



Governor's Reentry Council

Colette S. Peters, Vice Chair

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Joint Interim Committee on Judiciary

Update on Governor's Reentry Council

Reentry Council Overview

The Governor's Reentry Council is a statewide leadership group to work collaboratively on improving the success and safety of incarceration to community transition.

- ❑ Established May 14, 2007 by Executive Order (07-05)
- ❑ Council convened November 21, 2007
- ❑ Council meets quarterly each year: March, June, September, December
- ❑ Membership includes Senate and House appointees, state agency directors, social service providers with expertise in offender transition, and other members at the Governor's invitation

Reentry Workgroups and Goals Established in 2008

Employment

Goal: Improve the statewide employment and retention rates of offenders by focusing on policies, laws, practices and perceptions that contribute to the success of returnees.

Housing

Goal: Ensure transitional housing is available for every offender released from DOC custody without a stable, alcohol and drug-free residence.

Continuity of Care

Goal: Promote successful community reintegration and improve public safety by addressing individual offender needs for access to and continuity of necessary health and behavioral health care.

Re-entry/Transition Service Centers

Goal: Develop the Oregon model for one-stop Transition Service Centers with facilitated access to local, integrated services designed to stabilize Oregonians returning from incarceration.

System Improvements & Accomplishments

- Service-enriched re-entry and transitional housing
- Re-entry programming delivered within DOC
- Employer perception survey
- Work history verification (HB 2490, 2009)
- Continuity of health care (medical and mental health)
- Improved services to incarcerated veterans
- State-issued identification at release

System Improvements & Accomplishments

- Continuity of care MOU
- Re-entry kiosks
- Re-entry programming delivered inside DOC
- One-stop re-entry services centers
- Revisions to conditions of release

System Improvements & Accomplishments

- Second Chance Act (SCA) Grant:
 - Operational April 2011 through December 2012.
 - Clackamas – 10 beds
 - Lane – 9 beds
 - Multnomah – 29 beds
 - Washington – 9 beds
 - Total served by grant funds during grant period – 332
 - Successfully completed – 273

2014 Re-Organization

- Reentry Implementation Teams:
 - Aging Population
 - Business Community
 - Education
 - Family and Community Connections/Engagement
 - Juvenile Re-entry
 - Sex Offenders and the new Level System (HB 2549 – 2013)
 - Veterans

Aging Populations

- Care Conference Team meets every two months to work on:
 - Case-specific concerns
 - Managing pre-release medical and/or mental health cases requiring APD assessments and re-entry services
 - Problem-solving difficult-to-place releases, including persons with physical, medical, and/or mental health issues whose criminal history precludes traditional placement options
 - Identifying administrative rules, policies, state laws and/or federal regulation barriers
 - Incorporating new program opportunities

Business Community

- Engages and educates business communities on re-entry issues
- Work Opportunity Tax Credit efforts
- Held a ‘Second Chance Employment Summit’
- Regional workshops are being scheduled to educate Oregon businesses on the benefits of employing persons with criminal records.

Education Team

- Six recommendations:
 - Pre-release access to high school and post-secondary education
 - Tie pre-release and post-release education into a pathway that extends beyond a high school diploma
 - Incorporate education as a critical component of pre- and post-release case planning
 - Establish a standing implementation team for oversight
 - Develop and implement a targeted marketing strategy
 - Develop funding strategies that mitigate the costs of delivering and enrolling in inmate education.

Family & Community Connections/Engagement

- Dynamic Family and Support System Survey
- Statewide Resource Inventory (will begin using 2-1-1 this fall)
- Mentoring of Justice-Involved Adults
- Multi-Agency Team (MAT) Reach-ins
- Strengths-based Approach
- Child Support

Juvenile Reentry Team

- Four key focus areas:
 - Necessary information is transferred between DOC, OYA and Community Corrections agencies.
 - Delivery of treatment and health services are uninterrupted at release.
 - Age appropriate services are available to prepare and support young adults in transition.
 - Youth transitioning from an OYA youth correctional facility will be pre-qualified for public benefits and services upon release.

Sex Offenders & the Level System

- Provide input on rules, policies, practices, and procedures to guide implementation of statutory requirements
- Develop educational materials for:
 - Sex offender populations impacted by the new law
 - Organizations providing supervision and services to impacted persons
 - The public (including crime victims, employers, and housing providers) to explain the notification levels
- Develop rules for relief and reclassification process.

Veterans

- Veteran Services Officer meets with new intakes to DOC to help determine veteran status, if any.
- Partnership between DOC, ODVA, and the Federal VA to expedite post-incarcerated veteran requests to re-establish compensation payments.
- Federal VA Healthcare and their IT support working with ODVA and DOC to use “telehealth” technology to reach more transitioning veterans prior to release from DOC.

Moving Forward

- Align efforts of SB 241 with the Council's work
- New Executive Order

Questions



Colette S. Peters

Director

Phone: 503-945-0927