



# **Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group**

February 13, 2015

Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Group Lead

**Stan Hilkey**, Department of Public Safety

## Group Participants

Christie Donner, CCJRC

Patrick Fox, Office of Behavioral Health

Dan Hotsenpiller, District Attorney 7<sup>th</sup> JD

Regi Huerter, Denver Crime Commission

Terri Hurst, CCJRC

Evelyn Leslie, Colorado School for Family Therapy

Kate Murphy, Victim's Representative 17<sup>th</sup> JD

Joe Pelle, Boulder County Sheriff

Alfredo Pena, Parole Board

Rick Raemisch, Department of Corrections

Glenn Tapia, Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Community Corrections

Joe Thome, Division of Youth Corrections

Susan White, Department of Corrections, Re-entry

## Group Staff

Paul Herman, CCJJ consultant

Kim English, Division of Criminal Justice

Germaine Miera, Division of Criminal Justice

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Purpose Statement

In March 2014 the CCJJ identified re-entry as a priority for future work. The Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group was created to define re-entry issues, identify key stakeholders, and propose a work plan for a new task force.

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Definition of Re-entry

*“An offender reentering the community from institutional confinement or a secure facility”*

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Planning Group Process

- Establish Re-entry Definition
- Environmental Scan
  - Identified other organized groups and efforts currently underway regarding re-entry
  - Identified agencies affected by re-entry issues
  - Re-examined original CCJJ re-entry recommendations and Re-entry LEAN Initiative recommendations
- Identified Key Issues
- Categorized Key Issues
  - Offenders to get fit both physically and mentally
  - Stable housing
  - Skills to succeed (vocational, educational, cognitive behavioral, employment)
  - Provide effective supervision
  - Broader system Issues
- Prioritized Key Issues
- Identified stakeholders

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Priority Problems for Re-entry Consideration

1. There is a significant gap in finding stable housing for offenders in the community.
2. Providing IDs for offenders leaving custody facilities continues to be a problem even though some progress has been made over the last few years.
3. Collateral consequences of conviction are roadblocks to successful re-entry.
4. Technical violators continue to be a problem for the criminal justice system as a whole, in probation, community corrections and parole.

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Priority Problems for Re-entry Consideration

5. There is a gap in residential treatment beds for behavioral health problems. This results in offenders not receiving timely and appropriate services and increasing the likelihood of failure in the community.
6. Access to medical and mental health care including medication continues to be a significant barrier to successful offender re-entry. Access and coverage under the ACA is a barrier for offenders released to the community.
7. Young adult males 18-25 years old are failing at a significant rate.
8. The most significant concern for Youth Corrections is post-custodial recidivism.

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Criteria to Select Issues to Address

- Issues that are legislative or policy oriented
- Ones that are contributing most to recidivism
- Areas which have a relationship to prior CCJJ issues and that the Commission is already familiar with
- Prioritize issues that aren't just about a 'lack of resources'
- Ones that address the largest audience / greatest impact and biggest bang for the buck (as far as for the majority of offenders, and those who are most dangerous)
- Ones that are most achievable



# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Top Three Problem Areas

3. Collateral consequences of conviction are roadblocks to successful re-entry
4. Technical violators continue to be a problem for the criminal justice system as a whole, in probation, community corrections and parole
6. Access to medical and mental health care including medication continues to be a significant barrier to successful offender re-entry. Access and coverage under the ACA is a barrier for offenders released to the community

(Item numbers indicate originally assigned number sequence.)

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Collateral consequences of conviction are roadblocks to successful re-entry

- Who should have access to criminal justice info
  - For what purpose, at what level, public perception issues
- Benefits
- Housing
- Employment
- “Ban the Box”
- Record sealing

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

**Technical violators continue to be a problem for the criminal justice system as a whole, in probation, community corrections and parole**

- Substance abuse-related technical violations
- Sustained reduction of technical violations
- Issue about supervision, not just violations
- Swift/Sure policy issues
- Other states and prohibition on revocation for 'technical's'

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

**Access to medical and mental health care including medication continues to be a significant barrier to successful offender re-entry**

- Access, availability and continuity of care issues
- ACA provides new opportunities but also challenges
  - ‘Gap’ populations
  - Different issues for jails and DOC
  - *Inmate* exemptions
- Crisis center access / Connecting services with jails
- Assessment and screening issues

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Identified Stakeholders

- Department of Corrections
  - Institution rep
  - Parole rep
- Judicial Branch/Probation
- Adult Parole Board
- Juvenile Parole Board
- Community Corrections
- Jail
- CMHIP (Colo. Mental Health Inst. Of Pueblo)
- Human Services
- ICE
- HUD
- DOLA
- HCPF
- Faith Based Organization
- Offender representative
- Homeless provider
- Behavioral Health provider
- Veteran's representative
- Youth corrections
- Advocacy group representative
- Victim's representative
- District Attorney
- Defense

# Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group

## Task Force Timeframe

The Exploratory Re-entry Planning Group believes that when the Re-entry Task Force convenes, group members should establish a work plan and timeline upfront covering a two-year period.