

**Tennessee Reentry Collaborative (TREC) Services Network:
Building a Sustainable Statewide Model for the Referral and Delivery of Offender Services
at the Local Level**

**Goals and Agenda
Friday, March 26, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.**

GOALS

- To unveil, discuss and agree on strategies for establishing a sustainable Statewide Services Delivery Model for Reentry at the local level;
- To learn about efforts underway by the Prison Fellowship to formalize a Services Provider Network across the state; and lessons learned to date from their initial efforts in Memphis;
- To discuss strategies for effectively merging TREC and Prison Fellowship efforts in each region of the state to assure a collaborative and consistent approach to services delivery across the state;
- To develop a few initial steps to build on existing efforts and implement the services delivery model in each region of the state.

AGENDA

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions; Providing a Context for Our Work Together Today
Jim Cosby and Gary Tullock

9:15 a.m. TREC Services Network: A Services Delivery Model for the State of Tennessee
Becki Ney

9:40 am Building the Model in Memphis and Elsewhere
Jim Kennedy, Memphis Leadership Foundation
Aimee Vance, Prison Fellowship

Aimee and Jim will talk about how they have begun to establish the Model in Memphis; Aimee will also discuss the assistance the Prison Fellowship can provide to each of the local teams to enhance their efforts.

10:00 a.m. Large Group Discussion: Q&A
Becki and Aimee will facilitate a discussion of the questions and issues that the local teams have about the proposed Model.

10:20 a.m. Small Group Discussion: Getting Started
Each local team will discuss initial steps for moving forward:

1. Establish a Steering Committee: Who is already at table? Who's missing? Who needs to be invited? How do we do that?
2. Identify possible meeting date for Steering Committee to discuss model and develop a more detailed plan for moving forward (including identification of anchor organization, roles and responsibilities, assessing gaps in current services).
3. Identify three immediate next steps that the team will take to begin/further Model implementation by the next TREC meeting.

Each local team will be asked to take notes of their discussions and provide to Jim Cosby and Aimee at the conclusion of the meeting.

10:50 a.m. Concluding Remarks and Next Steps
Jim Cosby, Gary Tullock and Becki Ney

Each local team will be asked to report out a possible meeting date or ONE next step they intend to take in the next 30 days to further their efforts to formalize a Services Delivery System for offenders.

11:00 a.m. Adjourn

Minutes TREC 1/8/2010

Attendees: **Nashville** – Sharmila Patel, Linda Leathers, Susan Cunningham, Malinda Wilson, Tiffany Acuff, Carla Murray, Emily Laursen, Sarah Conkwright, Ron Turner, Jim Cosby, Becki Ney, Raul Lopez, J. Nutt, Aimee Vance, Brenda Morrow, Daina Moran, Lisa Helton, Bill Scollon, Carolyn Waugh, Alayna Duffel, Cyndi Taylor, Liz Ledbetter, Gary Tullock, Robin Porter, Andrey Brinson, Louise Grant, and David Delbridge.

Knoxville – Mary Hanson, Ann Myers, Kathleen Daily, Cathie Ragsdale, and Lee Ragsdale.

Memphis – Jim Kennedy, Lee Moten, April Buckner, Michelle Steward, and Linda White

Chattanooga – Tim Dempsey, Boyd Patterson, Floyd Davis, Gale Reed, Sandra Caldwell, David Brown, Ronnetta Hopson, and Monica Lester.

Introduction: All sites.

October minutes: Reviewed minutes and discussed continuing brief presentations from a TREC partner at each future meeting. Last meeting Project Return, Inc. presented and it was received well.

Member updates:

Jim Cosby: Cleatrice McTorry is out in the field today training on the ID and SSI issues. Inmates are getting paperwork done for DL up to the point of paying fee. They do however leave us with all paperwork ready to go. Emily has already tested 350 inmates for his/her Career Readiness Certificate. In next 18 months will have total of 4,000 offenders tested between our grant from the Office of Criminal Justice Programs and the testing being done by ETHRA. BOPP and TDOC have already completed over 2,500 LS/CMI's.

Linda Leathers, The Next Door: We have just signed a rental agreement in Knoxville and will have a capacity of 16 women On-site; apartments will be available In February, with Cathie Ragsdale as lead. We are in the final stages of leasing a building in Chattanooga; it will have capacity of 24 ladies. There are some maintenance needs, but we plan to be open in April, 2010. Monica Lester will be the Chattanooga lead. Linda is grateful for all the TREC support that has been a key in making all of this possible.

BOPP – The treatment service network has been rolled out and is getting a great response. Motivational interviewing T4T training starts next month at the Academy; they will train 20 staff at a time. We are continuing to fill social worker openings.

Amy Vance: Prison Fellowship's Out4Life conference is scheduled for March 1-3, 2010. Additional information is available for those who would like it (See Attachment).

Chattanooga: We have been meeting as a local collaborative between TREC meetings.

Knoxville: We are glad to have The Next Door opening up in Knoxville.

Memphis-: We are networking with Memphis Career Centers to get offenders tested for Career Readiness Certificates. The Memphis Crime coalition is working to preventing crime in neighborhoods.

Jim Cosby: For the rest of today, we will look at where TREC has been and where are we going. Becki Ney is here to guide us through the rest of this meeting. TN has received grant to have technical assistance from NIC so Becky will be in TN every month now helping/working with reentry groups/agencies.

Becky Ney's Presentation:

TREC started in 2004 and is still ongoing. Today is about suggestions and insights on how TREC moves on from here. It appears that the committees are not working like they did in the beginning. Folks are still moving forward on issues and networking, but not as committees. How do we keep reentry work going on? Memphis has a large Second Chance Act grant that TREC needs to connect to.

Accomplishments:

- Formed TREC, a statewide effort. TREC continues to have an impact. This is impressive and does not happen in most states.
- Opened two transition centers.
- Initiated a Transitional Assessment Plan (TAP) on every offender in TDOC custody.
- Ongoing assistance from Veteran's Affairs for offenders in TDOC custody.
- Developed a resource database.
- Parole Technical Violator Diversion Program.
- The Next Door program is expanding
- Workforce Development specialist in place and is still looking at next steps.
- Mental Health is working with community and Criminal Justice liaisons to make sure gaps in treatment do not happen on release.
- Project Return received sister grant to Nashville Works from Department of Labor

Gary Tullock: We need to celebrate TREC accomplishments better. There is also a need to spread this out more across the state. We also need to focus on other external communications, and general Media relations.

Becki: Teams that celebrate success tend to be more successful.

Current TREC activities:

- LS/CMI Implementation
- Family Reunification
- Victim Services: Victim impact class during pre-release and victim speakers. They are pursuing Victim Offender dialog. BOPP is also establishing Victim Impact training for all their new offenders.
- Career Readiness Certificates

Community activities: Expand housing, Employment, Mentoring, Academic, Connecting mental health and substance abuse programs/services.

Shelby County: There is a need for low-cost treatment services. Bill Gupton has put some training together for TDOC and BOPP staff. BOPP received a little treatment money as a result of the Joint Offender Management Plan; offenders with a high need for treatment services can get referrals as indicated. They plan to link to agencies with ACCESS to Recovery money. Bill asked how effective CAPP is in Shelby County, Jim with Memphis leadership reports it is effective and will/can use a sliding scale. He also mentioned the Salvation Army.

Transition from Prison to Community (TPC):

Consider applying for a Second Chance Act grant. The Second Chance Act resource center is a good resource.

- Eight states involved in 1st round funding of the grant: Memphis received funding last year.
- Seeks to obtain public safety through offender success. This is a big shift in thinking for correction staff.
- Outcomes regarding key reentry indicators are a must.
- Grant deadline is March 4th

Roadmap for Implementing the TPC Model:

- Disciplinaries are lower reentry units
- Decreases in returns to prison have been seen in many states

Lessons: Key Ingredients of Success:

- Commitment of key leadership and critical partners
- Ability to develop staff support.

Georgia Reentry Impact Project:

- State level collaborative team of stakeholders
- Electronic sharing of reentry plans between institutions

Missouri:

- Transitional housing units operate in 11 institutions statewide
- Missouri reentry process teams now serve every county (mRP)
- Executed order mandating MRP

New York:

- Established a dedicated offender reentry unit
- Implementing dynamic assessment (COMPAS) for probation and parole offenders
- Implemented and funded 13 county reentry task forces

Michigan:

- In 2007-Parole technical returns to prison decreased by 33 percent despite a 15% increase in parole sentences
- Initiative has had a significant impact on offender population

TREC Vision and Mission:

- We need to revisit mission.
- If TREC is successful we should see the numbers of offenders start to go down.
- There is more reentry work going on that is not always connected to TREC: Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Locals, and Joint planning committee.

There is more work getting done than we are aware of. We need to get all of this connected. We need to establish a unified vision of reentry in Tennessee to tie all reentry efforts together.

We need to work on a joint vision statement that everyone across the State buys into. Possible vision statements:

- Making Communities Safe by Rebuilding Lives
- Community Safety by Rebuilding Lives.
- Keeping Communities Safe by Rebuilding Lives.
- Community Success by Rebuilding Lives.

Next Steps:

- Effectively move TREC to the local level.
- Formalize local collaborative and make them an integral part of reentry.
- Focus on building infrastructure for reentry.
- Continue to involve broad range of community members with key governmental agencies.
- Provide resources to local reentry groups (maybe through grant funding).
- Maybe provide a starter kit for locals. Prison Fellowship has something like this now.
- We also need representatives from drug courts to be involved in TREC and local collaborations.

RFP is out now for another round of Second Chance Act funding. We could probably put one state application together to support locals with dollars. NIC could be part of the initial set up and training. The grant does require a 50% match. Becki will see if one State application is appropriate.

Next steps on formalizing and strengthening locals:

- Figure out if/how to go forward with the Second Chance grant application.
- Look at a starter kit for local collaboratives.

For now our next meeting is March 26. A meeting in February may be necessary.