

CCJJ Re-entry Task Force / Housing Work to Date

January 11, 2017

January/February 2016:

- Members of the CCJJ Re-entry Task Force held their first small group discussion regarding housing issues faced by justice involved individuals re-entering the community.
- Group members included Melissa Roberts, Lisa Tibbetts, Sean Taylor for Hassan Latif.
- Main outcomes from the discussion included the fact that there was a huge void concerning the lack of available data.
- Another discussion point was around the need for a type of building or complex where a significant number of people could be housed.
- Next steps called for an in-depth environmental scan including established housing experts to better understand the issues.

April 2016:

- The Task Force continued discussion around next steps to address housing.
- DOC and Probation continued their efforts around gathering housing data and agreed to report back at the May meeting.

May 2016:

- An in-depth ‘Housing Issues/Environmental Scan’ presentation was provided to task force members by Jenn Lopez, the Governor’s Director of Homeless Initiatives and Kristin Toombs, the Homeless Programs Manager for DOLA.
- DOC and Probation provided a data report out on their homeless populations
 - DOC/April snapshot-
 - 542 parolees released
 - 171 released homeless (78 of those were mandatory releases/92 discretionary)
 - 28% of this homeless population are sex offenders
 - DOC has \$1.1M budgeted every year for indigent housing
 - Probation-
 - Data is not formally tracked
 - Informal estimates as follows:
 - 84,000 active probation offenders
 - Very low estimate that 1% of this population is homeless
 - On the high end, 30% of probationers show ‘housing’ as a risk factor
 - Probation spends \$700,000/year on emergency housing

June 2016:

- Re-entry Task Force members are provided with another housing presentation. Joyce Alms-Ransford from Archway Housing and Services explained Alternative Housing Models.
- In-depth housing discussion continued during this Re-entry Task Force meeting.

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July 2016:

- Information provided to Re-entry Task Force members on additional housing initiatives taking place around the state (attached below) including:
 - Work by the Mentally Ill in the Criminal Justice System Legislative Oversight Committee
 - Department of Corrections Housing initiatives
 - Larimer County Initiatives
 - Denver County Initiatives
 - Corporation for Supportive Housing (national) Initiatives

August 2016:

- The Re-entry Task Force established a formal work plan to address housing issues.
- Two working groups are created as follows:
 1. ***Collateral Consequences Working Group***
Will work to identify barriers including local housing authority restrictions, complications around the CBI criminal history record, landlord liability tort reform
 2. Capacity Working Group
Will focus on building capacity including: exploring existing capacity, expanding capacity and looking at the need for flexible capacity.

September 2016:

- In-depth housing panel presentation to the full CCJJ which included:
 - An overview of housing issues nationwide including barriers, successful pilots and opportunities for collaboration,
 - An overview of housing issues from a state and local perspective,
 - Efforts by the Department of Corrections including the Housing and Stabilization Unit and data tracking and case management efforts, and
 - An update on the work to date by the Re-entry Task Force regarding housing.

October 2016:

- Capacity Working Group holds its first meeting to review the work to date, determine desired working group outcomes, identify a common housing vision/goal for the justice involved.
Discussed the following:
 - Better utilization of comcor beds, possibly for homeless parole releases,
 - How to secure more funding or use current funding more effectively,
 - Need for more/better data, and
 - Possibility of giving DOC more flexibility with their re-entry money.

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November 2016:

- Capacity Working Group met and discussed:
 - Narrowing the focus of the work to parolees releasing from DOC homeless,
 - Possible housing models for expanding capacity, and
 - The need for additional working group members including parole board reps. and DOLA reps.

December 2016:

- Capacity Working Group met and accomplished the following:
 - An in-depth data review from parole on how many are released homeless and how many could be released from DOC except for the lack of a housing plan,
 - Discussed DOC's Housing Stabilization Plan,
 - Parole (Melissa Roberts) and the Parole Board (Joe Morales) worked to resolve the issue of "Housing Plan Approval" and agreed on the need for Parole to investigate the housing plan PRIOR to the Parole Board meeting with an offender about release, and
 - Reviewed Delancey Street, Bridge House and other housing models.

January 2017:

- Representatives from the Mentally Ill in the Criminal Justice System Task Force (MICJS) contacted CCJJ staff to inquire about possible collaboration.
- CCJJ staff met with MICJS representatives to discuss current work underway by both groups and the possibility of combining resources and efforts.

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Housing: Efforts by other Agencies/Organizations

Local municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denver, Larimer, Boulder and others making good strides • Western slope, C. Springs, Pueblo and other outlying areas will need help soon
Governor's Homeless Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless Initiatives Team working group: DOH, DOC, DHS, HCPF, University of Denver & Mental Health Center of Denver – working on full feasibility scan re feasibility of C-SHARP to be scaled as a Pay for Success model. • Creating an inventory of homeless releases and compiling a spreadsheet to explore best cost/benefit options for different housing paths.
Department of Corrections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing and Stabilization Unit • Updating case management system for data tracking • Working on issue of parole board releasing people homeless
Department of Local Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOLA/Div. of Housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provides state and federal funding to private housing developers, housing authorities, and local governments to increase the inventory of affordable housing -Offers Housing Choice Voucher and other rental assistance statewide through local housing authorities
Mentally Ill in the Criminal Justice System Advisory Task Force (MICJS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on Capacity Study • Working toward a voucher model similar to CMHIP model →would like that model to be available to people exiting prisons and jails
Equitas Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding a summit on behavioral health to identify best practices for reducing incarceration, promoting public safety, align policy reform efforts
Various Alternative Housing models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archway Housing and Services and others
Others??	

<p>Housing options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Emergency shelter ➤ Rapid Re-housing ➤ Permanent Supportive Housing ➤ Transitional Housing ➤ Affordable Rental Housing ➤ Home Ownership ➤ Shared Living Arrangements (SLA's) 	<p>Promising Local Models:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ C-SHARP ❖ Ready to Work ❖ Bridge House ❖ Rapid Rehousing, could it be modified for re-entry? ❖ Community level models: Coordinated Entry and CAHPS ❖ Landlord Liaison projects
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