

RE-ENTRY

programming



Jerry Vagnier, LCSW
CEO, McNabb Center

Re-entry is

- ❖ **the process of ending a period of incarceration,**
- ❖ **leaving jail or prison,**
- ❖ **and returning to society**

The regional Problem

- Our region has a disproportionate number of inmates with substance use issues
- Our inmate release approach has been woefully inadequate
- Our recidivism rates contribute to our societal costs
- Our communities need additional workers/employees
- Our families need a healthier approach to break the cycle

By the Numbers

- More than half (58%) of state prisoners and two-thirds (63%) of sentenced jail inmates met the criteria for drug dependence or abuse, according to data collected through the 2007 and 2008-09 National Inmate Surveys (NIS)
- 85% of the prison population has an active substance use disorder or were incarcerated for a crime involving drugs or drug use.
- Nationally we have a 44% recidivism rate within 1 year of release (46% in TN w/in 3 years)
- Cost to house county inmate approximately \$78/per day (\$28,500 a year)



Successful Re-entry

Treatment *during* and *after* incarceration is effective and should include comprehensive care

Key Components of Correctional Reentry Programs The Office of Justice Programs (2006) indicates that institutionally-based correctional reentry programming should include:

- Mental health treatment,
- Substance abuse counseling,
- Basic adult education programs,
 - Job training,
 - Batterer intervention,
 - Family counseling, and
 - Mentoring

Compelling Investment ?

National Institutes for Health

- Individuals who participated in prison-based treatment followed by a community-based program post incarceration were 7 times more likely to be drug free and 3 times less likely to be arrested for criminal behavior than those not receiving treatment.
- According to several conservative estimates, every dollar invested in addiction treatment programs yields a return of between \$4 and \$7 in reduced drug-related crime, criminal justice costs, and theft. When savings related to healthcare are included, total savings can exceed costs by a ratio of 12 to 1

The Re-Entry INTERVENTION

A group of incarcerated adults with substance abuse issues AND a desire to prepare for a successful life in the community

Getting the right people involved

- Screening is essential
- Motivation is important
- Behavioral strategy is key
- Relationships are the “secret sauce”

Re-entry INTERVENTION (cont.)

Doing the right things at the right time

- Substance Use treatment, mental health treatment
- Skill Building
- Employment opportunities
- Independence balanced with accountability
- Incremental steps (documents, benefits, court costs, bank accounts, savings)
- Housing
- Support Group
- (Training/Education/Technical Skills)

Expected OUTCOMES

- People living a life of recovery
- Paid court fees/restitution
- Personal Savings
- Meaningful Employment
- Stable transition to independent housing
- Minimal recidivism
- Reunification of relationships OR boundaries for unhealthy relationships

Resources Needed

- Funding (est. \$9400 per participant – 1/3 daily cost of incarceration)
- Transportation
- Community Support
- Engaged Employers
- Drug free Affordable Housing

Moderator and Panelist

- Jim Hart, Jail Management Consultant, County Technical Assistance Service, UT Institute for Public Service, Moderator
- Trent Coffey, Executive Director STAND, Scott County – work during incarceration program in Scott County
- Ida McElhaney, Probation Services Director, Sevier County – workforce development program in Sevier County
- Sharon Reid, Director of Hamblen County Services, McNabb Center– Hamblen County “jail-to-work” re-entry program
- Ravi Dantuluri, President, Integrity House, Knox County – housing, MOUDs permitted