PRISONER REENTRY SERVICES RESEARCH

Franklin County Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs

October 2009

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Made possible through funding provided by:

Franklin County Board of Commissioners and an FY 2006 Justice Assistance Grant from the Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance

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Executive Summary

Introduction

Community Research Partners, a non-profit research and evaluation agency located in Columbus, Ohio, worked with the Franklin County Office of Homeland Security & Justice Programs with to assess the availability of adult prison reentry services in Franklin County, as well as strengths, gaps, and weaknesses within the County's system of reentry. The research project began in June 2009 and concluded September 2009.

Research Questions

Five overarching research questions guided the data collection and analysis:

1. What targeted reentry services are currently provided in Franklin County?
2. What are the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the current system?
3. What are the perceived barriers to accessing reentry services?
4. What are the perceived barriers to providing reentry services?
5. What are the perceived gaps in reentry services?

Methodology

- ***Internet Survey*.** A web-based survey was disseminated via email to approximately 75-100 providers of reentry services. The surveys were designed to capture descriptive information about each of the identified programs, such as location, duration of service, participant criteria, identified outcomes, etc.).
- ***Focus Groups.*** A total of four focus groups were held – two with a total of 18 service providers and two with 38 restored citizens – to examine: 1) the value of reintegration services, 2) challenges faced accessing and using services, and 3) gaps in services and unmet needs.

Findings

In response to CRP's electronic survey, a total of 23 agencies and organizations provided detailed information about their programs and services that specifically target formerly incarcerated adults in Franklin County. Overall, employment and life skills programs were the most commonly provided services, with 17 organizations offering employment and 16 offering life skills training or programming.

Focus groups with service providers and restored citizens indicated that the services available are couched in a system that is "like a maze," with several obstacles that former inmates find difficult to navigate and overcome. The focus groups and survey were also useful for identifying weaknesses of, and gaps within, the system, like a lack of communication among service providers and a perceived lack of pre-release programs. Yet, focus group participants and survey respondents cited a number of strengths of the system, like existing service and structures that offer a very good starting point for developing a more comprehensive and structured prisoner reentry system in Franklin County. Building upon these strengths would enhance the likelihood that restored citizens are more successful at navigating the system and accessing the services necessary for a more positive reentry experience.

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Introduction

With the number of inmates being released annually to Ohio communities growing substantially over the past decade, the need for prisoner reentry services has become increasingly critical. The issue is a particularly salient one for Franklin County, which has the 3rd highest number of prisoners being released annually in the state. In 2007, an estimated 2,300 formerly incarcerated persons were released from incarceration in Franklin County. Yet, a recent report generated by the Franklin County Office of Homeland Security & Justice Programs (FCOHSJP, 2008) indicates that the reentry services available for helping them successfully make the transition from incarceration to the community are severely fragmented and lack continuity and system-wide planning for reentry.

This lack of continuity and system-wide planning poses a particular problem for the Franklin County Reentry Task Force, which in January 2009 took on the task of developing a strategic vision and plan for the system of reentry services in Franklin County. In addition, there is limited information available about the prisoner reentry system in Franklin County, such as its structure, the organizations included in it, and its opportunities for improvement. The report developed by FCOHSJP offers some information, but it was largely a compilation of information gathered from secondary and limited primary sources.

Thus, FCOHSJP asked Community Research Partners (CRP) in June 2009 to conduct primary research to identify reentry services currently available in Franklin County, and to assess the strengths, weaknesses, and gaps of the system. CRP is a is a nonprofit research and evaluation center based in Columbus, and is a partnership of the City of Columbus, United Way of Central Ohio, Franklin County Commissioners, and the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at The Ohio State University. The findings of the research conducted by CRP will be used by the Franklin County Reentry Task Force to develop a strategic plan for strengthening the system of reentry services in Franklin County.

Research Questions

Five overarching questions guided the data collection and analysis for the research:

1. What targeted services are currently provided in Franklin County for adults returning from incarceration in jail or prison?
2. What are the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the current system of reentry services?
3. What are the perceived barriers to accessing reentry services?
4. What are the perceived barriers to providing reentry services?
5. What are the perceived gaps in reentry services?

Methods

Three research methods were used to explore the guiding research questions:

1. **Literature Review.** A brief review of existing literature about prisoner reentry was conducted to inform the development of the survey and focus group protocols that were used to gather data.

2. **Survey.** CRP developed and distributed an electronic survey via email to agencies in Franklin County that provide prisoner reentry services. The intent of the survey was to inventory the services and programs available in the county for adult persons returning from incarceration. Survey items included: current location and contact information for the organizations providing reentry services; the types, frequency, and duration of services provided; and the goals and intended outcomes of the services provided. The survey also included questions about the perceived strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in the system of reentry services in Franklin County.

   Initially, CRP distributed the survey via email to 53 organizations identified by the Franklin County Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs (FCOHSJP) as providers of prisoner reentry services. The survey was accompanied by a letter that was drafted by FCOHSJP and signed by each of the Franklin County Commissioners. The letter informed service providers of the purpose of the survey and urged them to complete the survey and forward it on to their colleagues who also provide reentry services.

   Once the survey was initially distributed, CRP was made aware of two listservs: one facilitated by the Central Ohio Preentry Collaborative and a defunct listserv that was formerly facilitated by Columbus Legal Aid. CRP used these listservs to distribute the survey to additional community stakeholders and reentry service providers who could either complete the survey or forward it on. Two weeks after the initial survey was distributed, a follow-up email was sent to service providers who had not yet filled out the survey, including those who had additionally been identified through the listservs. Low response rates prompted CRP and staff of FCOHSJP to conduct additional, more targeted follow-up emails and phone calls to service providers. CRP also attended meetings of the Franklin County Reentry Task Force and the Central Ohio Preentry Collaborative to formally encourage service providers in attendance to complete the survey. These varied recruitment efforts led to 23 reentry service providers in Franklin County filling out the survey.

3. **Focus Groups.** To gather additional perceptions of the strengths, weaknesses, and gaps of the reentry system in Franklin County, CRP conducted two, 1-hour focus groups with providers of reentry services (Attachment A for list of participating provider organizations), and two, 1-hour focus groups with ***restored citizens***, or individuals who had formerly been incarcerated in jail or prison.

   Participants for the two focus groups with service providers were recruited using: 1) a list of service providers developed by FCOHSJP, 2) the listserv of the Central Ohio Preentry Collaborative, and 3) the listserv of the by Columbus Legal Aid. Using these lists, over 40 community stakeholders and providers of reentry services were invited to participate in one of two focus groups held at CRP; the exact number is unknown because the listservs included service providers and people in general who are interested in reentry. CRP sent individuals on each of the lists one initial, and one follow-up invitation via email. Individuals on the lists also forwarded the invitation to others that they thought would be appropriate for the focus groups. The email invitations resulted in five service providers participating in the first focus group, and 13 attending the second focus group, for a total of 18 service providers who offered their perspectives on the strengths, weaknesses, and gaps of the system of reentry services in Franklin County.

To recruit participants for the two focus groups with restored citizens, CRP worked with members of the Franklin County Reentry Task Force to find men and women who were formerly incarcerated in jail or prison and eligible to access reentry services in Franklin County. CRP developed, and shared via email, written materials that the Task Force members used to market the focus groups to potential participants. The written materials: 1) explained the purpose, date, and location of the focus groups; 2) indicated the potential to receive a $25 gift card for participation; and 3) provided a sign-up sheet to be completed by the interested parties and submitted to CRP via fax or email.

Although the recruitment efforts of the members of the Reentry Task Force resulted in over 50 restored citizens expressing interest in participating in a focus group, budget constraints limited the number of participants to 35. To account for possible attrition, 20 restored citizens were scheduled to participate in each of the two focus groups, for a total of 40 scheduled participants. Each of the scheduled participants was also contacted by phone the day before the focus group, using contact information provided on the sign-up forms, to remind them of the date, time, and location. In addition, the focus groups were one hour in duration and held in the evening at the Columbus Urban League (CUL), a well-known community venue.

Although the number of participants was to be limited to 35, an overflow of participants led to a total of 38 restored citizens who participated in the focus groups. Those in attendance signed a sign-in sheet, which allowed CRP to track whether scheduled participants were in attendance and to whom the $25 gift card incentives were given. However, restored citizens were encouraged to use their first names during the focus group discussions, considering that they agreed to allow CRP to record the conversations using a digital voice recorder. Although the service providers were not compensated for their participation, CRP also digitally recorded their focus groups. Transcriptions of all four of the focus groups allowed for the use of content analyses to identify emergent themes and patterns within and across focus groups.

Findings

Characterizing the Prisoner Reentry System

Key Finding: *Focus groups with service providers and restored citizens indicated that the system of reentry services in Franklin County is fragmented and lacks system-wide planning. At the same time, there are a number of opportunities for collaborative and targeted efforts that could enhance former inmates' awareness, access to, and successful use of reentry services*.

Consider, for a moment, the term "system." What comes to mind? Webster's dictionary defines "system" as "a regularly interacting or interdependent group of items forming a unified whole." This definition could conjure up visions of, say, a hospital, where patients enter in through the emergency room or their primary physician; provide demographic and personal information to a centralized intake department; get referred to one of several in-house departments, like radiology or oncology, depending upon the patients' needs; and receive services that are documented and tracked in a shared data management system. While this is a simplified explanation of a very complex system, it is quite easy to envision how patients enter, matriculate in, and exit the system.

When service providers who work within the prisoner reentry system in Franklin County were asked to describe the system, during the focus groups conducted by CRP, they characterized it as broken, fragmented and non-existent. They indicated that instead of there being a unified group of agencies and programs that work collaboratively to deliver reentry services, there is a dispersion of agencies that largely provide reentry services independent of one another. Restored citizens who participated in focus groups with CRP also felt that the system is fragmented and find it difficult to matriculate through. CRP grouped focus group responses into: 1) barriers to accessing and providing services, 2) system weaknesses and gaps, and 3) system strengths (Attachment B for additional focus group findings).

Barriers to accessing and providing services

Service providers and restored citizens who participated in the focus groups and survey respondents identified several needs that they felt were priorities for reentry. Although the level of priority given to the needs differed, they identified the same needs, including: 1) housing, 2) employment, 3) transportation, 4) support, and 5) sober living. However, restored citizens indicated that there are sizeable barriers they face as they attempt to access services to address these needs, and service providers shared a number of obstacles they confront when trying to deliver them. This section describes barriers to accessing and providing services cited by restored citizens and service providers, and the barriers are presented according to the needs that they identified as priorities for reentry. With these needs having been identified as critical to the successful reentry of formerly incarcerated persons, it helps to understand factors that influence the extent to which they receive the services to address them.

1. Housing

Survey respondents, and restored citizens and service providers who participated in the focus groups indicated that finding and securing housing is one of the most difficult aspects of the reentry process. The difficulty largely results from former inmates having felony records and lacking the financial means to make down payments and monthly rent payments immediately upon release. A few restored citizens recounted being released from prison with barely enough money for a bus ticket home. The situation is further compounded by the fact that there is a lack of affordable housing generally in Columbus. Those who do receive housing assistance tend to be individuals who, in addition to being a former inmate, have disabilities or dual diagnoses of mental illness or substance abuse. They tend to receive, or are eligible to receive, Social Security Income (SSI) and therefore are financially able to afford rent payments once program subsidies have been exhausted.

Not only does the lack of stable housing prove difficult for former inmates, it also makes it difficult for service providers to provide consistent and quality services to mobile clients. Restored citizens also discussed how not having housing can lead to their returning to environments that initially place them at risk for criminal behavior and substance abuse, and make them more susceptible to relapsing. This makes the job of a reentry case manager difficult, as he or she works to encourage former inmates to make life changes amidst influences that are conducive to their reoffending or relapsing.

During a focus group, one of the restored citizens stated that he received assistance with his rent from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (ODRC) when he was initially released, but indicated that being a sex offender was a criteria for receiving the assistance. This however, according to restored citizens and service providers, was not the norm for many sex offenders. Limitations placed upon where sex offenders can live and

laws that mandate sex offender registries serve as barriers to restored citizens who are trying to reestablish their homes and families. These issues also serve as barriers to service providers who have difficulty convincing landlords to rent to former inmates.

2. Employment

Survey respondents and focus group participants alike indicated that sustained employment is critical to the ability of former inmates to make strides toward independence and self-sufficiency. Yet, most of the restored citizens who participated in the focus groups said that they have had difficulty finding and/or maintaining employment. Several of the restored citizens shared that they had been working in prison industries or had received training for certain careers during incarceration only to find out that the experiences and trainings were limited in their value for helping them to secure employment upon release. Many felt they were not even given the opportunity to be considered for hiring because of their felony records and lack of employment histories. Laws also restrict former inmates from working with certain populations and professions, often times prohibiting them from securing jobs for which they were previously trained.

Several restored citizens and service providers indicated that former inmates who do find employment are often dismayed at losing their jobs once their employers conduct background checks and realize they have hired restored citizens. Plus, rarely are the jobs tailored to meet the interests, skills and educational levels of restored citizens, and often do not pay above minimum wage. Restored citizens talked about how the lack of employment hampers their ability to pay child support, which results in their driver's licenses being suspended and the increased potential for their being re-incarcerated on warrants issued for failure to pay child support.

3. Transportation

Reliable transportation was another need that survey respondents and focus group participants felt was a priority during former inmates' reentry process. They indicated that a lack of transportation makes it very difficult for restored citizens to make scheduled appointments. This, in turn, hinders the ability of service providers to provide services and for restored citizens to receive the benefits of the services.

4. Support

Support was another major need identified by restored citizens and service providers during the focus groups that they felt influences the quality of former inmates' reentry experiences. Support, in this context, refers to the desire of restored citizens to feel as if they are receiving encouragement and guidance with navigating the reentry system from critical individuals in their lives, such as family members, friends, case managers, and parole and probation officers. Yet, participants of both focus groups discussed how former inmates receive limited support from others as they transition back into the community, so much so that they feel as if they have to figure out how to find and access services on their own. This is particularly the case for individuals who leave incarceration without supervision. They spoke of the need for all types of support, but mainly family support, spiritual support, educational support and assistance with accessing services.

Unfortunately, focus group participants felt that those individuals who are typically charged with helping them make the transition from incarceration to the community rarely provide the support needed. For instance, they indicated that they received limited support during their incarceration from case managers. They also shared that they felt that they receive little to no support from probation and parole officers who are perceived as being

inundated with large caseloads. Family members and friends were cited as the most supportive individuals, but perceived to be most limited in their capacity to help.

5. Sober living

Another need that restored citizens and service providers felt must be addressed immediately upon release from incarceration was sober living. Both groups talked about how relapsing into drug or alcohol use was common among many former inmates, and how it often interferes with their ability to engage in more therapeutic activities and their ability to make better choices. Former inmates themselves felt that their chances of being sober were greatly diminished by the fact that it is difficult to access services, like housing and employment, which would give them more stability and constructive ways of spending their time. In the absence of more constructive activities, they tend to return to the environments, people, and activities that initially contributed to their insobriety.

System weaknesses and gaps

There are a number of weaknesses and gaps in Franklin County's prisoner reentry system identified by service providers and restored citizens, which contribute to many of the difficulties that they face as they try to provide and access services. Some of the most prominent weaknesses and gaps of the system of reentry services in Franklin County identified by service providers and restored citizens included: 1) a lack of structure, 2) a lack of communication among service providers, 3) limited of collaboration across providers and systems, 4) perceived lack of pre-release programs, and 5) limited educational services.

1. Lack of structure

A major weakness of the prisoner reentry system identified by service providers is a lack of structure. The system includes a hodge-podge of service providers, and there are no formal mechanisms in place for connecting programs and guiding restored citizens from "point A to point B." Restored citizens and service providers, alike, reiterated frustration with the lack of a "one-stop shop" or community hub where former inmates could go immediately upon release and be connected to the available services. Restored citizens were particularly frustrated and indicated feeling as if they get "lost in the shuffle" as they try to navigate this "maze" of services.

2. Lack of communication

Lack of communication between service providers contributes greatly to the perception that the system of reentry services in Franklin County is fragmented. It also makes difficult the task of developing a more comprehensive system of reentry services in Franklin County. Service providers who attended the focus groups discussed how lack of communication is conducive to duplication in services and service providers being unaware of one another. Former inmates on the path to reentry indicate that this lack of communication among service providers makes it more difficult for them to be made aware of all the services available to them, and increases the likelihood that they have to "jump through the same hoops" repeatedly.

3. Limited collaboration

Service providers also cited limited collaboration between them as being a major hindrance to the development of a more unified system of reentry services. They indicated that collaboration is often hampered by a pervading sense of competition among providers. This atmosphere of competition stems largely from providers having to compete for limited

funds and common clients. Plus, there is limited collaboration across systems, like transportation and educational system that would enhance and add greater structure and comprehensiveness to the prisoner reentry system in Franklin County.

4. Perceived lack of pre-release programs

Resoundingly, restored citizens and service providers felt that there are no real pre-release programs in Franklin County available for persons returning from incarceration. They identified some programs that provide services in a prison, but the services are limited to inmates in that particular institution and very few jails or prisons have the services available. Yet, restored citizens and service providers indicated that, typically, former inmates are released from jail or prison without going through any process or program that truly prepares them for the transition into the community. Restored citizens also felt that the programs that were available during their incarceration failed to prepare them for the transition back into the community.

5. Limited educational services

Several restored citizens spoke during the focus groups about how there needs to be more services available that address their educational needs. They recounted how priority for educational services within penal institutions was typically given to inmates who were younger and those who have shorter commitments. As a result, many of the former inmates who participated in the focus groups left jails and prisons without having had their educational needs addressed.

System strengths

Focus group participants identified a number of strengths of the current prisoner reentry system in Franklin County that could serve as a foundation upon which a more comprehensive system of services could be built. The strengths that emerged as most prominent among focus group participants and survey respondents included: 1) existing services and 2) existing collaborations that could be modeled or expanded.

1. Existing services

Service providers and restored citizens both identified the wealth of reentry services available in Franklin County as being one of the greatest strengths of the county's system of prisoner reentry. They discussed how despite there being a lack of structure to the system, there is such a large number of services available in Franklin County that former inmates from other counties in Ohio come here to access reentry services. A sample of the available reentry services in Franklin County is listed in the next section, *An Inventory of Adult Reentry Services.*

2. Existing collaborations

A second strength of the prisoner reentry system in Franklin County identified by survey respondents and focus group participants was that there are a few organizations in the county that already work well collaboratively to deliver reentry services to former inmates. A mental health agency, for instance, may work in collaboration with organizations that provide housing. Some providers already provide services inside the prisons. However, these collaborative efforts are limited in their scope and impact. Thus, despite the absence of a "one–stop shop" or community hub, a number of reentry agencies exists which collectively have the capacity to serve as a system.

An Inventory of Adult Reentry Services

Key finding: *Of 23 surveyed service providers, most offer employment and life skills programs to formerly incarcerated adults in Franklin County. Services such as mental health treatment and legal assistance are less commonly provided.*

In response to CRP's electronic survey, a total of 23 agencies and organizations provided detailed information about their programs and services that specifically target formerly incarcerated adults in Franklin County. An at-a-glace summary of these organizations and services is shown in Table 1 (Attachment C for copy of the survey and D for profiles of reentry programs).

Overall, employment and life skills programs were the most commonly provided services, with 17 organizations offering employment and 16 offering life skills training or programming. Next came substance abuse (9 providers), then education (8 providers), housing (7 providers), mental health (4 providers), and legal assistance (3 providers).

Table 1. Franklin County Adult Reentry Services

Agency	Education	Employment	Housing	Legal	Life Skills	Mental Health	Substance Abuse
1. **Alvis House** 1991 Bryden Rd. Columbus, OH 43205 614-252-8402 www.alvishouse.org	X	X	X	X	X		X
2. **Center of Vocational Alternatives** 3770 N. High St. Columbus, OH 43214 614-294-7117 www.cova.org		X					
3. **Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation JOBLeaders** 1111 E. Broad St. Columbus, OH 43205 614-559-5052 www.cowicjobleaders.org	X	X			X		
4. **Columbus Urban League** 788 Mt. Vernon Ave. Columbus, OH 43203 614-258-8475 www.cul.org	X	X		X	X		X
5. **Community Connection for Ohio Offenders** 993 E. Main St. Columbus, OH 43205 614-252-0660 www.ccohusa.com	X	X			X		
6. **Community Housing Network** 1680 Watermark Dr. Columbus, OH 43215 614-487-6700 www.chninc.org			X				
7. **Franklin County Adult Probation Department** 373 S. High St. Columbus, OH 43215 614-462-3700 www.fccourts.org	X	X			X		

Agency	Education	Employment	Housing	Legal	Life Skills	Mental Health	Substance Abuse
8. **Goodwill Columbus** 1331 Edgehill Rd. Columbus, OH 43212 614-294-5181 www.goodwillcolumbus.org		X			X		
9. **Hilltop Christian Community Development Corp., LTT Staffing** 12 S. Terrace Ave. Columbus, OH 43204 614-279-4223 www.hilltopchristiancommunity.com		X			X		X
10. **Marie Celeste Center of Transitional Living** 7962 Crosshaven Dr. Dublin, OH 43016 614-210-1185	X	X	X		X		X
11. **Maryhaven** 1791 Alum Creek Dr. Columbus, OH 43207 614-445-8131 www.maryhaven.com							X
12. **Mental Health America of Franklin County** 538 E. Town St. Columbus, OH 43215 614-221-1441 www.mhafc.org						X	
13. **Metropolitan Community Services T.O.U.C.H. Inmate Mentoring Program** 3968 E. Main St. Columbus, OH 43213 614-338-8733 www.touchimp.org		X			X		
14. **Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction** 770 W. Broad St. Columbus, OH 43222 614-752-1159 www.drc.ohio.gov	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
15. **Ohio Literacy Network** 6161 Busch Blvd. Columbus, OH 43229 614-505-0716 www.ohioliteracynetwork.org	X						
16. **One Community Ministries** 120 N. Pickaway St. Circleville, OH 43113 740-474-4900 www.onecommunityministries.org		X			X		X
17. **Opening Doors of Ohio** P.O. Box 281 Lewis Center, OH 43035 614-543-0417 www.openingmoredoors.org					X		
18. **Project Linden** 1410 Cleveland Ave. Columbus, OH 43211 614-221-7790 www.project-linden.org		X					X

Agency	Education	Employment	Housing	Legal	Life Skills	Mental Health	Substance Abuse
19. Rachel's House, A Ministry of Lower Lights 1066 Bellows Ave. Columbus, OH 43223 614-228-3855 www.lower-lights.org		X	X		X	X	X
20. The EXIT Program, NISRE, Inc. 883 Oakwood Ave. Columbus, OH 43206 614-253-8969 www.theexitprogram.com			X			X	
21. Vocational Guidance Services 1260 N. High St. Columbus, OH 43201 614-291-0233 www.vgsjob.org		X			X		
22. WinWin, Inc. 4924 Reed Rd. Columbus, OH 43220 614-538-2898 www.winwin-inc.org		X			X		
23. YMCA of Central Ohio 40 W. Long St. Columbus, OH 43215 614-224-1142 www.ymcacolumbus.org		X	X		X		

Limitations of the Study

Although CRP used a number of tactics for ensuring that the data collected for this research was thorough, accurate, and representative of the current state of affairs within Franklin County's reentry system, issues arose during data collection that limit how the findings may be viewed and used.

Limitations of the focus group findings

Despite the attempts to increase the likelihood that scheduled participants showed up for the focus groups, more than half who were scheduled for participation failed to show. Instead, several restored citizens who had heard of the focus groups via the CUL were in attendance.

As a result, the focus groups were comprised of 38 restored citizens who were largely recruited from the CUL, and almost three-quarters of the participants were African-American and male. Yet, focus group participants were diverse in:

- Age (21 – 61 years of age);
- Location of incarceration (15 in jail and 23 in prison); and
- Length of incarceration (2 to 25 years).
- Supervision (~40% were on supervision)

Limitations of the survey findings

Although the intent of the survey was to inventory the services and programs available in the county for persons returning from incarceration, 23 of at least 54 suspected providers (43%) completed a survey and submitted it to CRP. As a result, CRP's ability to create an "inventory" of reentry services was limited to those agencies that completed the survey.

Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendations

With this research study, CRP aimed to identify characteristics and components of the prisoner reentry system in Franklin County that could be used by the county's Reentry Task Force to develop a strategic plan for creating a more structured and comprehensive system. Focus groups with service providers and restored citizens indicated that the current system is "like a maze" with several obstacles that former inmates find difficult to navigate and overcome. The focus groups and survey were also useful for identifying weaknesses of, and gaps within, the system, like a lack of communication among service providers and a perceived lack of pre-release programs. Yet, focus group participants and survey respondents cited a number of strengths of the system, like existing services, collaborations, and structures, that offer a very good starting point for developing a more comprehensive and structured prisoner reentry system in Franklin County. Building upon these strengths would enhance the likelihood that restored citizens are more successful at navigating the system and accessing the services necessary for a more positive reentry experience.

The following represent recommendations made by service providers and restored citizens who participated in the survey and focus groups.

1. Develop mechanisms that promote greater levels of communication and collaboration among service providers and that increase awareness of services among restored citizens, such as:
    - Employ a more holistic approach to reentry, building upon the strengths of agencies that are already a part of the system and including representatives/services from different systems (e.g., housing, transportation, etc.)
    - Use First Link as a way to connect restored citizens to available services; provide First Link with a current listing of available programs and services; could easily tell clients to "dial 211" to find out what is available
    - Identify resources across the state so that Columbus is not by default the "capital of reentry"
2. Develop strategies that enhance pre-release services, including:
    - Revisit the structure and use of pre-release centers, and give attention to developing the function and capacity of pre-release centers
    - Consider developing a hub that restored citizens are sent to immediately upon release, or a one-stop center that houses every conceivable reentry service
    - Begin to address housing needs prior to release from incarceration
3. Develop strategies for enhancing the likelihood of employment for former inmates, like:

- Identify what jobs are available for restored citizens and which employers hire individuals with felony records
- Consider creating a company, like a thrift store, that only hires restored citizens and provides them with real work experience that can be used to secure future employment
- Work with business owners in Franklin County to identify methods of risk management and ways they can engage more former inmates in the workforce
- Develop entrepreneurship programs that help restored citizens establish their own companies

Additionally, CRP recommends:

4. Ensure that intake processes allow enough time for rapport to be established with restored citizens and for the identification of deeper issues. This will lessen the likelihood that a "cookie-cutter" approach is used and ensure that referrals and recommended services are appropriate for the individual.
5. Engage the community in developing reentry solutions to enhance the likelihood that the most comprehensive array of services is made available to former inmates.

Attachment A

Provider Focus Group Attendees

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ATTACHMENT A

Provider Focus Group Attendees

1. Alvis House
2. Believers' Ministries
3. Columbus Coalition for the Homeless
4. Community Housing Network
5. Columbus Urban League
6. COWIC/JobLeaders
7. Franklin County Adult Probation
8. Jewish Family Services
9. London Correctional Institution
10. London Correctional Institution
11. LTT Staffing, LLC
12. Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services
13. Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections
14. Rachel's House
15. Revival Development Corporation
16. The EXIT Program
17. The FIRM of Columbus
18. Volunteers of America

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Attachment B

Additional Focus Group Findings

ATTACHMENT B

Additional Focus Group Findings

The following are additional responses and findings from the focus groups with restored citizens and service providers. Note, however, that the information included in this table does not reflect themes within and across the focus groups; it merely lists additional findings from the discussions.

SYSTEM WEAKNESSES	SYSTEM STRENGTHS/ SUPPORTS TO CITIZENS	BARRIERS FOR CITIZENS	BARRIERS TO SERVICE DELIVERY	GAPS IN SERVICES	SUGGESTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS
SERVICE PROVIDERS					
• Providers rely heavily upon word of mouth to advertise programming • Providers feel that their approaches to service delivery are "cookie-cutter" and not tailored to meet the individual needs of restored citizens • There is no centralized intake process that would allow for providers to share background information with one another to avoid restored citizens having to repeatedly fill out paperwork for different service agencies that often requests the same information • There are Citizens' Circles available in Franklin County • Some programs poorly prepare restored citizens for employment opportunities, which tends to lead to them not maintaining the jobs they do secure • Senate Bill 130 mandates	• Have some programs that begin and end inside the institutions and that continue into the community. • Some agencies go out into the community and conduct outreach activities in places where the target population tends to dwell (e.g., soup kitchens, shelters, churches, etc.) • Several agencies are already working in collaboration with one another (e.g., Alvis House and Community Connections; PRI and CHN, etc.) and leveraging each others' resources • A number of structures and processes are already in place that could support a more comprehensive system of service delivery (e.g., systems that track job search activities) • There is an abundance of services available in Columbus, so much so that	• The stigma attached to being former inmates makes it difficult for restored citizens to move on with their lives (e.g., employers are reluctant and sometimes unwilling to hire restored citizens, and some landlords refuse to rent to restored citizens) • Certain jobs require that employees be insured and several companies will not take on the risk of insuring restored citizens • Some restored citizens have the expectation that they will receive help quickly, despite there being systems and processes in place that dictate the pace of service delivery • Many restored citizens find themselves owing a large amount of back child support once they are released, which often accumulates during their incarceration	• There is no way to verify social security numbers if someone comes into prison with an alias • Some restored citizens who are also veterans and may be eligible for services through VA do not have the E214 document that verifies their eligibility for VA services • Restored citizens tend to need quite a bit of "hand holding" which can impact a program's manpower • Bureaucratic processes that delay service delivery • Perception among providers that laws continually change and what is allowable when working with restored citizens changes • Not every ex-offender is up front about the barriers and challenges they face, which impacts service delivery and the services recommended • Many service providers	• Available resource guides are outdated (e.g., one give out by DRC) • Lack of family planning services • Services for family members of restored citizens who want to support the restored citizens' reentry (i.e., what to expect, how best to help, what not to do, etc.) • There are differences in the needs of restored citizens released more recently than the needs of those released more than a year ago • Lack of effective services for young offenders • Lack of supervision for a large number of restored citizens • Lack of attention being paid to inmates being released from jails • Lack of emergency shelter and housing services for Tier 3 sex offenders • Gaps in funding; RFPs tend	• Revisit the structure and use of pre-release centers • Use First Link as a way to connect restored citizens to available services; provide First Link with a current listing of available programs and services; could easily tell clients to "dial 211' to find out what's available • Begin helping inmate apply for housing before they are released • Allow "successful" restored citizens to work with clients so that they have a more common understanding of the needs and challenges faced by restored citizens • Develop a publication that recognizes the accomplishments of "successful" restored citizens • Create a company, like a thrift store, that only hires restored citizens and provides them with real work experience that can be used to secure future employment • Develop short-term housing for all restored citizens • Create a drop in center for restored citizens

System Weaknesses	System Strengths/ Supports to citizens	Barriers for Citizens	Barriers to Service Delivery	Gaps in Services	Suggestions/Recommendations
that restored citizens be given assistance with securing proper identification (e.g., ID, driver's license, etc.) prior to release, but several restored citizens are still leaving institutions without identification • Lack of communication across systems (e.g., several restored citizens have tried taking their prison ID to the DMV to get their license and DMV workers are not aware of the fact that legislation has been passed that allows it) • There's an undercurrent of blame where providers are blaming each other for break downs in the system • Culture of competitiveness due to limited resources and the desire to have a distinct "brand" or niche, which makes collaboration difficult • There is limited collaboration occurring across agencies and systems • Providers tend to not want to work with faith-based organizations • There are too few service providers to meet the demand for reentry services • Provides do very little in the way of engaging family	restored citizens from other cities and states come to Columbus for services Some agencies provide aggressive follow-up for referral to outside agencies, to ensure that the client received the services for which they were referred • The EXIT program provides housing for sex offenders • The FIRM has begun to call employers to identify those that hire restored citizens • The ODRC has a federal bonding program	• Many restored citizens do not have reliable transportation • A number of restored citizens return to the community with no real familial or other support networks • Many restored citizens need to reinstate their driver's license when they return to the community, but either lack funds to cover the cost of fees and fines, or owe arrears for child support • Many restored citizens lack the funds necessary to pay restitution • Some restored citizens have started education and training programs while they were incarcerated, but left before completing the program and are now unable to find places to accept credit for the training that was already received • Many restored citizens are unaware of their skills and capabilities and often have not identified a career they would like to pursue • Law prevents restored citizens from working in certain career fields, which can lead to a very experienced person being unable to find a job or continue to pursue their	have not ever been incarcerated and thus are unable to be empathic and relate to the difficulties many restored citizens face • Some restored citizens are reluctant to access services because they believe that service providers do not understand their plight • Service providers assume that restored citizens know how to change • Many service providers have large caseloads, which makes service delivery difficult • Some service providers are under the assumption that there are a number of restored citizens who do not truly want help • Restored citizens are not a politically popular group to be working with • Restored citizens have to already have some source of income to be able to get assistance with housing • Certain programs target certain restored citizens (e.g., housing programs that only house dually diagnosed persons) • Not all staff of agencies that provide reentry services buy into the idea of reentry and rehabilitation • There is a lack of community education and	to target particular services and not others, and limited funding streams continually lead to programs being dismantled when the funding runs out • Few providers track the recidivism rates of their clients	• Make the care of restored citizens a mandate/law • Allow inmates to purchase property • Identify what jobs available for restored citizens • Develop a more holistic approach to reentry, building upon the strengths of agencies that are already a part of the system and including representatives/services from different systems (e.g., housing, transportation, etc.) • Develop a one-stop center that restored citizens are sent to immediately upon release, and one that houses every conceivable reentry service • Encourage greater levels of communication and collaboration among service providers • Engage the community in developing reentry solutions • Work with business owners in Franklin County to identify methods of risk management and ways they can engage more restored citizens in the workforce • Develop entrepreneurship programs that help restored citizens establish their own companies • Better share and disperse resources across the state so that Columbus is not by default the "capital of reentry"

System Weaknesses	System Strengths/ Supports to citizens	Barriers for Citizens	Barriers to Service Delivery	Gaps in Services	Suggestions/Recommendations
members in the reentry process • The perception of being "forced" to collaborate by funders is leading providers to be resistant to the idea of greater collaboration • Lack of attention being given to the restorative justice model		career because they have a felony record • Restored citizens having to repeatedly fill out paperwork for different service agencies that often requests the same information • It is difficult for restored citizens to navigate the system of reentry services • Restored citizens are being given outdated resource guides • Several restored citizens lack spiritual guidance • A number of restored citizens lack communication skills • A number of restored citizens have attitudes and dispositions that discourage employers from hiring them • Many restored citizens employability lack skills • A number of restored citizens struggle with maintaining sobriety once they are released • Family expectations and pressures for restored citizens to immediately address issues they think are priority, such as their relationships with their children • Lack of family planning and desire to immediately become engaged in physical and emotional	belief in the concept of reentry and rehabilitation • Lack of availability of jobs • Administration within ODRC is constantly changing, which can impact the consistency of service delivery • Community notifications re: sex offenders that make it difficult for landlords to continue housing them; once neighbors hear of them living in their neighborhood the landlords are bombarded with complaints • The media's portrayal of all restored citizens as predators		

System Weaknesses	System Strengths/ Supports to citizens	Barriers for Citizens	Barriers to Service Delivery	Gaps in Services	Suggestions/Recommendations
		relationships • Some restored citizens who are also veterans and may be eligible for services through VA do not have the E214 document that verifies their eligibility for VA services • Having to "jump through hoops" and produce all sorts of eligibility documentation • Culture shock and the need for re-adjusting to how society has changed since their incarceration (e.g., internet) • Former inmates resort to old habits when they feel they have nowhere else to turn • Some restored citizens have difficulty keeping appointments, largely due to lack of transportation			

Restored Citizens

• Many restored citizens indicate that the institution where they were incarcerated did not offer them any services during their incarceration • Services within the institutions are not equally available to all inmates due to strained resources • Services recommended by case managers sometimes do not address the issues with which restored	• Some institutions are providing services that restored citizens felt have been helpful for the reentry process, including: ▪ GED classes ▪ College preparation ▪ Prison industries ▪ Anger management ▪ Spiritual guidance ▪ Therapeutic living ▪ Job training ▪ Behavior modification therapy	• Stigma attached to being an ex-offender • Many restored citizens left prison feeling as if they were ill-prepared for the transition • Mental illness • Mindset • Lack of family support • Lost connections with children • Lack of financial resources • Several restored citizens feel unsupported in their	• Application processes across agencies are redundant and require restored citizens to "jump through hoops" • Restored citizens feel that not enough service providers understand or have been through their circumstances • Several programs are off limits to restored citizens who do not exhibit mental illnesses and/or substance	• Lack of decent, affordable housing • Too many programs with narrowly defined target audiences • Lack of current listing of available reentry services and programs • Lack of employers willing to hire restored citizens	• *Ensure that goal planning and service provision are done in conjunction with the ex-offender to make certain their needs are being met* • Give attention to developing the function and capacity of pre-release centers • Set up a central network of services; a one-stop shop • Update the listing of employers who hire restored citizens • Use restored citizens to develop and implement programming

System Weaknesses	System Strengths/ Supports to citizens	Barriers for Citizens	Barriers to Service Delivery	Gaps in Services	Suggestions/Recommendations
citizens are confronted • Lack of communication and awareness of one another among service providers	▪ Pen pal/Visitation program • Some of the programs/services that restored citizens found beneficial include: ▪ Community Connections ▪ Alvis House ▪ PRI program ▪ LTT Staffing ▪ Build a Bridge ▪ Diversified ▪ COWIC/Job Leaders ▪ Rebuilding Lives ▪ Urban League ▪ Amethyst • The majority of reentry services are provided at no cost to the ex-offender	transition and feel as if the onus is on them to navigate the fractured system of service delivery in Franklin County • Negative attitudes of some services providers who are charged with helping restored citizens (e.g., corrections, probation and parole officers) • Some service providers offer restored citizens sub standard services, knowing that their resources and options are limited • Job discrimination due to age	abuse issues • Several programs dismantled when funding was limited or cut • Due to the current economic client, employers are being pickier about who they employ • Several programs have staff who have very large caseloads, which impacts the quality of service delivery • Limited funding available for services		• Begin to address housing needs prior to release from incarceration • Increase awareness of educational opportunities for restored citizens

Attachment C

Copy of Prisoner Reentry Survey

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July 1, 2009

Dear Community Partner,

On behalf of the Franklin County Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs, thank you for participating in this survey of reentry services available to formerly incarcerated adults in Franklin County. Over the next couple of weeks, Community Research Partners will be developing an inventory of community, faith-based, and grassroots organizations that provide targeted services to this population. Specifically, the inventory will comprise programs and/or services that target ***adults (age 18 and over), who have returned or will be returning to Franklin County, from either jail or prison.***

The goal is to create as comprehensive an inventory as possible. Therefore, the survey will ask you to provide detailed information about service type, location of services, frequency and duration, participation requirements, staff levels, and funding sources. Respondents may find it helpful to have this information at hand, or you may wish to pass the survey on to someone in your organization who can provide the information.

Thank you again for your participation.

Please send your completed survey as an attachment to Kerry Beckwith at kbeckwith@communityresearchpartners.org. You may also fax or mail the survey to Kerry Beckwith at:

Community Research Partners
300 E. Broad Street, Suite 490
Columbus, OH 43215
Fax: (614) 224-8132
Phone: (614) 224-5917

Franklin County Inventory of Adult Reentry Services

****Click inside shaded box and begin typing when box is highlighted****

Name of Organization: _____

Address of Organization: _____

Name of person completing survey: _____

Contact information:

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

1. What is your organization's geographic service area? Select one. (**Double-click box to mark "checked"**)

   ☐ Franklin County only

   ☐ Columbus only

   ☐ Specific counties or ZIP codes in Central Ohio (please specify) _____

2. Does your organization provide any program or service that specifically targets adults (age 18 and older) who will return or who have returned to the Franklin County community from either jail or prison?

   ☐ Yes

   ☐ No → ***(If "no," thank you very much for your participation. There is no need for you to complete the rest of this survey.)***

3. In what program area(s) does your organization provide these targeted services? Select all that apply.

   ☐ Employment

   ☐ Substance Abuse

   ☐ Mental Health

   ☐ Education or Life Skills (this category includes remedial or degree programs, financial education, and life skills programs like anger management and family relationships)

   ☐ Housing

   ☐ Legal Assistance (this category includes legal representation and advocacy, and also, child support issues, assistance with legal applications, public benefits, payee services, etc.)

   ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Employment

If you indicated "Employment" in Question 3, please answer Questions 4 through 15.

4. What is the name of your employment program? _____

5. What is the goal or mission of the program? _____

6. Check the type(s) of employment assistance that are a regular part of this program.

   For each service, provide the address where that service is primarily provided, and the frequency/duration of each service (e.g., a one-day resume writing class may be offered once a month, or an occupational training program may last 6 weeks, etc.). Also indicate whether the service is provided pre-release or post-release (or both). Use the comment field to provide any additional information.

☐ Job readiness training (resumes, applications, interview skills, etc.)	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____
☐ Job/occupational training	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____

Employment

☐ Job placement (referrals or employer matches)	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____
☐ Retention/post-placement services	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____
☐ Job fair	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____
☐ Employment resource center (job postings, computer access, etc.)	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____

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Employment

☐ Transitional jobs program	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____
☐ Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____
☐ Other (please specify) _____	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment: _____

7. How many adult restored citizens are served through the employment program annually?

Pre-release: _____

Post-release: _____

Employment

8. How many full-time staff provide these services? _____

9. How many part-time staff provide these services? _____

10. Does your organization collaborate with another agency or organization to provide services under this program?

    ☐ Yes (please explain) _____

    ☐ No

11. Does your employment program also provide services to the ex-offender's family, or attempt to involve the family in the reentry process?

    ☐ Yes (please explain) _____

    ☐ No

12. Are the services provided under this employment program based on an evidence-based or best practices model?

    ☐ Yes (please explain) _____

    ☐ No

Employment

☐ I don’t know

Employment

13. Are there specific participation or eligibility requirements associated with this employment program? Fill in only the categories that apply.

    Age: _____

    Gender: _____

    Race: _____

    Type of Offender (violent, non-violent, sexual, chronic, etc.): _____

    Level of Offense (felony, misdemeanor, etc.): _____

    Length of incarceration: _____

    Length of time since release: _____

    Other: _____

14. What is the cost to participate in the employment program? Select all that apply.

    ☐ There is no charge to the participant

    ☐ Participant fees are based on a sliding scale

Employment

☐ Program costs are billed to Medicaid

☐ Grant funding supports this program

☐ Other (please explain) _____

15. For each funding source, indicate the amount of annual funding that supports this employment program. Fill in only the categories that apply.

Federal ($/yr): _____

State ($/yr): _____

City ($/yr): _____

Private foundation ($/yr) _____

Other (please specify): _____

Substance Abuse

If you indicated "Substance Abuse" in Question 3, please answer Questions 16 through 27.

16. What is the name of your substance abuse program? _____

17. What is the goal or mission of the program? _____

18. Check the type(s) of substance abuse treatment or counseling that are a regular part of this program.

    For each service, provide the address where that service is primarily provided, and the frequency/duration of each service (e.g., a 6-week residential treatment program, or a peer support group that meets once a week, etc.). Also indicate whether the service is provided pre-release or post-release (or both). Use the comment field to provide any additional information.

☐ Medical detoxification	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ In-patient rehabilitation	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Substance Abuse

☐ Residential treatment/counseling	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Outpatient treatment/counseling	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Halfway house	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Extended care center	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

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☐ Dual-diagnosis treatment	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Substance Abuse

☐ Group therapy	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Peer support groups	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Relapse prevention	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Aftercare services	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Other (please specify) _____	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

19. How many adult restored citizens are served through the substance abuse program annually?

Substance Abuse

Pre-release: _____

Post-release: _____

20. How many full-time staff provide these services? _____

21. How many part-time staff provide these services? _____

22. Does your organization collaborate with another agency or organization to provide services under this program?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

Substance Abuse

23. Does your substance abuse program also provide services to the ex-offender's family, or attempt to involve the family in the reentry process?

    ☐ Yes (please explain) _____

    ☐ No

24. Are the services provided under this substance abuse program based on an evidence-based or best practices model?

    ☐ Yes (please explain) _____

    ☐ No

    ☐ I don't know

25. Are there specific participation or eligibility requirements associated with this substance abuse program? Fill in only the categories that apply.

    Age: _____

    Gender: _____

    Race: _____

    Type of Offender (violent, non-violent, sexual, chronic, etc.): _____

    Level of Offense (felony, misdemeanor, etc.): _____

Substance Abuse

Length of incarceration: _____

Length of time since release: _____

Other: _____

26. What is the cost to participate in the substance abuse program? Select all that apply.

- ☐ There is no charge to the participant
- ☐ Participant fees are based on a sliding scale
- ☐ Program costs are billed to Medicaid
- ☐ Grant funding supports this program
- ☐ Other (please explain) _____

27. For each funding source, indicate the amount of annual funding that supports this substance abuse program. Fill in only the categories that apply.

Federal ($/yr): _____

State ($/yr): _____

City ($/yr): _____

Substance Abuse

Private foundation ($/yr) _____

Other (please specify): _____

Mental Health

If you indicated "Mental Health" in Question 3, please answer Questions 28 through 39.

28. What is the name of your mental health program? _____

29. What is the goal or mission of the program? _____

30. Check the type(s) of mental health treatment or counseling that are a regular part of this program.

For each service, provide the address where that service is primarily provided, and the frequency/duration of each service (e.g., a 6-week in-patient treatment program, or a group therapy session that meets once a week, etc.). Also indicate whether the service is provided pre-release or post-release (or both). Use the comment field to provide any additional information.

☐ In-patient treatment/counseling	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Outpatient treatment/counseling	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Mental Health

☐ Individual therapy/counseling	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Group therapy/counseling	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Behavioral therapy	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Drug therapy	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Continued on next page →

Mental Health

☐ Dual-diagnosis therapy	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Other (please specify) _____	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

31. How many adult restored citizens are served through the mental health program annually?

Pre-release: _____

Post-release: _____

32. How many full-time staff provide these services? _____

Mental Health

33. How many part-time staff provide these services? _____

34. Does your organization collaborate with another agency or organization to provide services under this program?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

35. Does your mental health program also provide services to the ex-offender's family, or attempt to involve the family in the reentry process?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

36. Are the services provided under this mental health program based on an evidence-based or best practices model?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

☐ I don't know

Mental Health

37. Are there specific participation or eligibility requirements associated with this mental health program? Fill in only the categories that apply.

    Age: _____

    Gender: _____

    Race: _____

    Type of Offender (violent, non-violent, sexual, chronic, etc.): _____

    Level of Offense (felony, misdemeanor, etc.): _____

    Length of incarceration: _____

    Length of time since release: _____

    Other: _____

38. What is the cost to participate in the mental health program? Select all that apply.

    ☐ There is no charge to the participant

    ☐ Participant fees are based on a sliding scale

Mental Health

☐ Program costs are billed to Medicaid

☐ Grant funding supports this program

☐ Other (please explain) _____

39. For each funding source, indicate the amount of annual funding that supports this mental health program. Fill in only the categories that apply.

Federal ($/yr): _____

State ($/yr): _____

City ($/yr): _____

Private foundation ($/yr) _____

Other (please specify): _____

Education and Life Skills

If you indicated "Education or Life Skills" in Question 3, please answer Questions 40 through 51.

40. What is the name of your education or life skills program? _____

41. What is the goal or mission of the program? _____

42. Check the type(s) of education or life skills services that are a regular part of this program.

    For each service, provide the address where that service is primarily provided, and the frequency/duration of each service (e.g., a week-long financial literacy class, or a healthy living session that is offered once every month, etc.). Also indicate whether the service is provided pre-release or post-release (or both). Use the comment field to provide any additional information.

☐ Adult basic education/ABLE	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ GED preparation	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Education and Life Skills

☐ 2- or 4-year certification or degree program	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Tutoring	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Financial education/financial literacy	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Self-development/character development	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

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Education and Life Skills

☐ Family relationships	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Fatherhood programs	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Communication skills	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Stress management	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Anger management	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Education and Life Skills

☐ Mentoring	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Peer/support group	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Healthy living	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ HIV/AIDS outreach/education	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Other (please specify) _____	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Education and Life Skills

43. How many adult restored citizens are served through the education or life skills program annually?

    Pre-release: _____

    Post-release: _____

44. How many full-time staff provide these services? _____

45. How many part-time staff provide these services? _____

46. Does your organization collaborate with another agency or organization to provide services under this program?

    ☐ Yes (please explain) _____

    ☐ No

47. Does your education or life skills program also provide services to the ex-offender's family, or attempt to involve the family in the reentry process?

    ☐ Yes (please explain) _____

    ☐ No

48. Are the services provided under this education or life skills program based on an evidence-based or best practices model?

Education and Life Skills

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

☐ I don't know

49. Are there specific participation or eligibility requirements associated with this education or life skills program? Fill in only the categories that apply.

Age: _____

Gender: _____

Race: _____

Type of Offender (violent, non-violent, sexual, chronic, etc.): _____

Level of Offense (felony, misdemeanor, etc.): _____

Length of incarceration: _____

Length of time since release: _____

Education and Life Skills

Other: _____

Education and Life Skills

50. What is the cost to participate in the education or life skills program? Select all that apply.

- ☐ There is no charge to the participant
- ☐ Participant fees are based on a sliding scale
- ☐ Program costs are billed to Medicaid
- ☐ Grant funding supports this program
- ☐ Other (please explain) _____

51. For each funding source, indicate the amount of annual funding that supports this education or life skills program. Fill in only the categories that apply.

Federal ($/yr): _____

State ($/yr): _____

City ($/yr): _____

Private foundation ($/yr) _____

Other (please specify): _____

Housing

If you indicated "Housing" in Question 3, please answer Questions 52 through 63.

52. What is the name of your housing program? _____

53. What is the goal or mission of the program? _____

54. Check the type(s) of housing services that are a regular part of this program.

    For each service, provide the address where that service is primarily provided, and the frequency/duration of each service (e.g., a 2-year transitional housing program, or a week-long budget counseling class.). Also indicate whether the service is provided pre-release or post-release (or both). Use the comment field to provide any additional information.

☐ Temporary/emergency shelter	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Transitional housing (housing with supportive services that is time-limited)	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Permanent housing (long-term housing with supportive services)	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Housing

☐ Group home	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Homelessness prevention	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Rental assistance	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Down payment assistance	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Continued on next page →

☐ Home repair and maintenance	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Housing

☐ Foreclosure prevention	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Homebuyer education	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Credit and budget counseling	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Tenants rights outreach/advocacy	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Fair housing outreach/advocacy	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Housing search assistance/resources	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Housing

☐ Other (please specify) _____	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

55. How many adult restored citizens are served through the housing program annually?

Pre-release: _____

Post-release: _____

56. How many full-time staff provide these services? _____

57. How many part-time staff provide these services? _____

Housing

58. Does your organization collaborate with another agency or organization to provide services under this program?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

59. Does your housing program also provide services to the ex-offender's family, or attempt to involve the family in the reentry process?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

60. Are the services provided under this housing program based on an evidence-based or best practices model?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

☐ I don't know

61. Are there specific participation or eligibility requirements associated with this housing program? Fill in only the categories that apply.

Age: _____

Gender: _____

Race: _____

Housing

Type of Offender (violent, non-violent, sexual, chronic, etc.): _____

Level of Offense (felony, misdemeanor, etc.): _____

Length of incarceration: _____

Length of time since release: _____

Other: _____

62. What is the cost to participate in the housing program? Select all that apply.

- ☐ There is no charge to the participant
- ☐ Participant fees are based on a sliding scale
- ☐ Program costs are billed to Medicaid
- ☐ Grant funding supports this program
- ☐ Other (please explain) _____

Housing

63. For each funding source, indicate the amount of annual funding that supports this housing program. Fill in only the categories that apply.

Federal ($/yr): _____

State ($/yr): _____

City ($/yr): _____

Private foundation ($/yr) _____

Other (please specify): _____

Legal Assistance

If you indicated "Legal Assistance" in Question 3, please answer Questions 64 through 75.

64. What is the name of your legal assistance program? _____

65. What is the goal or mission of the program? _____

66. Check the type(s) of legal assistance that are a regular part of this program.

For each service, provide the address where that service is primarily provided, and the frequency/duration of each service (e.g., a 1-day session on voting rights and access to public housing, or bi-monthly information session on various legal issues, etc.). Also indicate whether the service is provided pre-release or post-release (or both). Use the comment field to provide any additional information.

☐ Expunged/sealed records	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Legal rights advocacy (voting, public housing, etc.)	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Legal Assistance

☐ Child custody/child visitation/parental rights	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Child support issues	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Paternity issues	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Public assistance screening/application	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Continued on next page →

☐ Obtaining identification/legal documentation	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

Legal Assistance

☐ Immigration/deportation issues	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Payee services	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Bankruptcy issues	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____
☐ Other (please specify) _____	Address where provided: _____	Frequency/Duration: _____	☐ Pre-release ☐ Post-release	Comment:_____

67. How many adult restored citizens are served through the legal assistance program annually?

Pre-release: _____

Legal Assistance

Post-release: _____

68. How many full-time staff provide these services? _____

69. How many part-time staff provide these services? _____

70. Does your organization collaborate with another agency or organization to provide services under this program?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

71. Does your legal assistance program also provide services to the ex-offender's family, or attempt to involve the family in the reentry process?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

Legal Assistance

72. Are the services provided under this legal assistance program based on an evidence-based or best practices model?

☐ Yes (please explain) _____

☐ No

☐ I don't know

73. Are there specific participation or eligibility requirements associated with this legal assistance program? Fill in only the categories that apply.

Age: _____

Gender: _____

Race: _____

Type of Offender (violent, non-violent, sexual, chronic, etc.): _____

Level of Offense (felony, misdemeanor, etc.): _____

Length of incarceration: _____

Length of time since release: _____

Legal Assistance

Other: _____

74. What is the cost to participate in the legal assistance program? Select all that apply.

- ☐ There is no charge to the participant
- ☐ Participant fees are based on a sliding scale
- ☐ Program costs are billed to Medicaid
- ☐ Grant funding supports this program
- ☐ Other (please explain) _____

75. For each funding source, indicate the amount of annual funding that supports this legal assistance program. Fill in only the categories that apply.

Federal ($/yr): _____

State ($/yr): _____

City ($/yr): _____

Private foundation ($/yr) _____

Other (please specify): _____

76. Does your organization provide any other program or service that specifically targets adults (age 18 and older) who will return or who have returned to the Franklin County community from either jail or prison? Please describe. _____

77. If you think about the range of services available to this population (i.e., adults who have or soon will be released in Franklin County) as a "system" of services, what are the 2 or 3 elements you think the system does well? In other words, what are the strengths of that system?

Strength 1:_____

Strength 2:_____

Strength 3: _____

78. What are the system's weaknesses, or how do you think the system could be improved? _____

79. Are there gaps in the system – in the types of services available, populations (or subpopulations) served, or in the capacity of existing programs to serve restored citizens in Franklin County?

☐ Yes

☐ No → ***(skip to Question 83)***

☐ I don't know → ***(skip to Question 83)***

80. In what programs area(s) do you perceive there are gaps?

☐ Employment/job training services

☐ Education (remedial, high school, college, etc)

☐ Substance abuse services

Legal Assistance

- ☐ Mental health services
- ☐ Healthcare/health-related services
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Legal assistance
- ☐ Food/material assistance
- ☐ Life skills/relationships
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

81. How should programs or service areas be expanded or made available to address these gaps? _____

Legal Assistance

82. Where do you think the need for these services is greatest? Select one.

    ☐ Throughout Franklin County

    ☐ Within a specific community or neighborhood in Franklin County (please specify) _____

    ☐ Other (please specify) _____

83. What barriers do service providers face trying to provide services to this population in Franklin County? _____

84. What barriers do adults (age 18 and older) who will return or who have returned to the Franklin County community from either jail or prison face trying to access services available to them in Franklin County? _____

85. How does a person's need for reentry services within, say, the first 6 months of their release (from either jail or prison) differ from their needs later on? In other words, should reentry programs for the ***recently*** released emphasize specific services? _____

86. What different challenges might someone ***recently*** released face trying to access services compared to someone released longer ago? _____

Attachment D

Prisoner Reentry Services Inventory

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Directory of Franklin County Adult Reentry Services

Prepared for Franklin County's Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs and the Franklin County Reentry Taskforce

by

Community Research Partners

INTRODUCTION

The Directory of Franklin County Adult Reentry Services is a compilation of services available to formerly incarcerated adults returning to or living in Franklin County, Ohio. The directory presents information for formerly incarcerated individuals, corrections practitioners and policymakers, as well as those with an interest in accessing services for formerly incarcerated adults, including their families and friends, volunteers, and other service providers.

HISTORY AND METHODOLOGY

In October 2008, the Franklin County Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs (FCOHSJP) released the report *A Look at Reentry in Franklin County*, which provided, among other things, a preliminary list of existing initiatives, key findings and recommendations related to reentry services in Franklin County. In response to the findings of this research and the passage of the historic Second Chance Act, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners formed the Franklin County Reentry Taskforce in January 2009. The Taskforce was created with the intent to provide research, planning, training, service delivery coordination, oversight, and guidance concerning funding opportunities under the Second Chance Act.

To inform the work of the Taskforce, FCOHSJP commissioned Community Research Partners, a nonprofit research and evaluation organization located in Columbus, to identify and inventory local organizations and agencies that currently target and provide services to Franklin County's returning adult offender population.

Data were gathered via an electronic survey that was emailed to a list of over 50 providers. This list was provided by FCOHSJP, and included a variety of community, faith-based, and grassroots organizations. Respondents were asked to provide detailed information about service type, location of services, frequency and duration, participation requirements, staff levels, and funding sources. Service categories include education, employment, housing, legal assistance, life skills, mental health treatment, and substance abuse treatment.

HOW TO USE THE DIRECTORY

There are several ways to use this directory. Two indexes provided at the end of the directory list services first by agency name, and then by service category. A user interested in housing services, for example, could look under that service category and see all of the agencies that provide housing services. A user interested in a specific agency or organization could simply go to that agency's section in the directory and see all of the services it provides. For a quick "at a glance" summary of service categories and providers, see Appendix A.

DIRECTORY LIMITATIONS

The agencies listed in this directory are not the only resources available to formerly incarcerated adults. First, the directory's goal was to inventory agencies that specifically target this population (as opposed to agencies that provide services to the public in general). Second, the inventory consists of only those providers who responded to CRP's electronic survey.

ALVIS HOUSE

1991 Bryden Rd.
Columbus, OH 43205
614-252-8402
www.alvishouse.org

Alvis House provides residential and nonresidential programs for men and women referred from local, state, and federal correctional systems. The organization's mission is to serve communities by providing research-based programs and services that promote healthy families, personal responsibility and public safety.

EDUCATION

- Adult basic education/ABLE
- GED preparation
- Financial education/financial literacy

Description: Basic literacy education is provided to students preparing to take the GED. The GED program utilizes an "open entry" approach wherein students may enter training at any time during the program year. Group sessions are offered twice a week to address common needs. A computer lab is available Monday through Friday. On average, students are engaged in the GED program for approximately 16 weeks, 8 hours per week. All sessions take place at 993 E. Main St., Columbus, OH.

Requirements/Restrictions: Education services are provided to clients referred by probation and parole officers, or through Alvis House halfway houses, employment programs, and case management. Individuals may self-refer, however, capacity is limited.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 800 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Approximately $20,000 state (Title I funding from Ohio Department of Education); Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction; United Way of Central Ohio

Staff: 68 full-time; 10 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: National Institute of Justice research on structure and focus of effective rehabilitation programs; Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) client risk assessments; Individual Program Plans (IPP) that incorporate target areas identified by assessments; Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) models, including Equip Cognitive Behavior Treatment.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Employment resource center
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment

Description: The Employment Services program provides assessment, training, support services and linkages, job placement, and job retention support to the hard-to-employ population. A 3-day job

readiness training program is offered weekly at 1780 E. Broad St. and at 993 E. Main St., Columbus, OH. Family members experiencing difficulty finding employment may also participate in job readiness training. Job assessment, placement, and post-placement services are provided upon completion of the job readiness training program. The employment resource centers are open Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, or by appointment.

Alvis House also partners with a variety of agencies to maximize client services, including Columbus Public Schools, Choices, Community Housing Network, Material Assistance Providers, Southest, Inc. and NetCare, Inc.

Requirements/Restrictions: Clients are referred by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Franklin County Adult Probation, Ohio Department of Youth Services and other corrections agencies. To these clients, Alvis House is contractually obligated to provide residential employment readiness training, job placement assistance, and job retention support services. Services are provided to outclients to the extent that funding is available from local sources.

Referrals for residential placement may be rejected if an individual was convicted of a sex crime with a minor, has a long history of violent or assaultive behavior, has a history of sex crimes, was convicted of arson, or has disabilities beyond the scope of agency resources.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 1,150 post-release, annually.

Funding/Source: Portion of federal and state per diem for residential services; $3000,000 combined from United Way of Central Ohio, Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation, and Franklin County Job and Family Services

Staff: 7 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: *Getting Back to Work: Employment Programs for Ex-Offenders* (Public/Private Ventures, 2000); National Institute of Corrections (individual employment plans); Urban Institute (post-placement services); Offender Workforce Development Specialist certification

HOUSING

- Transitional housing
- Housing search assistance/resources

Description: Alvis House operates five Residential Community Corrections Facilities (halfway houses) at the following locations in Columbus: 844 Bryden Rd., 868 Bryden Rd., 971 Bryden Rd., 40 W. Long St., 1755 Alum Creek Dr.

Requirements/Restrictions: Clients are referred for residential placement by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Franklin County Adult Probation, Ohio Department of Youth Services and other corrections agencies. Length of stay is dictated by an individual's post-release supervision plan, which is monitored by the referring agency.

Referrals for residential placement may be rejected if an individual was convicted of a sex crime with a minor, has a long history of violent or assaultive behavior, has a history of sex crimes, was convicted of arson, or has disabilities beyond the scope of agency resources.

Cost: Individuals in residential programs pay a portion of their earnings in "subsistence." Federal clients are required to pay 25% of their earnings, state clients pay 15% (or no more than $40 per week). Clients who are not employed are not required to pay subsistence.

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 800 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $1.3 million federal; $5 million state; $200,000 combined from United Way of Central Ohio and Franklin County Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs.

Staff: 68 full-time; 10 part-time

LEGAL

- Legal rights advocacy
- Child custody/child visitation/parental rights
- Child support issues
- Obtaining identification/legal documentation
- Public assistance

Description: Any or all of the above legal assistance programs may be included in an Individual Program Plan (IPP), which is developed for every residential client based on assessed needs and/or correctional supervision stipulation. Staff works directly with clients to obtain needed identification, develop child support plans, provide information on legal rights, and refer clients to community resources for additional legal assistance. Several staff are also trained as Ohio Benefit Bank counselors and can check eligibility and gain expedited access to benefits such as health care coverage, home energy assistance, child care subsidies, and food stamps.

All services are offered at Alvis House's Residential Community Corrections Facilities (halfway houses): 844 Bryden Rd., 868 Bryden Rd., 971 Bryden Rd., 40 W. Long St., 1755 Alum Creek Dr. Nonresidential clients may receive services at 1780 E. Broad St. and 933 E. Main St.

Requirements/Restrictions: Clients are referred by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Franklin County Adult Probation, Ohio Department of Youth Services and other corrections agencies. To these clients, Alvis House is contractually obligated to provide legal assistance services according to assessed need.

Referrals for residential placement may be rejected if an individual was convicted of a sex crime with a minor, has a long history of violent or assaultive behavior, has a history of sex crimes, was convicted of arson, or has disabilities beyond the scope of agency resources.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Not tracked separately

Funding/Source: Portion of federal and state per diem for residential services; United Way of Central Ohio

Staff: 68 full-time; 10 part-time

LIFE SKILLS

- Self-development/character development
- Family relationships
- Fatherhood programs
- Communication skills
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Peer/support group
- Healthy living
- HIV/AIDS outreach/education

Description: Any or all of the above life skills programs may be included in an Individual Program Plan (IPP), which is developed for every residential client based on assessed needs and/or correctional supervision stipulation. Life skills programs are designed to teach basic skills that enable clients to cope with day-to-day problems in work, family, social and leisure time situations. Topics may include time management, nutrition, self-esteem, stress management, conflict resolution, effective communication, and personal hygiene. Alvis House also hosts family support groups and works to engage family members in program planning.

Clients participate in a minimum of biweekly case management meetings. Individual counseling may also be provided. All programs are offered at Alvis House's Residential Community Corrections Facilities (halfway houses): 844 Bryden Rd., 868 Bryden Rd., 971 Bryden Rd., 40 W. Long St., 1755 Alum Creek Dr.

Requirements/Restrictions: Clients are referred by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Franklin County Adult Probation, Ohio Department of Youth Services and other corrections agencies. To these clients, Alvis House is contractually obligated to provide life skills services according to assessed need.

Referrals for residential placement may be rejected if an individual was convicted of a sex crime with a minor, has a long history of violent or assaultive behavior, has a history of sex crimes, was convicted of arson, or has disabilities beyond the scope of agency resources.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 800 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Portion of federal and state per diem for residential services; United Way of Central Ohio

Staff: 68 full-time; 10 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: National Institute of Justice research on structure and focus of effective rehabilitation programs; Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) client risk assessments; Individual Program Plans (IPP) that incorporate target areas identified by assessments; Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) models, including Equip Cognitive Behavior Treatment.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Outpatient treatment/counseling
- Halfway house
- Dual-diagnosis treatment

Description: Substance abuse treatment services are provided according to the assessed needs of any individual participating in Alvis House's residential reentry services. Services include individual counseling, group counseling, relapse prevention, alcohol/drug testing, and referrals to outside treatment providers. Alvis House also hosts family support groups and case managers work to engage family members in treatment and education services.

Residential Community Corrections Facilities (halfway houses) in Columbus are located at 844 Bryden Rd., 868 Bryden Rd., 971 Bryden Rd., 40 W. Long St., and 1755 Alum Creek Dr.

Requirements/Restrictions: Clients are referred by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Franklin County Adult Probation, Ohio Department of Youth Services and other corrections agencies. To these clients, Alvis House is contractually obligated to provide substance abuse services according to assessed need. Substance abuse services are also provided to outpatient clients referred by the U.S. Probation Office, Southern Ohio Region.

Referrals for residential placement may be rejected if an individual was convicted of a sex crime with a minor, has a long history of violent or assaultive behavior, has a history of sex crimes, was convicted of arson, or has disabilities beyond the scope of agency resources.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 410 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Portion of federal and state per diem for residential services; U.S. Probation directly funds 100% of services for which it refers clients.

Staff: 4 full-time; clinical staff also provide substance abuse education/treatment as needed

Evidence-Based Model: National Institute of Justice research on structure and focus of effective rehabilitation programs; Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) client risk assessments; ODADAS-approved psycho-social assessments (CAGE, DAST, SASSI; University of Rhode Island Change Assessment Scale (URICA); Individual Program Plans (IPP) that incorporate target areas identified by assessments; Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) models, including Equip Cognitive Behavior Treatment.

CENTER OF VOCATIONAL ALTERNATIVES

3770 N. High St.

Columbus, OH 43214

614-294-7117

www.cova.org

COVA is a private, nonprofit agency that provides vocational rehabilitation services for people with mental illnesses and other disabilities that pose a barrier to employment.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Employment resource center
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment

Description: COVA's *Prisoner Reentry Initiative* (PRI) provides pre-release programming to address vocational, life skills, and health care needs and post-release job development to support men and women with mental illness who are leaving prison and are at increased risk for recidivism. Forensic Peer Specialists (former inmates themselves) work with COVA staff to conduct initial assessments, weekly job readiness programming, and career counseling up to six months prior to release. Post-release, COVA manages benefits coordination, housing assistance, job development, job placement and follow-along services. COVA and Columbus Area Inc., a local mental health center, work together to treat participants in the program.

Requirements/Restrictions: Reserved for inmates with diagnosed mental health disabilities. Program does not accept violent or sex crime offenses.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 75 pre-release and 40 post-release, annually.

Funding/Source: $289,000 federal grant

Staff: 2 full-time; 1 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Supported Employment model

CENTRAL OHIO WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION/JOBLEADERS

1111 E. Broad St.

Columbus, OH 43205

614-559-5052

www.cowicjobleaders.org

COWIC's JOBLeaders is a one-stop employment services provider whose mission is to meet the employment needs of businesses and job seekers to support economic development in Central Ohio.

EDUCATION

- Adult basic education/ABLE
- GED preparation
- 2 or 4-year certification or degree program
- Tutoring

Description: JOBLeaders services are free of charge for customers who are newly entering or attempting to re-enter the workforce. The program strives to address all of the needs of job seekers, including educational needs. As part of its "core" services, "intensive" services, or "training" services, educational needs may be addressed on site, when possible, or may be referred to outside vendors. For those who need assistance with low-cost employment development costs, such as credentials testing, GED preparation/testing, training in English as a second language, job readiness and basic skills training, non-credit coursework or workshops, financial assistance is available. Customized Individual Training Accounts may be developed for those who require long-term training and support.

Requirements/Restrictions: Must be WIA eligible

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: More than 800 post-release, annually, as part of overall employment services

Funding/Source: $7 million federal; $300,000 state; $500,000 city

Staff: 60 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: Evidence-based for One-Stops that provide services for ex-offenders

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Job fair
- Employment resource center
- Transitional jobs program

Description: JOBLeaders services are free of charge for customers who are newly entering or attempting to re-enter the workforce. Core services include technical support from COWIC staff in preparing or updating resumes, identifying skills from past jobs, volunteer work, hobbies, school or social situations. Clients' information is entered into a database and matched to available employment opportunities. Staff also provides follow-up services once employment is secured. More intensive

services, or individual training, may be offered to those in need of limited financial assistance or to those requiring long-term training and support.

Requirements/Restrictions: Must be WIA eligible

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: More than 800 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $7 million federal; $300,000 state; $500,000 city

Staff: 60 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: Evidence-based for One-Stops that provide services for ex-offenders

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Communication skills
- Peer/support group
- HIV/AIDS outreach/education

Description: JOBLeaders services are free of charge for customers who are newly entering or attempting to re-enter the workforce. The program strives to address all of the needs of job seekers, including life skills needs. As part of its "core" services, "intensive" services, or "training" services, life skills needs may be addressed on site, when possible, or may be referred to outside vendors.

Requirements/Restrictions: Must be WIA eligible

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: More than 800 post-release, annually, as part of overall employment services

Funding/Source: $7 million federal; $300,000 state; $500,000 city

Staff: 60 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: Evidence-based for One-Stops that provide services for ex-offenders

COLUMBUS URBAN LEAGUE

788 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Columbus, OH 43203
614-258-8475
www.cul.org

The Columbus Urban League is a community organization focused on enabling African Americans and disadvantaged persons to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights. The ***Transitions*** *program is designed to reintegrate former prisoners into the community, reduce prison recidivism, and improve public safety through addressing the educational, employment, healthcare, housing and family relationship needs of prisoners re-entering society by providing support and connection to needed services in the community.*

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Retention/post-placement services
- Job fair
- Transitional jobs program

Description: Individuals participating in the *Transitions* program may opt to participate in any number of other programs offered at The Columbus Urban League. A variety of employment programs are offered through the agency's Career Services Department. These programs provide customized career development services to persons experiencing barriers to employment. The *Defining, Achieving, Purpose* (DAP) program, for example, typically targets unemployed and underemployed African American males, ages 18-29. The *Urban Career Connections* program is open to any individual.

Requirements/Restrictions: *Transitions* targets African American adult male felons determined to be high-risk, high-need, serious/violent/chronic offenders, age 18-60 at the time of their release who have been incarcerated for a minimum of 12 consecutive months.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: More than 40 adult ex-offenders annually (among all participants).

Funding/Source: *Transitions* receives $40,000 annually from private foundations

Staff: 3 full-time; 4 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: La Familia de la Bodega

LEGAL

- Expunged/sealed records
- Child custody/child visitation/parental rights
- Obtaining identification/legal

Description: The *Father to Father* program provides a classroom curriculum that develops attitudes and skills needed for responsible fatherhood. The program also provides assistance with issues regarding child support, visitation, and family law matters. The program is offered twice a day, once in the morning and once in the evening, on a three-month cycle.

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Self-development/character development
- Family relationships
- Fatherhood programs
- Communication skills
- Mentoring
- Peer/support groups
- Healthy living
- HIV/AIDS outreach/education

Description: Life skills education is a large part of the training that is offered through *Transitions. The* program is designed to provide holistic, wrap-around services to a specific population of adult ex-offender.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Outpatient treatment/counseling
- Group therapy

Description: The *6 Weeks of Change* program also falls under the umbrella of the larger *Transitions* program. *6 Weeks of Change* focuses on cognitive behavior therapy. It is offered one day per week at 954 Mt. Vernon Ave, Columbus, OH.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION FOR OHIO OFFENDERS

993 E. Main St.

Columbus, OH 43205

614-252-0660

www.ccohusa.com

Community Connection for Ohio Offenders is a private nonprofit agency that provides inmates reentering Ohio's communities from prison, a comprehensive, systematic continuum of services, including employment, pro-social skill development, and linkages to community services.

EDUCATION

- Adult basic education/ABLE
- GED preparation

Description: GED and adult basic education classes are offered Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Between 500- 600 adult ex-offenders annually.

Funding/Source: $50,000 federal; $50,000 state supports agency operations

Staff: 3 full-time

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Employment resource center
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment

Description: The *HIRE (Help in Reentry Employment) Education* program is the only APA-approved reentry program in Central Ohio. The program's goals are to find employment and identify career paths that develop long-term skills and income. Barriers that may prevent employment retention are also addressed. HIRE is a 3-day class, with new classes offered weekly. Case management services are provided by a certified Offender Workforce Development Specialist for up to six months, as needed. All clients who complete HIRE obtain necessary documentation to obtain state identification. When funding is available, the agency also provides bus passes for job interviews.

Requirements/Restrictions: None, other than verification of criminal offense.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Between 500-600 adult ex-offenders annually.

Funding/Source: $50,000 federal; $50,000 state supports agency operations

Staff: 3 full-time

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Peer/support group
- Healthy living
- HIV/AIDS outreach/education

Description: Financial literacy classes are offered weekly, taught in alternating weeks by Consumer Credit Counseling Services and Heartland Bank. Other life skills are taught as part of the *HIRE (Help in Reentry Employment) Education* program, which is a 3-day class offered weekly (see Employment). Community partners including the Columbus Health Department and The Tobias Project collaborate to provide health-related services (healthy living, HIV/AIDS education). Anger management classes are taught weekly, Wednesdays at 9:00 AM, at the Franklin County Courthouse as part of the Day Reporting Program.

Requirements/Restrictions: None, other than verification of criminal offense.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Between 500-600 adult ex-offenders annually.

Funding/Source: $50,000 federal; $50,000 state supports agency operations

Staff: 3 full-time

COMMUNITY HOUSING NETWORK

1680 Watermark Dr.

Columbus, OH 43215

614-487-6700

www.chninc.org

Community Housing Network invests in properties and people by providing safe, affordable rental housing for people with disabilities and other special needs related to homelessness. A critical part of CHN's mission is connecting tenants to services that support their mental health, recovery from addiction, and return to employment.

HOUSING

- Permanent housing
- Homelessness prevention
- Rental assistance
- Tenants rights outreach/advocacy
- Fair housing outreach/advocacy
- Housing search assistance/resources

Description: The *Community ACT Rebuilding Lives and HUD Supportive Housing Program* is exclusively for persons with criminal histories who meet HUD's definition of chronically homeless and who have a mental illness. CHN also serves other ex-offenders in many of its housing programs. Permanent housing units are located throughout Franklin County. CHN works with Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and other subsidy providers to provide rental subsidies to tenants entering CHN housing. Other services, including homelessness prevention, outreach, advocacy, and housing search assistance are reserved for persons applying for or already housed in CHN housing programs. CHN partners with provider agencies to provide a full range of mental health, drug treatment, and other services to tenants.

Requirements/Restrictions: Adults, age 18 and older, who are disabled by mental illness and/or substance abuse disorders. The majority of CHN's programs serve homeless persons.

Cost: Tenants pay a portion of rent depending on income

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 200 ex-offenders are assisted through CHN programs annually, including about 70 in the Community ACT program.

Funding/Source: $245,000 federal; $47,000 state; $64,000 Community Shelter Board

Staff: 2 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: State of Change approach that employs different engagement techniques depending on the client's current stage. *The Community ACT Rebuilding Lives and HUD Supportive Housing Program* also utilizes the Assertive Community Treatment approach, a bundled, multidisciplinary team approach that provides comprehensive behavioral and mental health services, supported employment, and other services.

GOODWILL COLUMBUS

1331 Edgehill Rd.

Columbus, OH 43212

614-294-5181

www.goodwillcolumbus.org

Goodwill Columbus is a community organization that strives to build independence, quality of life, and work opportunities for individuals with disabilities and other barriers.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Job fair
- Employment resource center
- Transitional jobs program

Description: Goodwill Columbus is certified by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction's (ODRC) Adult Parole Authority as a reentry service provider. The organization's *Workforce Development* program offers a comprehensive list of services, including vocational evaluation/career exploration, case management, occupational skills training, job seeking and soft skills training, transitional work, and job development, retention, and coaching. At ODRC's request, job readiness training is provided pre-release as well as post-release. All other services are provided post-release.

Job fairs are held in various locations around the county. The employment resource center is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The transitional jobs program is generally in a Goodwill-owned business but may also be in a private sector business.

Workforce Development services are provided at the Battelle Career Education Center on the main campus of Goodwill Columbus, Edgehill Road.

Requirements/Restrictions: Generally there are no restrictions unless stipulated by a particular funding source or partner agency

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Between 100-150 post-release, annually; pre-release varies depending on requests from ODRC.

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: Varies according to funding source

Evidence-Based Model: Community Employment Pathways model

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Self-development/character development
- Communication skills
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Employment resource center
- Transitional jobs program

Description: The job readiness portion of Goodwill Columbus' *Workforce Development* program is divided into two components: job seeking skills, which focus on the skills a person needs to get a job, and "soft skills," which focus on skills a person needs to be successful in the workplace. Soft skills include adapting to change, anger management, communication and team building, decision-making, time management, employer expectations, ethics, money management, motivation, professional dress, self-esteem, stress management, and workplace attitudes. At ODRC's request, job readiness training is provided pre-release as well as post-release.

Workforce Development services are provided at the Battelle Career Education Center on the main campus of Goodwill Columbus, Edgehill Road. Soft skills training is offered weekly, every four weeks, or as needed, depending on the grant or contract.

Requirements/Restrictions: Generally there are no restrictions unless stipulated by a particular funding source or partner agency

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Between 100-150 post-release, annually; pre-release varies depending on requests from ODRC.

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: Varies according to funding source

Evidence-Based Model: Stand-up instruction with integrated role-playing

HILLTOP CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/LTT STAFFING

12 S. Terrace Ave.

Columbus, OH 43204

614-279-4223

www.hilltopchristiancommunity.com

Hilltop Christian strives to reclaim and restore the neighborhood surrounding Hilltop Lutheran Church by building a Christian community fully engaged in the process of transformation. LTT Staffing, which stands for long-term transformation, specifically targets the employment needs of ex-offenders.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Employment resource center
- Transitional jobs program
- Obtaining identification or documentation for employment

Description: LTT Staffing hires participants (primarily ex-offenders) and out-sources them on long-term agreements with local businesses. To train and assist participants, LTT Staffing provides mentoring, spiritual counseling, financial education and counseling, and then partners with several community providers for other services. Goodwill Columbus provides career assessment, soft skills training, counseling and coaching. Dawson Resources provides management and administrative support and systems for the outsourcing business. The Legal Aide Society provides legal assistance for associates. And Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation (COWIC) acts as the "one-stop" job development agency.

Requirements/Restrictions: Must be 18 or older

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 800 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $50,000 federal; $90,000 employer partners; $50,000 private donors

Staff: 2 full-time; 1 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Research and benchmarking "best in class" providers in Ohio and the U.S.

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Self-development/character development
- Communication skills
- Mentoring
- Peer/support group

Description: Financial education is offered in six, 2-hour sessions approximately six times per year. Jobs for Life consultants provide biblically-based training on character development, self-control, principles concerning work and worklife, and how to become connected to the community (classes offered two to

four times per year). Mentoring and peer support counseling is provided by Harbor on the Hill, a Saturday evening meal, worship and small group support program for returning ex-offenders.

Requirements/Restrictions: Must be 18 or older

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 50 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $50,000 federal; $50,000 private donors

Staff: 2 full-time; 25 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Recognized consultants for financial and communication skills training

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Outpatient treatment/counseling
- Peer support groups
- Relapse prevention

Description: Hilltop Christian's substance abuse program is geared toward prevention of relapse, and if relapse does occur, then referral to an appropriate treatment program (The Bell Center, Maryhaven, Amethyst, The Refuge). Mentoring and spiritual counseling are provided in-house, as needed. Alcoholics Anonymous and Celebrate Recovery groups meet weekly at Hilltop Christian and at Upper Arlington Lutheran Church at Mill Run (3500 Mill Run Drive in Hilliard).

Requirements/Restrictions: Must be 18 or older

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 14 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Private donations support minimal non-volunteer costs

Staff: 1 full-time; 1 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Alcoholics Anonymous and Celebrate Recovery best practices models

MARIE CELESTE CENTER OF TRANSITIONAL LIVING

7962 Crosshaven Dr.

Dublin, OH 43016

614-210-1185

The Marie Celeste Center of Transitional Living is a transitional housing program for female ex-offenders that supports and makes referrals for employment, substance abuse, education and life skills services.

EDUCATION

- Adult basic education/ABLE
- GED preparation

Description: Residents of the transitional housing program attend education and life skills classes. Adult basic education and GED preparation classes are taught at St. John's Episcopal Church in Franklinton (Tuesdays, morning and afternoon). Marie Celeste Center staff also provides tutoring for GED preparation.

Requirements/Restrictions: Female ex-offenders, age 18 or older; no sexual or chronic offenders

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: 20 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: 5 full-time; 4 part-time (2 housemothers and 2 retired social worker volunteers)

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Job placement
- Employment resource center
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment

Description: All residents of the transitional housing program apply to One Force Staffing, a local temp agency. Marie Celeste also partners with Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation (COWIC)/JOBLeaders to provide residents with job readiness training and access to other employment resources.

Requirements/Restrictions: Female ex-offenders, age 18 or older; no sexual or chronic offenders

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: 20 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: 5 full-time; 4 part-time (2 housemothers and 2 retired social worker volunteers)

MARIE CELESTE CENTER OF TRANSITIONAL LIVING

7962 Crosshaven Dr., Dublin, OH 43016 614-279-4223

HOUSING

- Transitional housing
- Credit and budget counseling
- Tenants rights outreach/advocacy
- Fair housing outreach/advocacy
- Housing search assistance/resources

Description: Transitional housing is available to female ex-offenders at two locations in Columbus' Franklinton neighborhood: 78 Meek Avenue and 854 Scott Street. Both houses are duplexes and can accommodate 20 residents, total. A third house will soon be open and will accommodate an additional 10 residents. Residents live in the homes and are required to participate in employment, substance abuse, education, and life skills counseling and training as needed. Length of stay ranges from seven months to one year, after which Center staff assist residents in locating permanent housing.

Requirements/Restrictions: Female ex-offenders, age 18 or older; no sexual or chronic offenders

Cost: Participants pay rent based on a sliding scale

Ex-offender Population Served: 20 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: 5 full-time; 4 part-time (2 housemothers and 2 retired social worker volunteers)

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Self-development/character development
- Family relationships
- Communication skills
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Mentoring
- Peer/support group
- Healthy living

Description: Residents of the transitional housing program attend education and life skills classes. Some of these are taught by staff at Marie Celeste Center. Financial education and budgeting instruction are provided by local bank representatives. Anger and stress management classes are taught at a local church, and parenting classes are provided by Catholic Social Services. Other workshops are taught by volunteers at other organizations.

Requirements/Restrictions: Female ex-offenders, age 18 or older; no sexual or chronic offenders

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: 20 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: 5 full-time; 4 part-time (2 housemothers and 2 retired social worker volunteers)

MARIE CELESTE CENTER OF TRANSITIONAL LIVING

7962 Crosshaven Dr., Dublin, OH 43016 614-279-4223

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Outpatient treatment/counseling
- Group therapy
- Peer support groups
- Relapse prevention
- Aftercare services

Description: Residents in need of drug or alcohol treatment and/or relapse prevention receive care at a 10-week outpatient treatment program at The House of Hope.

Requirements/Restrictions: Female ex-offenders, age 18 or older; no sexual or chronic offenders

Cost: Participant fees are based on a sliding scale; most clients qualify for no or reduced charges for services

Ex-offender Population Served: Varies with need

Funding/Source: The House of Hope is funded by the Franklin County ADAMH Board, the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, the Columbus Foundation, the Franklin County Department of Jobs and Family Services, the United Way and private donors.

Staff: 5 full-time; 4 part-time (2 housemothers and 2 retired social worker volunteers)

MARYHAVEN

1791 Alum Creek Dr.

Columbus, OH 43207

614-445-8131

www.maryhaven.com

Maryhaven is a private, nonprofit corporation that specializes in treatment for people with alcohol and drug dependencies.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Medical detoxification
- Residential treatment/counseling
- Outpatient treatment/counseling
- Dual-diagnosis treatment
- Group therapy
- Relapse prevention
- Aftercare services

Description: Maryhaven offers a full range of addiction recovery services. A continuum of care has been created to include inpatient, day treatment, intensive outpatient, and outpatient services. Residential detoxification is a subacute inpatient program, staffed by registered nurses 24 hours-a-day. The Outpatient Detoxification Program provides the same daytime services seven days a week. Treatments range from 3 to 13 days.

In residential treatment, patients learn about the illness of addiction and are introduced to the tools necessary to establish and maintain sobriety. Patients are involved in a therapeutic environment with an intense schedule of group counseling, individual counseling, client and family education, therapeutic recreation, medical and nutritional interventions, Alcoholics Anonymous and other self help groups. Treatments range from 21 days to 6 months. Intensive outpatient programs range from 4 to 10 weeks in length, and may address specific needs, such as women with addiction and solicitation issues, or individuals with addiction issues who have family members who want to attend treatment as support.

Patients' needs for mental health services are also regularly assessed and provided while they are participating in substance abuse recovery programs. A fully licensed team of clinicians provides mental health services including psychiatrists, psychologists, nurse practitioners, social workers, and counselors.

Family support groups also offers services to family members and loved ones in order to assist them in their own recovery and to build a stronger family unit.

Requirements/Restrictions: Age 18 and older

Cost: Participant fees are based on a sliding scale (and may be no charge); program costs may also be billed to Medicaid

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 50 pre-release and 2,100 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $2.8 million federal; $336,000 state; $395,000 city; $114,000 private foundations; $4.1 million county/other local; $279,000 self-pay/insurance

Staff: 59 full-time; 9 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Detox services are provided based on medical protocols. Residential and outpatient services utilize the Community Reinforcement Approach for delivering services.

MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

538 E. Town St.

Columbus, OH 43215

614-221-1441

www.mhafc.org

Mental Health America of Franklin County is a contract agency of the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health (ADAMH) Board of Franklin County. The organization is responsible for educating the public about mental health and mental illness and advocating and providing referrals for mental health services.

MENTAL HEALTH

- Support groups
- Advocacy and referral
- Legislative information
- Ombudsman program

Description: MHAFC sponsors three kinds of support groups in Franklin County: Families in Touch (supporting friends and family members of adults with mental illness); a depression support group (a self-help group); and Schizophrenics Anonymous, also a self-help group that is peer-led.

The agency assists residents who call needing help or information about mental health services, both public and private. When appropriate, staff makes referrals to the assessment program at Netcare Corporation, the agency that determines eligibility for community treatment teams, or other agencies such as Advocacy and Protective Services, or Ohio Legal Rights Service.

MHAFC tracks legislation that is of interest to people with mental illness and their families. The agency's advocacy network allows people from all over the country to take an active role in improving the health and quality of life for all.

The Ombudsman program assists clients and family members who are receiving mental health or alcohol/drug services when they are having difficulties with the services they are receiving.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: MHAFC's services are provided at no charge; referral services may have associated costs

Ex-offender Population Served: Information not available

Funding/Source: Government grants, United Way of Central Ohio, special events and donations, membership fees, and program services

Staff: Information not available

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY SERVICES/T.O.U.C.H. INMATE MENTORING PROGRAM

3968 E. Main St.

Columbus, OH 43213

614-338-8733

www.touchimp.org

T.O.U.C.H. is an inmate and post-release mentoring program. T.O.U.C.H. stands for Teaching necessary skills, providing employment Opportunity, and exercising Unity by Connecting with prisoners and opening spirit-filled Hearts.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Job fair

Description: The T.O.U.C.H. *Entrepreneurship Program* is designed to provide ex-offenders with a path toward self-employment. The program partners with a national technology company representative who provides in-kind services. Skills related to conceptualizing and establishing a new business are emphasized, including job readiness and occupational training (offered once per week) and mentoring.

Requirements/Restrictions: Age 18-50; the program does not have the resources to meet the special needs of sexual offenders

Cost: No charge to participant; the program asks for a $100 voluntary sponsorship fee

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 100 pre-release and 100 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Services are supported by individual donations; specific funding amounts not available

Staff: 4 full-time; 4 part-time

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Self-development/character development
- Family relationships
- Fatherhood programs
- Communication skills
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Mentoring
- Peer/support group
- Healthy living

Description: The cornerstone of T.O.U.C.H. is its one-on-one mentoring program, which provides individual encouragement and support to ex-offenders and allows them to work out day-to-day struggles

associated with reentry and reintegration into society. T.O.U.C.H. also hosts a weekly "Talk Session" in a 12-week series. Session topics include: education re-inventing, productive time management, dealing with difficult people, redeveloping social skills, family relationships, overcoming stereotyping, self-esteem and confidence-building, money management and basic financial skills, maintaining focus, communication skills, employment readiness, and challenging criminal thinking.

A computer literacy workshop is also held weekly. Participants learn basic typing skills and learn how to navigate the Internet. Students are also provided with an email address and upon completion of the workshop, a donated computer to take home.

Requirements/Restrictions: Age 18-50; the program does not have the resources to meet the special needs of sexual offenders

Cost: No charge to participant; the program asks for a $100 voluntary sponsorship fee

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 100 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Services are supported by individual donations; specific funding amounts not available

Staff: 4 full-time; 4 part-time

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND CORRECTION

770 W. Broad St.

Columbus, OH 43222

614-752-1159

www.drc.ohio.gov

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction protects and supports Ohioans by ensuring that adult felony offenders are effectively supervised in environments that are safe, humane, and appropriately secure. Part of the agency's mission is to provide opportunities for offenders to have educational, vocational and social programming that will enable them to become successful returning citizens to the neighborhoods where we live.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Job fair
- Employment resource center
- Transitional jobs program
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment

Description: ODRC provides a variety of apprenticeship, career technical, and job readiness training programs all aimed at assisting individuals exiting prison with employment skills and opportunities. Offender Workforce Development works with departmental staff and institutions to prepare offenders for employment and the job search process. Administrators work to develop collaborative partnerships across the state to facilitate community linkages for released offenders seeking to obtain and maintain sustainable employment. Staff also provides training, education, and technical assistance to community action organizations, One-Stops, job developers, and other state agencies who work with second chance job seekers. In addition, the agency conducts video conferences with employers, and has in place Memorandums of Understanding with state departments of Veteran's Affairs, Job and Family Services, and the Rehabilitation Services Commission. Job fairs are hosted by every institution and parole office at least once per year, and employment resource centers are available as well. In November 2008, ODRC and the Department of Public Safety signed an MOU that allows offenders to take their state inmate identification card and go into any local Bureau of Motor Vehicles to have it replaced with a state ID or driver's license.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant during incarceration

Ex-offender Population Served: Services are available to all former inmates; 29,000 are released every year

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: All institutions have staff dedicated to providing these services

Evidence-Based Model: All ODRC programs are evidence-based

HOUSING

- Transitional housing
- Permanent housing
- Rental assistance
- Credit and budget counseling

Description: The Bureau of Community Sanctions manages contracts with private not-for-profit halfway house vendors and independent housing vendors for residential placement of adult offenders under the supervision of the felony courts or the Adult Parole Authority.

Halfway houses are community residential programs providing supervision and treatment services for offenders released from state prisons, referred by Courts of Common Pleas, or sanctioned because of a violation of conditions of supervision. Currently, Alvis House is the contracted halfway house provider for ODRC.

ODRC and the Corporation for Supportive Housing have collaborated to implement a pilot permanent supportive housing project called Returning Home—Ohio. The target population for this project is offenders who are identified as chronically homeless before incarceration or are likely to become homeless upon release. Priority is given to offenders who are identified as being most likely to require supportive services in order to maintain housing due to severe mental illness, a developmental disability, or severe substance addictions. In Franklin County, YMCA of Central Ohio and Community Housing Network are partners in this initiative.

Additionally, independent housing agencies provide housing, some limited monitoring of residents, case management and community referrals for services. Offenders with no viable home placement options that are stabilized and have moderate to low programming needs that can be met in the community may be referred to these housing agencies.

Requirements/Restrictions: Housing providers may reject referrals for residential placement according to their own rules and regulations.

Cost: Participant fees are based on a sliding scale (and may be no charge)

Ex-offender Population Served: Information not available

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: The Bureau of Community Sanctions addresses and supports housing issues and needs for ex-offenders

Evidence-Based Model: Varies according to the housing provider

LEGAL SERVICES

- Legal rights advocacy
- Child custody/child visitation/parental rights
- Child support issues
- Public assistance screening/application
- Obtaining identification/legal documentation

Description: ODRC works closely with the Ohio Department of Support Enforcement regarding child custody and support issues to ensure that former inmates are afforded their legal rights and meet their legal responsibilities regarding their children. Additionally, each institution and parole region has an Ohio Benefit Bank center and counselor that can assist individuals in applying for public assistance. In November 2008, ODRC and the Department of Public Safety signed an MOU that allows offenders to take

their state inmate identification card and go into any local Bureau of Motor Vehicles to have it replaced with a state ID or driver's license.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: 29,000 inmates are released every year; services are open to all

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: All institutions have staff trained to provide support and referral for these services

Evidence-Based Model: N/A

LIFE SKILLS

- Family relationships
- Communication skills
- Mentoring
- Peer/support group

Description: ODRC sponsors and encourages former inmates to participate in a Citizen's Circle. Citizen Circles are groups of community members committed to helping offenders make the change from "offender" to "citizen". Offenders and their families develop relationships with members of the community and together develop a plan to help the offender become accepted as a productive citizen and member of the community. Two Citizen's Circles operate within Columbus, one at the Columbus Urban League called Central Ohio Citizen Circle East (which meets on the second Thursdays of every month) and one at the Africentric Personal Development Shop called CAYND (Collection Action for Youth and Neighborhood Development) Citizen Circle (which meets on the fourth Thursday of every month). Citizen's Circles focus on eight dynamic domain areas: employment, education, family/marital, associates/social interactions, substance abuse, community functioning, personal/emotional orientation, and attitude.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: 29,000 inmates are released every year; services are open to all

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: All institutions have staff dedicated to providing these services

Evidence-Based Model: Information not available

OHIO LITERACY NETWORK

6161 Busch Blvd.

Columbus, OH 43229

614-505-0716

www.ohioliteracynetwork.org

Ohio Literacy Network is committed to building Ohio's workforce by strengthening adult and family literacy education.

EDUCATION

- Adult basic education/ABLE
- GED preparation
- Tutoring

Description: Ohio Literacy Network operates a statewide referral and information hotline, which connects adult learners to local education programs and resources, and an online learning website designed to assist adult learners achieve educational goals and attain economic self-sufficiency.

OLN's *LearnLine,* available at www.ohioliteracynetwork.org, provides free, 24/7 access to learning tools that can be used online, on television, at home, and in the community.

The *GED Connection* project provides adult learners with home and internet-based access to GED preparation tools. Video lessons correspond to the five areas on the GED exam: Math, Science, Social Studies, Reading and Writing. A set of 3 workbooks corresponding to these lessons may be purchased, and students can access practice tests online. The video lessons are available through internet streaming video, on local and public television stations, and on Time Warner Digital Cable (available through on-demand programming for those who subscribe to this service).

Other services, including tutoring, financial literacy classes, and employment "soft skills," like communication skills, are available through online learning sites, or through referral to another community agency or organization. OLN maintains an extensive network of literacy programs and educators, supported by OLN's information and referral service, coalition and collaboration building projects; and OLN's online learning website.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: Online learning tools and video programming is available at no charge to the participant; a set of GED preparation workbooks may be purchased through OLN's website for $34

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 1,500 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $72,000 private foundation

Staff: 3 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Online services reflect the best of current practices involving distance learning and online delivery of skills

ONE COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

120 N. Pickaway St.

Circleville, OH 43113

740-474-4900

www.onecommunityministries.org

One Community Ministries is a ministry of Community United Methodist Church in Circleville, Ohio. The organization operates an in-prison ministry in 13 state correctional institutions in counties throughout Central Ohio, including Franklin. The ministry also works with and mentors ex-offenders transitioning back into their communities and society.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job placement
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment
- Obtaining other legal identification

Description: Employment services are offered as part of One Community Ministries' *The Bridge* program. The goal of the program is to advance the ex-offender's transition to family, community, and society while promoting positive interactions for those whose lives the ministry touches. Job readiness training is provided both within prisons (via special arrangement with the institution), and post-release by appointment. Job placement services are also available by appointment. Locations for services include 214-216 S. Court Street and 104 and 120 N. Pickaway Street in Circleville, OH. One Community Ministries collaborates with Job and Family Services/Jobs One-Stop, Pickaway County Community Action, and other local churches and businesses to provide these services.

Assistance securing various types of legal identification and documentation is also available at 120 N. Pickaway Street and 214-216 S. Court Street. One Community Ministries collaborates with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the Social Security Administration, and various county Educational Service Centers and individual school districts to provide this service.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 25 pre-release and 10 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $1,500 from local sources and the United Methodist Church

Staff: 1 full-time volunteer and 3 part-time volunteers

Evidence-Based Model: The Bridge employment program uses approved vocational program models used in high school and career centers across the U.S.. Secondary work study program models such as Occupational Work Experience and Occupational Work Adjustment are also used, as are program guidelines recommended by the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education.

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Self-development/character development
- Family relationships
- Fatherhood programs
- Communication skills
- Healthy living

Description: One Community Ministries' *The Bridge* program also emphasizes life-long learning experiences and positive interactions for those whose lives the ministry touches. In-prison ministries focus on family relationships and fatherhood. Post-release, these and other programs are also available by appointment, including financial education, self-development, communication skills, and healthy living. Appointments are held at 214-216 S. Court Street in Circleville, OH. One Community Ministries collaborates with Pickaway County Educational Service Center, Pickaway County Extension Service, the National Fatherhood Initiative, and The United Methodist Church to provide these services.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 15 pre-release and 6 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $1,500 from local sources and the United Methodist Church

Staff: 1 full-time volunteer and 6 part-time volunteers

Evidence-Based Model: The educational programs used best practices models provided through guidelines from the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Peer support groups
- Relapse prevention

Description: One Community Ministries' *Celebrate Recovery* program utilizes fellowship and biblical principles (8 Recovery Principles) to allow participants to grow spiritually and to become free from addictive, compulsive behaviors that lead to dysfunction. Peer support and relapse prevention groups meet weekly for 2 to 3 hours at 120 N. Pickaway Street in Circleville, OH. One Community Ministries collaborates with Pickaway County Areas Recovery Services and Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health Center to provide these services.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 15-20 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $1,000 from local sources and the United Methodist Church

Staff: 10 part-time volunteers

Evidence-Based Model: The *Celebrate Recovery* program is a best-practices model developed through the Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, CA.

OPENING DOORS OF OHIO

P.O. Box 281

Lewis Center, OH 43035

614-543-0417

www.openingmoredoors.org

Opening Doors is a Christ-centered ministry that works with Ohio offenders, pre-release and post-release, in a spiritual, mentoring capacity to build healthy relationships, strengthen families, improve employment opportunities, and reduce recidivism.

LIFE SKILLS

- Family relationships
- Fatherhood programs
- Communication skills
- Anger management
- Mentoring
- Peer/support group
- Healthy living

Description: The Opening Doors program begins with a three-day workshop inside the prison. The workshop uses a creative, interactive learning curriculum that focuses on personal growth, building trust, conflict resolution, listening and communication skills, laughter, learning to "think about what we think about" and understanding the impact and value of decision and choice. The workshops are facilitated by staff and volunteers and typically consist of 20 to 25 inmates. They are open to any offender, regardless of faith or practice.

Based on the workshop, inmates who demonstrate a motivation and willingness to change are recruited to participate in ongoing programming and services. A variety of services are offered, based on the individual's needs and case plan. This includes a computer-based tutorial called *Parenting Wisely*, which depicts typical family struggles and highlights effective resolution techniques and positive parenting behavior. Staff may also engage the offender and his/her "family support person" in a mediation process aimed at strengthening the family's relationships. Interactive journaling is a part of this relationship skill-building curriculum. Staff also facilitates several support/discussion groups within the prisons, including one entitled Trauma Recovery and Empowerment (TREM).

Post-release, staff maintains frequent contact with the former inmate and coordinates referrals for housing, employment, job training, medical care, substance abuse or mental health counseling, food pantries, and other necessary assistance. Ex-offenders are also connected to a network of community- and congregation-based mentors, and qualified family mediators when necessary. A support group consisting of ex-offenders within the community also meets regularly (called Free At Last).

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 35 pre-release; 20 post-release annually (typical grant requirements allow for 6 months pre-release and 6 month post-release assistance)

Funding/Source: $160,000 state funding; $10,000 individual donations

Staff: 2 full-time; 2 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Use of Criminogenic and Protective Factors Assessments (CAPFA); Stand in the Gap mentoring model

PROJECT LINDEN

1410 Cleveland Ave.

Columbus, OH 43211

614-221-7790

www.project-linden.org

Project Linden is a private non-profit outpatient alcohol and drug treatment and prevention services center. The mission of the agency is to promote, maintain and conduct programs and activities designed to enable persons to develop a lifestyle free of chemical dependency leading to economic independence, productivity, self-empowerment and a self-fulfilling social function.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job placement

Description: The *Employment Readiness* and *Job Placement Services* programs provide structured pre-employment and job search skills that help prepare consumers for success in the workplace. One-on-one guidance is provided in resume writing, interviewing techniques, self-esteem development, employment motivational development, self-assessments, and surveys to determine math and reading proficiencies. Job referrals and placement assistance is also offered through collaboration with local employers, with the goal of attaining successful employment that leads to economic self-sufficiency. These programs are designed to meet the needs of individuals who have a long-term history of unemployment problems due to secondary issues such as incarceration, under-employment, low job skills and limited education.

Requirements/Restrictions: Adults over the age of 18

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 78 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $86,216 state funding

Staff: 1 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: Healthy Lifestyles

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Outpatient treatment/counseling
- Group therapy
- Peer support groups
- Relapse prevention
- Individual counseling

Description: The *Intensive Outpatient Program* (IOP) at the Alvin R. Hadley Counseling Center (1410 Cleveland Ave.) provides intensive drug treatment services targeting the criminal justice population. Individuals within this population are in need of extensive services to empower them to establish a drug free lifestyle. It is a structured, 10-week program that provides intensive consumer education, individual and group counseling, Monday through Friday. Peer support groups meet monthly. The program is designed to meet the multiplicity of issues presented, ranging from unemployment to lack of

appropriate support systems. The agency continues to implement services which are designed to meet the clinical and cultural needs of the consumer.

Requirements/Restrictions: Adults over the age of 18

Cost: Participant fees are based on a sliding scale (and may be no charge); program costs may also be billed to Medicaid.

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 166 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $670,991 state funding

Staff: 5 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: Matrix Model

RACHEL'S HOUSE, A MINISTRY OF LOWER LIGHTS

1066 Bellows Ave.

Columbus, OH 43223

614-228-3855

www.lower-lights.org

Rachel's House is a transitional housing program for previously incarcerated women that provides job placement assistance, life skills counseling, and recovery services, all within a physically and emotionally safe environment. Women in the program are empowered to establish healthy relationships with God, family and community.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Employment resource center
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment

Description: Rachel's House partners with employment schools (such as Community Connection for Ohio Offenders and Economic Community Development Institute) and provides employment training and an employment mentor in-house, to assist each woman in finding employment quickly. Services are tailored for each individual and are offered as needed.

Requirements/Restrictions: Participants must be female residents of Rachel's House

Cost: Included as part of Rachel's House program fees ($265/month)

Ex-offender Population Served: 12 to 18 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Services are supported by program fees and private foundations (1%); specific funding amounts not available

Staff: 1 full-time; 3 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Final Report of the Task Force on Nonprofit, Faith-Based and Other Nonprofit Organizations (submitted to Ohio's 124th General Assembly, 2002)

HOUSING

- Transitional housing
- Credit and budget counseling

Description: The transitional housing program is based on the premise that there is more to a home than shelter; home is where one should be comfortable, loved, and secure. For women transitioning back into the community from prison, Rachel's House provides a safe and spiritually-based community of residents and volunteers. While in residency, each woman works one-on-one with a mentor, and is provided with job readiness training and placement assistance, life skills counseling, and recovery services. Case managers are also Ohio Benefit Bank certified. The average length of stay in Rachel's House transitional housing is approximately 10 months. A total of 12 women can be housed at once.

Requirements/Restrictions: Participants must be female, with no sexual criminal history

Cost: Program fees are $265/month

Ex-offender Population Served: 12 to 18 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Services are supported by program fees, state funding (10%), private foundations (6%), and individual contributions (5%); specific funding amounts not available

Staff: 1 full-time; 3 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Final Report of the Task Force on Nonprofit, Faith-Based and Other Nonprofit Organizations (submitted to Ohio's 124th General Assembly, 2002)

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Self-development/character development
- Family relationships
- Communication skills
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Mentoring
- Peer/support group
- Healthy living

Description: Residents participate in weekly bible studies and women's fellowship activities that are designed to keep residents accountable and to help them her learn life skills (like those listed above). At the center of the community is a personal mentor, whose job it is to boost the resident's self-confidence and ability to succeed. Here, Rachel's House partners with another program called *Project AIM* (Achieving Independent through Mentoring), which is a unique, outcome-oriented program that provides case management services to clients and their families in order to promote self-sufficiency, strengthen families, and reduce isolation.

Requirements/Restrictions: Participants must be female residents of Rachel's House

Cost: Included as part of Rachel's House program fees ($265/month)

Ex-offender Population Served: 12 to 18 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Services are supported by program fees, state funding (5%), private foundations (5%), and individual contributions (15%); specific funding amounts not available

Staff: 1 full-time; 3 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Final Report of the Task Force on Nonprofit, Faith-Based and Other Nonprofit Organizations (submitted to Ohio's 124th General Assembly, 2002)

MENTAL HEALTH

- Outpatient treatment/counseling
- Individual therapy/counseling
- Group therapy/counseling
- Behavioral therapy
- Dual-diagnosis therapy

Description: Rachel's House partners with Lower Lights Christian Health Center (1251 W. Broad St.) to provide mental and behavioral health care services to residents who are referred by their primary care physician. Lower Lights provides outpatient care, individual therapy, dual-diagnosis therapy, and behavioral therapy. In-house group support groups also meet weekly, as needed.

Requirements/Restrictions: Participants must be female residents of Rachel's House and must be referred for mental health services by a primary care physician

Cost: Participant fees are based on a sliding scale (not included as part of Rachel's House program fees)

Ex-offender Population Served: 12 to 18 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Information not available

Staff: None

Evidence-Based Model: Final Report of the Task Force on Nonprofit, Faith-Based and Other Nonprofit Organizations (submitted to Ohio's 124th General Assembly, 2002)

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Residential treatment/counseling
- Outpatient treatment/counseling
- Dual-diagnosis treatment
- Group therapy
- Peer support groups
- Relapse prevention
- Aftercare services

Description: Residents attend a biblically-based 12-step program, pastoral and mental health counseling, and Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. Lower Lights Christian Health Center (1251 W. Broad St.) provides assessment and diagnosis for substance abuse, mental and behavioral health services, and makes referrals to outside treatment centers where necessary. Weekly recovery peer-support groups are facilitated by CDC-licensed recovery coordinators and supervised clinical counseling interns. In-house peer support groups also meet weekly.

Requirements/Restrictions: Participants must be female residents of Rachel's House

Cost: Included as part of Rachel's House program fees ($265/month)

Ex-offender Population Served: 12 to 18 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: Services are supported by program fees, state funding (5%), and private foundations (5%); specific funding amounts not available

Staff: None

Evidence-Based Model: Final Report of the Task Force on Nonprofit, Faith-Based and Other Nonprofit Organizations (submitted to Ohio's 124th General Assembly, 2002)

THE EXIT PROGRAM, NISRE INC.

883 Oakwood Ave.

Columbus, OH 43206

614-253-8969

www.theexitprogram.com

The EXIT Program is a faith based program that provides hope and rebuilds lives through transitional housing and reentry services. The mission of the program is to give support needed to help prisoners who have been released from prison become law abiding citizens.

HOUSING

- Transitional housing

Description: The EXIT Program, which stands for "Ex-offenders In Transition," is a 90-day transitional housing program that specializes in housing men convicted of sexual offenses. The program does, however, consider all types of offenders for housing. The EXIT program receives many of its clients through direct referrals from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. While in housing, men also receive case management services, cognitive behavioral therapy, and some life skills training. A food pantry, clothing pantry, and necessary toiletry items are also made available. Together with effective supervision, these critical resources help ex-offenders meet strict guidelines imposed on them by Ohio law and help reduce the threat of future victimization.

Requirements/Restrictions: Participants must be male, age 18 and older

Cost: No charge to participant; ex-offenders who are not eligible for the transitional housing program may privately pay to rent property from NISRE, Inc. (NISRE stands for Nothing Into Something Real Estate, Inc.)

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 85 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $175,500 state funding; $25,000 rental revenue

Staff: 4 full-time; 3 part-time

MENTAL HEALTH

- Individual therapy/counseling
- Group therapy/counseling
- Behavioral therapy

Description: A key component to The EXIT Program's transitional housing program, especially as it relates to sexual offenders, is cognitive rehabilitation. All clients are mandated to attend an in-house mental health treatment program called CBI (Cognitive Behavior Intervention), which is facilitated by The EXIT Program's Clinical Director. The group, which meets once per week, is geared toward intense therapy. Clients are encouraged to openly and frankly discuss issues they are facing and to hold one another accountable for critical thinking errors and positive decision-making. During discussion clients are also exposed to life skill training, covering topics as varied as men's health, cooking, and opening a bank account. Clients may also be referred to external partners who specialize in mental health treatment, physical health, and substance abuse recovery.

Requirements/Restrictions: Participants must be male, age 18 and older

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 85 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $175,500 state funding; $25,000 rental revenue

Staff: 4 full-time; 3 part-time

THE FIRM OF COLUMBUS

1110 Morse Rd.

Columbus, OH 43229

614-824-8299

www.thefirmcolumbus.org

The Firm of Columbus is a newly established organization (2009) that has the goal of "revolutionizing" the approach to assistance-based programs in a way that empowers citizens to obtain self-sufficiency and economic independence.

The Firm of Columbus began operations in 2009 and currently has four full-time staff. Although the organization does not currently provide direct services to clients, it intends to provide (and in some cases has begun to provide) assistance, information, and referral services to adult ex-offenders in the areas outlined below. The goal of these programs is to enable clients to grow in ways that promote self-confidence and self-sufficiency.

- Personal Development
- Health and Wellness
- Professional Development
- Financial Literacy
- Career Development
- Mentorship/Life Coaches
- Community Redevelopment
- Resource Management with Extensive Referral Assistance

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE SERVICES

1260 N. High St.

Columbus, OH 43201

614-291-0233

www.vgsjob.org

Vocational Guidance Services is a private nonprofit organization that provides vocational training and job placement services to individuals who have physical or mental disabilities or who are economically disadvantaged. Many of VGS's customers are also challenged by histories of incarceration.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Employment resource center
- Transitional jobs program
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment

Description: *Evaluation and Assessment* services help consumers explore options and identify immediate and long-term vocational goals. During the evaluation process vocational interests, aptitudes, strengths and limitations are identified, and then used to determine the steps necessary to reach career goals and achieve success.

VGS's *Work Adjustment* program is a transitional employment program that provides "earn-while-you-learn" opportunities in the fields of custodial services, clerical services, textiles, community-based services, and factory/facility work. Consumers earn a paycheck while learning appropriate workplace behaviors, such as work quality, punctuality, and productivity. The program is 4 weeks in duration.

The *Occupational Skills Training* program is designed to give consumers hands-on skills and tools they need to gain employment. Training is provided in the areas of food service/hospitality, textile services (sewing/garment factory), building maintenance, computer skills, forklift operation, customer service, and custodial methods. Training lasts 2 to 12 weeks, depending on the topic.

Once training is complete, VGS's *Placement Services* program guides consumers through the job-seeking process, from identifying employer expectations and filling out applications to resume creation and interview preparation. After a job has been secured, VGS provides continued guidance to help consumers achieve long-term success. The program also coaches prospective employees in areas such as work sociability, acceptance of rules and supervision, personal hygiene and work quality, all helping to bridge the transition from training to work. Placement typically takes between 6 and 8 weeks, exclusive of other services provided.

Requirements/Restrictions: Non-violent offenders only

Cost: Program costs are paid by the referring agency

Ex-offender Population Served: Information not available

Funding/Source: Program costs are paid by referring agencies; specific funding amounts not available

Staff: 5 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: CARF accredited programs

LIFE SKILLS

- Self-development/character development
- Communication skills

Description: Life skills training workshops assist participants in developing skills necessary to cope with real life situations with tact and confidence. Participants in all *Occupational Skills Training* and *Work Adjustment* programs benefit from these weekly life skills sessions.

Requirements/Restrictions: Non-violent offenders only

Cost: Program costs are paid by the referring agency

Ex-offender Population Served: Information not available

Funding/Source: Program costs are paid by referring agencies; specific funding amounts not available

Staff: 5 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: CARF accredited programs

WINWIN, INC.

4924 Reed Rd.
Columbus, OH 43220
614-538-2898
www.winwin-inc.org

WinWin is a nonprofit organization that works with children in schools and with parents in prisons, providing education, tools and resources to foster nonviolent resolutions to real-life conflicts and to build and repair family relationships.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Retention/post-placement services

Description: WinWin's *Institute for Response-Able ReEntry* is an educational program that begins in prison and continues post-release. The primary focus of the program is to teach skills that foster healthy relationships and lawful self-sufficiency. Incarcerated adults learn to respond thoughtfully and non-violently to life's daily challenges and to be healthy influences in their families and in their communities.

Job readiness skills and occupational training are part of the Institute's curriculum. These are provided within Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction facilities (Marion, Pickaway, Richland, London, and Madison) and include basic computer skills training, Microsoft certification, and digital arts training. Adult basic education, ESL, and classes in Spanish, French, and Arabic are also available.

Post-release, the program continues to develop participants' interpersonal communication and conflict resolution skills as marketable employment assets. WinWin also hosts a discussion sessions with potential employers on employment-related topics such as how participants can market their skills to secure employment, what employers look for in a resume, and workplace expectations.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 1,000 pre-release, annually

Funding/Source: $50,000 state funding

Staff: 7 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Use of accredited facilitators and trainings based on best practices and research in the fields of cognitive development, brain function and adult learning. The Internal Review Boards of both ODRC and The Ohio State University have overseen evaluations of WinWin's programs since 2002.

LIFE SKILLS

- Self-development/character development
- Family relationships
- Fatherhood programs
- Communication skills
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Mentoring
- Peer/support group

Description: While in prison, inmates learn to apply and master the use of conflict management, interpersonal communication, critical thinking, decision-making and parenting skills. Inmate-fathers become active "parenting-partners" who act as positive, healthy influences in their children's and family's lives. After prison, participants continue learning new skills and applying new thinking patterns. They are supported to make good choices and to take control of their environment in healthy ways. Ex-offenders are given the opportunity to "give back" and return to the prison setting to assist in delivering WinWIn's programming to other incarcerated individuals.

WinWIn's *Families Together* program teaches skills and strategies for thoughtful responses in family relationships and conflict situations. The *Conflict Intervention* program provides training in specific skills for the management and resolution of personal and interpersonal conflict. Participants also learn a process for effective mediation/conflict resolution. The *Growing With your Brain in Mind* program highlights recent understanding of human brain development, function and learning, and helps each participant apply that information to an identified goal. These programs and the topics they cover are offered both pre- and post-release.

Post-release seminars and peer support groups are also available.

Requirements/Restrictions: None

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: Approximately 600 pre-release and 20 post-release, annually

Funding/Source: $50,000 state funding

Staff: 7 part-time

Evidence-Based Model: Use of accredited facilitators and trainings based on best practices and research in the fields of cognitive development, brain function and adult learning. The Internal Review Boards of both ODRC and The Ohio State University have overseen evaluations of WinWin's programs since 2002.

YMCA OF CENTRAL OHIO

40 W. Long St.

Columbus, OH 43215

614-224-1142

www.ymcacolumbus.org

The YMCA of Central Ohio's mission is to serve the whole community through programs expressing Judeo-Christian principles that build a healthy spirit, mind, and body. In addition to the organization's many programs that are open to men and women of all ages, YMCA partners with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and the Corporation for Supportive Housing to provide the Returning Home – Ohio program, an ODRC-pilot that provides permanent housing for recently released ex-offenders who are at risk of homelessness.

EMPLOYMENT

- Job readiness training
- Job/occupational training
- Job placement
- Retention/post-placement services
- Employment resource center
- Obtaining identification or documentation needed for employment

Description: As part of the *Returning Home – Ohio* program, permanent housing residents are provided with a holistic program of wrap-around, supportive services intended to increase stability and lower risks of recidivism and homelessness. The YMCA's *Employment Services* offers assistance in employment planning (determining worker skills and abilities, setting goals), resume development, and job searches. Job readiness workshops cover a number of subjects, including workplace etiquette and interviewing skills. Resource rooms, transportation assistance, an in-house job training program, and case management services are also available. Training and job placement sessions are offered weekly in one-hour group sessions. Individual sessions may also be provided.

To employers, YMCA provides pre-screening and referrals of eligible job applicants, ongoing case management and employment counseling, and on-site follow-up services after hire.

Requirements/Restrictions: Males only. Sex offenders and those with a history of arson are not eligible. Program participants must meet other background check requirements. Preference is given to those most likely to require services in order to maintain housing, i.e., those with mental illness, a developmental disability, or severe addiction.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: 18 post-release (total)

Funding/Source: $93,000 state funding (total grant amount for all operating costs and services)

Staff: 1 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: Best practices as researched and recommended by the American Association of Service Coordinators, Standards of Practice Manual (4th edition)

HOUSING

- Permanent housing
- Rental assistance

Description: *Returning Home – Ohio* is a permanent, supportive housing pilot that targets offenders who are identified as homeless prior to incarceration or who are likely to become homeless and who have a disability, such as mental illness, chronic substance abuse, or a chronic health condition. The pilot has two primary goals: reduce recidivism and prevent homelessness for this population. The pilot began in March 2007; YMCA of Central Ohio partners with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and the Corporation for Supportive Housing to provide Single Resident Occupancy housing and rental assistance to eligible participants of the *Returning Home – Ohio* program.

Requirements/Restrictions: Males only. Sex offenders and those with a history of arson are not eligible. Program participants must meet other background check requirements. Preference is given to those most likely to require services in order to maintain housing, i.e., those with mental illness, a developmental disability, or severe addiction.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: 18 post-release (total)

Funding/Source: $93,000 state funding (total grant amount for all operating costs and services)

Staff: 1 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: Best practices as researched and recommended by the American Association of Service Coordinators, Standards of Practice Manual (4th edition)

LIFE SKILLS

- Financial education/financial literacy
- Communication skills
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Peer/support group

Description: As part of the *Returning Home – Ohio* program, permanent housing residents are provided with a holistic program of wrap-around, supportive services intended to increase stability and lower risks of recidivism and homelessness. Individual counseling and guidance related to life skills such as communication, anger, and stress management are provided by a YMCA Service Coordinator at any time (by appointment). A 9-hour financial literacy class is offered quarterly in three sessions.

Requirements/Restrictions: Males only. Sex offenders and those with a history of arson are not eligible. Program participants must meet other background check requirements. Preference is given to those most likely to require services in order to maintain housing, i.e., those with mental illness, a developmental disability, or severe addiction.

Cost: No charge to participant

Ex-offender Population Served: 18 post-release (total)

Funding/Source: $93,000 state funding (total grant amount for all operating costs and services)

Staff: 1 full-time

Evidence-Based Model: Best practices as researched and recommended by the American Association of Service Coordinators, Standards of Practice Manual (4th edition)

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Strengthening Ohio communities through data, information, and knowledge