

An Evidence Based Re-Entry Program Overview

Presenter

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I. Recognizing The Need For Re-Entry Programs

- Parole boards were key in releasing offenders into society after the 1950's-"industrial parole"
- Assumed the offenders would be kept under control by parole supervision and structure
- Being disciplined was expected to promote maintenance of jobs
- Lack of jobs resulted in a lack of paroles

II. Developments Impacting “Industrial Parole

- Availability of steady employment for offenders deteriorated gradually (low skilled labor deminished from economy as a whole)
- Minority offender populations increased and securing jobs upon return to society dropped more
- During the three decades after 1970, excess of tens of thousands offenders flooded state and federal correction facilities. Budgets could not afford them, but employability was considerable

III. Post- “Industrial Parole

- Moving from “control and discipline” of offenders to supervision promoting reintegration into society
- Use of clinical models for rehab
- Parole officer role changed to allow offenders to assume productive roles in society
- Caseloads became too high and hindered implementation of meaningful interventions and re-entry
- Successful reintegration of offender and public safety in jeopardy

IV. Why Re-Entry?

- Offender re-entry getting attention through growing numbers revealing a crisis
- Mid 2004 2.1 million adults serving time
- 650,000 of the 2.1 were released back into society within 1 year
- In 2003 parolees grew approx.3%,17 states had 25%-50%per year
- A 15 state study revealed 2/3 released in 1994 re arrested within 3 years
- 1980's &1990's mandatory sentences increased, parole boards illimination, resulted in "expire" of sentences

IV. Why Re-Entry?

- Full terms served meant release without supervision or support in society
- Drop of releases with parole dropped from 65% in 1976 to 24% in 1999
- Incentives for rehabilitation participation, educational opportunities while in institutions lacked
- Offenders were less equipped to handle challenges faced upon release

V. Federal Initiatives

- The Serious and Violent Offender Re-Entry
- Federal Second Chance Act

VI. Effective Correctional Interventions

- Behavioral and Cognitive approaches
- Provisions in offenders natural environment
- Multi-modal and intense services
- Utilize rewards for desired behavior change
- Address high-risk and criminogenic needs
- Match learning styles and abilities

VII. Core Principles

- Risk-identify attributes/circumstances predictive of future behavior
- Criminogenic needs-social attitudes, feelings and values, problem solving, decision making, self management, impulsivity, and deficiencies correlated to criminal behavior
- Responsivity-interventions that are appropriate for skill level and styles of client(characteristic can have impact or be a barrier)

VIII. Effective Re-Entry

- Three or more phases
- Congruent with offender needs
- Address changes throughout the phases
- Aftercare/ relapse prevention with ongoing, support and services
- Extended follow up of offenders' progress
- Monitor outcomes for program modifications if/when needed

VIII. Essential Re-Entry Process and Services

- Assessment directing type/duration of services
- Criminal associates, family dynamics, addictions education, employment, attitudes/beliefs(criminogenic factors) explored
- Determine appropriateness for the treatment by personality, motivation, ability
- Re-assess upon release from institution and with follow ups while in society, making modifications
- Crisis management for employment, education, family reunification, marital relationships, parental, social support, etc.

VIII. Essential Re-Entry Process and Services

- Community collaborations for medical, housing, counseling, mental health, dental, clothing, transportation
- Cognitive behavioral therapies promote reduction of recidivism, improve problem solving and decision making skills, use role-playing and modeling
- Intensive aftercare/relapse prevention developing and using newly acquired behaviors, monitoring progress
- Develop clear goals and objectives

