



Governor's Re-entry Council

Meeting Summary February 6, 2013

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST)
Hall of Heroes
4190 Aumsville Highway
Salem, OR 97317

CHAIR: Colette S. Peters

NOTE TAKER: Manette Emra

ATTENDEES: Patrice Altenhofen, Kevin Cameron, Sandy Dugan, Kristi Wings-Yanez, John Kitzhaber, Thomas McClellan, Michael McShane, Jerry Moore, Fariborz Pakseresht, Colette Peters, Steven Powers, Camille Preus, Mark Royal, Paul Solomon, Cameron Smith, Jeremiah Stromberg, Laurie Warner

OBSERVERS: Jay Scroggins, Paul Edward, Doug Cooper, Anne O'malley, Sue McGuire-Thompson, Debra Giard, Nancy Howton, Pegge McGuire, Matt Meier, Chris Hoy, Ellen Crawford, John Kinkada, Kevin Grant, Martin Burrows, Sharon Darcey, Janet Carlson, Martha Duncan-Perez, Cindy Booth, Heidi Steward, Paul Bellatty, Tim Moore, Walt Pesterfield

1. Approval of Meeting Summary

DISCUSSION:	The council had no concerns or edits to the meeting summary.
ACTION:	The council approved the meeting summary for June 13, 2012.

ATTACHMENTS:	 <p>20130211151747614. pdf</p>
--------------	---

2. Public Input

DISCUSSION:	<p>Representative Cameron – Mentioned a vendor who was awarded a state contract to wash windows of state buildings. One of the contractor’s employees has a criminal record and was denied the ability to work under this contract. Representative Cameron stated the Council encourages employers to hire offenders, but state agencies have rules or policies that prevent such and it ultimately has a negative impact on local business. It also represents how the offender is held back because of their criminal record. Representative Cameron asked what the Council is going to do to resolve these types of issues? He would like to see this as a future agenda item for discussion. This also overlaps with background checks and how those are being used.</p> <p>In 2009 there was an initiative that came out of the Council’s workgroup on one-stop centers. The evaluation from last year showed that there was a 31% decrease in one year felony re-arrest and showed a \$10.70 return on every dollar invested in the project. The ‘one-stop’ centers were in Lane, Multnomah and Klamath counties. They were funded for a couple of years through Byrne Grant funding which is ending, so they are losing their Byrne Grant funding and trying to determine how to keep the programs going.</p> <p>Fariborz Pakseresht – Shared information about a DOC youth in OYA who was granted second look conditional release by the court, but didn’t have appropriate housing in the county of release. The counties came together to find a place and he was housed at Sponsors. Mr. Pakseresht noted this a fabulous example of community partners and counties working together.</p> <p>There is a partnership with the Portland community of writers, poets and artists. They come to MacLaren to assist the youth in discovering talents they didn’t know they had. Met a graduate youth from this program, who is 20 years old. Fariborz Pakseresht asked this youth speak before the OYA advisory committee and Judge McShane still keeps in contact with the youth. Mr. Pakseresht states the young man is an articulate, wonderful and bright person who made a mistake, yet has a wonderful future ahead of him.</p> <p>Colette S. Peters – Noted the Governor’s 2013-15 Budget is designed to bring a</p>
-------------	--

	balance to Oregon’s Public Safety agenda, begins to address the rise in prison costs and readjusts the hydraulics in public safety. It assumes the prison population will be capped at 14,600 and that policies recommended by the Public Safety Commission will be adopted by the legislature. The budget includes \$40 million for local reinvestment in community corrections, evidence- based law enforcement, victims services and specialty courts. This money will assist with future, serious discussions around reinvestment in public safety. This is an exciting time for public safety and the budget is starting from a good place. The potential policy changes will have substantial impact for reinvestment and money savings for the future of public safety.
ACTION:	Criminal history records, employers and backgrounds - future work group agenda items.
ATTACHMENTS:	None

3. Workgroup Updates

DISCUSSION:	Housing – Pegge McGuire Re-entry Housing Conference Proposal: The housing workgroup proposes to develop and host a re-entry housing conference for statewide participation. The goal is to bring together everyone from around the state who is involved with re-entry housing to share information and model strategies and develop universal best-practices – information that can be posted to the Re-entry Wiki and other websites. There are four non-profit organizations willing to support the cost of the conference with a small conference registration fee. Pegge requests permission from the Council to move forward with the conference planning. The Re-entry Steering Committee has approved and supports the proposal.
ACTION:	Council members voted to support the proposal.
ATTACHMENTS:	None

4. 2013 Schedule

DISCUSSION:	Proposed 2013 meeting schedule.
ACTION:	Approved by Council (see attachment)
ATTACHMENTS:	 20130211151725850. pdf

5. Governor Kitzhaber

DISCUSSION:	<p>Colette S. Peters introduced Governor Kitzhaber and welcomed him to this Re-entry Council meeting.</p> <p>Governor Kitzhaber shared his appreciation for the Council’s efforts on the behalf of the citizens of Oregon and its future well-being. The Governor referenced the creation of the Reentry Council through a 2007 executive order and, like Governor Kulonski before him, Governor Kitzhaber believes that successful reintegration from prison to the community is a team effort that requires the collaborative efforts of the state, counties and community contacts to effectively manage the movement of an offender through the system and back into the community.</p> <p>The Governor reviewed some of the areas that this group has addressed to date: state-issued identification prior to release, transitional housing, Veterans benefits and services, employment, and education. Governor Kitzhaber would like to build on the work the Council has/is doing which requires a coordinated effort by key players and is not something accomplished solely by ‘corrections agencies.’ He noted the rewards come in helping fellow human beings begin their lives anew while saving dollars that can be reinvested in other public safety and social supports arenas. It is a time to review practices and think outside the box about public safety; to ask the question - is there a better way to do business? If the legislature doesn’t help address needed changes to the public safety continuum, projections indicate another approximately 2,300 prison beds will be needed over the next decade; mostly due to non-violent offenders being sent to prison and costing upwards of \$600 million. In order to make real changes to the system, we must use data to drive the application of evidence-based practices. The Governor noted that conversations about changes to the system will not be applied retroactive and dangerous offenders will not be released from prison. There are considerations underway this session to free up approximately \$40 million to reinvestment in all levels of the Public Safety system. This Council is instrumental in the process to implement decisions coming from the legislature this biennium. The work of this Council is important and valued. The Governor shared his thanks and appreciation to all who serve.</p>
ACTION:	None
ATTACHMENTS:	None

6. Strategic Plan

DISCUSSION:	Jeremiah Stromberg reviewed the four primary focuses of the Council’s first “5-Year Plan.”
-------------	--

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure transitional housing is available for every offender released from DOC custody without a stable, alcohol and drug-free residence. 2. Improve the statewide employment and retention rates of offenders by focusing on policies, laws, practices and perceptions that contribute to the success of returnees. 3. Promote successful community reintegration and improve public safety by addressing individual offender needs to access to and continuity of necessary health and behavioral health care. 4. Develop Transition Service Centers with local, integrated services to stabilize Oregonians returning from incarceration. <p>Jeremiah explained the goal is to review the work to date, and discuss where the Council wants to go from here. The group agreed these are the right areas to focus on; however, it would be beneficial to establish new, tangible short-term goals within these primary focus areas. The goals should be measurable and obtainable to keep momentum.</p> <p>Some areas the group would like to see focused on in 2013:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Engagement (Children of Incarcerated Parents) • Sex Offenders (38% of DOC population) • Aging Population • Mental Health Population • Incentive Funds • Visitation Barriers • Business Community Connection • Employment and Backgrounds • Housing resources for OYA & DOC • Education (Online college & funding) • Veterans • Juvenile Re-entry
ACTION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map OYA and DOC Re-entry (Map the resources throughout the state) • Strategic Plan Revision - Jeremiah Stromberg/Colette S. Peters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Council will send their “membership,” feedback to Jeremiah Stromberg; specifically the Steering Committee and Sub-Committee workgroups -Will set-up some targets and establish some measures to share with the Council for review and comment -Gather current data to support the short-term goals -Smaller goals and shorter time frames to achieve

ATTACHMENTS:	 <p style="text-align: center;">Reentry Strategic Plan.pdf</p>
--------------	---

7. Presentation: Veterans and Re-entry

DISCUSSION:	<p>Paul Bellatty presented on Data regarding incarcerated veterans. Please see the handout of the presentation.</p> <p>Nancy Howton briefly discussed DOC Veterans and current practices. Currently, the department has approximately 2000 inmates claiming veteran status. There are additional offenders claiming status after they release.</p> <p>Current practices: Intake evaluation, coordinate veteran affairs services and meetings, the names are tracked for release to reconnect them with veteran’s affairs in the community, there are clubs and activities but didn’t take count of those services, mental health needs are provided by DOC regardless of their veteran status.</p> <p>Have been evaluating and researching the involvement of the services provided and the impact these services are having. Discovered that DOC has a small veteran mentor pool.</p> <p>Redefined the veterans questionnaire at intake, have a new benefits coordinator to help veteran access benefits, need to identify additional volunteers, mentors and services and need to assist more veterans in obtaining services prior to release and train them on the services available in the community. Been researching the idea of veteran specific housing units.</p> <p>The nominated new Director of the Oregon Department of Veteran’s Affairs, Cameron Smith, discussed his thoughts and excitement around Veterans and Re-entry.</p> <p>Director Colette S. Peters thanked and acknowledged Director Willis for his work over the past 48 years and specifically his work on the Council.</p>
ACTION:	None
ATTACHMENTS:	 <p>20130211151813603.pdf</p>

NEXT MEETING:	Date: May 22, 2013 Time: 2:30 to 4:30 PM Location: DPSST Hall of Heroes 4190 Aumsville Highway Salem, OR 97317	Meeting Canceled during Legislative Session
FUTURE MEETINGS - AGENDA ITEMS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing civil rights movement update – Pegge McGuire • Housing committee presentation on discharge planning – Pegge McGuire • Housing committee update on certification process: Will Oregon embark on similar processes as other states? – Pegge McGuire • Housing Conference Update – Pegge McGuire • Reentry Data Report for Youth (similar to report Ginger provided on adults in custody) – Fariborz Pakseresht • Health care delivery system changes in Oregon – Karen Wheeler • Update on computer-based learning in DOC – Nichole Brown • Four Reentry County Pilots – Chane Griggs • Strategic Plan – Jeremiah Stromberg • Employment of Offenders and Access to State Facilities – Rep. Cameron • During CJC’s evaluation on re-entry centers the employment process was reviewed and the existing infrastructure may be able to be used elsewhere. CJC can come to the Council and share the findings of their evaluations. – Paul Solomon 	