FY2019 Second Chance Act Innovative Reentry Initiatives:

Building System Capacity & Testing Strategies to Reduce Recidivism

Orientation Webinar

December 5, 2019

BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

the NATIONAL REENTRY RESOURCE CENTER

CSG | Justice Center

Speakers

Rachel Brushett, PhD, *Senior Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice*

Jennifer Lewis, *State Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice*

Robert Vehock, *Program Manager, Office of Reentry Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections*

Olivia Koukoui, *Policy Analyst, Corrections & Reentry Division, The Council of State Governments Justice Center*

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

Mission

We develop research-driven strategies to increase public safety and strengthen communities.

Who We Are

We combine the power of a membership association, representing state officials in all three branches of government, with the expertise of a policy and research team focused on assisting others to attain measurable results.

Agenda

1. **Overview of the Second Chance Act (SCA) Innovative Reentry Initiatives (IRI) and Technical Assistance**

2. **FY2019 IRI Planning and Implementation Process**

3. **Grantee Experience**

4. **Questions and Answers**

The U.S. Department of Justice 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.

BJA

**Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice**

www.bja.gov

The Second Chance Act

❖ The Second Chance Act supports state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations in their work to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for people leaving incarceration.

❖ The Second Chance Act has supported over $400 million in reentry investments across the country since it passed in 2008.

❖ Passed in 2018, the Second Chance Reauthorization Act builds on and strengthens the initial landmark legislation.

❖ Delivers technical assistance (TA) and training for Second Chance Act grantees

❖ Advances the knowledge base of the reentry field

❖ Promotes what works in reentry and successes of grantees

❖ Facilitates peer networks and information exchange

❖ Provides information for people returning to communities and their families
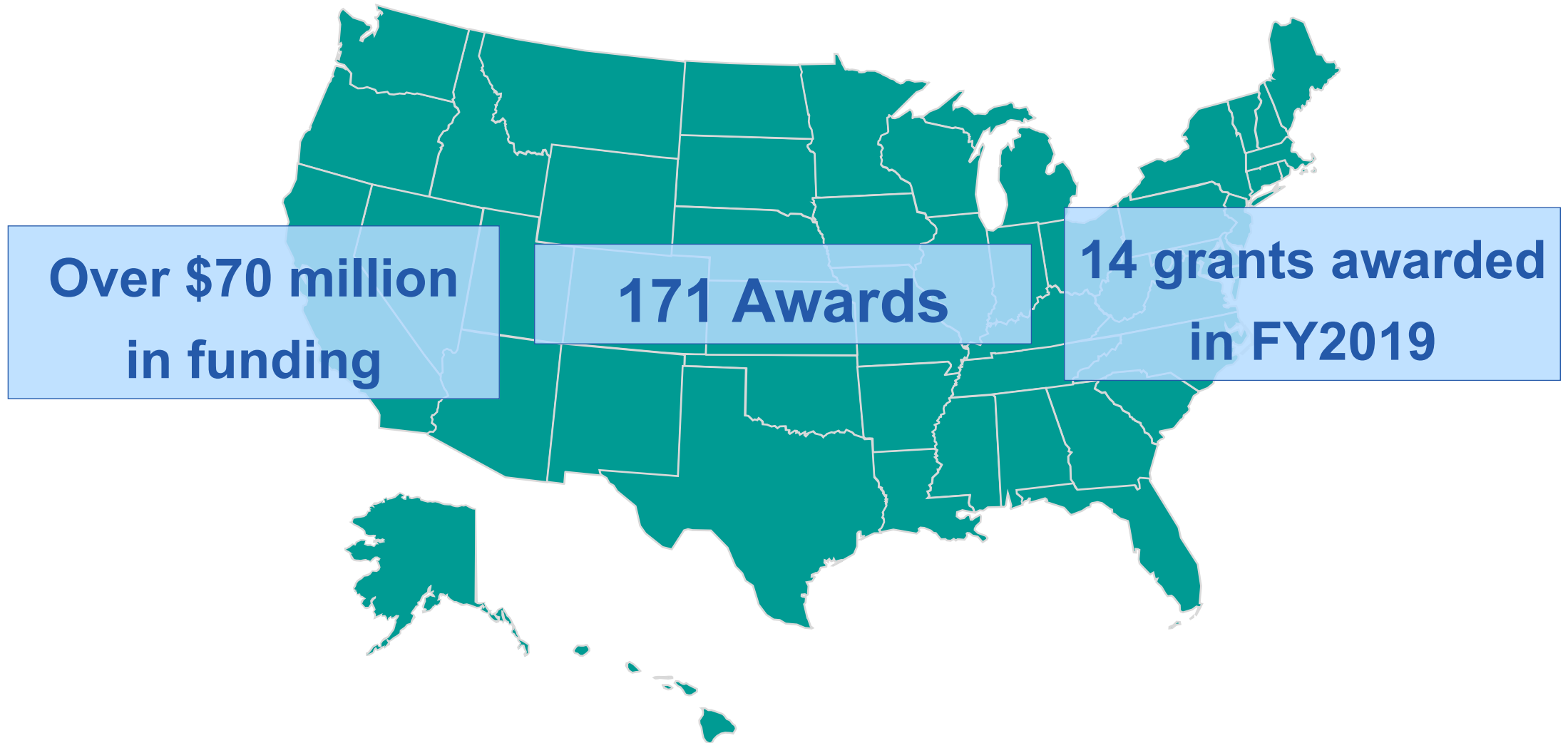
Transition of the NRRC

The role of the NRRC will remain the same as the work transitions to the American Institutes for Research (AIR)

Attendee Poll

❑ Have you previously received a BJA award?

   ❑ Yes

   ❑ No

❑ If so, have you previously received an SCA award?

   ❑ Yes

   ❑ No

SCA Innovative Reentry Initiative (IRI)

Over $70 million in funding

171 Awards

14 grants awarded in FY2019

FY2019 IRI Grant Recipients

1. New Jersey Department of Corrections

2. Executive Office of the Governor of Delaware

3. Texas Department of Criminal Justice

4. Skagit County (WA)

5. Cook County (IL)

6. Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office (MI)

7. Northwest Ohio Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

FY2019 IRI Grant Recipients (cont.)

8. Lancaster County (NE)

9. Office of the Managing Director, City of Philadelphia (PA)

10. Shelby County Government (TN)

11. Indianapolis (IN)

12. Los Angeles County (CA)

13. Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona

14. St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin

CONGRATULATIONS!

Overview of IRI Program

Provide resources to identify assets and gaps in local reentry systems
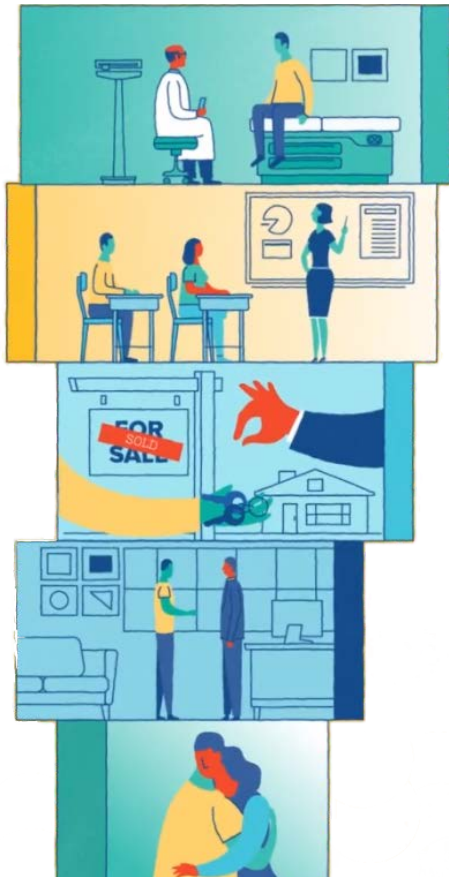
Develop capacity and partnerships with other justice agencies

Provide services that prevent recidivism, reduce crime, and improve public safety

IRI Program Objective

Reduce recidivism among people reentering the community who are at **medium to high risk** for recidivating and to improve public safety

IRI Award Information

48 months

Planning: up to 12 months **$75,000**

Implementation: 24 months

Evaluation: 12 months

Up to $925,000

IRI Capacity Building

Reentry demonstration - pilot project

Reentry System Improvements
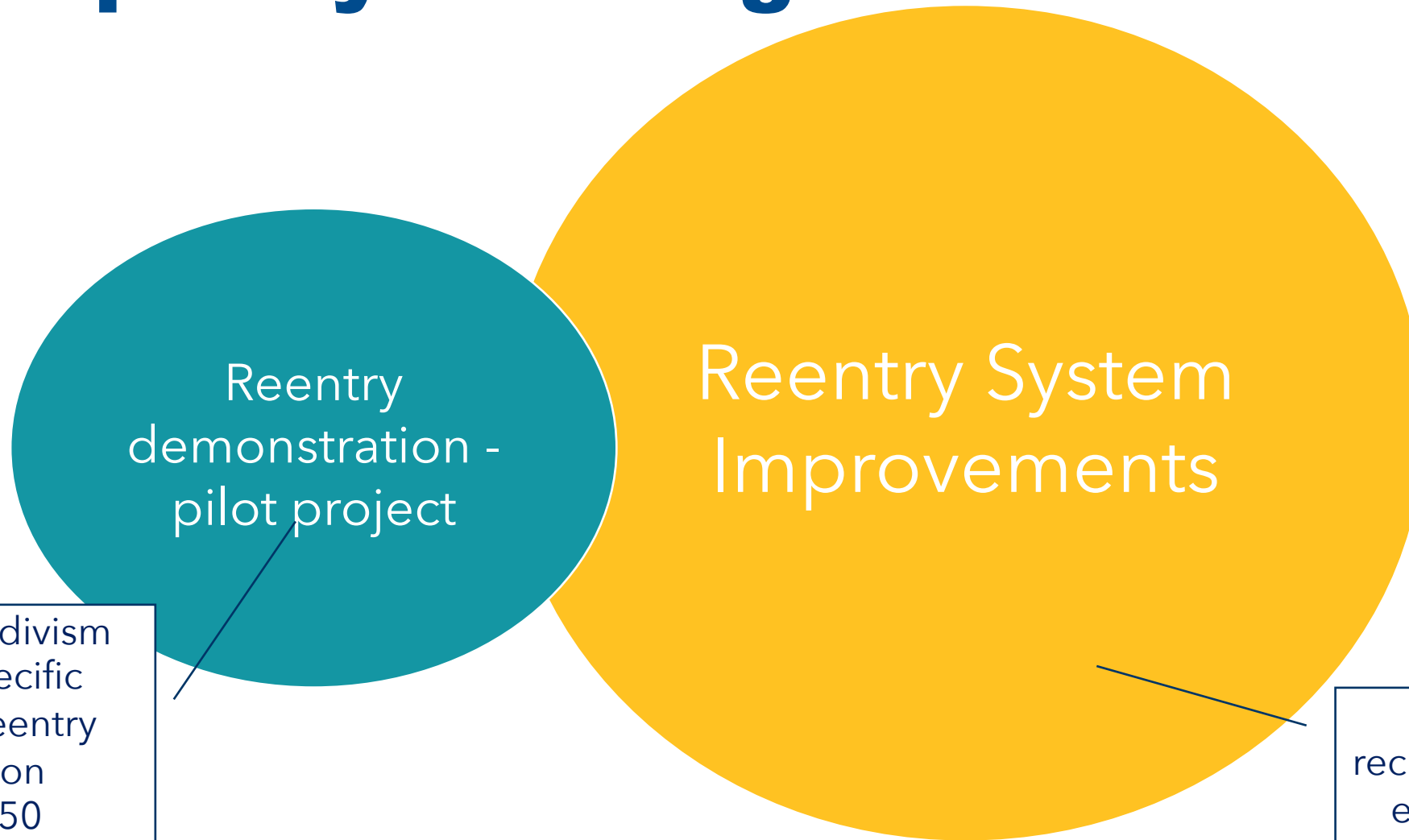
Impacts recidivism among specific subset of reentry population (Serve 150 individuals)

Impacts recidivism among entire reentry population

Keys to Grant Success

🔑 Ongoing engagement of the reentry task force

🔑 Partnership with corrections agency for transition planning

🔑 Collaboration with a research partner

🔑 Connection to service providers within the communities to which people return

🔑 Active participation with your technical assistance coach

Grantee Contact Sheet

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

- Financial and Progress Reports, Grant Adjustment Notices (GAN)

- **BJA State Policy Advisor** – Jennifer Lewis Jennifer.L.Lewis@usdoj.gov

Performance Management Tool (PMT)

- Quarterly performance measurement data entry

- PMT help desk email bjapmt@usdoj.gov or toll-free at 1-888-252-6867

National Reentry Resource Center

- Training and Technical Assistance

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

POST-AWARD GRANT MANAGEMENT INTRODUCTION (2019)

Jennifer Lewis, State Policy Advisor

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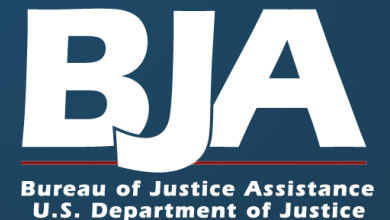
Special Conditions

Special conditions are terms and conditions that are included with the award.

- Special conditions are additional requirements covering areas such as programmatic and financial reporting, prohibited uses of Federal funds, consultant rates, changes in key personnel, and proper disposition of program income.

- There are several mandatory special conditions that will be included on any DOJ award. A list of all the mandatory OJP special conditions are available at the following link – https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalOverview2019/MandatoryTermsConditions.htm

Withholding Special Conditions

Additional withholding special conditions - These conditions place holds on funds for overdue reports and/or pending budget approval, other program requirements including documentation that was missing or incomplete during grant application review.

Planning/Action Plan requirement – Many of your awards have built in a planning period, leading to the development of a Planning and Implementation Guide or Action Plan. This comprehensive project plan is developed with your National Reentry Resource Center (NRRC) technical assistance coach and program partners. Therefore these awards also include a related withholding special condition limiting spending until the required planning documents are submitted and approved.

It is important to work with your State Policy Advisor to remove any active withholding special conditions before your agency can to expend, obligate or draw down award funds.

Progress Reporting Requirements

Quarterly Performance Metric Tool (PMT) Programmatic reports: Submitted in PMT ONLY!

PMT Website - https://bjapmt.ojp.gov/

Reporting Period	Due Date
January 1 – March 31	April 30
April 1 – June 30	July 30
July 1 – September 30	October 30
October 1 – December 31	January 30

Progress Reporting Requirements

Semi-Annual Grants Management System (GMS) Programmatic reports: Submitted in GMS

GMS Website - https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov

- January 30 and July 30
- Upload PDF versions of your PMT to the report in GMS- **The systems are not linked**
- Requires responses to BJA Seven Narrative Questions
- **FINAL PROGRESS REPORTS: If your grant requires an evaluation as part of the project you must attach the evaluation report under the Final Progress Report in GMS.**

NOTE: GMS automatically freezes grant funds for delinquent reports. It is important to submit reports on time. Late reports also influence how your award is risk assessed by OJP.

Federal Financial Reports SF-425

Reporting Period	Due Date
January 1 – March 31	April 30
April 1 – June 30	July 30
July 1 – September 30	October 30
October 1 – December 31	January 30

- Submitted in GMS: https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov

- No activity? Enter 0.

- FFR Training and Technical Assistance Guide
  https://ojp.gov/funding/Implement/Resources/FederalFinancialReportUserGuide.pdf

- For help with Federal Financial Reports, please contact OCFO Customer Service by phone at 1-800-458-0786 (option 2), or by email at ask.ocfo@usdoj.gov.

Grants Financial Management Training

- Completion of this required training (FY 16 and beyond) for award POCs and Financial POCs must be finished within 120 days of award acceptance. Failure to comply will result in a withholding special condition.

- Grants Financial Management Online Training - 24 module training emphasizing the basics of federal grants management. For information on the online training go to: https://onlinegfmt.training.ojp.gov/

- The required training is also offered an in person format. For more information please go to: https://gfmts.training.ojp.gov/index.html

- Recertification is required, to remain in compliance with the financial management training must be successfully completed every (3) three years.

Grant Adjustment Notices (GANs)

- A GAN is used to request project changes and/or corrections.

- Once OJP makes a decision regarding the proposed change, the grantee is notified by GMS via e-mail. This is why you need to have the correct person assigned as Point of Contact in GMS.

- GANs are submitted and approved through GMS. GAN types include:
  - Budget Modifications
  - Change of Scope
  - Project Period
  - Point of Contact Information
  - Removal of Special Conditions
  - Sole Source (Non competitive procurement contract >$250,000)
  - Program Office Approval
  - Costs Requiring Prior Approval (e.g. consultant rates >$650 per day)

- GANs will not be approved if the grantee is delinquent on financial or programmatic reporting.

Important Links

- BJA Grant Writing and Management Academy (five online training modules for the life of the grant including managing federal funds, strategic planning, and budgets): https://www.bja.gov/gwma/index.html

- Grants Management System (GMS): https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/
  - GMS FAQs https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/gmsexternal/gmsHelp/gms_faq.htm
  - GMS Training Tool: http://www.ojp.gov/gmscbt/
  - GMS Help Desk: 1-888-549-9901

- BJA Performance Tools (PMT): https://bjapmt.ojp.gov/
  - PMT Help Desk: 1-888-252-6867

- OJP award great online resources:
  - OJP Grants 101: http://www.ojp.gov/grants101/
  - OJP Funding Resource Center http://ojp.gov/funding/index.htm
  - Post Award Instructions https://ojp.gov/funding/Implement/Resources/PostAwardInstructions.pdf

- OJP Standard Forms & Instructions: https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/forms.htm

Thank you.

Jennifer Lewis

State Policy Advisor
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Direct: (202) 305-8064
Email: Jennifer.L.Lewis@usdoj.gov
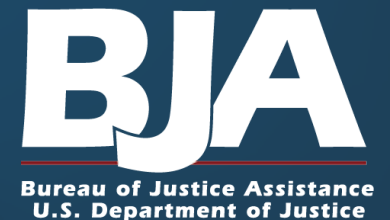
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P&I Guide Overview

Section 1: Grantee Information and Initiative Description

Section 2: Developing Your Task Force

Section 3: Assessing Policies and Practices, and Identifying System Improvements

Section 4: Screening, Assessments, and Target Population

Section 5: Process Flow Chart

Section 6: Logic Model

Section 7: Evaluation and Sustainability

Phase 1: Planning

✓ Engage a task force and assess policies and practices in four capacity areas*

✓ Actively partner with a third-party evaluator

Deliverables:

1. Task force documentation

2. Action Plan Part 1 (assessment results)

All phase one deliverables are due by month 12

*Data-driven decision making, staff allocation to maximize impact, quality and capacity of community providers to address client needs, and other barriers to successful reentry, such as housing. (See Appendix A in solicitation for an overview of assessment criteria.)

Phase 1: Planning (cont.)

Utilize assessment results to:

✓ Address general system improvements

✓ Develop demonstration/pilot project (which will serve 150 individuals)

Deliverables:

3. Action Plan Part 2 (problem analysis, logic model, summary of strategies and intended outcomes, case flow analysis, research base)

All phase one deliverables due by month 12
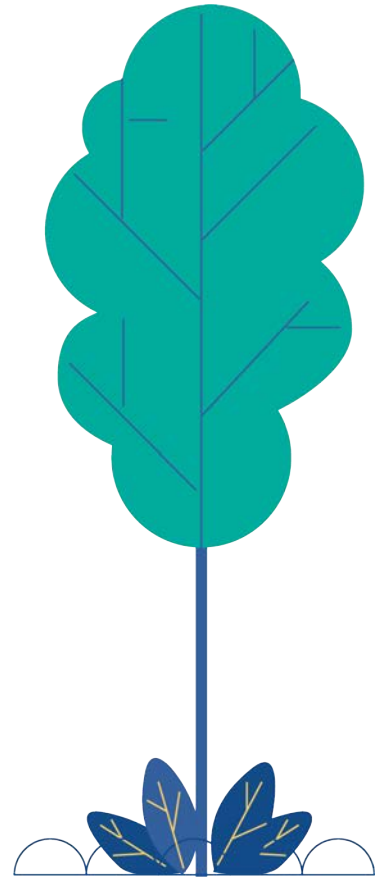
Phase 1: Planning (cont.) – *General System Improvements*

Assessing domains:

- ✓ Data

- ✓ Prerelease planning

- ✓ Staff capacity

- ✓ Behavioral health

- ✓ Community supervision

P&I Guide Flow Chart
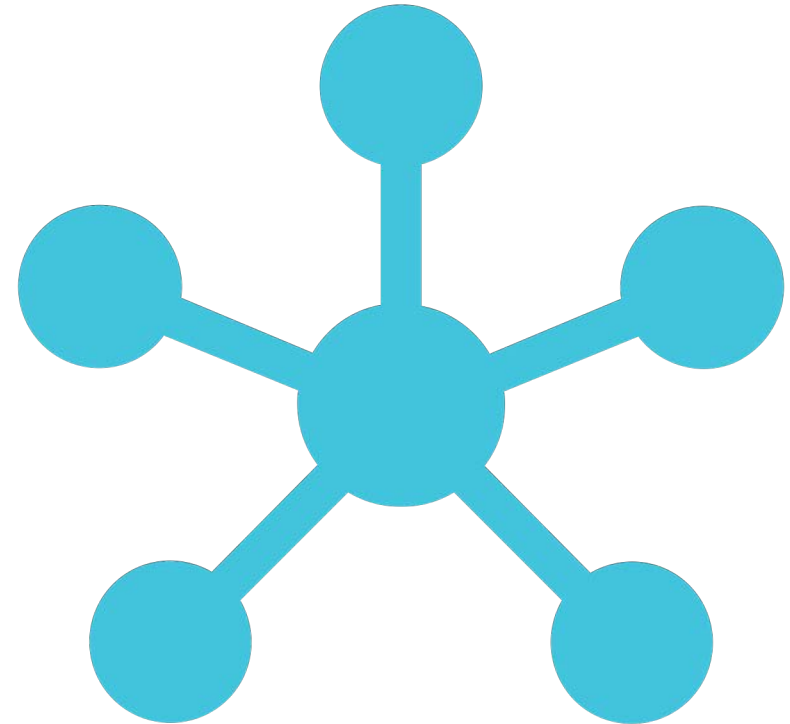
Jail/Prison

- What assessments are completed and by whom?
- What services are provided and by whom?
- Who do jail/prison staff communicate with to ensure a smooth reentry process?

Reentry

- What information is received from the jail/prison?
- Do screenings or assessments take place? If so, who administers them?
- What programs or supportive services are available? Who provides them?

Community Supervision

- Do probation/parole staff conduct any screenings or assessments?
- What supportive services are provided and by whom?
- Are case plans shared with community-based providers?

P&I Guide Logic Model

Logic Model				
Initiative Goals	**Input/Resources (existing and grant funded)**	**Activities and Timeline**	**Outputs/Process Measures**	**Outcomes**
Example: Implement risk and/or needs assessment tool	*Example: Grant funds; training funds for correctional staff*	*Example: Integrate tool into intake process and reentry case planning (beginning July 2020)*	*Example: Number of assessments completed*	*Example: 100% of case plans are developed based on prioritized domains identified through risk/needs assessment*

P&I Guide Data Collection Plan

Data Collection Plan					
Outputs/ Outcomes	**What data are needed to evaluate the outputs/ outcomes?**	**Who collects the data?**	**Where are data stored?**	**When are data collected?**	**Do you currently track this data?**
Example: Change in attitude	*Example: COMPAS (before and after tests)*	*Example: Probation officer*	*Example: Case management database*	*Example: At intake and discharge*	*Yes/No*

Phase 2: Implementation
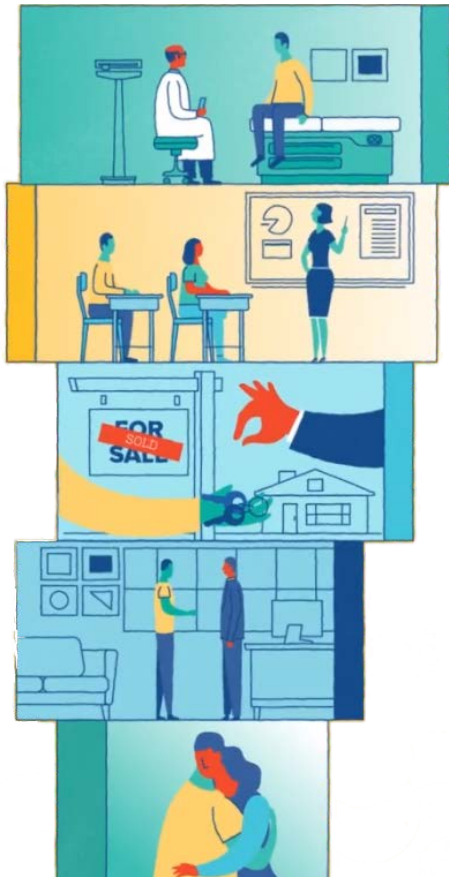
✓ Implement general system improvements and demonstration/pilot project

✓ Work with evaluation partner to test strategies to address gaps and deficiencies

Deliverables:

1. Preliminary process evaluation reflecting demonstration project and system improvement, due at 30 months

Phase 2: Implementation – *General System Improvements*

Examples:

- ➢ **Formalize policy changes**
  - ▪ Information-sharing agreements
  - ▪ Risk assessment protocols
- ➢ **Align hiring, training, and performance measures with best practices**

- ➢ **Implement staff training**
  - ▪ EPICS
  - ▪ Motivational Interviewing

Phase 2: Implementation – *Demonstration/Pilot Project*

Example of target population:

- Geographic location to which a disproportionately high number of people are returning

- Specific age group, gender, or race

Example of demonstration/ pilot project:

- Gender-specific continuum of care, grounded in evidence-based practices

Phase 3: Evaluation

✓ Track recidivism (e.g., rearrest, reconviction, and reincarceration) and outcome measures defined in the evaluation plan

✓ Assess the effectiveness of interventions

Deliverables:

1. Preliminary outcome/impact evaluation due at 36 months

2. Final process and outcome evaluation due at grant closeout

Funds used for evaluation purposes only during this phase

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Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections (FY2017)

Goals & Objectives

To effect change in the Louisiana Department of Corrections through

- Examining outcomes of the Louisiana Prison Reentry Initiative

- Implementing assessment-informed interventions

- Promoting culture change among staff

Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections (FY2017)

Accomplishments & Lessons Learned:

- ✓ Developed and implemented a system-level risk of homelessness assessment

- ✓ Analyzed the impact of interventions and programs

- ✓ Supported 10 local reentry coalitions across the state

Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections (FY2017)

Benefits of Technical Assistance:

- Provided guidance on the direction of the project

- Assisted with prioritizing activities and implementing evidence based practices

- Connected staff with subject matter experts to ensure successful implementation of interventions

- Helped restructure the evaluation methodology when political pressure necessitated it

Questions and Answers

Thank you!

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