Second Chance Act:
Responding to the FY 2016 Comprehensive Community-Based Adult Reentry Program Utilizing Mentors Grant Solicitation

Presenters:
Darla Wolf, Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Ronin A. Davis, Grantee Technical Assistance Manager,
Corrections & Reentry
The Council of State Governments Justice Center

March 17, 2016
• National non-profit, non-partisan membership association of state government officials

• Engages members of all three branches of state government

• Justice Center provides practical, non-partisan advice informed by the best available evidence

csgjusticecenter.org
The Second Chance Act

- Public Law 110-199 signed into law on April 8, 2008.
- Authorizes grant awards to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations to support programs, policies and practices that reduce recidivism.
Authorized by the passage of the Second Chance Act in April 2008 and launched by the Council of State Governments in October 2009.

NRRC staff have worked with nearly 600 SCA grantees, including 40 state corrections agencies.

The NRRC provides individualized, intensive, and targeted technical assistance training and distance learning to support SCA grantees.
In fiscal year (FY) 2016, $68 million was appropriated for Second Chance Act programs.

Currently Open (http://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/CurrentFundingOpportunities.htm):

- Smart Supervision: Reducing Prison Populations, Saving Money, and Creating Safer Communities: https://www.bja.gov/funding/smartsupervision16.pdf | DUE APRIL 11
- Comprehensive Community-Based Adult Reentry Program Utilizing Mentors: https://www.bja.gov/Funding/SCAmentoring16.pdf | DUE APRIL 12
- Reentry Program for Adults with Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Disorders: https://www.bja.gov/Funding/SCACoOccurring16.pdf | DUE MARCH 30

To receive announcements when new SCA solicitations are posted, sign up for the NRRC newsletter at http://csgjusticecenter.org/subscribe/.
## Second Chance Act Mentoring

### Total Awarded Between 2009-2015

$77,102,916.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Type</th>
<th>Total Awarded</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Mentoring</td>
<td>$34,894,932.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Mentoring</td>
<td>$15,134,791.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Mentoring</td>
<td>$12,983,386.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mentoring Fathers/Mothers</td>
<td>$6,250,740.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Fathers Mentoring</td>
<td>$4,939,067.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latino/a Youth</td>
<td>$2,900,000.00</td>
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[Diagram showing distribution of funds]
Second Chance Act Mentoring

https://csgjusticecenter.org/reentry/national-criminal-justice-initiatives-map/
Second Chance Act Mentoring

- A developmental relationship in which a more experienced person helps a less experienced person develop specific knowledge and skills to increase the likelihood of successful reentry.

- Mentoring may be one-on-one or in a group setting.
Second Chance Act Mentoring

Key Characteristics

- Strong, formalized partnership between mentoring organization, corrections department, and individual facility or facilities

- Demonstrated support for and commitment to the mentoring process on the part of reentry stakeholders especially the corrections department and facilities involved
Second Chance Act Mentoring

Key Characteristics

- Clear policies and procedures defining
  - content of the mentoring program,
  - the roles of mentors in supporting reentry,
  - qualifications & requirements for being a mentor, and
  - processes for screening, selecting, & matching mentors
- Formal pre-service and in-service training for mentors
- Ongoing data collection and evaluation systems
Second Chance Act Mentoring

Considerations

- Role of mentor vs. case manager
- Compensation for mentors (paid employees, volunteers, stipends)
- Encouraging informal mentoring relationships
- Mentor qualifications
  - Peer mentors
  - Mentors matched to meet specific goals (employment, education, etc.)
Bureau of Justice Assistance

**Mission:** to provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities.

The Second Chance Act has supported over $300 million in reentry investments across the country

https://www.bja.gov/
Grant Logistics

Solicitation is available at:

Applications are due on April 12, 2016.

Eligibility:
• Nonprofit organizations
• Tribal nonprofit organizations
• Indian tribal governments

Award:
• Up to 7 awards
• Up to $1,000,000 each
• 36-month project period
Goals and Objectives

Promoting more effective and successful reentry through comprehensive, evidence-based wrap-around reentry plans that address the identified needs of the individuals and are supported by trained mentors
Mandatory Requirements

- Provide mentoring and other services to a minimum of 150 individuals returning from incarceration over the 3-year project period.

- MOA/MOU demonstrating an established collaborative relationship with correctional agency and the specific facility/facilities.

- Describe the empirically-validated assessment tool(s) used by correctional agency to determine risk level and identify criminogenic needs of the target population.
Mandatory Requirements

- Provide pre-release mentoring services and plan to screen, assess, and identify program participants pre-release

- Describe a comprehensive menu of post-release programs and services to support community integration

- Demonstrate capability to deliver or broker evidence-based programs and services in conjunction with mentoring

- Describe total number of people the proposed program plans to serve (minimum 150) over the length of the project period and demonstrate that this is a reasonable number
Mandatory Requirements

- Mentor recruitment plan including number of mentors who will be recruited, the timeline for recruitment, and a list of community partners that will be engaged in recruiting mentors.

- Articulate a clear plan for tracking participant outcomes for at least 12 months following release.

- Provide a baseline recidivism rate for the proposed target population and documentation supporting the development of the rate.
Mandatory Requirements

- Provide outlines of the pre-service and in-service training curricula that will be provided to all mentors. Training must include:
  - Characteristics of the criminal justice system
  - Relevant policies/procedures of the correctional agencies and facilities referring participants
  - Communication skills
  - Criminogenic needs and their relationship to the likelihood of recidivism
  - Ethical standards related to serving as a mentor

For a full list of required training topics, see Page 7 of the solicitation
Priority Consideration

- Provide for an independent evaluation of the project that includes, to the maximum extent feasible, random assignment of individuals to program delivery and control groups
Target Population

- 18 or older
- Convicted as an adult
- Imprisoned in a state, local, or tribal prison or jail
- Moderate to high risk of reoffending based upon results of an empirically validated risk assessment instrument
## Selection Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection Criteria</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Statement of the problem</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project design &amp; implementation</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capabilities &amp; competencies</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact/Outcomes, performance measures, evaluation, and sustainability</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Statement of the Problem

Key Components

- Provide a baseline recidivism rate for the proposed target population
- Indicate the jurisdiction or tribal community to be served (include the number of individuals returning to the community and the number and type of individuals in the facilities being served)
- Summarize the basic components of the reentry initiative as currently being implemented
- Describe existing continuum or menu of services available
- Describe how the proposed mentoring program will interface with the existing reentry process
Project Design & Implementation

Key Components

- Describe project implementation plan
  - Identify risk assessment instrument
  - Number of people to be served
  - Mentor training curriculum, professional development, and supports
  - Mentor/mentee matching process and ratio
  - Length of mentor relationship
- Mentor recruitment strategy and number of mentors
- Describe pre and post-release services
- Provide a description of how the project could be replicated if effective
- Describe how the priority consideration is going to be met
Capabilities and Competencies

Key Components

- Organizational culture, capabilities, and competencies
- Management structure and project staffing
- Identifying agency responsible for project and grant coordinator
- Partner agencies
Impact/Outcomes, Performance Measures, Evaluation, & Sustainment

Key Components

- Goals, objectives, and outcomes
- How performance will be documented, monitored, and evaluated
- Process for assessing project’s effectiveness
- Data that will be collected
- Plan for tracking participant outcomes for at least 12 months following release
- Process for obtaining recidivism information
- Plan for sustainability
Budget

Key Components

- Complete, cost-effective, and allowable budget
- Include percent for research, data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment
- Budget funding to travel to DOJ sponsored grant meetings

Matching Requirement

- This solicitation **does not** require a match. However, if an application proposes a voluntary match amount, receives an award, and OJP approves their budget, the match amount becomes mandatory and subject to audit.
Additional Attachments

- See pages 18-21 for complete list of “Additional Attachments” required, including:
  - Project timeline
  - Position descriptions
  - Letters of support, MOUs, and/or MOAs
  - Applicant disclosure of pending applications
  - Research and evaluation independence and integrity
Important Contacts

Application Submission Technical Assistance
Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline

1-800-518-4726 | support@grants.gov
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Solicitation Assistance Contact Information
National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center

1-800-851-3420 | grants@ncjrs.gov
Open 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday-Friday
Open 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern time, May 19, 2015
Resources

Center for Evidence-based Mentoring
http://www.umbmentoring.org/
http://chronicle.umbmentoring.org/

National Mentoring Resource Center
http://www.nationalmentoringresourcecenter.org/

Mentoring Ex-Prisoners: A Guide for Prisoner Reentry Programs
Resources

National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices
http://www.samhsa.gov/nrepp

Office of Justice Programs
CrimeSolutions.gov
Resource of evidence-based programs

What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse
Questions & Contact Information

- **Darla Wolf**
  Policy Advisor
  Bureau of Justice Assistance
  Office of Justice Programs
  US Dept. of Justice
  Darla.wolf2@usdoj.gov

- **Ronin A. Davis, LMSW**
  Grantee Technical Assistance Manager
  Corrections & Reentry
  The Council of State Governments
  Justice Center
  rdavis@csg.org
Thank You

Join our distribution list to receive CSG Justice Center project updates!

www.csgjusticecenter.org/subscribe

For more information, contact

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