

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS IN THE RECIDIVISM REDUCTION CHECKLISTS

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**Booster Training:** A refresher session critical to reinforcing the techniques and skills previously learned.

**Case Management:** A range of services provided to assist and support people in developing their skills; gaining access to needed medical, behavioral health, housing, employment, social, educational, and other services essential to meeting basic human needs; and forming linkages to and training in the use of community resources. Staff dedicated to case management generally provide these services.<sup>i</sup>

**Cognitive Behavioral Interventions:** Manual-driven courses of structured counseling aimed toward increasing awareness of one's thoughts, behaviors, and actions, as well as the consequences of each. Cognitive behavioral interventions are often used to address specific problem areas such as anger management, moral reasoning, criminal thinking, substance addiction, relapse prevention, and relationships.<sup>ii</sup>

**Criminogenic Needs (or Dynamic Risk Factors):** The characteristics or circumstances (such as antisocial attitudes, beliefs, thinking patterns, and associates) that research has shown are associated with criminal behavior, but which a person can change. These needs are used to predict risk of criminal behavior. Because criminogenic needs are dynamic, risk of recidivism can be lowered when these needs are adequately addressed. While a person may have many needs, not all of their needs are directly associated with their likelihood of committing a crime.<sup>iii</sup>

**Criminogenic Risk:** The likelihood that a person (either formerly incarcerated and/or under supervision of a justice agency) will commit a crime or violate the conditions of his/her supervision. In this context, risk does not refer to the seriousness of crime that a person has committed in the past or will commit in the future.<sup>iv</sup>

**Dosage:** The number of treatment/intervention hours provided to a person. Dosage has been shown to be an important factor in the effectiveness of reentry programs, with greater dosage needed for people who are assessed as having a higher risk of recidivism.<sup>v</sup>

**Evidence-Based Practices:** Interventions and treatment approaches that have been proven effective through a rigorous scientific process. In the context of reentry, this often refers to a practice that has had a demonstrable positive outcome in terms of lowering recidivism.<sup>vi</sup>

**Fidelity:** A measure of the degree to which a given intervention is applied or carried out as intended.<sup>vii</sup>

**Intrinsic motivation:** Stimulation or drive stemming from within oneself. Finding and enhancing a person's intrinsic motivation is central to the success of any behavioral change program for people who are incarcerated or under supervision.<sup>viii</sup>

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):** A document providing general description of the responsibilities that are to be assumed by two or more parties in their pursuit of some goal(s).<sup>ix</sup>

**Motivational Interviewing (MI):** An approach based on increasing a person's commitment to intervention and programming. MI is based on building relationships, identifying people's current readiness for change, and facilitating their readiness and motivation for change.<sup>x</sup>

**Norming:** Instruments that have been "normed" to the local population have been calibrated to ensure that results for the new population, such as the population in a particular correctional facility, are as accurately predictive as they are for the population for which the instruments were originally developed.<sup>xi</sup>

**Place-Based Supervision:** Community supervision officers supervise people on probation and parole in the areas where they live and work, rather than having all people on supervision report to a central office.<sup>xii</sup>

**Quality Assurance:** A process of ensuring that a practice or program is being implemented or conducted with fidelity through periodic, documented examination and verification of activities.<sup>xiii</sup>

**Risk and Needs Assessment:** A comprehensive examination and evaluation of both dynamic (changeable) and static (historical and/or demographic) factors that estimates risk of recidivism and indicates needs to be addressed through services, placements, and supervision.<sup>xiv</sup>

**Recidivism:** When a person who is formerly incarcerated and/or under the supervision of a justice agency commits a crime or violates the conditions of his or her supervision. Different jurisdictions tend to have unique definitions of recidivism.<sup>xv</sup>

**Responsivity:** Adapting interactions and services so that they enhance an individual's ability to learn and acquire new attitudes and skills. Responsivity can be associated with such issues as mental illness, low motivation, cognitive deficits, and poor physical health.<sup>xvi</sup>

**Revocation:** A sanctioning mechanism whereby a violation of the conditions of probation or parole is punishable by additional penalties or imprisonment.<sup>xvii</sup>

**Technical Violation:** Procedural infractions of probation or parole conditions, which may include behaviors that would otherwise not be considered crimes, such as consumption of alcohol, failure to attend mandated programs, default on court fee payment plans, failure to report as instructed, or changing an address without permission.<sup>xviii</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council: Charting the Safe and Successful Return of Prisoners to the Community* (New York: The Council of State Governments, 2005).

<sup>ii</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council*.

<sup>iii</sup> “Principles of Recidivism Reduction,” The Council of State Governments Justice Center, accessed August 7, 2018, <https://csqjusticecenter.org/reentry/principles-of-recidivism-reduction/>.

<sup>iii</sup> “Principles of Recidivism Reduction.”

<sup>vii</sup> G. Bourgon and B. Armstrong, “Transferring the Principles of Effective Treatment into a ‘Real World’ Setting,” *Criminal Justice and Behavior* 32, no. 1 (2006): 3–25.

<sup>viii</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council*.

<sup>ix</sup> Urban Institute, “Module 3,” in *Transition from Jail to Community Online Learning Toolkit*, updated October 2015, <http://tjctoolkit.urban.org/>.

<sup>x</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council*.

<sup>xi</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council*.

<sup>xii</sup> Center for Effective Public Policy, *Increasing Public Safety Through Successful Offender Reentry: Evidence-Based and Emerging Practices in Corrections* (Silver Spring, Maryland: Center for Effective Public Policy, 2007).

<sup>xiii</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council*.

<sup>xiv</sup> The Council of State Governments, *The National Summit on Justice Reinvestment and Public Safety: Addressing Recidivism, Crime, and Corrections Spending* (New York: The Council of State Governments, 2011).

<sup>xv</sup> The Council of State Governments, *The National Summit on Justice Reinvestment and Public Safety*.

<sup>xvii</sup> “Principles of Recidivism Reduction.”

<sup>xix</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council*.

<sup>xx</sup> “Principles of Recidivism Reduction.”

<sup>xxi</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council*.

<sup>xxiii</sup> The Council of State Governments, *Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council*.