewing barriers to reentry that require a legislative solution. Several areas identified to date have been to prevent criminal history from being a part of a job application for a public entity, providing some level of limited liability to employers of people with criminal histories, and developing the

funding needed for the transitional housing strategy already approved by the Council.

- Next: The Employment Work Group will meet in late November to develop a draft legislative concept using the Minnesota law dealing job applications and liability as the foundation.

**WORK GROUPS STILL DEVELOPING STRATEGIES:**

Lack of dental services/care for inmates which effects employability

Housing: transitional housing in rural areas, permanent housing post-transition, technical assistance for local jurisdictions wanting to develop housing