Reentry Considerations for Women Leaving Jails

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National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women
A project of the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Corrections
Challenges of Jail Reentry

- Large booking volume
- Rapid population turnover
- Disparate populations
- Limited programming capacity
- Limited post-release supervision
  - Many releases no one’s formal responsibility
Transition from Jail to Community (TJC) Initiative

Initiated by National Institute of Corrections cooperative agreement with Urban Institute in 2007 to:

- Develop a TJC model to assist with implementing effective transition strategies
- Select and provide implementation assistance to TJC learning sites
  - Phase 1 Sites: 2008-2012
  - Phase 2 Sites: 2012-2015
  - CA AB109 Site: 2012-2015
- Conduct process and systems-change evaluation of TJC
- Disseminate TJC knowledge to inform practice nationwide
  - Web-based TJC Online Learning Toolkit
TJC Learning Sites

La Crosse County, WI
Denver, CO
Kent County, MI
Orange County, CA
Douglas County, KS
Howard County, MD
Fresno County, CA
Duval County, FL
Franklin County, MA
Ada County, ID
Hennepin County, MN
San Diego County, CA
Santa Barbara County, CA
Davidson County, TN

PHASE I
AB 109
PHASE II
Triage Approach to Interventions

Screening

Assessment

Case/Transition planning

Jail-based interventions

Post-Release interventions

Medium and High Risk

Low Risk

Long LOS

Short LOS

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Structuring Hand-Off

- Who are appropriate hand-off partners?
  - Consistency of approach
  - Quality of programming/services
    - Is the programming and services continuum appropriately different for women?
- Can that relationship start prior to release?
  - Will women have equal access to in-reach?
- Is there capacity to meet criminogenic and other needs?
  - Prioritizing and sequencing
- Are outcomes tracked?
Hub and Spoke Model: Kent County

Reentry Pod

Valued Community Member (VCM) Program Unit

Network 180

Release

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Network Model: Davidson County

Davidson County Sheriff’s Office
Boundary-Spanning Partner Model: La Crosse County

Justice Sanctions
• Assessment
• Case Planning
• Direct Service
• Supervision

Jail-Based Programming

Release
Gender Responsivity at the System Level

Leadership, vision, and organizational culture
- Attention from formal leadership
- Org cultures attuned to issues particular to women throughout the reentry continuum

Collaborative structure and joint ownership
- Community stakeholders advocate for attention to women
- Knowledge on gender responsive practices often with community partners

Data-driven understanding of local reentry
- Data analysis of needs and issues for women in the justice system
- Men will predominate in general pop analyses

Self-evaluation and sustainability
- Track outcomes by gender
- Building competency to work with women as part of long-term sustainability strategy
## Women and the Reentry Knowledge Base

### What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse Studies

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*National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women*
System Challenges

- Developing continuum, where it’s clear who the hand-off partner is and why
- Developing the knowledge and skill base
  - Working toward trauma-informed system
    - Knowledge of these issues throughout partner agencies
  - Investing in community partners
  - Spreading what individuals/organizations know to what the system knows
- Building consistency of approach
  - Cross-training
- Collaborative case management and program delivery