

Minutes

Second Chance Act – Technical Assistance

May 10 - 11, 2001

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Operations Support Center – Union Conference Room

Opening - 830

Director Mohr opened the training session with three key goals/strategies for use during the discussion of the strategic planning process:

1. Must be outcome oriented
2. Must focus on improving the lives of people
3. We don't have time not to be focused.

The Director emphasized that we must build a strategic plan that thinks about and is related to people. It must have a tangible relationship to people to those we serve. He also indicated that, as a group, we must have a detailed, measureable plan that is time aggressive...he emphasized we don't have time as an abundant resource.

As a guide to strategic planning, Director Mohr indicated that several guiding points were important to consider for the training session. They were:

Strategic Planning Points – we should build a plan that is tangible and:

1. Works and is used
2. ID's critical partners
3. Builds worthwhile working relationships
4. Expands counties covered
5. Focuses on most critical services to reduce recidivism
6. Allow local teams to build best practices and systematic sharing.
7. State leadership to provide for resources and support for local coalitions

Dennis Schrantz 945am – 1230pm (5/11)

Dr Schrantz began by discussing the history and growth of BJA and TA grants. He reviewed that 23 state are recipients of the SCA funds and discussed the impact this has had on some of the states in terms of aggressively moving forward in the area of reentry. The then discussed the TPC (Transitioning from Prison to Community Model in depth:

He expounded upon the three phases:

1. Getting Ready
2. Going Home
3. Staying Home

Dr. Schrantz discussed each of these phases in detail and the ways they related to the 5 year strategic plans.

He then discussed the 7 Decision Points:

1. Assessment/Classification
2. Inmate Programming
3. Inmate Release Preparation
4. Release Decision Making
5. Supervision and Services
6. Revocation of Decision making
7. Discharge and Aftercare

Dr Schrantz than reviewed the 24 Targets for change. He tied 3- 7- 24 model to the above and provided example from numerous systems around the country especially Michigan and Oregon.

Considerable discussion followed by the participants on the “decision points’ and how they apply to our local and state-wide coalitions.

Dr. Schrantz emphasized the important of judicial involvement, ODRC, agencies and ex-offenders and their families. In the identification of assets, barriers and (and gaps) to determine who on state-wide committee can address barriers and ways this filters down to the local coalitions.

He emphasized that the subsequent action plan must focus on “execution”

From the discussion, several tangible recommendations were made: statewide coalition should consider establishing a “local coalition” organization and “hosting” local coalition contacts. The statewide coalitions should focus on the “agility” of both the state-wide coalition and local coalitions to identify and meet needs. A lengthy discussion followed in which several critical needs were discussed including housing, healthcare (and AOD

and mental health), employment, victims, family, community and possible benefits from programs. As the discussion continued, the “expansion of boundaries” of existing coalitions was discussed. This included the importance needs assessment, planning grants, establishing partners, identifying funding streams and emphasizing that many local needs can be met without money.

A local reentry network was defined as a collaborative network of stakeholders which promotes community safety by working with person released from incarceration.

The state-wide coalitions should have three major expectations of local coalitions:

1. Increase awareness of challenges facing ex-offenders – public education
2. Work with ODRC to know who is being released and when.
3. Develop a community plan for those offenders returning.

Prisons should prioritize release cases based on need/risk especially the STO, MH, etc. for effective use of community resources.

The statewide coalition should consider a MOU or related idea to invite local coalitions to institution reentry fairs, use VC and better engage APA.

Dr. Schrantz than led a discussion on the developing of local coalitions. It was discussed and suggested that we consider developing a model for establishing multiple-county local coalitions and partner with local counties for TA. It was also discussed and recommended that we formalize “Level of Engagement” with local coalitions – MH, AOD, parole, Cit Circles, DDD, civic organization, law enforcement, and judiciary. He drew a pyramid and discussed the model of the levels of engagement.

The topic then moved to the reviewing and consideration of the “values” of the coalition. Some of those discussed were:

Leadership
Transparency
Purposeful
Dedicated to impact people
Energetic
Timely
Efficacious
Integrity
Relationships
Integration
Persistent

Permanent

Discussion of these followed as we moved to the topic of Action Planning (for the strategic plan). Action planning should have three main sections: process, structure, and Next Steps. The group, led by Dr. Schrantz, mapped out the following plan for the development of the strategic plan and steps to follow:

1. ID Process – current process is very good

Governors' Cabinet to: adopt, amend, reject

2. Structure

Use current but add local coalition input and develop an “association”

Consider using a three tiered system for coalition meetings.

3. Implementation

Conceive “strategic plan” as the “framework”

Write the plan to the perspective of the Governor and cabinet members

Focus on alternating between “big” picture and “little” picture

Develop “talking points” of coalition structure strategic plan and action plans and widely publish

Continue to engage Governor and cabinet members to spread focus and benefits

F. Action Plan Goals (for active implementation)

Expand existing local coalitions

Better define “local coalition” consider “reentry network” for those getting started

Increase awareness of the coalition and its purpose

Enhance “continuum of care” among institutions, APA, and community coalitions

Know when offenders are being released.

Develop a community plan for each offender

G. Next Steps

Review documents to ensure the above is consistent with coalition framework

Think in terms of 3-7-24 principles as a guide

Develop a transition accountability plan

ID and “select” most prepared counties now

Prepare materials for visit and sales pitch

ID key county contacts – police chief, agency leaders Cit. Circles

Dr. Schrantz discussed the structure of the State-Wide Coalition with its Statutory and At Large Members with a barrier around this group as a state level entity to focus on legislative, executive and other state-wide issues. The local coalitions would evolve and develop via community engagement with the help of a design//implementation work group. The OERC would generate assistance via outputs and deliverables as directed in the strategic plan and as a method to help organize and make more effective the local coalitions.

Finally, Dr, Schrantz discussed performance measures as they relate to strategic plan develop and grants. He emphasized that:

1. Performance measures must be oriented towards services not measures...such as number of IEP's, assessments, graduates, etc.
2. He emphasized that the measures must be geared towards EBP. Every engagement with an offenders is an opportunity to use EBP. This will often produce greater success than actual “services.”
3. Measure should be directly related to goals especially public safety.