

HON. BRYAN RHODE
SECRETARY

Commonwealth of Virginia

BRIAN SWANN
DEPUTY SECRETARY



Office of the Secretary of Public Safety

November 15, 2013

TO: The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

The Honorable Lacey E. Putney
Chairman, House Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Walter A. Stosch
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

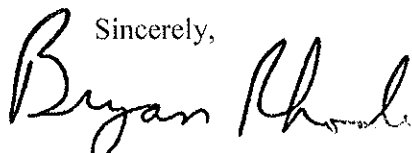
The Status Report on Offender Transitional and Re-entry Services has been prepared in compliance with Item 379, Paragraph B of the 2013 Appropriation Act (Chapter 806, 2013 Acts of Assembly), which requires the Secretary of Public Safety to provide a status report on actions taken to improve offender transitional and re-entry services, as provided in §2.2-221.1 of the *Code of Virginia*. Information about the re-entry-related efforts of 17 state agencies has been compiled in this status report.

A system-wide approach to re-entry has the potential to reduce recidivism and victimization. This will result in enhanced public safety and savings associated with fewer offenders returning to the criminal justice system. The Commonwealth's Re-entry Initiative, which facilitates the development of a comprehensive statewide system for re-entry planning and service delivery, is Virginia's primary strategy for making communities safer. Throughout his term, Governor Robert F. McDonnell has continually challenged state agencies to work towards enhancing public safety by building and strengthening partnerships and engaging in collaborative and innovative efforts at the state and local level. Each year state agencies continue to rise to this challenge, working together to facilitate effective re-entry planning at every stage of the criminal justice process from sentencing to post-release.

The *Prisoner and Juvenile Re-entry Inventory* was updated in 2013 to capture the progress that agencies made towards implementing new re-entry-related efforts, improving interagency collaboration, and addressing previous barriers to and gaps in re-entry that were described in the previous year.

Please contact my office should you have questions regarding any aspect of this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan Rhode". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B" and a long, sweeping tail on the "e".

Bryan M. Rhode

Status Report on Offender Transitional and Re-entry Services

Office of the Secretary of Public Safety



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Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services

There were 1685 ex-offenders with disabilities who applied for vocational rehabilitation (VR) services. Of the 1685 applications received, 1319 were found eligible to receive VR services. These services ranged from job training, job development to purchasing uniforms and equipment that enabled them to start employment. During the year, 242 ex-offenders with disabilities became successfully employed after receiving VR services.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) is the recipient of a five-year Federal Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Grant (2009-2014). One of the grant's individual projects focuses on enhancing the identification of brain injury among youth entering the Juvenile Justice System. DARS subcontracted with Virginia Commonwealth University's Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems Program from 2009-2013 to develop an appropriate screening instrument and provide staff training in conjunction with the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). The instrument has been incorporated into the routine screening of youth entering DJJ's Reception and Diagnostic Center, and since implementation, over 500 youth entering the juvenile system have been screened as having some sort of brain trauma. It is hoped that effective identification of brain injury among youth will lead to better treatment and outcomes following discharge, including a lower rate of recidivism.

On June 13-14, 2013, DARS and the Brain Injury Association of Virginia sponsored the "**Virginia Collaborative Policy Summit on Brain Injury and Juvenile Justice**" in Richmond, Va., funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant. The Policy Summit convened a small group of leaders from across the country involved in identifying and supporting youth with traumatic brain injury (TBI) in the juvenile justice system. This venue allowed service providers, researchers, and policymakers to share information, resources, and effective screening and intervention strategies to improve services within each state and to move toward achieving a consistent national approach to screening and intervention.

Along with Virginia, four other states serving youth with TBI in the juvenile justice system were invited to participate: Minnesota, Nebraska, Texas, and Utah (Minnesota's project involved adults, not juveniles). The Policy Summit provided an opportunity for these representatives to engage in in-depth discussions on project outcomes, policy implications and recommendations, as well as suggestions for project sustainability and future study. Twenty-nine participants attended. Virginia Commonwealth University staff assisted in the facilitation of the two-day meeting and compiled a *Proceedings Report*. For additional information on DARS efforts in this area, contact Patti.Goodall@dars.virginia.gov

Pre-Release Services-

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DARS has served on the Governor's Prisoner Reentry Task Force since its inception providing information on employment of offenders with disabilities. In addition, DARS vocational rehabilitation counselors from around the state serve on local Reentry Task Forces lending their

expertise on employment for ex-offenders with disabilities. DARS' VR program continues to offer Federal Fidelity Bonding to VR consumers that require bonding as a condition of employment. Additional information on DARS Fidelity Bonding resources can be obtained by contacting Edward.Fraley@dars.virginia.gov

DARS' Disability Determination Services (DDS) continues to participate in the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) Program in all regions of the Commonwealth. This program was designed to assist homeless individuals with severe mental impairments to gain access to mainstream benefits such as Social Security and Medicaid. It is believed that this program benefits those with criminal backgrounds, but our current recordkeeping system does not allow us to substantiate this type of impact at this point. A total of 101 individuals were benefited by the SOAR program for State Fiscal Year 2013.

DDS has maintained the cooperative agreement with the Department of Corrections which identified and formalized procedures that facilitated the timely entitlement to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for disabled and aged inmates of the Virginia Department of Corrections system. These prerelease application procedures allowed inmates to file for SSI benefits prior to their release providing for a smoother transition back into the community and was implemented throughout the Commonwealth. It should be noted that these prerelease procedures apply to the initial determination only and are not used during any appeals process. A total of 172 inmates, who were pending release, had their applications processed last state fiscal year. Additional information on the DDS SOAR can be obtained by contacting Gloria.Ford@ssa.gov

Employment/Job Training

There were 1685 ex-offenders with disabilities who applied for vocational rehabilitation (VR) services. Of the 1685 applications received, 1319 were found eligible to receive VR services. These services ranged from job training, job development to purchasing uniforms and equipment that enabled them to start employment. During the year, 242 ex-offenders with disabilities became successfully employed after receiving VR services.

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

DBHDS is not a direct service provider agency and has not served any offenders in FY2012. DBHDS provides some funding to Community Services Boards (CSBs) which provide direct services in their independent agencies for jail diversion related initiatives. DBHDS facilitates development of local programs and provides technical assistance to programs in Community Services Boards which may serve offenders with behavioral health disorders re-entering from jail and prison. 40% of persons receiving substance abuse treatment services at Community Services Boards are referred by the criminal justice system.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

The DBHDS has strong collaborative relationships with DOC, DCJS, DSS, DJJ, DMAS, DVS, SCB and other state agencies, as well as with local Community Services Boards, Community Corrections Agencies, police and sheriffs offices and other local and statewide organizations and individual

stakeholders on issues pertaining to persons with behavioral health disorders and intellectual disabilities with criminal justice involvement. Specific collaborations impacting individuals reentering from prison or jail include the statewide Cross Systems Mapping initiative, the statewide expansion of Crisis Intervention Teams, the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program, the SAMHSA and MacArthur Foundation Juvenile Justice Policy Academy for Youth with Co-occurring Disorders, the Mental Illness in Jails Annual Report, the Annual Crisis Intervention Team Conference and Training and innumerable additional participation by DCJS with various committees and workgroups led by DBHDS or with DBHDS participation in such activities initiated through other agencies or local organizations.

Specific efforts since last year's report have included:

1. Cross Systems Mapping Workshops – This project is a collaborative training event led by DBHDS, with DCJS, local CSBs and local criminal justice and behavioral health agencies and stakeholders participating in a one and one half day facilitated cross systems training workshop.
 - a. Since last year's report, 11 additional workshops have been provided - the final workshop in this initiative is scheduled in August, 2013, for a total of 41 workshops over the course of this initiative; 33 additional cities and counties have participated in a workshop, bringing the current total to 97 of Virginia's 134 jurisdictions (72%). More than 1,400 individual criminal justice, behavioral health and consumer stakeholders have participated in a Cross Systems Mapping Workshop – reaching over 90% of Virginia's population areas. 33 CSBs have participated in a Cross Systems Mapping Workshop since the program began in 2009.
2. Crisis Intervention Team Statewide Expansion – This project is a collaborative effort among DCJS, DBHDS, DVS, local CSB, police, sheriff, consumer and other service agencies
 - a. There are now 33 local CIT initiatives developed and supported through Federal, DCJS, DBHDS and local funding (up from 30 in 2012)
 - b. The General Assembly approved funding for CIT law enforcement drop off sites in the FY13-14 budget cycles. 6 new sites have been funded. The first three sites have provided data for the first quarter of activity preliminarily indicating substantial reductions in officer involved time spent on Emergency Custody Orders, reductions in arrest of persons in mental health calls (Henrico County reporting a 7 – 10% reduction in arrests <n=225>, and more effective access to community based mental health services in lieu of arrest or hospitalization.
3. 10 CSB site Jail Diversion Program Initiative continued to receive support and provide data on outcomes at all intercepts, including reentry
 - a. Alexandria CORE program, specifically targeting reentry and community supervision through state office of probation and parole continues to be successful
 - b. Alexandria is utilizing the Cross Systems Mapping approach to create a community mapping and planning event for their local Reentry Council.
4. DBHDS and SCB collaborated on the development of the August 2013 annual Mental Illness in Jails Survey.
5. DBHDS Deputy Commissioner and staff actively participated in the Governor's Reentry Council and related Agency Head meetings.
 - a. DBHDS Assistant Commissioner for Behavioral Health participates with DOC, state and local VDSS offices and other state and local agencies on the Workgroup for the Release of Special Needs Inmates (Chaired by Jane Brown)
6. DBHDS Commissioner is a member of the DVS Virginia Wounded Warrior Program Leadership Team.

7. DBHDS worked with DJJ, CSA administrator and local mental health and juvenile justice agencies in Central Virginia to successfully develop a juvenile probation mental health, SA and trauma screening, assessment and referral process to divert youth from the JJ system and connect them with services at all points in the criminal justice system.

Please describe any pending or upcoming collaborative efforts that involve your agency.

1. The final Cross Systems Mapping Workshop was held in August, 2013.
2. A statewide training and conference with representatives from every site that has completed a Cross Systems Mapping Workshop (n=41 sites) will be held in Charlottesville November 21, 2013. Final planning for that event is currently underway.
3. Crisis Intervention Team Statewide Expansion –
 - a. The 3rd annual CIT training and conference will be held in Henrico County in May, 2014 for representatives of Virginia's 32 CIT programs and other stakeholders. The conference is a collaborative project with DBHDS, DCJS, National Alliance on Mental Illness – Virginia (NAMI-VA), the Virginia CIT Coalition (VACIT) and Henrico County CSB. It is being funded through an asset forfeiture grant from the Attorney General's office and the remainder of a DBHDS grant from NASMHPD.
 - b. Three additional CIT 'Drop Off' Centers have been funded in the amount of 900,000 in FY14. It is anticipated sites will open in Sept. 1, 2013. The 6 CIT start up programs will continue to receive technical assistance from the VACIT coalition, DCJS and DBHDS.
 - c. DBHDS is working DCJS and all CIT program sites to collect data on outputs and outcomes for CIT programs which will be consistent across funding sources.
 - d. The second annual CIT inventory was released in early August. Information from that inventory will be used to develop a CIT status report in October, 2013.
 - e. DBHDS, DCJS and the VACIT Coalition have received an award of \$800,000 from the Office of the Attorney General's RFP to utilize asset forfeiture funds for CIT training and development. The application will fund a statewide, locally sustainable train the trainer initiative.
4. 10 CSB site Jail Diversion Program Initiative will continue to receive support and provide data on outcomes at all intercepts, including reentry.
5. DBHDS and SCB will collaborate on development of the August 2014 annual Mental Illness in Jails report to the General Assembly.
6. DBHDS Deputy Commissioner and staff will continue to actively participate in the Governor's Reentry Council and related Agency Head meetings.
7. DBHDS and DCJS created a small workgroup to develop a process for assessing current SA and co-occurring disorder treatment and services capacity in Virginia's jails. Information will inform analysis of gaps and resources to determine policy, program and funding focus which will significantly impact persons with SA disorders reentering the community from local jails.

Please describe any past or current policy-level barriers to collaboration and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

At the local level and the state level, there continue to be challenges in coordination of care and information sharing concerning individuals with behavioral health disorders between the behavioral health system and criminal justice agencies, including courts, prisons, corrections, etc. At a macro level, this is due in part to a patchwork of state level IT systems and software which are often incompatible, and a lack of IT resources and personnel, as well as staff with substantive knowledge, to develop appropriate and effective work-arounds to share macro information. Criminal justice information is housed in multiple systems, for example, jails use the local inmate data system, DOC uses CORUS, the state police manage VCIN and NCIC. While each has a willingness in theory to share information that is not sensitive or protected, it is difficult to find the time and resources to bring the necessary partners to the table to address access issues at either the macro or micro level. Some communities have been able to overcome this at the individual (micro) level and share information regularly, but this appears to be the exception rather than the rule.

SCB, DCJS and DBHDS are making progress in this area and it is hoped that DBHDS will be able to access LIDS on a quarterly, bi-annual or annual basis in order to provide criminal justice outcome data on participants in its 10 CSB site jail diversion cohort.

Additionally, DBHDS and DCJS have recently joined together to develop and disseminate a common strategy and process for collecting identical data for CIT programs, regardless of whether the funding for the program comes through DCJS, DBHDS, Federal or local sources.

Please describe any past or current policy-level gaps in collaboration and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

The most significant items that continue to be missing – as identified in the DBHDS Creating Opportunities Plan and by communities identifying significant gaps through the Cross Systems Mapping initiative and as demonstrated by the continued high rate of incarceration for people with mental illness (per the 2012 Mental Illness in Jails Report), is resources to support a sufficient continuum of community based MHSA services and access to the full range of supports for continuity of care including housing, mobile emergency services, crisis stabilization and PACT programs, detox centers, counseling, medications and benefits restoration. In the current economy, these resources will be difficult to put in place, however, as local, regional and state partners continue to collaborate and understand each other's system needs and goals, more efficient utilization of current resources can have a positive impact in addressing these missing assets.

In the FY13-FY14 budget, an additional 1.5M was allocated that is supporting 6 CIT 'Drop Off' sites. This funding will help law enforcement reduce the number of arrests, including arrests of those on probation or parole, by providing more effective access to services in lieu of incarceration. Henrico County, in its first five months of operation estimates a 7 – 10% reduction in arrest, which could mean as many as 80 fewer individuals with behavioral health issues will be arrested annually.

The DBHDS has also provided, through its Creating Opportunities plan, a significant blue print for the improvement of its emergency services, case management, substance abuse treatment and forensic systems which, if funded and implemented over the coming years will have a significant impact in reducing incarceration and recidivism for individuals with behavioral health disorders.

Law Enforcement

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

There are now 32 CIT initiatives across Virginia, up from 30 in 2012 and 26 in 2011.
Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

The Office of the Attorney General has allocated a significant portion of the Abbott Pharmaceuticals asset forfeiture funds for training CIT officers, including an anticipated allocation of 800K to support a statewide Train the Trainer initiative. This infusion of training funds will significantly improve CIT capacity and help move the 20 or programs that are still in planning or development stages closer to operational status.

Employment/Job Training

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DBHDS continues to contract with DARS to provide vocational rehabilitation services to persons receiving treatment for substance use disorders at 19 CSBs. While no specific figures are available, since about 40% of referrals to CSB SA services come from some aspect of the criminal justice system, it is highly likely that a significant portion of those served are re-entering the community.

In addition, Piedmont CSB has piloted an employment program, funded by a local foundation, for persons in early recovery from SA, that is proving to be very successful, even in a region with very high unemployment. Many of these individuals are offenders.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

DBHDS is continuing its MOA with DARS and is looking for resources to replicate the Piedmont CSB program in other areas of the state.

Alcohol/Drug Addiction

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

The capacity of DBHDS and the CSBs to provide SA services to offenders and other needing services is limited by the lack of resources. There has not been any significant increase in state general funds appropriated for SA treatment in nine years, and federal SAPT block grant funds are slowly decreasing. In addition, there is a lack of a workforce that is knowledgeable about addiction and skilled at working with offenders, women or youth. Physicians/psychiatrists trained in addiction are very rare and tend to work exclusively in the private sector where offenders are less likely to have access. This is particularly important for persons with cp-

occurring mental illness and substance use disorders. If the offender is a juvenile, then access to a child psychiatrist knowledgeable about addiction is even more rare.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

The publicly-funded substance abuse treatment system continues to need basic capacity for services such as detoxification, medication-assisted treatment, residential treatment services (especially for women), intensive outpatient services, and developmentally appropriate services for adolescents. A thorough interagency strategic plan for substance abuse services that includes specific discussion of the needs of offenders was published in 2011 and remains relevant (*Creating Opportunities for People in Need of Substance Abuse Services: An Interagency Approach to Strategic Resource Development*, available at: www.dbhds.virginia.gov/documents/omh-sa-InteragencySARreport.pdf).

Mental Health

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

6 new CIT triage and assessment centers (see Collaborative Assets description, above)

Re-entry Focus Areas

Women

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Cross Systems Mapping is supported by a Federal BJA Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program grant. As a result of the work on that grant, every Cross Systems Mapping workshop seeks to identify participants working with justice involved women to attend and facilitators work with local stakeholders to focus on concerns which may disproportionately impact women, e.g., trauma, child care, pregnancy, etc.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

The second annual Cross Systems Mapping Stakeholders Conference, to be held in Charlottesville in November, 2013, will include information on community identified gaps, resources and progress made in addressing women's issues.

Veterans

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Cross Systems Mapping is supported by a Federal grant. As a result of the work on that grant, every Cross Systems Mapping workshops seeks to include representatives of the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program and or veterans or veterans groups to attend and facilitators work with local stakeholders to focus on concerns which may disproportionately impact veterans, e.g., PTSD, access to veteran specific services, etc.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

The second annual Cross Systems Mapping Stakeholders Conference, to be held in Charlottesville in November, 2013, will include information on community identified gaps, resources and progress made in addressing veterans issues.

Juveniles

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DBHDS partnered with DJJ and local juvenile justice agencies and courts, as well as local CSB in Lynchburg area (Horizon Behavioral Health) to develop a pilot project to identify youth at all points in the justice system and provide screening, assessment and linkage to services.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

Horizon Behavioral Health and the above described partners have submitted a BJA Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program grant application to sustain and expand this this initiative to additional communities in Virginia. Notification of the grant awards should occur in September.

Data and Information

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

Our ten jail diversion initiatives have received training to utilize an improved process for tracking clients receiving services paid for with these funds.

What has been the impact to date of your agency's information system on the collaborative sharing of case-level information between agencies?

We have been able to acquire a significant amount of information from our jail diversion initiatives and will be in a position to report information more accurately concerning the clinical and criminal justice outcomes for these individuals going forward.

Please describe any legislative funding that your agency has received for re-entry-related initiatives?

Please provide a brief description of the intended purpose of the funding and what the funding has been used for to date, the total amount of funding that the grant will provide, and when the funding has/will terminate.

DBHDS receives 2.67 million dollars annually to support statewide CIT expansion and all other jail diversion initiatives within the 10 CSB site jail diversion cohort (2.2M), which includes reentry activities, the Cross Systems Mapping project and two staff member (Director and Program Manager) for the Office of Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Services, as well as all other related costs for DBHDS CO support of jail diversion, treatment and reentry initiatives. In FY13-14 the Dept. received an additional 1.5M to sustain 3 new CIT program assessment sites and create 3 additional sites for CIT programs to support access to services for persons coming in contact with law enforcement. Reductions in arrest, including arrest of those on probation and parole, can be significantly reduced as a result of more custodial transfer capacity for persons under ECO and a centralized location that allows officers to process persons in mental health crisis more quickly.

Department of Corrections

The Department of Corrections has served approximately 90,000 offenders in the last year.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

Virginia Serious and Violent Offender Re-entry Program –

Assets: This program transitions violent and sex offenders through jails in Newport News and Fairfax. Funding was received to establish a third VASAVOR program in Richmond City and implementation is in progress as of August 2013. These programs provide intensive services to offenders through contracts with the local Community Services Boards and non-profit agencies and also provide case-management services after release.

Barriers: The programs are small, serving only about 70 offenders/program per year.

Gaps: The program is small and limited to three local communities.

Virginia Community Re-entry Program –

Assets: This program utilizes the Local Re-entry Councils to help prepare offenders for re-entry. Services include coordinating with local service providers and providing pre-release planning and transition support to offenders. The Councils are convened by local Social Services agencies that partner with the VADOC, non-profits, and other re-entry stakeholders. Since 2011, the program has been expanded to every locality in Virginia.

Barriers: No new or additional resources have been provided for coordinating and operating the Councils. The amount of time devoted by the partners to address reentering offenders is not sufficient to meet the needs of this population. Because local DSS must run the councils using existing resources, some local DSS are more enthusiastic and effective than others.

Gaps: There is no funding for coordination of the Councils. Lack of funding ultimately limits the services that can be provided.

Faith Based Re-entry Program (formerly run by Prison Fellowship)

Assets: This faith-based re-entry program is operated by volunteers and coordinated by Chaplain Services and Prison Ministry. The voluntary program uses a Christian curriculum to

provide re-entry preparation programming to incarcerated offenders approaching release and mentoring upon transition to the community.

Barriers: The program only serves the Richmond area and only serves offenders pending release at one male facility and one female facility.

Gaps: The program only serves the Richmond area and since it is faith-based, offenders must volunteer for the program instead of being assigned. The capacity is only 20 offenders.

Southside Virginia Community College and the Sunshine Lady Foundation –

Assets: The collaboration at Greensville Correctional Center creates a “College within Walls” where offenders are housed together in a single pod at the prison and receive college level courses provided by Southside Virginia Community College. Participants are self-pay or are assisted through a grant made possible by the Sunshine Lady Foundation. The program has had 39 offenders successfully graduate, and 18 offenders receive an Associate’s Degree.

Barriers: Funding for the program is tenuous. The federal education grant may not be renewed and the private non-profit partner Sunshine Lady Foundation has indicated an unwillingness to continue funding unless the state matches the Foundation’s investment.

Gaps: The program only exists at one prison.

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles –

Assets: The DMV has partnered with the VADOC to develop creative ways to provide offenders official state identification. This collaboration provides a streamlined process for helping offenders receive identification after release. In late 2012, a new process was established that allows the DMV to operate “DMV Branch Offices” behind the prison fences. This allows offenders to have state identification before they are released from prison. Identification is required for persons to obtain employment, housing, transportation, banking, and other necessary daily life actions. The program is expected to be fully implemented in all of VADOC’s facilities by December 2013.

DMV has also worked collaboratively with VADOC to establish a Commercial Drivers License program while offenders are incarcerated. In the program, non-violent offenders who are license-eligible receive training by VADOC staff to become CDL operators. CDL operators can drive trucks to deliver products produced in the VADOC agribusiness program. DMV provides the training curriculum, testing, and licensure. This program helps keep VADOC costs lower since offenders are paid much lower wages than a private CDL operator. The program also provides offenders with a viable job skill that they can utilize upon release.

Barriers: The process requires both VADOC and DMV to increase workload without additional resources.

Gaps: Currently the process to obtain an identification card before release is available at all Intensive Re-entry Programs with plans to expand it to all DOC facilities by the end of 2013.

Virginia Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics –

Assets: The collaboration between Vital Statistics and VADOC allows the Department to receive offenders’ birth certificates upon intake. The birth certificates allow VADOC to confirm citizenship. Birth certificates are held by VADOC and provided to offenders when they are

released as a form of identification. The DMV requires that individuals provide their birth certificates as a form of identification when they apply for a State ID card.

Barriers: None.

Gaps: None.

Social Security Administration –

Assets: The collaboration between the SSA and VADOC allows offenders to apply for replacement Social Security Cards 90 days before release. SSN cards are needed by offenders after release so they may obtain employment. The cards are also a form of identity verification used by DMV.

Barriers: It is overly restrictive for the SSA to only issue cards 90 days before the offender is released from prison. This limited timeframe, given processing and mailing times, sometimes causes cards to arrive at the prison after the offender has been released. The VADOC would like to be able to obtain cards earlier in the offender's incarceration. The SSA has not been willing to lengthen the timeframe for VADOC applying the cards even though the VADOC holds SSN cards in secured and locked file rooms.

Gaps: None.

Virginia Department of Veterans Affairs –

Assets: The partnership with the Department of Veterans' Affairs allows offenders who are veterans to be contacted by VDVA during incarceration to learn about their rights and benefits. The Department contacts the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program routinely for assistance with veteran-related issues.

Barriers: None.

Gaps: None.

Veterans Administration –

Assets: The VADOC partners with the federal Veterans Administration to allow medical and mental health examinations to be conducted on incarcerated veterans to determine if disability benefits are warranted. The Veterans Administration staff also makes contact with all incarcerated honorably discharged veterans to assist in special release planning needs.

Barriers: None.

Gaps: One staff person to cover the state is insufficient to address the needs of an increasing number of veterans.

Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services & Social Security Administration –

Assets: – The purpose of the agreement between SSA and VADOC and VDRS/VADDS Division is to identify and formalize procedures that will facilitate the timely entitlement to SSI for disabled and aged offenders in the VADOC system. Pre-release application procedures allow inmates to

file for SSI benefits prior to their release. These procedures help facilitate a smoother transition back into the community.

Barriers: Application for benefits can be made while offenders are in prison, but due to federal guidelines disability payments may not be received until at least 30 days post-release.

Gaps: None.

Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services & Virginia Department of Social Services (Medicaid) –

Assets: Through their partnership with VADOC, DMAS and DSS have defined procedures for incarcerated offenders to apply for Medicaid before release. When applications are completed correctly, offenders can get a Medicaid number the day of release, qualifying them for services upon release.

Barriers: The application process is complicated and VADOC staff expertise and resources are required.

Gaps: None

Assisting Families of Inmates & New Jubilee Education and Family Life Center –

Assets: The VADOC offers an offender video visitation program at selected prisons across the Commonwealth through the Department's partnership with community faith-based and non-profit organizations. Video visitation allows family members to meet with the offender via video conferencing at a cost lower than what the visitor typically spends traveling to a remote prison. Visitor Centers are located in Richmond, Norfolk, Alexandria, and now Roanoke (due to a recent expansion of the program). The Centers operate on Saturdays and Sundays only. Video visitation will be used for some offenders as a part of the VADOC's re-entry process to reunify offenders and families.

Barriers: The video visitation project has been under-utilized by families and the VADOC is working with community partners to increase marketing of the program.

Gaps: The program is limited to metropolitan areas in Virginia and not all communities are covered.

Goodwill Industries –

Assets: Goodwill Industries partners with VADOC to provide a "One Stop Behind Bars" at Dillwyn Correctional Center. Since 2010 the project has been fully implemented at the prison. The program is staffed by Goodwill Industries and provides job seeking skills training to offenders preparing for release.

Barriers: Lack of funding is a barrier. The program is not funded and has been conducted by Goodwill with existing staff only, which diverts Goodwill staff from other necessary duties. Unless grants or other funding can be obtained, the program may be in jeopardy of closing. The only policy barrier has been Goodwill's desire to have incarcerated offenders conduct job

searches via the internet, a standard practice in the community. VADOC has not granted this access to offenders due to security concerns.

Gaps: This program is only at one prison but is needed at all prisons.

Virginia Employment Commission –

Assets: Wallens Ridge State Prison located in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, has collaborated with the local VEC so that VEC staff can come into the prison to provide offenders with training in job seeking skills. The VEC helps offenders conduct job searches, via supervised internet access, in the localities where they will be released.

Barriers: Budget limitations at the VEC limit the agency's ability to deliver the service and to expand it to other prisons.

Gaps: The service is only provided at one prison and needs to be provided at all prisons.

Work Release through Local and Regional Jails (across the State) –

Assets: VADOC partners with local and regional jails for work release. Non-violent offenders nearing release that meet criteria and are approved by both the jail and VADOC are returned to local jails for work release. On work release, offenders work in the community during the day and return to the jail at night. Offenders earn prevailing wages and are required to pay for jail costs and court-ordered financial obligations, and save some money for release.

Barriers: Policies based on short-term public safety goals limit work release to non-violent offenders and restrict most offenders from the benefits of participating.

Gaps: Not all jails participate in work release agreements with VADOC.

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services & local Community Services Boards –

Assets: VADOC has an agreement with DBHDS and the Association of Community Services Boards to address re-entry appointments for incarcerated offenders who are in need of continuing mental health services after release. Prison-qualified mental health professionals provide assessment to the local Community Services Board (CSB) and make appointments for care prior to the offender's release. Many local Probation and Parole Districts have agreements with their CSBs for offender treatment services.

Barriers: Funding does not follow the offender but is provided to the CSB, enabling each individual CSB to establish its own service priorities. In some jurisdictions, CSBs do not serve reentering offenders, do not prioritize offenders for timely services, and/or will not set appointments for offenders until after they are released from prison. These restraints create public safety issues when offenders have mental health needs. Reentering offenders would be better served if the funding were provided to Probation and Parole Districts to pay CSBs directly for specific services.

Gaps: See barriers.

PAPIS–

Assets: This program is operated by a coalition of non-profit organizations across the Commonwealth that support pre- and post-incarceration professional services. This coalition also provides guidance that increases the opportunity for, and the likelihood of, the successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated adult offenders into the community. VADOC partners with PAPIS providers for services in some prisons and in some Probation and Parole Districts.

Barriers: None.

Gaps: PAPIS providers are not located in all areas of the State and are not sufficiently funded to provide services to all offenders in need.

Cumberland Mountain Community Services Board, University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, Southwestern Virginia Local Re-entry Council, Verizon Wireless–

Assets: This partnership was formed in fall of 2010 when VADOC received a BJA Second Chance grant to target family services for female offenders with a history of substance abuse who are reentering Southwestern Virginia counties of Russell, Tazewell and Buchanan. VADOC incarcerated offenders in the program receive substance abuse treatment. Participants also are enrolled in parenting program and receive assistance with family unification video conferencing provided by a University of Virginia professor. Re-entry services are provided by Cumberland Mountain CSB, with case probation supervision and case management services provided by Probation and Parole District #43. A grant from Verizon Wireless helps provide counseling and support services to offenders who have been victims of domestic violence or sexual abuse as well as emergency re-entry needs.

Barriers: None

Gaps: The grant program has been an excellent pilot, however, grant funding for the program ended in April 2013.

University of Virginia Darden Business School Entrepreneurial Program

Assets: This innovative program was created by Dr. Gregory Fairchild, Associate Professor at UVA's Darden Business School. The program operates at Dillwyn Correctional Center and provides college-level entrepreneurial training to offenders in the last year before release. Offenders selected for the program are those who have completed vocational training during incarceration. The program uses a business planning curriculum taught by Dr. Fairchild and graduate students. A post release mentorship phase using community business owners is currently being planned. In the past year the program was expanded to include women offenders at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women.

Barriers: None.

Gaps: The program only operates at two prisons and is needed at more.

Other Institutions of Higher Education

Assets: Partnerships exist with other universities and colleges that assist with re-entry preparation in prisons or Probation and Parole Districts. These organizations include but are not

limited to the following: Blue Ridge Community College, James Madison University, Rappahannock Community College, Virginia Commonwealth University and Virginia State University.

Barriers: The efforts are not funded and dependant on the resources and motivation of individual educational institutions.

Gaps: Not all prisons or Probation and Parole Districts have partnerships with universities or colleges.

Agribusiness Partnerships

Assets: VADOC has a number of external partnerships that involve the Department's agribusiness operation. These partnerships provide incarcerated offenders with work training that could help them find employment after release. One initiative involves offenders who work with beef cattle on VADOC farms receiving training by Virginia Tech Vet School Veterinarians. Participants receive certificates upon completion. VADOC partners with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to train offenders in the use of pesticides under the Virginia Pesticide Act. Participants can become a Registered Technician. In a new multiple agency partnership among the VADOC, Virginia Department of Health, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, incarcerated offenders who work in the prison Milk Plant and Dairy are provided with a special course that covers plant sanitation and milk pasteurization and includes mock inspections. Offenders will receive a certificate for successful completion.

Barriers: None.

Gaps: The programs are small and limited to offenders who work in the specific agribusiness programs, but demonstrate how agencies can use their expertise to work together and prepare offenders for re-entry.

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulations

Assets: DPOR supports VADOC re-entry efforts by making special arrangements for offenders working in the Wastewater Treatment Plants to test for licensure. VADOC work foremen provide offenders with on the job training in maintenance of waste water plants, laboratory work and clerical skills needed to become a licensed Wastewater Treatment Plant Professional.

Barriers: Due to the U.S. anti-terrorism act, there are crime-type barriers that prevent some offenders from working in public wastewater jobs after release. These are reviewed on a case by case basis before entering the program.

Gaps: The programs are small and limited to offenders who work in VADOC Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program

Assets: VADOC has received a grant from the Department of Criminal Justice Services to provide the evidence-based substance abuse program MATRIX to offenders in 12 prison Intensive Re-entry Programs. The program serves offenders who are assessed as having a moderate need for substance abuse treatment and who do not need the more intensive Cognitive Therapeutic Community program that is designed for offenders with high substance abuse treatment needs.

Barriers: The program only funds 12 positions and is not sufficient to fully meet the needs of all offenders.

Gaps: The program exists at 12 prisons, leaving the majority of prisons without the service.

Alexandria Collaboration for Recovery and Re-entry

Assets: This program is supported by a model of collaboration between the VADOC Probation and Parole District in Alexandria and the local CSB. A grant obtained by the CSB funds a Mental Health Probation Officer and a CSB therapist. The program provides rapid/intensive treatment, supervision and support for probationers/parolees diagnosed with mental illness. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Workgroup of the Governor's Re-entry Council identified the program as a model worthy of replication in other localities.

Barriers: Although the program was recommended for expansion by the Governor's Re-entry Council, funding is the barrier.

Gaps: The program is a model identified for replication but only exists in one locality.

Virginia Parole Board

Assets: The VADOC has an agreement with the Virginia Parole Board whereby offenders who are eligible for parole may be referred by the Parole Board to complete a VADOC Intensive Re-entry Program before being granted release. This practice helps ensure that long-term offenders receive re-entry preparation before release.

Barriers: None.

Gaps: The process is used for specific offenders at the discretion of the Parole Board.

Federal Bonding Program Stakeholders

Assets: VADOC was designated as the Federal Bonding program coordinator in July 2011. The federal bonding program is an employer job-hire incentive that allows employers to hire at-risk job seekers with prior criminal convictions with limited liability to their business. The VADOC partnered with a number of agencies and employment stakeholders to develop and oversee its approach to providing the program. Stakeholders assisting VADOC in this effort include the: Department of Rehabilitation Services, Workforce Investment Board of the Northern Virginia Skillsource Center, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Labor, Virginia Community College System, Department of Social Services, Boaz and Ruth, Department of Juvenile Justice, Offender Aid and Restoration of Richmond, StepUp Inc., Education and Training Corporation and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Barriers: None.

Gaps: None.

Collaborations to Reduce Homelessness

Assets: The VADOC makes continual efforts to reduce homelessness of reentering offenders by working with other state agencies and community groups. The VADOC participates on the Workgroup on Release of Special Needs Inmates facilitated by the Governor's Office. Partner stakeholders include Department of Social Services, local Social Services offices, the Richmond City Criminal Justice Agency, and Department of Behavioral Health and Disability Services. The workgroup is developing a shared protocol for release of offenders with special needs, developing a blue print for use by communities that are planning for the return of these offenders, and developing long-term public policies to address this growing population.

Recently, DOC staff met with the newly appointed Housing Director for the Department of Veterans Services to discuss meeting the needs of the homeless veteran population.

Barriers: Community housing for violent offenders is extremely limited due to funding, community attitudes about perceived risk, public policy and crime barrier laws. There are also tremendous barriers to placing offenders with health care needs in assisted living or nursing home care, primarily due perceived risks, community attitudes and funding.

Gaps: There are huge gaps in community housing for violent offenders and offenders with mental or physical health care needs due to public policy, funding and public perceptions.

Norfolk Reentry Court Docket

Assets: Implemented as a pilot in 2011, the State's first reentry court is funded through a federal grant to the Virginia Supreme Court and includes partnerships among DOC Probation and Parole District #2, Norfolk Circuit Court, Norfolk Sheriff's office, Norfolk prosecutors, faith based organizations and community treatment providers. The program is modeled after the city's drug court and is designed to take 18 months to complete, including a 6 month stay in jail followed by community supervision and services. Reentry Court participants make regular appearances before the Judge and can receive immediate sanctions for misbehavior or recognition for appropriate behavior. The program is aimed at reducing recidivism and includes workshops on GED preparation, anger management, and employment skills. The program is voluntary and is generally part of sentencing for a probation violation.

Barriers: The program is a pilot and it is too soon to measure success. The program exists only in Norfolk City and is dependent on federal grant funding.

Gaps: The program exists only in Norfolk.

Probation/Parole Supervision

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VADOC implemented evidence based practices (EBP) in all its Probation and Parole Districts as of April 2012. The following stages of implementation will be facilitated by a comprehensive strategic plan, recently drafted and approved by VADOC, with the primary goal of improving the fidelity of EBP implementation.

Efforts underway include:

- Developing policies and procedures to support the use of EBP supervision in all District Offices in Virginia
- Developing an organizational structure that supports and sustains the implementation of evidence-based practices and quality supervision
- Implementing a quality assurance process for each component of EBP in supervision
- Targeting and applying the most effective interventions for offenders via evidence-based case planning.
- Implementing a structure to support competency development of staff in District Offices
- Finding ways to strengthen the community and family involvement with the offender in a pro-social manner

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

VADOC currently has 21 Senior Re-entry Probation Officer positions to serve the 12 Intensive Re-entry Programs. The role of these positions is to increase long-term public safety by helping to prepare incarcerated offenders for successful re-entry and reintegration into the community and bridging the gaps between prisons and community supervision. The Re-entry Probation Officers provide incarcerated offenders, family members and other stakeholders with opportunities to learn about and discuss community supervision issues and re-entry challenges before the offenders are released. The positions serve as a link to local community resources and with community stakeholders to enhance effective re-entry.

Probation and Parole District staff continues to implement Thinking for a Change booster sessions to provide continuity and support as offenders' transition from prisons to community supervision.

Director of Corrections' Harold Clarke has issued a strong edict to staff that VADOC will engage in organizational development to create a culture that establishes and supports offender change and re-entry preparation. The VADOC has made strong progress in creating more internal continuity among its prison and community corrections operations, which supports successful re-entry

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Resources needed for program delivery remains a large barrier.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

As noted above, a few positions have been received to assist with re-entry. Despite these additions, Probation caseloads remain very high and restrict the time Probation Officers can spend with offenders.

Pre-release Services

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Case Management Services: The VADOC has brought its case management services in line with evidence-based practices. The COMPAS Risk and Needs Assessment instrument is fully implemented. Based on the results of the assessment, an individualized Re-entry Case Plan is developed for each offender to guide his/her participation in programs that will help lower his/her risk of recidivism.

Re-entry Councils: the VADOC Wardens, District Chief Probation Officers and their staffs continue to be active participants in the Councils.

PAPIS Programs: The VADOC continues to use PAPIS providers within the prisons where such services are available.

Re-entry Specialists: Consistent with its approved re-entry strategic plan, re-entry specialists have been reorganized to more effectively work certain areas of the state rather than being organized by regions.

Intensive Re-entry Pods/Cognitive Community Programs – Consistent with its re-entry strategic plan, the VADOC has fully implemented the Intensive Re-entry Programs at 12 prisons as well as re-entry pods at higher security prisons.

Work Release Program for Women Operated by Correctional Education Centers, Inc. –In 2013 a work release program was implemented at Deerfield Women’s Work Center for offenders who have transitioned through the Intensive Reentry programs. Work release is available for carefully screened female offenders in the last 90 days before release to better prepare them for law abiding re-entry. The program allows offenders to be employed in real world jobs and to save money for reentry. While on work release, the participants return to the prison at night and continue programming related to effective transition.

Career Readiness/Life Skills Programs – Offender Workforce Development Specialists deliver career readiness portions of life skills training to offenders participating in the prison Intensive Re-entry Programs. Prison counselors deliver Life Skills programming that is not workforce development related. Topics include how to budget or locate housing.

Cognitive Therapeutic Community programs – VADOC continues to operate substance abuse cognitive therapeutic community programs for male offenders at Indian Creek Correctional Center and for female offenders at the Virginia Correctional Center for Women and Central Virginia Correctional Unit.

Veterans Re-entry Programs – Operating at Haynesville and Indian Creek Correctional Center are specialized re-entry preparation and support programs for veterans. These programs help address the unique needs of veterans and help them learn how to access available federal benefits. Deerfield and Buckingham Correctional Centers have established separate housing units for their veteran population.

Thinking for a Change – The evidence-based cognitive behavioral program *Thinking for a Change* has been implemented in the prisons and a follow-up peer support booster program is being implemented in community corrections.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Resources for programs and post-release services are a large barrier. Space in which to operate programs is often a limiting factor.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Gaps continue to be: limited resources for in programming, limited community housing resources for placement of offenders without home plans, and lack of available jobs.

Residential Community Facility

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VADOC continues to contract for approximately 150 community residential program beds.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Strong public sentiment continues to be a barrier in locating programs in the community. Funding is also an issue for community partners desiring to open a housing program but without start up funding.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Gaps have not been addressed. A huge gap remains between the number of beds available and the offenders needing placement. There are interested parties willing to establish community residential / transitional programs, but they look to the VADOC for funding

Electronic/GPS Monitoring

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Supervision through technology (such as automated self-reporting systems) continues to be a cost-effective manner of monitoring low risk offenders in the community. GPS Technology is also used for higher risk offenders to augment staff supervision practices.

Employment/Job Training

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Virginia Correctional Enterprises – VADOC continues to operate correctional industry programs, many of which include on-the-job training in areas where offenders may find employment after release. Offenders work for VCE in prison jobs producing goods or services for sale to state agencies and other entities within government. Many of the skills that offenders in these jobs

learn related to the manufacturing process, including upholstery, furniture building, printing, and commercial laundry, are transferable to jobs offenders may apply for following release from prison.

VADOC Agribusiness work programs - Agribusiness operations provide incarcerated offenders with skilled work training that should help them find employment after release. In one initiative, offenders who work with beef cattle on VADOC farms receive training from the Virginia Tech Vet School Veterinarians and receive certificates. VADOC partners with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to train offenders in the use of pesticides under the Virginia Pesticide Act, and participants can become a Registered Technicians. In a new multiple agency partnership among the VADOC, Virginia Department of Health and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, incarcerated offenders who work in the prison Milk Plant and Dairy are provided with a special course that covers plant sanitation, milk pasteurization, and passing inspections. Offenders will receive a certificate for successful completion of this program.

Wastewater Operations - Offenders working in the VADOC wastewater treatment plants receive on-the-job training from work foremen in maintenance of waste water plants, laboratory work and clerical skills. Offenders may become qualified as a licensed Wastewater Treatment Plant Professionals.

Workforce Development – The VADOC’s workforce development program is operated in conjunction with its re-entry efforts. Staffs provide career readiness preparation, assist in resume and portfolio development, and register offenders on the state employment network prior to release.

VADOC Food Services work program – VADOC is providing offenders who work in its prison kitchens with the ServSafe Food Certification training. Since being implemented in early 2011, over 1,500 offenders have passed the exam and received the nationally recognized food industry certification. In addition the VADOC has converted the former vendor operated staff cafeteria at its headquarters to an offender food industry training program. Offenders prepare and serve food for staff and visitors while participating in the ServSafe class. Participating offenders also learn skills that will help them manage a restaurant including sanitation, food supplies, waiting tables and working the cash register.

Federal Bonding Program – The program enhances offenders’ employability. VADOC was designated as the Federal Bonding program coordinator in July 2011. The federal bonding program is an employer job-hire incentive that limits the liability of employers that hire at-risk job seekers with prior criminal convictions. The VADOC partnered with a number of agencies and employment stakeholders to develop and oversee its approach to providing the program. The VADOC provides letters to offenders acknowledging they are bondable and then the employer may contact VADOC to request the offender become bonded.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Barriers continue to be a lack of space for sufficient programming and staff resources. Another barrier is that most employers use the internet as a means to accept job applications and incarcerated offenders are unable to access the internet due to security issues.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

The need for employing offenders in meaningful work within prisons exceeds the VADOC's resources.

Alcohol and/or Drug Addiction

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

For offenders assessed with a high need for substance abuse treatment, the VADOC continues to operate Cognitive Therapeutic Community programs. These programs produce recidivism rates of 7%, much lower than the overall VADOC recidivism rate of 26.1%.

For offenders assessed with a moderate need for substance abuse treatment, the MATRIX program has just been implemented with a RSAT grant provided through the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The MATRIX model is provided as a treatment group within the Intensive Re-entry Programs.

Probation and Parole Districts continue to contract for substance abuse services with the local community services boards and/or with private providers. Contracts now include requirements for evidence-based practices.

The VADOC drug testing program continues both in prisons and in community corrections.

The VADOC STAND program is a comprehensive multi-level substance abuse treatment program made possible by federal grant funding through the Washington/Baltimore HITDA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) Initiative.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Resources continue to limit the quantity of programming VADOC can provide.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Gaps continue – the VADOC has not received funding to reinstate the transitional substance abuse treatment programs that provide a halfway house for graduates discharging from the Cognitive Therapeutic Community programs following release.

Mental Health

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

VADOC provides mental health screening and services to offenders with varying types and degrees of mental health needs. VADOC has extensive re-entry procedures related to mental health services that are outlined in Department Operating Procedure 820.2.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Resources for follow-up care are an issue. Often local CSBs will not make appointments for releasing offenders until the offenders have actually released. Given waiting periods, this process can increase the risk of offenders with mental health issues who may deteriorate and/or not receive needed medication.

In addition, services for offenders under community supervision who have a mental health crisis cannot be provided by the CSB, which is a service gap.

Family Reunification

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

In May 2013 the VADOC began its Rebuilding Family Bridges pilot program in eight facilities. The program is specifically designed to provide offenders the training and opportunity to practice skills to rebuild and maintain the vital relationships in their lives with their children, spouses or significant others, as well as extended family members.

DOC Reentry Probation Officers offer reentry seminars for offenders and families to help prepare them for the challenges and support needed by reentering offenders.

The VADOC continues its partnership with several faith-based and non-profit organizations to provide a video visitation to families, which supports family reunification and continued social support/communication while the offenders are incarcerated.

VADOC has developed a seminar to brief families about the re-entry expectations and probation requirements of returning offenders.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

The VADOC was selected as one of ten states to participate in the Sesame Street initiative, "Little Children, Big Challenges: Incarceration" designed to inform incarcerated parents that

they can parent from inside, as well as provide them with simple parenting tips highlighting the importance of communication.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

The VADOC is not funded for resources to facilitate extensive family reunification efforts and therefore is dependent on faith-based and other volunteer groups to assist.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

The video visitation program is under-utilized by families of incarcerated offenders. The VADOC is holding regular meetings with stakeholders to see how the program can be marketed more extensively.

The RFB Program is being piloted at only eight DOC facilities and needs funding to be expanded.

Mentoring

Assets:

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VADOC has a partnership with Chaplain Services to operate a faith-based re-entry preparation program that includes mentorship for the year following release.

The VADOC has a Mentorship Task Force comprised of mainly faith-based stakeholders. The committee has developed guidelines and training for volunteer mentors.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

The VADOC is continually seeking volunteer mentors who are positive role models for offenders.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

It is difficult to recruit mentors, and VADOC largely depends on faith-based volunteer agencies.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

The current mentorship program is small and exists at only one prison with approximately 20 participants. The capacity of this program is limited due to it remaining unfunded and dependant on volunteers.

Education

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Effective July 1, 2012 an interagency reorganization directed by the State budget bill merged the Department of Correctional Education with the VADOC. Educational services became a division within VADOC. The Educational Services Division of the VADOC provides academic and vocational programming to incarcerated offenders. This merger has enabled better service coordination, and internal strategies for structuring program delivery may somewhat increase capacity.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Resources for educational programs are insufficient to meet the needs of offenders. Waiting lists are long and some offenders reenter the community without having an opportunity to learn basic literacy or a vocational trade.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Many offenders are released from prison without receiving educational and vocational services, some not even to the level of basic literacy.

Victim Services

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VADOC Victim Services Unit (VSU) provided assistance to over 684 new victims in FY2013. Our automated notification system provided 15,735 phone calls, 9,386 emails and 5,385 letters. Over 7,303 new registrations were processed through the VADOC VINE Automated Notification System. The VSU continues to provide safety planning, community referrals and explanation of community supervision.

Due to the recruitment and training of Victim Offender Dialogue (VOD) facilitators, 5 dialogues were completed in FY2012.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

VADOC VSU Staff continue to serve on the VADOC Strategic, Reentry and Visitation Policy Committees, the Domestic Violence Advisory Board and Victim Rights Coordinating Committee.

The Victim Offender Dialogue (VOD) facilitator recruitment and training is scheduled for Fall/Winter 2013. Four cases are currently in the preparation phase.

The VSU automated notification of offender work release status through its VINE system. By October 2013, all registrations for the VADOC VINE system will be coordinated through the VSU to ensure the best possible services for crime victims.

The Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS) is scheduled to launch an automated victim notification system in October 2013. This new system will assist registered victims in continuing to receive status information on offenders who remain under ICAOS supervision after release. The VADOC VSU and Interstate Compact Unit are coordinating how this new automated victim notification system will be used in Virginia.

The VSU transitioned all victim records from paper files into the CORIS system for improved services and notification. To date, over 8,000 victims have been entered. Probation officers, VADOC VSU Staff continue to serve on the VADOC Strategic, Reentry and Visitation Policy Committees, the Domestic Violence Advisory Board and Victim Rights Coordinating Committee.

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The VSU transitioned all victim records from paper files into the CORIS system for improved services and notification. To date, over 8,000 victims have been entered. Probation officers, correctional staff and management can be aware if the need for victim notification and consideration in decisions and status changes by reviewing the alerts in CORIS.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Lack of court ordered supervision of the offender still creates a risk for victims. The VSU attends local and state victim advocacy meetings to provide feedback regarding observed barriers that can be managed at sentencing.

Victims still struggle with threats and harassment from offenders. Social networking and the internet are used along with traditional methods such as phone and letters. Some jurisdictions will not issue a protective order if the offender is incarcerated. Victims are referred to local law enforcement and prosecutor offices for additional assistance.

Restitution collection remains limited and offenders are released from supervision without completing these obligations. DOC staff training has been held in collaboration with the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF). CORIS access was provided to CICF staff to allow them access to offender supervision locations in order to process restitution collection.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

There has been no implementation of any new programs to address post release victim assistance and notification due to the lack of staffing or resources. As identified in the VADOC Reentry Advisory Committee and the Sex Offender Reentry Committee reports, staffing of the VADOC VSU still remains far below the national average.

Re-Entry Focus Areas

Women

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VADOC has established Intensive Re-entry Programs or Cognitive Substance Abuse Therapeutic Community Programs at all female prisons.

Until April 2013 the VADOC operated a model federal Second Chance re-entry grant program for women who are in prison substance abuse treatment programs, primarily due to pharmaceutical drug abuse, and discharging to southwestern Virginia. The program addressed multiple re-entry needs of women including domestic violence and parenting. The offenders received a parenting program in prison and transition visits via video visitation supported by a Client Advocate prior to release. Upon release, the Client Advocate continued to provide case management services. The program was a model partnership between the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, the Cumberland Mountain Community Services Board and VADOC Probation and Parole District #43. A grant from Verizon Wireless supports services and emergency re-entry needs for offenders. Unfortunately grant funding ended in April 2013.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

The VADOC plans to implement a gender specific version of the COMPAS Risk and Needs Assessment instrument designed for female offenders.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Funding for programs, services and post release special needs of women is lacking.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

There are few specialized services for women leaving prison. Gaps include housing, trauma counseling and substance abuse care, child care, and transportation.

Veterans

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

- In cooperation with the Department of Veteran Services Virginia Wounded Warrior Program and with the assistance of Virginia Correctional Enterprises, the VADOC produced and disseminated the guide, "A Re-entry Roadmap for Veterans Incarcerated in Virginia," to all correctional facilities, local and regional jails and District Probation and Parole Offices. The guide and accompanying CD were developed by an interagency task force of Governor McDonnell's Prisoner and Juvenile Offender Re-entry Initiative.
- VADOC's re-entry Operating Procedure 820.2 as well as Probation and Parole District initial intake policies have been revised to require staff to encourage offenders in custody or on supervision to apply for his/her DD214. The DD214 is the standard separation document of the United States Military and is official proof of military service. Enhancements to the military record section in the VADOC's automated offender management system, VACORIS, have been completed. Included is an indication that the DD214 has been requested, and/or is on file.
- VADOC implemented a residential re-entry program designated for veteran offenders who have an Honorable Discharge and military service verified by a DD214. The VETS (Veterans Expecting to Transition Successfully) Program, located at Haynesville Correctional Center (HCC) and with a capacity of 84 beds, began operation July 1, 2012. Participants, typically within 24 months of release, live in a structured environment and take part in programming geared toward self improvement and release preparation. A similar program has been implemented at Indian Creek Correctional Center.
- VADOC has hired a part-time Veteran Advocate, who is a former offender, to assist with re-entry needs of the increasing number of offenders who are veterans and to support the veteran program development.
- All prisons have been directed to establish a Veterans Group where security issues and numbers allow, and where volunteers are available to support the program. The groups are to be voluntary and supported by veteran volunteers in the community. Established

programs are currently operating at Deerfield, Powhatan, Buckingham, Bland and Greensville Correctional Centers. A program began at Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

The VADOC recently established a partnership with Pathways to Success Foundation and NuPath Services in Petersburg to provide housing for incarcerated veterans upon release.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Funding for services is an issue. The incidence of PTSD is higher among veterans who need more treatment services, particularly mental health and physical health services. The VADOC is largely dependent on the volunteer support by community veterans to run programs.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

One part-time veteran advocate position to handle an increasing number of veterans with the VADOC.

Data and Information

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

In February 2013, the inmate pay & trust system was replaced with CORIS. All offender spend and savings account for re-entry are incorporated into VirginiaCORIS.

In June 2013, LIDS (Local Inmate Data System) was added in CORIS. Local jails enter an offender's arrest/offense in CORIS and subsequent release date. VirginiaCORIS users are able to view the jail location of the offender in addition to the arrest and release dates.

In August 2013, Gangbusters was replaced with CORIS. Gang alerts including the gang status & affiliation can be seen in the title bar. Users have the ability to search for offenders with a specific gang affiliation and status by DOC Location or across all DOC Locations. The gang module in CORIS keeps track of points assigned to the offender for gang criteria and any on-going gang activity

Please describe any grant funding that your agency has received for re-entry-related initiatives. Please provide the title of the grant, a brief description of the grant project and what the funding is being used for, the total amount of funding that the grant will provide, and when the funding has/will terminate.

VADOC currently receives funding of \$500,000 from the federal Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) passed through the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The grant funds one to two substance abuse counselors in the DOC's Intensive Reentry Program prisons. Grant funding decreases 25% each year with the state assuming the cost.

Please describe any legislative funding that your agency has received for re-entry-related initiatives?

Please provide a brief description of the intended purpose of the funding and what the funding has been used for to date, the total amount of funding that the grant will provide, and when the funding has/will terminate.

In FY 2013 the VADOC received \$407,000 to implement the Work Release Program at Deerfield Women's Work Center. The program is operated by a national correctional vendor that specializes in reentry programs, Community Education Centers. In FY 2013 VADOC was also provided \$345,000 to implement the VASAVOR program in Richmond City.

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Department of Criminal Justice Services has served over 14,000 in PAPIS programs; approximately 35,000 on local probation.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

DCJS continues to receive federal funds through the Virginia Department of Social Services for SNAPET (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment Training) clients and distributes it to the reentry program grantees to reimburse them for expenses to PAPIS programs for employment services to food stamp recipients/reentry clients. DCJS made recent changes to streamline the reimbursement process, which have been well received.

DCJS continues to partner with the Virginia Community Criminal Justice Association (VCCJA) to implement evidence-based practices in local community probation and pretrial agencies. Although not formally or directly required to provide reentry services, these programs work closely with their local community leaders to provide a continuum of services that promote public safety and effectively utilize justice system and community resources. Continued financial and technical support from DCJS and other federal sources have supported innovative projects currently being conducted in Virginia's pretrial and local probation agencies, including a federally funded pretrial research project, a recidivism study, and performance measures development managed by VCCJA's Quality Assurance Committee and the National Center for State Courts.

DOC partners with PAPIS providers for services in some prisons and probation and parole districts. PAPIS grantees serve on Community Criminal Justice Boards, Local Re-entry Councils, and statewide re-entry steering committees. The Williamsburg Re-entry Council, which is co-chaired by the director of the Williamsburg PAPIS program, regularly meets with the Child and Family Services Administration to look at issues relating to duplication of services and eligibility criteria regarding the Fresh Start program. The Richmond OAR program has been the co-convenor of the Reentry Council in the Richmond area since its inception.

The Norfolk PAPIS program worked with the Sheriff of Newport News on multiple town hall meetings on re-entry issues. The Williamsburg program works with Williamsburg Walks the Talk (mentoring group), Child and Family Services, and the Norfolk PAPIS program to develop an orientation program for inmates, which provides information on services and eligibility criteria on each of these programs.

In partnership with the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety, in 2011 DCJS issued a solicitation for the Public Safety Anti-Gang and Re-entry Initiative (AGRI) through which four localities were awarded \$250,000 each for a two-year period to conduct a comprehensive gang and re-entry initiative, part of which includes a significant suppression requirement. These projects were funded through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The grantees are: Office of the Attorney General in Richmond, implementing the Badges for Baseball program in their target area; Manassas Park, for the development and sustainability of the Northern Virginia Gang Task Force; the City of Waynesboro, which is providing afterschool and summer programs for area youth; and DJJ's 27th District Court Service Unit, which is implementing an apprenticeship program. Under the guidance of the Gang Reduction Specialist and DCJS staff, the grantees continue to receive much needed training and heightened awareness of the gang culture. It should be noted that prevention and intervention strategies are equally important in community change.

Probation/Parole Supervision

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DOC partners with PAPIS providers for services in some prisons and probation and parole districts. PAPIS grantees serve on Community Criminal Justice Boards, Local Re-entry Councils, and statewide re-entry steering committees. The Williamsburg Re-entry Council, which is co-chaired by the director of the Williamsburg PAPIS program, regularly meets with the Child and Family Services Administration to look at issues relating to duplication of services and eligibility criteria regarding the Fresh Start program. The Richmond OAR program has been the co-convenor of the Reentry Council in the Richmond area since its inception.

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Employment/Job Training

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

All nine of the active PAPIS programs have an employment component. These programs offer job skills training, job readiness training, and employment placement. Clients also received

other employment assistance, such as supportive services that assist individual clients in job search (e.g., providing career counseling, drafting resumes, and holding mock interviews) and help obtaining required work materials (tools, boots, uniforms, bus tickets, etc.). The services offered by each program are distinct, however. The Charlottesville program, for example, partnered with the city for the continuation of its “Coming Home to Work Program” in which offenders are paid by the program to work with certain employers that will assist them with more permanent employment and stable living arrangements at the conclusion of the program. The Arlington OAR program has developed a Community Advisory Council with Congressman James Moran as its honorary Chair. This council facilitates connections with corporations to raise funds for scholarships that clients can receive to attend vocational programs.

In order to assist in juvenile reentry, DCJS has awarded federal funds to the Departments of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and Correctional Education (DCE) for several workforce development initiatives. Representative projects include:

- “Reentry to Education and Employment” (REEP); Peninsula Council for Workforce Development. This project was first funded in FY11 and has received continuation funding each year; FY14 is the fourth and final year of grant funding for the project. Through this project, juveniles in the custody of DJJ work with transitional support counselors on work readiness skills, resumes, employment placement following release, and other support services. Counselors are able to meet with the juveniles in their facilities to provide services and conduct groups.
- “Work/Education Release Program” (WERP); DJJ. Funding was awarded for two years, beginning in FY11. A housing unit at Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Center was refurbished to create a more home-like environment for the WERP participants. Funds also supported additional vocational opportunities for DJJ’s older male population and an orientation video for newly committed residents. Throughout the grant period, WERP offered opportunities for participants to engage in community service projects. Participants also made progress in paying court costs and restitution, pursuing higher educational or certification/licensing goals, and improving interview skills. Bon Air will continue to sustain WERP while funding options are being explored to maintain the GPS monitoring system, drug testing, program incentives, and contracted therapeutic services.
- “Apprenticeship Program”; DJJ. DJJ’s 27th District Court Services Unit has been quite successful in its intervention services component of its Anti-Gang and Reentry Initiative grant. The Apprenticeship Program graduated four gang and court involved youth from the program. The funds have assisted in providing intensive case management including life coaching and employability skills training and subsequent employment.

Housing

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Pre and Post Incarceration Services (PAPIS) funds, administered by DCJS, are awarded to nine programs to provide housing, clothing and employment assistance to released offenders

through various community organizations. These programs currently receive a state appropriation for reentry services totaling \$2.3M in FY14, an increase from the prior year's appropriation of \$2.1M. Programs include: Northwestern Regional Adult Detention Center (Winchester); Colonial Community Corrections (Williamsburg); Northern Neck Regional Adult Detention Center (Westmoreland); OAR-Arlington; OAR-Fairfax; OAR-Jefferson Area; OAR-Richmond; STEP-UP (Norfolk); and Virginia CARES (state-wide). Most of the PAPIS programs provide emergency housing assistance.

Alcohol and/or Drug Addiction

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Through Federal Residential Substance Abuse Treatment funds administered by DCJS, programs operated in the Chesterfield County Jail, the Hampton Community Corrections Center, and ten facilities operated by the Department of Corrections (DOC). These programs worked with offenders with substance abuse issues to address those issues while incarcerated, improving their likelihood of successful reentry to the community. These programs received their second year of RSAT funds in FFY13, and both Hampton and DOC have applied for third-year continuation funds.

Mental Health

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Many of the PAPIS programs provide referrals for mental health and substance abuse services.

Physical Health

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Many PAPIS programs provide referrals for wellness and physical health services.

Family Reunification

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Many of the PAPIS programs provide family reunification services, parenting classes, and other similar family services programs.

Mentoring

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Most PAPIS programs provide mentors for their clients using community volunteers. Juvenile mentoring is done through a grant described in the juvenile section.

Transportation

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

PAPIS programs provide transportation assistance for their clients; this assistance is usually in the form of bus tickets.

Victim Services

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DCJS currently provides over \$22.3 million in state and federal funds to 330 grant programs working with victims of all types of crimes. Victim services funding provided by DCJS is focused on the delivery of direct services to victims and does not directly support services for offenders. For example, in accordance with federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Guidelines, VOCA funds cannot support perpetrator rehabilitation and counseling and cannot be used to offer rehabilitative services (and counseling) and support services to incarcerated individuals, even when the service pertains to the victimization of that individual. However, funding from the Violence Against Women Act and the Sexual Assault Services Program allows services to victims of sexual assault and/or domestic violence who are incarcerated. These funds are provided by the Office on Violence Against Women and may only address the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking victimization experienced by the incarcerated individual, including both such crimes experienced while incarcerated and crimes experienced at other points in their youth and adult lives. These funds are limited to direct services and as stated above are not for rehabilitative services related to the crime committed by the incarcerated individual.

Re-Entry Focus Areas

Veterans

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Through a grant to the Department of Veterans Services, DCJS continues to support the Wounded Warriors project through an educational program for criminal justice personnel across the Commonwealth. This training educates criminal justice personnel about the unique characteristics and symptoms of active duty military personnel, Guardsmen, Reservists, and veterans affected by the spectrum of combat stress, post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. A webinar of the training will be created in its fourth and final year, FY14, to be posted on the Office of the Executive Secretary's Judicial Training Website and regional advanced Crisis intervention Team trainings on veterans issues will also be supported in its final year of funding.

Juveniles

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Every three years, the Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (ACJJ), staffed by DCJS, develops a new action plan for utilizing federal juvenile justice and delinquency prevention funds. A new plan was submitted to OJJDP in May 2012 for FFY12-14 funds. As in prior plans, this most recent plan includes re-entry as an area for possible funding. In the current plan, re-entry efforts fall under two priority areas: 1. Serving at-risk and system-involved youth in their home communities, and 2. Increasing family engagement and community involvement for youth.

Unfortunately, Virginia's share of federal juvenile justice and delinquency prevention funds has been significantly reduced in recent years, thus reducing our ability to fund new projects. Since FFY10, these funds to Virginia have been cut by over 61%. Despite these reductions, DCJS has been able to award juvenile justice and delinquency prevention funds, as well as Byrne/JAG funds, for juvenile justice re-entry projects in Virginia. Funds are typically awarded for a one-year period, with options for renewal depending on the funding source and project type.

One project funded through juvenile justice funds is the Reentry Mentoring Program, awarded by DCJS to the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Funding was first awarded for FY13 and has been continued for a second year. This pilot project, focused on the Richmond-metropolitan area, matches youth in DJJ facilities with mentors who begin their mentoring relationship by meeting with youth prior to their release from custody. During the first year, DJJ contracted with the Virginia Mentoring Partnership for training, support, and technical assistance, partnered with organizations to recruit mentors, and was able to match youth with mentors. During the second year of the project, DJJ will continue to work with mentors, match youth with mentors, and address issues that may arise in such a unique program.

In addition to awarding grants to outside entities, DCJS itself has offered opportunities to better prepare juveniles for reentry. In collaboration with DJJ and the Department of Behavioral Health and Rehabilitative Services (DBHDS), DCJS offered "Juvenile Offenders and Trauma: A Shared Learning Collaborative." Using a small accumulated pool of unexpended grant funds, DCJS offered correctional center, detention center, and others working with juvenile offenders, the opportunity to attend an intensive training on juvenile offenders and trauma in 2013. The understanding of trauma and its impact on juveniles is critical in developing effective treatment and reentry plans. Based on the success of the initial training opportunity, DCJS hopes to offer similar training regionally in the coming year.

Data and Information

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

PAPIS grantees continue to submit quarterly reports describing the amount and types of services that they provide.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers, in order to maximize your agency's current information system, have been implemented over the past year?

We continue to work to refine our ability to conduct a recidivism analysis on the PAPIS programs. An informal opinion from the AG's office indicated that we are not entitled to client

information from our PAPIS programs without a signed release from their clients. We have asked programs to modify their releases, effective FY13, so our hope is that we will be able to begin to look at some basic recidivism information soon.

Please describe any legislative funding that your agency has received for re-entry-related initiatives?

Please provide a brief description of the intended purpose of the funding and what the funding has been used for to date, the total amount of funding that the grant will provide, and when the funding has/will terminate.

The allocation for PAPIS programs for FY14 was \$2.3M.

Department of Education

The Department of Education served approximately 5,044 students in educational programs for detention facilities through the State Operated Programs.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

The impact of the collaborative relationships that have been established among the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), the former Department of Correctional Education (DCE), and the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and superintendents of detention facilities, as a result of implementation of the Virginia Board of Education's re-enrollment regulations continues to be productive and beneficial for youth in corrections and long-term detention. Planning for re-enrollment of incarcerated and detained youth into public schools and collaborative problem solving is followed on a routine basis. Formal and informal procedures and relationships promote timely re-enrollment with appropriate academic placement and supports for students. Although there can be individual problems in some cases, regular communications among the entities involved and ongoing training of staff on the part of all of the agencies have maintained a multi-agency and systemic approach to achieving timely educational planning and placement for released youth, with few reported issues.

Please describe any past or current policy-level barriers to collaboration and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

In response to a request by the Commission on Youth, VDOE, DJJ, and DCE conducted surveys sent to the agencies' respective personnel involved in re-enrollment implementation to collect information about the process. The results of these surveys helped to determine if there are commonly encountered barriers to re-enrollment, any issues to be addressed, and topics for training. In July of 2011 a 15 question anonymous survey was distributed to all school division re-enrollment coordinators. A total of 50 school division participated in the survey which reflected 244 re-enrollment plans completed. Respondents could either "Strongly Agree," "Agree," "Disagree," or "Strongly Disagree," with the statements in the survey. In addition, a comment section was made available with the complete statements provided at the end of the summary of questions. Overall, the survey results indicated that the re-enrollment process is in place and working. Two recommendations were made and carried out in response to identified specific issues. They were: (1) Inform Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) concerning the perceived LEA

problem of accessing students for re-enrollment meetings so they can seek ways to solve the “access to students for re-enrollment meetings” can be addressed; and (2) The Virginia Department of Education has access to all school division re-enrollment coordinators through e-mail. School divisions maintain a list of their re-enrollment coordinators, which is provided to VDOE.

Employment/Job Training

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

VDOE is directly responsible for the education of offenders within detention centers. Through the State Operated Programs (SOP), the department provides an educational program meeting the Board of Education’s *Standards of Learning*, staffed by school division personnel on contract. GED instruction and testing is also offered when appropriate. Detention education also continues to offer students the opportunity to earn credit towards a High School diploma and graduation so if and when the student returns to school, there is no gap.

Many detention centers have Post D programs offering job preparation, career components, and life skills. With detention superintendent approval, community work experiences are available. In the 2011-2012 school year, the following outcomes occurred: 5,044 students earned one or more high school credits; 423 enrolled in a GED® program, with 364 earning a GED®; 128 earned a high school diploma while in Detention (awarded by the local school division); 15 enrolled in post-secondary education on leaving detention; 580 students were enrolled in an elective job training program while in detention and achieved positive vocational outcomes; of the 2,424 students who tested below grade level in reading on entry, 1,542 improved by at least .5 of a grade, with 508 improving by one or more grades; of the 2,199 students who tested below grade level in mathematics on entry, 1,312 improved by at least .5 of a grade, with 825 improving by one or more grades.

Careers class is offered for all post D students. The class includes a work interest inventory for all students to begin to pinpoint their areas of interest for the future. The students are also instructed on how to fill out a job application, and how to write a resume. In addition, students are taught to explore and hone their soft skills. Opportunities for various certifications such as OSHA certification, Food Handlers Certifications, and Work Keys are explored for all Post Disposition Students. In addition, most programs with post disposition students are equipped with a greenhouse. This provides students an opportunity to learn about various plants, trees and their care. Several of the detention homes post dispositional programs allow off site activities. Some of these off site activities include selling products from the greenhouse, working at Lowe’s, manning the Food Bank, landscaping and catering.

At Northwest Regional Detention Home there is a mentorship program that has become recently available. It links students with a mentor and gives them work experience in a targeted area. Virginia Beach Detention Education Program is in the process of exploring similar possibilities.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over

the past year?

Access to the community is a local detention decision. Not all elect to give the PD students community access for training or work experience reasons.

Physical Health

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Included in Standards of Learning instruction for the State Operated Programs is the emphasis on life time sports. Fitness and aerobic activity are stressed. We support personal fitness, assessing fitness and recording statistics at intake and targeting personal improvement (i.e., showing students what smoking and drugs do to their own breathing and blood pressure). In addition, programs in the area of lifetime fitness are being offered. This includes, in the areas of the state where appropriate, in line skating, tennis, golf, fishing, yoga, use of resistance bands and balance balls, and other activities to which our students may not have had exposure.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

With the 2012-13 school year, all detention centers had a PE teacher.

Pro-Social Activities

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The twenty-one detention homes with literacy coaches all facilitate book groups that promote not only literacy, but pro-social behaviors. In all the book groups, students learn to state their own opinions, listen to those of others and agree or disagree in socially appropriate ways. Students and faculty at a number of facilities engage in "Poetry Slams" performing their own poetry for the detention home staff, as well as their families and other members of the community and serving refreshments to guests. A number of facilities have developed relationships with colleges and universities and professors and graduate students facilitate book discussions with detention students.

Education

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

VDOE is directly responsible for the education of offenders within detention centers. Through the State Operated Programs (SOP), the department provides an educational program meeting the Board of Education's *Standards of Learning*, staffed by school division personnel on contract. GED® instruction is also provided. Many detention centers have Post D programs offering job preparation, career components, and life skills. With detention superintendent approval, community work experiences are

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Data and Information

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

School divisions and the VDOE State Operated Programs maintain student information systems that collect demographic data about all enrolled students and about students in detention educational programs. The data meet federal and state reporting requirements, including students' schedules, grades, teachers, and test scores.

What has been the impact to date of your agency's information system on the collaborative sharing of case-level information between agencies?

The data system enables the sharing of student information for the preparation of the re-entry plans and re-enrollment and placement in schools upon release.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers, in order to maximize your agency's current information system, have been implemented over the past year?

Timeliness in providing information from the student's record from one agency to another, or from or to a school division, is a factor in preparation of the re-enrollment plan upon release and the academic program provided by DJJ or a detention center when a juvenile is admitted to a correctional facility. Training and sharing of information to reinforce the re-enrollment regulations procedures and having designated personnel within agencies to work with re-entry and re-enrollment have improved the process of timely receipt of student information for transition planning.

Department of Forestry

The Department of Forestry has served 9 offenders in the last year. We provide a working environment for Albemarle County/Charlottesville Jail. However, we do nothing to assist in re-entry efforts.

Department of Housing and Community Development

The DHCD does not provide direct services to offenders.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

DHCD helped organize and staff the Homeless Coordinating Council which helps coordinate services from a range of agencies that are targeted to preventing and ending homelessness.

Department of Juvenile Justice

The Department of Juvenile Justice has served approximately 758 offenders in the last year.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

The Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) has formed partnerships with a number of state agencies and community organizations to enhance re-entry efforts. The partnerships and impacts are as follows:

- The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) – DCJS has been a great support in implementing and sustaining successful reentry practices for juveniles. DCJS has provided a platform to educate professionals who work with juveniles, in any capacity, about successful reentry practices. Law Enforcement, educators, community providers, etc, were informed of DJJ's Re-Entry Strategic plan during the DCJS Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention conference, the Statewide Re-Entry Conference and the School and Campus Safety conference. During these training sessions audiences were made aware of the needs of DJJ youthful offenders, the role of the community and effective reentry practices. DCJS has also supported reentry efforts through grant funding. An award was made to implement the Re-Entry Mentoring Project that connects positive, caring role models from the community with DJJ residents prior to release. A grant was also awarded from DCJS to support the Work to Education and Release Program (WERP), a Mental Health Services Transition Plan Pilot project and a bus transportation program to transport families from the Richmond area to the JCCs at no cost.
- The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) – A mobile unit continues to be dispatched to the Juvenile Correctional Centers (JCCs) to issue picture identification cards (ID) to residents. In the past not having a picture ID was a barrier to obtaining employment, housing and other services needed to be successful in the community. Since the partnership with DMV, DJJ has obtained more than 800 IDs. DMV's mobile unit will continue to visit the JCCs on a quarterly basis to meet the goal of issuing picture identification to all eligible residents prior to release.
- Local Re-Entry Councils – DJJ is enhancing and developing relationships with existing reentry councils throughout Virginia. The role of DJJ on the local council is moving from an attendee to a participating member. The DJJ Court Service Units (CSU) have been tasked with identifying DJJ staffs to lead the Juvenile & Positive Youth Development Committee of the Local Re-Entry Council. This group will identify the needs of juveniles on the front end of the system as well as juveniles returning to the community.
- The Department of Corrections (DOC) - DJJ has juvenile offenders who receive DOC sentencing and offenders who are released to adult probation. DOC and DJJ are

collaborating to ensure that home plans for juvenile offenders released to adult probation are done in collaboration prior to the offender being released to the community. DJJ and DOC have also partnered to enhance the transition of DJJ residents to DOC. The process has made for a smoother transition for both the offender and the receiving agency. Necessary information is provided to DOC in advance to include, but not limited to, the status of mental health needs, behavioral issues, treatment plans, existing home plans and educational needs.

- Richmond Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA)- DJJ has partnered with RBHA to provide continued mental health services for youthful offenders who are determined to have continued mental health needs upon release. A RBHA Clinician is assigned to the Richmond CSU to participate in mental health transition meetings prior to release, provide services to youthful offenders and their families and make referrals to other community resources as needed. The partnership is supported by grant funding from the Department of Criminal Justice Services.
- Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and Department of Social Service (DSS) Local Offices- As of March 1, 2013, DJJ has devised a partnership with DMAS to complete Medicaid applications for residents, of at least eighteen years of age, to obtain Medicaid coverage prior to release. If approved, coverage will begin on day one of release into the community. The new provision includes DJJ residents under the Medicaid Covered Group making it easier for youth to access medical resources in the community.
- The Virginia Mentoring Partnership (VMP) - DJJ has partnered with VMP to enhance its mentoring initiative. VMP provides evidence based training to mentors according to best practices for working with youthful offenders. Mentors receive 3 hour of training prior to beginning the mentor/mentee relationship in the JCCs and 1 hour of training prior to continuing the match in the community. The partnership with VMP has enhanced the program to include, a larger recruitment of volunteers, an increase in the sustainability of matches and more organized mentor/mentee matches. The Mentoring Program Coordinator has made 14 successful matches with mentors from the community and residents being released from Juvenile Correctional Centers (JCCs).
- The Virginia Workforce Network (VWN) – The VWN is responsible for delivering an array of services to include employability skills, job search, skill assessments, and tutoring. These services are provided in One Stop Career Centers located in the community. DJJ has partnered with the VWN to conduct regional cross systems trainings. The purpose of the workshops is to build/enhance relationships between DJJ and the One Stops to better provide offenders with employment and educational opportunities; enhance communication and collaboration for improved access to reentry services and to dispel misperceptions regarding youthful offenders and how they are served by the one stop systems. As a result of the cross trainings DJJ's Court Service Units and the local One Stops are working in collaboration to connect youthful offenders to employment opportunities and job trainings.

At the local level partnerships are formed based on individual needs. Those partnerships include, but are not limited to; the Community Services Boards (CSBs), local DSS and victim services.

Please describe any pending or upcoming collaborative efforts that involve your agency.

DJJ has made contact with the Social Security Administration to generate an agreement where DJJ can apply for social security benefits, to initiate or reinstate benefits, prior to release.

The Virginia Community College System – DJJ is partnering with Southside Virginia Community College to reinstate the availability of college level courses for eligible youth committed to a JCC.

Please describe any past or current policy-level barriers to collaboration and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Community Services Boards (CSBs)/mental health providers – DJJ continues to seek partnerships to provide mental health treatment to juveniles released from DJJ. Some local CSBs have limited or no services for juveniles while others are unable to provide services to older offenders who are not Medicaid eligible.

To address this issue local CSUs are working with local mental health providers (CSBs) to enhance the level of services through individual memorandums of agreements based on specific needs. A pilot program has been launched placing a RBHA MH Therapist in the Richmond CSU to provide services to DJJ paroled youth.

An agreement has been secured with DMAS and DSS to revise provisions of Medicaid that will allow DJJ residents 18 years of age and older to be eligible for Medicaid benefits when released to the community. The application process is completed 30 days prior to release and activated upon release to the community.

Law Enforcement

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DJJs Gang Unit is working with local law enforcement to provide awareness and information on ex-offenders released from DJJ and identified as a gang member or having gang involvement. This line of communication is an attempt to reduce the level of criminal activity that ex-offenders are involved in.

Some local CSUs have partnerships with local Law Enforcement to share information about ex-offenders returning to the community. Listed below are examples of those partnerships.

- The 27th District Court Service Unit (CSU) covers the counties of Pulaski Montgomery, Floyd, Pulaski, Wythe, Carroll and Grayson as well as the Cities of Galax and Radford. This CSU established a Gang Reduction Intervention Program (GRIP) anti gang model after receiving a grant in October 2011. Steering committee partnerships have been established and community stakeholders continue to expand. This grant is a 2 year grant being monitored by DCJS.
- The 16th District Court Service Unit covers the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Madison, Greene, Albemarle, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, Orange and Culpeper. In December 2011 a GRIP presentation was done in Charlottesville by the Office of the Attorney General. The Police Chiefs for Albemarle and Charlottesville called a community stakeholder meeting and declared that they would join together to with a

GRIP model anti gang program. The DJJ Director and Probation supervisor for the 16th CSU are actively involved as community partners and stakeholders in this program.

- The 23rd District Court Service Unit covers the counties of Salem and Roanoke. In January 2012, the 23rd CSU Director began a gang assessment for Roanoke City (CSU 23A), Roanoke County and Salem. The Director was concerned about gang activity in the area but wanted to know where to start and what resources would be needed. The Director along with a DJJ probation officer from the 27th CSU developed a school survey for the district. They hoped to get accurate information from the survey and began conversations with the schools, SRO's and other community leaders about gang prevention. The survey was complete and a community meeting was held in March at the Salem Police Department to discuss the results. 47 people attended the meeting, State, local and Federal Law Enforcement, Commonwealths Attorneys, US Attorneys, social services, DJJ representatives from several districts, and DCJS.
- The 11th District Court Service Unit covers the counties of Amelia, Dinwiddie, Nottoway, Powhatan and the City of Petersburg. They began basic GRIP model principals in August of 2012. The partnerships, collaboration and the development of other community stakeholders continue to develop.
- Other GRIP/OJJDP Models in existence include the areas of: Arlington (CSU 17) Falls Church (CSU 17F), Alexandria (CSU 18) Fairfax (CSU 19) Loudoun (CSU 20L) Manassas (CSU 31) Richmond (CSU 13) and Henry County, Martinsville, Patrick County(CSU 21).

Probation/Parole Supervision

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DJJ continues to use Transitional Services funding to focus on risk-based programming and individualized services to promote competency development, community protection, and accountability for offenders released from the JCCs and returning to the community. This community based non-residential funding provides short term services to support and assist the offender's reentry to the community. The use of these contracted services is guided by the youth's level of risk and need with resources focused on those youth at greatest risk of re-offending and those whose offense pattern represents a particular risk to community safety. Services must include cognitive behavioral based modalities and address community based interventions that build upon treatment provided during confinement at the correctional center. Services will address the criminogenic needs identified in the Comprehensive Re-entry Case Plan. Services will be based upon current best practices and reflect evidence-based strategies which result in measurable outcomes for the purpose of program evaluation. Categories for services include:

- Life skills coaching services that focus on reinforcing or changing skills or behaviors and preparing an offender for eventual self sufficiency.
- Employment services to develop marketable skills and sound work habits needed to obtain and maintain employment.

- Intensive supervision services that provide highly structured continuously monitored and individualized services.

Clinical services to include substance abuse treatment, intensive in-home services, individual therapy, and gang intervention services.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Communication between the staff providing services in the juvenile correctional centers and community-based private providers is not always adequate.

DJJ has implemented an overarching Comprehensive Re-entry Case Plan process that will combine the service plan developed in the facilities with the parole plan developed in the community. The combining of these two plans has facilitated improved communication between the JCCs and the parole officers, which in turn improves communication with the vendors.

Family engagement continues to be an area needing improvement. DJJ staff are researching family engagement models to determine best practice and how to implement best practice statewide. Training on family engagement strategies for juvenile justice involved families is being explored.

There is a lack of some types of specialized services from providers in the communities where they are needed. This happens most in rural communities.

There is a lack of adequate public transportation.

There is a lack of health insurances for those released after turning 18 years of age.

- DJJ has partnered with DSS and DMAS to provide residents 18 years of age and older with Medicaid coverage upon release to the community.

There is a lack of transitional or permanent housing because of offender's criminal record.

- DJJ has contracted with private providers and identified funding for independent living programs that will provide transitional housing for offenders.

Pre-release Services

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Juveniles committed after July 1, 2012 were released with a Comprehensive Reentry Case Plan (CRCP). DJJ has utilized a case plan format and practice model to replace the current (previous) parole plan. The model will be driven by the results of the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) and will focus on identifying barriers to change, risk factors and skill deficits that have contributed to offending. This new format will allow juveniles to have one continuous plan from commitment to release from parole supervision with multiple contributors across disciplines to include: Juvenile Correctional Centers (JCC), Court Service Units (CSU), Behavioral Service Unit (BSU), etc.

REEP (Re-entry to Education and Employment Program) – The REEP initiative started at Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center (JCC) to improve employment outcomes for offenders reentering the community and has since been implemented in other JCCs. The program has resulted in residents returning to the Peninsula area being linked with employment opportunities after release. DJJ has utilized Re-Entry Specialists in the community to expand this initiative to link residents from other areas of the state with employment upon release.

Up to twenty (20) DJJ residents returning to the cities of Richmond, Petersburg, Colonial Heights and the counties of Chesterfield and Henrico are matched with mentors from their communities. Beginning in September 2013 residents returning to the city of Norfolk and Accomack County will be matched with mentors from their communities.

Increased vocational opportunities are being offered to Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center residents. These residents are over the age of 18 and have typically completed high school requirements. Vocational opportunities will afford them the opportunity to learn vocational skills, enhance their social skills and encourage team work. Culpeper residents continue to work with Roy Mitchell “a renowned quilter who was featured in the National Quilting Association Magazine for his prize winning Watermelon Babies quilt”. The residents learn the basic art of using a sewing machine and quilting as a nontraditional way of embracing culture and expression. Residents are drawn to the course due to its innovative ideas and unique approach to art. Residents who currently participate or are interested in the program are required to remain charge free. This has resulted in a change of behavior which promotes a safe environment.

Youth Industries is a program housed in Beaumont and Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Centers. It was created to help participants overcome barriers to employment. Residents participate in employment provided both on the JCC grounds and in the communities through agreements with agencies, private employers, foundations and charitable organizations. Field of studies varies to include horticulture, barbering, silk screening and offset printing.

DJJ has assigned Re-Entry Specialists at each JCC to begin the transition process prior to release. The Re-Entry Specialists identify residents with release approaching within 120 days and begin working with them on areas that will make transitioning back into the community a more fluid process. They also maintain a resource center to be used by participants as well as conduct employment and resource fairs for residents.

Regional Re-Entry Specialists have been assigned to the community to meet with residents prior to release and continue to work with the juveniles in the community once released. Regional Re-Entry Specialists establish a system by which residents are linked to available employment, eligible benefits, and other services as identified in the comprehensive reentry plan. They also serve as a link to community resources for the parole officer, the family and the juvenile.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

DJJ’s Regional Re-Entry Specialists are currently devising a Community Resource Guide to service each region of the Commonwealth making resources easily identifiable and more accessible for juveniles, families, Parole Officers, and others involved in the transition process.

The Re-Entry Specialists assigned to the community and to the JCCs are planning a Career Fair and Apprenticeship Expo to link offenders to job and apprenticeship opportunities in their communities prior to release. The Career Fair and Apprenticeship Expo will take place in the (3) three JCCs.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Institutional counselors and parole officers do not employ a unified assessment and case planning approach, resulting in possible inconsistencies in services and communication between staff and with the offender and his/her family.

DJJ has implemented the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) to ensure that all youths committed to DJJ receive a full risk assessment and that the case planning module of the instrument is utilized for all cases to provide the Department with an over-arching case planning process. This overarching case plan will ensure that institutional counselors and parole officers are employing the same assessment and case planning approach, eliminating inconsistencies in services and improving communication between staff and with the offender and his/her family. All parole officers and JCC counselors have been trained in the use of the YASI and the practice model for supervision.

Current employment market does not provide many opportunities for work release participants. The employment market has changed little since the previous report but DJJ has been successful in locating employment opportunities for those youth participating in the Work/Education Release Program (WERP).

DJJ's Regional Re-Entry Specialists have also been instrumental in locating employment opportunities for youth returning to the community.

There is no designated funding source to initiate community-based pre-release services prior to release from commitment; funding is available post-release, however, the department does not have the flexibility to use any of those funds for pre-release uses due to constraints in the budget language.

The funding issue for community-based pre-release services requires legislation. DJJ does use child support funding to purchase some pre-release services.

There is a lack of family participation in treatment, visitation, and parole planning.

A partnership has been established with Assisting Families of Inmates to provide transportation to families at no cost to the JCCs.

DJJ is exploring opportunities to expand on its current use of video visitation technology to provide families with an opportunity to visit with residents on a consistent and frequent basis.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

The agency's receipt of the Second Chance Act Grant permitted the reinstatement of detention re-entry for the Tidewater area. DJJ identified funds to be used in areas outside of the grant. A small number of detention homes participate in detention reentry, which limits statewide availability. DJJ has limited step down opportunities to meet the needs of DJJ residents not eligible for the Work Release Program. To better prepare all residents for release to the community resources are needed to implement secure transitional housing on JCC grounds.

Residential Community Facility

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Two halfway houses provide transitional housing and re-entry services to male offenders. As of 7/1/2012, the two halfway houses have transitioned to becoming a direct care placement. The focus of the programs continues to be independent living, skill building, employability skills, and work release.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

DJJ continues to identify funding for residential independent living programs for males and females. Additionally, DJJ is exploring additional alternatives for the placement of our older offenders who have no placement options

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

There is insufficient transitional housing for females. Although DJJ has a small population of female offenders, transitional housing is needed to enhance transition back to the community.

Electronic/GPS Monitoring

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The asset described in last year's report is on-going and continues to provide transitional services to DJJ's committed youth.

Employment/Job Training

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The REEP (*Re-entry to Education and Employment Program*) improves employment outcomes for offenders reentering the Peninsula area. The program is currently implemented at the three JCCs.

The Work/Education Release Program at the Reception and Diagnostic Center and Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Center provides off-campus educational and work opportunities for youth before transitioning back to their community.

Technical/Vocational Training through the Division of Correctional Education provides training for trades that are licensed by the Commonwealth.

Employment training services in the community are funded through transitional services funding. Regional Re-Entry Specialists have been assigned to the community to link offenders to employment and job training skills.

The Virginia Workforce Network and DJJ have enhanced/developed relationships to better serve offenders in the community.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Access to the internet is limited in the JCCs due to security measures. Internet service is needed to link residents to available employment in the community. Service was recently disconnected which has caused a barrier to applying for employment via the REEP initiative or the Reentry Specialists. The recent boost in technology has moved employers in the direction of an electronic application process. The REEP initiative and the Re-Entry Specialists prepare offenders to complete this process via practice or live submissions.

DJJ youth are subject to the release information pertaining to prior convictions making it difficult to obtain employment.

- To address this barrier DJJ employed Regional Reentry Specialists in the community to link DJJ residents with employment in the community prior to release.

DJJ has also informed Parole Officers, Re-Entry Specialists and potential employers of the availability of the Federal Bonding Program. The program insures employers to provide compensation monetary losses due to damage or theft of an ex-offender. The Bonding program has been successful in encouraging employers to hire DJJ offenders.

Housing

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DJJ operates two halfway houses for residents in direct care. The programs focus on independent living skills and employment.

DJJ identified funding from the general fund to be used for residential independent living placements for older offenders. Offenders exiting our JCCs who are 18 at release and have no other viable placement that can be referred for funding. We contracted with vendors in the Tidewater area and in the City of Richmond to provide structured and supervised independent living programs that focus on employment, skill building and budget management so that the residents can become self sufficient and transition to live independently. These services were highly used over the past year and prevented offenders with no placement options from being placed in a homeless shelter.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

For FY14, we will be working with vendors and CSUs to expand options for placements that provide independent living services and additional cost effective placement alternatives that address both public safety and individual service needs.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Housing – community housing continues to be an issue, especially for DJJ’s “hard to place offenders”. A typical “hard to place” offenders is one who is over the age of 18 years and/or may have a barrier crime that prevents him/her from residing in available placements. An example of a barrier crime is a sex offender.

DJJ has identified funding that is used to support housing needs on a temporary basis. These funds were fully obligated early in the fiscal year. To minimize these gaps DJJ will need additional funds to solicit private providers to specifically provide housing to “hard to place” and homeless residents.

Alcohol and/or Drug Addiction

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Substance abuse services continue to be funded as one of the categories of transitional services. DJJ continues to provide evidence-based substance abuse treatment services in the juvenile correctional centers.

Mental health transitional regulations and associated procedures (which include substance abuse) have improved continuity of services upon release from commitment. These assets are on-going and continue to provide transitional, re-entry services to DJJ’s committed youth

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Communication between the staff providing services in the juvenile correctional centers and community-based providers is not always adequate.

DJJ has implemented an overarching Comprehensive Re-entry Case Plan process that will combine the service plan developed in the facilities with the parole plan developed in the community. The combining of these two plans will facilitate improved communication between the JCC staff, BSU staff, parole officers and community-based providers.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Juvenile substance abuse is not a mandated service population for the community services board/behavioral health authorities.

Mental Health

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Mental health services are funded as one of the categories of transitional services.

DJJ provides comprehensive mental health treatment services in the juvenile correctional centers.

Mental health transitional regulations and associated procedures have improved continuity of services upon release from commitment.

These assets are on-going and continue to provide transitional, re-entry services to DJJ's committed youth.

DJJ has partnered with the Richmond Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) to place a Mental Health Therapist in the Richmond CSU. The therapist serves as a service provider and referral source to DJJ residents identified with a continued mental health need upon release to the community. The therapist participates in meetings at the JCC prior to release to become familiar with the needs of the resident in the community. The partnership also ensures eligible DJJ ex-offenders are given priority for continued services through RBHA after release from DJJ parole supervision.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

Beginning August 2013 the MH Therapist will begin family therapy sessions to assist families in adapting to and meeting the needs of youthful ex-offenders in the community.

DJJ is seeking to expand the MHSTP pilot to other CSUs based on need. If funding is made available DJJ will expand to 3 additional sites and use funding to sustain the existing initiative. A partnership between the CSU and the local CSB will ensure the needs of the youth paroled to the community with identified MH needs are being met which increases the chances of successful reentry.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Juveniles are not a mandated service population for all community services boards/behavioral health authorities.

Physical Health

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Upon commitment each DJJ resident undergoes a comprehensive medical and dental assessment. In addition, medical, including psychiatric and dental care is provided within the JCCs and in hospitals as required. A plan for continued care upon release is arranged with parole officers and local health care authority. Applications for medical Medicaid coverage are submitted for qualifying residents prior to release with anticipation that approved services will begin on the day of release.

Family Reunification

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DJJ CSUs and JCCs are equipped with VIA3 video equipment. Parole Officers are encouraged to use VIA3 to schedule face to face visits with families who are not able to travel to the JCCs.

DJJ is collaborating with Assisting Families of Inmates to provide transportation at no cost to families to visit with residents at the JCC. Interested families will meet at a location in the Richmond Metropolitan Area on scheduled days.

DJJ has expanded its visitation to include an additional day during the week and extended hours.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

DJJ facilities are located in rural areas of Virginia. Facilities are located in Chesterfield, Powhatan and Culpeper. Families from the Tidewater and Southwest Virginia areas are faced with transportation barriers that prevent/limit visitations due to the distance. Although this appears to be more of a barrier for these two regions of the state families from other localities experience similar barriers.

- DJJ is providing transportation from the Richmond area to JCCs at no cost to families.

DJJ is exploring the possibility of expanding the use of video technology to support frequent and consistent video visitations. The program will be no cost to families and will be available during normal visitation hours.

Pro-Social Activities

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DJJ's mentoring initiative has been instrumental in engaging female offenders in pro social activities. A University of Richmond (U of R) Service Learning Project engaged female residents in activities to foster positive communication, to build soft skills and increase independent living skills. Students from the University of Richmond worked with a group of six residents to address topics such as personal growth, physical health, nutrition, creative writing, community service and education. University of Richmond

also engaged an additional group of offenders in an “I am More Than” project. The project focused on finding and telling your own story to promote self expression and positive socialization skills.

DJJ also partners with First Things First to provide a Healthy Relationship curriculum to offenders at Bon Air and Beaumont JCC. The curriculum teaches residents positive communication and relationship skills. Residents committed to DJJ often come from disadvantaged neighborhoods; have had a family history of behavior problems, and poor refusal skills. The Healthy Relationships program is a 13 week curriculum that will increase the confidence of teens, teach them how to make better decisions and the importance of a healthy relationship.

Mentoring

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

A Mentoring Program Coordinator was hired to coordinate DJJ’s mentoring efforts statewide. A pilot mentoring program was implemented through the use of grant funds. The program began with the cities of Richmond, Petersburg, Colonial Heights and the counties of Chesterfield and Henrico. The grant connects mentors from the community with DJJ residents within 90 days of release. The relationship continues in the community after release. The mentor/mentee match is expected to make a 12 month commitment. During year 2 of the grant the program will expand to serve residents returning to the Tidewater area of the state.

A facility based mentoring initiative is underway. The facility based initiative supports mentor/mentee relationships within the JCC. This will allow residents who are not preparing for release an opportunity to have a mentor during commitment. DJJ has residents who do not have access to a positive, caring adult outside of DJJ staffs. The facility based mentoring program will provide these individuals with access to someone who can fill that role. The goal of the program is to change the way residents think which will lead to a reduction in JCC offenses and decrease the chances of reoffending when released to the community.

Partnerships have also been established with local Universities to offer group mentoring programs as an incentive for residents who remain charge free during commitment.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

The goal is to expand the availability of the program statewide. Having one staff person available to support matches statewide is a barrier. Ideally resources will be provided to place a mentor coordinator in the areas of the state where the majority of the youth will return.

Education

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Work Keys Writing Test: The Work Keys Writing Test was used as a substitute test for 12th Graders that have not met the Writing Verified Credit requirement. 9 students passed the substitute test and earned their Standard Diploma.

Implemented online SOL Testing for students. The implementation provided school staff and students with immediate feedback regarding their pass or fail status. Students that failed were provided remediation and retested within 2 – 3 weeks.

Implemented a Career Readiness Certificate prep class for post secondary students. Virginia's Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) is an assessment-based credential that gives employers and career seekers a uniform measure of key workplace skills. 5 earned a GOLD Certificate; 19 earned a SILVER Certificate; 4 earned a Bronze Certificate

Residents enrolled in core content classes at the Reception & Diagnostic Center (RDC) upon commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice. Earning instructional hours at RDC enables residents to remain on track to graduate with their Cohort class.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

DJJ will enter into an MOA with a community college to provide onsite instructors for course offerings for the post secondary students.

DJJ will Offer virtual online Academic, CTE, and Elective courses for high school and post secondary students.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Offering educational services in the segregation units.

- A collaborative effort across the Division to develop a Program to provide more educational services to segregation residents that resemble their traditional school day. Specific Teachers have been dedicated to the IBR Program for the remainder of the Summer School Session and the upcoming school year. The implementation of virtual programs in the segregation housing is also being reviewed by a committee.

The average age of the committed resident and their length of stay have resulted in more postsecondary youth in the schools.

- DJJ is reviewing CTE programs that can be implemented at the three centers to ensure continuity and the earning of an industrial certification when residents are released.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Implementation of the 4 X 4 School Schedule enables the overage credit deficient student to earn a high school diploma in lieu of dropping out of high school to earn a GED.

Victim Services

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Parole Officers work with parolees if restitution is ordered by the court.

RE-ENTRY FOCUS AREAS

Women

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

Programs geared towards young adult females are listed above in the various sections.

DATA AND INFORMATION

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

DJJ has automated its comprehensive Reentry Case Plan (CRCP) that combines the parole plan and the comprehensive service plan. The CRCP is made available through DJJ's information data collection system. The automating of the CRCP has improved the sharing of case information between the JCCs, the community, and service providers.

Please describe any grant funding that your agency has received for re-entry-related initiatives. Please provide the title of the grant, a brief description of the grant project and what the funding is being used for, the total amount of funding that the grant will provide, and when the funding has/will terminate.

Byrne/JAG funding was awarded to DJJ to support a pilot mentoring initiative in the cities of Richmond, Petersburg, Colonial Heights and the counties of Chesterfield and Henrico. DJJ residents will be matched with mentors from their communities. The match will begin 90 days prior to release from the juvenile correctional center and continue in the community for a total of 12 months. During year 1 twenty (20) residents will be matched with mentors. The grant funds will be used to contract with an organization to recruit and train mentors. Funds will also be used to support mileage reimbursements for mentors and performance based incentives for mentees. The pilot project will be expanded to other areas of the state during subsequent years of the grant.

Byrne/JAG funding was awarded to support a Mental Health Services Transition Plan Pilot program. An award of \$75,000 was made for a 2 year period. The grant supports a partnership between DJJ's Richmond CSU and the Richmond Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA). A Mental Health Therapist is assigned to the Richmond CSU to address the needs of paroled youth identified as being in need of

continuous mental health services upon release to the community. The MH Therapist meets with clients prior to release to the community and continues to provide services upon release.

Second Chance Act Grant - DJJ in partnership with the Tidewater Youth Service Commission (TYSC) received a Second Chance Grant award from the Office of Justice Programs at the U.S. Department of Justice for a Juvenile Offender Reentry Demonstration Project in the amount of \$650,000 for the first year. DJJ has received continuation funding of \$337,500 in federal funds for 2012 and 2013. DJJ continues a 50% match to the grant. The project serves high and moderate risk parolees up to the age of 21 from multiple localities to include the Cities of Chesapeake, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, Norfolk, Suffolk, Newport News and Hampton, and the Counties of Southampton and Isle of Wight. TYSC provides and coordinates comprehensive, reentry services in collaboration with DJJ and other local key stakeholders to address challenges posed by reentry and to reduce recidivism. The program is grounded in research-based principles and implements evidence-based modalities targeting criminogenic needs. TYSC provides sustained case planning and management during commitment and upon release into the community using risk and needs assessment that identify pre- and post-release services. The grant funding supports a comprehensive range of services and provides for graduated reentry options. This project demonstrates a regional approach in which local and state agencies can cooperate and reach efficiencies of scale in the delivery of services.

Department of Medical Assistance Services

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

The Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Department of Corrections, the Virginia Department of Social Services and the local departments of social services work collaboratively to ensure that offenders potentially eligible for Medicaid are assessed for eligibility during the pre-release period prior to discharge. Applications for Medicaid are filed in the appropriate local department of social services and the eligible individual is enrolled for coverage as of the date of his release from the correctional facility.

This collaborative process is also in place with the Department of Juvenile Justice to ensure that individuals under the age of 19 can apply for Medicaid and have eligibility determined during the pre-release period so that enrollment for coverage can take place as of the date of discharge from the Juvenile Justice facility.

Department of Motor Vehicles

As of May 2013 DMV's "DMV Connect" team has issued over 1400 Virginia state identification cards to adult offenders incarcerated in the following twelve correctional centers: Bland Correctional Center, Coffeewood Correctional Center, Deerfield Correctional Center and Men's and Women's Work Centers, Deep Meadow and James River Correctional Centers, Dillwyn Correctional Center, Fluvanna Correctional Center, Greenville Correctional Center, Haynesville Correctional Center, Indian Creek Correctional Center, Lunenburg Correctional Center, St. Brides Correctional Center, and the Virginia Correctional

Center for Women

DMV's "DMV 2 Go" team has issued close to 700 identification cards to juvenile offenders at the following Department of Juvenile Justice Facilities: Bon Air, Beaumont, Culpeper, DJJ Reception and Diagnostic Center (Hanover/Oak Ridge), and Richmond Juvenile Detention Center.

In 2013, DMV's Driver License Quality Assurance team has administered over thirty Commercial Driver License (CDL) knowledge exams and skills testing at the Greensville Correctional Center and Petersburg Correctional Center.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

DOC & DMV have jointly worked on an "ID Connect" program that will provide offenders the option to receive a Virginia issued ID card prior to their release. DMV goes to the individual correctional facility to process the transaction and issues the secure ID card to offenders that are approximately 30 days from their release date.

In June 2013 DMV ID Connect began testing at the following correctional centers in anticipation of providing service to offenders starting September 2013

- Augusta Correctional Center
- Buckingham Correctional Center
- Cold Springs Correctional Unit #10 and Cold Springs Work Center
- Green Rock Correctional Center
- Halifax Correctional Center
- Harrisonburg Correctional Center
- Nottoway Correctional Center
- Patrick Henry Correctional Center
- Pocahontas State Correctional Center
- Powhatan Correctional Center
- Rustburg Correctional Center

Additionally, in 2013 DMV Connect began partnership with several Sheriff's offices within the Commonwealth

- Alexandria
- Arlington
- Prince William
- Roanoke City
- Western Virginia Regional Jail
- Norfolk (began providing DMV Connect service in May 2012)

In 2013, DMV's Driver License Quality Assurance team has administered over thirty CDL knowledge exams and skills testing at the Greensville Correctional Center and Petersburg Correctional center.

Finally, DMV's DMV Team Connect began partnership with the Federal Bureau of Prisons 2013 in which DMV will provide offenders the option to receive a Virginia issued ID card prior to release.

- Petersburg Correctional Complex
- United States Penitentiary Lee

Please describe any pending or upcoming collaborative efforts that involve your agency.

We look forward to continuing to expand our collaborative efforts with our federal, state, and local partners.

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

Approximate number of offenders served by your agency in the last year: 250

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

DPOR board-approved educational and training programs operated by the Department of Correctional Education (DCE) and the Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI), particularly those operated in correctional facilities, provide vocational training opportunities for inmates that result in initial licensure soon after (and sometimes even prior to) release. DCE is also an approved contractor continuing education provider, offering courses within the facilities that are convenient not only for inmates to maintain licensure and meet renewal requirements while incarcerated, but also for staff members who may be licensed.

In addition, DCE/DOC staff and instructors testify on behalf of individuals who are currently incarcerated or recently released at license application proceedings. Attending these administrative hearings and board meetings provides valuable information to help the boards—primarily Contractors and Barbers & Cosmetology—consider applications up for approval from incarcerated offenders and those released and reentering the workforce. (DPOR has no “barrier crimes” to licensure, but applicants must disclose convictions, and boards evaluate on a case-by-case basis based on specific criteria enumerated in § 54.1-204 of the *Code of Virginia*, such as relation of crime to the profession, time elapsed since offense, etc.)

This year, DPOR's wastewater works operator program entered into a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Corrections (DOC) to implement a special process for the regulatory board to review criminal convictions prior to inmates entering DOC apprenticeship training. (In the standard process, individuals apply to take the licensing exam only *after* completing the prerequisite training and education.) This collaborative effort allows DOC instead to direct its training efforts only toward those inmates whose offenses have already been vetted by the board in accordance with § 54.1-204 and deemed permissible.

The Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators and Onsite Sewage System Professionals (WWWOSSP Board) considered the first group of DOC apprentice applications at its most recent meeting on July 9, approving all 13 applications for the licensing exam.

Please describe any pending or upcoming collaborative efforts that involve your agency.

DPOR will continue to work with DOC on advancing the pilot program for wastewater works operator apprenticeship applications, as well as seek to identify opportunities for expansion to other regulant populations where applicable.

Employment/Job Training

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DPOR board-approved educational and training programs operated by the Department of Correctional Education (DCE) and the Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI), particularly those operated in correctional facilities, provide vocational training opportunities for inmates that result in initial licensure soon after (and sometimes even prior to) release. Professional/occupational licensure provides an advantage upon reentering the workforce.

DCE is also an approved contractor continuing education provider, offering courses within the facilities that are convenient not only for inmates to maintain licensure and meet renewal requirements while incarcerated, but also for staff members who may be licensed.

As a result of the DPOR-DOC MOU described in Section 2.1, the Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators and Onsite Sewage System Professionals (WWWOSSP Board) considered the first group of DOC apprentice applications at its most recent meeting on July 9, approving all 13 applications for the licensing exam.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

DPOR will continue its educational and training partnerships with DCE, DOC and DOLI, particularly for the Contractors and Barbers & Cosmetology programs. In addition, DPOR will continue to work with DOC on advancing the pilot program for wastewater works operator apprenticeship applications (see Section 2.1), as well as seek to identify opportunities for expansion to other regulant populations where applicable.

Education

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

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System Information

Please describe any improvements or updates that have been made to your agency's information system in the last year.

DPOR entered the third and final phase of its agency-wide information technology transition from an unsupported legacy database application to a modern, sustainable system.

What has been the impact to date of your agency's information system on the agency's ability to track offender characteristics and outcomes?

DPOR does not collect offender characteristics and outcomes in its licensing database. Information about applicant/licensee criminal history may be maintained in application files (shielded from FOIA pursuant to § 54.1-108(2) or disciplinary files (subject to disclosure after investigation when case is closed, pursuant to § 54.1-108(3) and the agency's release of information policy).

Department of Social Services

The Department of Social Services has served approximately 2,000 offenders in the last year.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

Local Reentry & Community Collaboration Councils

The Virginia Community Re-entry Initiative (VCRI) continues to be an important component of the Commonwealth's comprehensive approach to re-entry. VCRI is a community-based re-entry approach that integrates human services and public safety. Its goals are to increase public safety, maximize opportunities for former offenders returning to the community, and support family and community reintegration for persons previously incarcerated.

To accomplish these goals, communities that adopt the VCRI model establish re-entry councils that bring together community service providers, public safety agencies, businesses, non-profits and the

faith community to address local re-entry issues, assets and barriers. Communities using the VCRI approach do so voluntarily. VCRI has had a significant impact on re-entry service delivery in the Commonwealth.

This community-based re-entry approach is based on four primary principles, pre-release planning, interagency coordination, integrated service delivery, and system of family and community support. These components are vital to reducing recidivism and to promoting positive re-entry outcomes.

The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) has taken the lead in outreach to localities to promote the VCRI approach and to provide the technical assistance and re-entry capacity building support to build a statewide system of re-entry collaboration at the community level. VDSS has also provided the staffing and support for expansion of VCRI in the Commonwealth. At the end of the 2013 SFY there were 42 re-entry councils in Virginia serving 120 localities.

The VCRI does not impose any new requirements on institutions or local government agencies and their community partners. Rather, it is a collaborative re-entry approach that maximizes the effective use of existing resources. Agencies and organizations do what they have always done; they just do it in a planned and coordinated way in relation to serving those returning to the community from prison or jail.

Directors of local social services departments, community organizations, and/or public safety offices volunteer to serve as council conveners. Local councils are comprised of representatives of public and private agencies, law enforcement, correctional agencies, the courts, local businesses, community-based service providers, victims of crime, former offenders, families of offenders, and faith-based organizations. Council membership is strictly voluntary.

Council agencies work together to engage the community around reentry issues. They secure locality buy-in, identify community assets and service gaps, identify re-entry resources, and coordinate service delivery to reduce recidivism. Additionally, there is emphasis on use of evidence-based programming by mentors and community service providers to support development of responsible decision-making, formation of healthy relationships, use of positive parenting practices, and development of positive work habits.

The VCRI approach includes re-entry mentoring. Volunteer mentors will “walk with” the previously incarcerated person and their family for 12 months. Mentors serve as concerned adults to help bridge positive connections with the community. Mentors recruited from the community are available to begin meeting with the incarcerated person three months prior to release and to continue that formal mentoring relationship for nine months following release and return to the community.












































As well as coordinating re-entry service delivery at the community level, re-entry councils across the state also address policy and practice issues. Housing, employment, transportation, access to mental health and substance abuse programs and the debt/financial obligations of those returning to the community are areas most frequently identified by councils as reentry barriers. Councils work with local and state decision makers to develop strategies to reduce the barriers to successful re-entry.

The VDSS in collaboration with the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety has conducted the community outreach across the Commonwealth to provide information on the VCRI collaborative

community-based approach to re-entry. Since January 2011, the number of established councils in Virginia has expanded from 6 to 42. An additional four councils are underdevelopment or in the planning stage. Localities elect to form either single jurisdiction or multi-jurisdictional councils. The following maps show the distribution of local re-entry councils across the state.

Virginia Reentry and Community Collaboration Councils Established

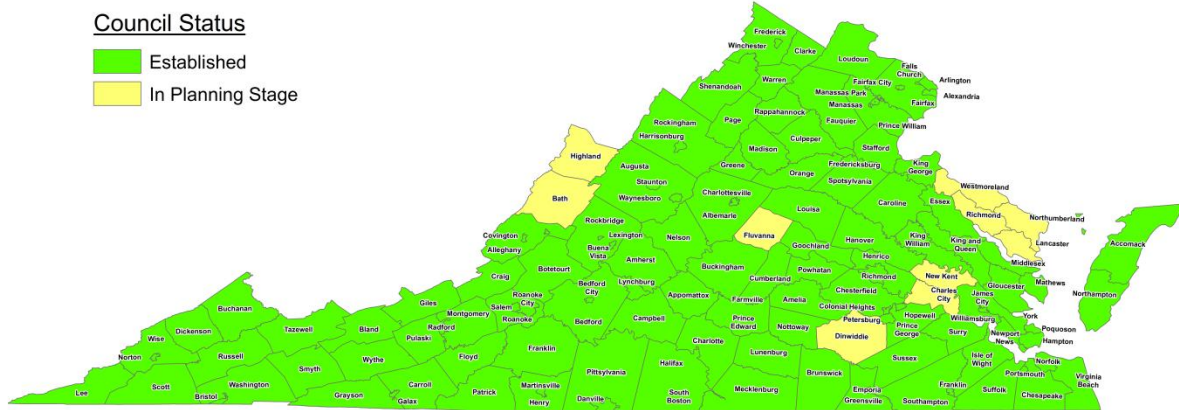
Council Name

 Albemarle/Charlottesville	 Danville/ Pittsylvania	 Louisa	 Portsmouth
 Alexandria	 Eastern Shore	 Manassas/ Prince William	 Powhatan/Goochland
 Alleghany/Botetourt/Covington/Craig	 Fairfax	 Martinsville/Henry/ Patrick	 Richmond Regional
 Appalachian	 Franklin Co.	 Middle Peninsula	 Roanoke
 Arlington	 Galax	 New River Valley	 Southside
 Bedford	 Greene	 Newport News	 Staunton/Augusta/Waynesboro/Rockbridge
 Black Diamond	 Greenville/ Emporia/ Sussex/Surry/ Brunswick	 Norfolk	 Upper Peninsula
 Blue Ridge	 Hampton	 Northern Shenandoah	 Virginia Beach
 Chesapeake	 Harrisonburg/Rockingham/Page	 PD 16	 Western Tidewater
 Colonial	 Highland	 Petersburg	 In Planning Stage
 Culpeper Area	 Loudoun	 Planning District 14	



Prepared by: Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Research and Planning.
Map data as of June 26, 2013

Virginia Reentry and Community Collaboration Councils Established, or In Planning Stage



Prepared by: Virginia Department of Social Services, Office of Research and Planning.
Map data as of June 26, 2013

Please describe any pending or upcoming collaborative efforts that involve your agency.

Virginia Department of Social Services Second Chance Project

In October 2010, VDSS was awarded a \$750,000 Second Chance Act Prisoner Re-entry grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Funding from the award went to the original six areas of the state that have established local re-entry councils to coordinate services for those leaving prison or jail. These include Albemarle/Charlottesville, Culpeper, King George and Planning District 16, Norfolk, Richmond City and surrounding counties of Henrico, Chesterfield and Hanover and fifteen localities of far Southwest Virginia.

The federal grant award along with a \$750,000 in-kind match of services from Virginia localities and state agencies resulted in a \$1.5 M re-entry project for the Commonwealth. This project, which will end September 2013, has focused on employment and employment support services. Funding has been used to assist individuals as they transition into the community through services such as job training, temporary housing, literacy classes, mental health and substance abuse programs, education programs, and family reintegration services.

Project sites have worked with 217 returning citizens providing case management and support services. As well as providing services, project localities have also conducted town hall meetings and other activities to raise public awareness about reentry issues in the community.

Division of Family Services activities in support of Prisoner Re-entry in the past year include:

The VDSS Adult Services Unit (AS) oversees local departments' AS, Adult Protective Services (APS) and Auxiliary Grant (AG) activities and develops and interprets law, regulation and policy for these programs. AS regional consultants provide direct consultation, training and technical assistance to local AS/APS units.

- Division director and Deputy Commissioner for Programs are members of the Special Needs Inmate Re-entry workgroup, as are local department and local APS staff.
- Program manager participation in Department and interagency workgroups on re-entry of elderly or disabled offenders, including "special-needs" inmate workgroup.
- Staff support, information and consultation to senior Division director and Deputy Commissioner involved in the prisoner-re-entry initiative.
- Providing information and consultation to DOC re-entry staff on services and supports that may be available to re-entering prisoners, with the understanding that AS/APS/AG programs do not provide housing.
- Working with re-entry staff and other agencies to clarify and expedite applications, screenings and documentation for eligibility for Medicaid, AS, AG, long-term care and other benefits and supports.
- Providing information to local departments on prisoner re-entry and their responsibilities and options in working with re-entering inmates.
- Monitoring cases involving special-needs inmates and providing consultation and technical assistance to local AS and APS involved in those cases.
- Acting as liaison between local AS/APS workers and DOC release and re-entry staff on challenging cases, including special-needs inmates.
- Advocating for the safety and health of special-needs inmates and the safety and security of the communities where they wish to locate.

Division of Child Support (DCSE)

The Division of Child Support Enforcement supports Prisoner Re-entry by providing pre-release information and post-release direct assistance to returning citizens; and by partnering with government agencies and community organizations to plan and provide offender transition and reentry services.

DCSE staff makes frequent presentations to inmates participating in pre-release programs and resource fairs at state prisons, regional and local jails, and DJJ facilities; provides information about child support policy and procedures, available reentry services, guidance on how best to navigate the child support system upon release and access to specific information about an inmate's child support case.

Each of the 21 DCSE District Offices has designated case managers who identify and contact potential reentry candidates scheduled for near term release. Upon release, case managers assist returning citizens with identifying and accessing community services to help them overcome barriers to successful transition so they can obtain employment and better provide support to their children.

Thirty percent of the participants in the Division's Intensive Case Monitoring Program (ICMP) have prior criminal records. ICMP is a problem solving enforcement approach that enables noncustodial parents (NCPs) who have significant challenges such as limited education, sketchy work histories, substance abuse problems, criminal records, etc., to better fulfill their responsibilities to support their children financially and emotionally. Such parents facing incarceration for failure to pay (civil contempt) are instead ordered into the ICMP by a court, and closely monitored by a child support case manager who also assists them in securing services needed to overcome barriers that historically have made them less likely to support their children.

New DCSE Initiatives

Family Strong Pilot Project

Family Strong is a DCSE prisoner re-entry pilot project designed to address the manifold issues surrounding incarcerated parents with child support obligations. Ninety days prior to their release from a participating Department of Corrections facility, DCSE staff will begin to provide services to inmates with a DCSE case, an obligation in excess of \$65 per month and who will be released to a location served by one of the eight DCSE East district offices. Upon the inmate's release and contact with the prisoner re-entry case manager in the district office, DCSE will immediately initiate action to modify the individual's child support order so that it is based on their current ability to pay. The Case Manager will connect the returning parent with community partners who will provide services to address barriers to employment; enhance parenting skills and facilitate the re-integration of the family.

Home Wav Video Pilot

DCSE Portsmouth and the Portsmouth City Jail are partnering in a pilot that will enable the DCSE Prisoner Re-entry Case Manager to make presentations and conduct interviews with inmates in the Portsmouth City Jail via Home Wav Video System.

Local Departments of Social Services

There are 120 local departments of social services offices who are in various stages of collaboration with the 42 re-entry councils in Virginia. In addition, numerous agencies have staffs who are engaged in prisoner outreach and some of the highlights include:

- Lunenburg DSS is in Planning District 14 and regularly meets with agencies within their planning district to collaborate on service delivery within the Planning District and the individual counties. Lunenburg Correctional Center has been designated as one of the re-entry prisons. Lunenburg DSS staff attends monthly sessions at this correctional facility to speak with those inmates being released in the current or following month. Staff provides information and brochures on SNAP, Medicaid, TANF, EAP and resources such 2-1-1, Section 8, Goodwill, Salvation Army, and other resources to help them in transitioning back to into their communities. LDSS actively works with probation officers and other personnel at this correctional facility to design sessions that meet the needs of the inmates.
- Hanover DSS staff conducts informational sessions with those inmates in regional jails, striving to connect soon-to-be released inmates with agency and community resource information.

- Rural counties of Gloucester, Mathews, and Middlesex share one court system. In June, 2012, LDSS directors from these counties, probation and parole office staff from the two local jails, the community services board, victim-witness assistance directors, and others met for a first joint official reentry initiative meeting to strategize on better serving the needs of the ex-offender population. Meetings will be held quarterly and chaired during the first year by Probation and Parole. The first meeting provided the foundation on how they will work together to address reentry issues. Their first outcome was development of a pending release notification system, where local jails send release information to member agencies. Probation and Parole will also notify group members about pending releases from state correctional facilities and work to identify needed services before individuals are released, through joint collaboration.

Please describe any past or current policy-level barriers to collaboration and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

- Federal regulations require each state to have procedures in place that will prevent release of information to a noncustodial parent (re-entering or otherwise) that would reveal the location of the custodial parent or children when either a protective order is in place or the custodial parent has alleged under oath that he/she fears violence from the noncustodial parent. Use of these procedures could reduce the probability of violation of protective orders or harm to primary victims when the primary victims are the custodial parent or children in the cases of noncustodial parents in question.

Human Services

The VDSS public assistance programs serve as a safety net for limited income individuals and families. Included in those served are victims of crime, individuals previously incarcerated and family members of victims and offenders. The array of programs carried out within the social services system support safe stable nurturing environments and relationships where adults, children and families can thrive. The community services of the agency facilitates a collaborative community based approach among service providers, businesses and community organizations that supports family strengthening and positive outcome efforts for families.

Services and benefits delivered through the Virginia's state supervised and locally administered social services system and through community partners include:

- **Services Programs**
 - Child Welfare
 - Adoptions
 - Foster Care
 - Child Protection
 - Adult Services/Adult Protective Services
 - Regulation of Day and Residential Care for Adults and Children
 - Child Support Enforcement
- **Public Assistance Programs**
 - Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Employment Training (SNAPET)

Medicaid
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
Unemployed Parents (UP)
Auxiliary Grants
Energy Assistance
Child Care

- **Community and Volunteer Services**

2-1-1 VIRGINIA
Community Service Block Grant Program (CSBG) & Community Action Network
Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT)
Family/Domestic Violence Prevention
Refugee Resettlement
Volunteerism
AmeriCorps/Community Service
Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- **Community Action Agencies**

- **For Children and Youth**

Head Start, Literacy Programs, Dropout Prevention, Summer Youth Employment Programs, College Counseling and Placement, Nutrition and Food Programs, Substance Abuse Education, Prevention and Counseling

- **For the Working Poor**

Child Care, Adult Education, Job Training and Placement, Small Business Development, Budget Counseling, Financial Education, Free Income Tax Preparation including Earned Income Tax Credit

- **For the Poor in Crisis**

Homeless Shelters, Domestic Violence Programs and Shelters, Transitional Housing, Energy Crisis Assistance, Emergency Food, Clothing and Services, Eviction Prevention

- **For the Elderly**

Meals-on-Wheels, In-Home Care Programs, Senior Centers and Day Care, Transportation, Volunteer Services

- **For the Entire Family**

Family Development Support, Nutrition Education, Parenting Education, Health Clinics, Weatherization Assistance, Home Ownership Programs, Individual Development Accounts, Community Centers

- **For the Entire Community**

Housing Development and Renovation, Economic Development, New Business Ventures, Safety and Crime Prevention, Consumer Education, Neighborhood Improvement, Pre and Post Incarceration Services

Employment/Job Training

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

- Promoted the use of Federal bonding through employer outreach efforts - The Federal Bonding Program provides employers an incentive to hire at-risk applicants. Employers receive these bonds free-of-charge. Bonds are for \$5,000 of coverage for a 6 month period, with no deductible amount to the employer. There are no forms or other papers for the employer to sign, and no processing delays - the insurance can be put into effect instantly. Fidelity bonding is a form of business insurance purchased to indemnify employers for loss of money or property sustained through the dishonest acts of their employees (e.g., theft, forgery, larceny, and embezzlement). This "employee dishonesty insurance" is generally considered a good business management practice, and is purchased by many employers in industries such as hospitality, retail, construction, warehousing, food service, commercial cleaning, and convenience stores. However, insurance companies that issue commercial fidelity bonds typically will not bond employees who have a criminal record.
- Job Development Training for VIEW and Self-Sufficiency Staff –VDSS collaborated with the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center at Virginia Commonwealth University for VIEW staff to enhance their knowledge in working with individuals who have been placed in Community Work Experience and Public Service programs. This has enabled VIEW staff to be better equipped in addressing the principles of job development and is applicable to any population to include individuals who were formerly incarcerated.
- The VDSS DCSE Intensive Case Monitoring Program (ICMP) offers the 30 participating Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts an alternative to jail sentences for parents facing incarceration for failure to pay child support (civil contempt). Parents ordered into the program are connected with community partners who help them manage and overcome lifelong barriers that have impeded their ability to support their families. Since it began in 2008, ICMP has served 621 participants with prior criminal histories. Following participation in ICMP these parents have increased their financial support for their children paying almost 2.4 million in child support.
- The Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Employment Training (SNAPET) is an employment program offered to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients (formerly known as Food Stamp). Those previously incarcerated could be eligible for SNAPET. For example in state fiscal year 2013, an estimated 500 previously incarcerated individuals participated in this employment training program through the Norfolk Department of Human Services.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

- A barrier to receiving public assistance is a Virginia statute that precludes individuals from receiving SNAP benefits if the individual has been convicted of a felony offense for drug distribution. Individuals convicted of a felony offense for drug possession may participate in the program if they have completed a substance abuse treatment program and participates in periodic drug screenings. Individuals are banned from participation in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program if convicted of any felony drug offense.

Family Reunification

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VDSS Family Engagement process is part of the agency's Children's Services Practice Model. Family engagement is a relationship focused decision making approach that involves and empowers both the family and the community in the decision making process related to family stabilization and permanency for children. Reentry related Family Engagement activities include:

- Family Partnership Meetings – Child Protection, Prevention and Foster Care workers actively seek out family members- including those individuals who have experienced incarceration- to participate in meetings where decisions regarding the safety, placement and future of children and families served by the local Department of Social Services are made. The Family Services Division is partnering with VDSS Domestic Violence program to develop a resource chapter to address how best to work with families for whom Domestic Violence has been identified as an issue. The chapter will address how to engage non-offending parents and extended family members in identifying issues, insuring family safety and improving the likelihood the service referrals will be appropriate. The chapter will also address how to engage the offending parent and help him to take responsibility for his actions. Specifically, activities around how to prepare for Family Partnership Meetings so that offending parents are able to safely participate in case decision making is covered at length. The target date for chapter publication is January 2014. It is anticipated that fewer fathers with a history of domestic violence and/or criminal charges will be excluded from participation as a result of this resource chapter.
- The Family Engagement program continues to work with the VDSS Domestic Violence Program, and the VDSS Training unit to develop a statewide training curriculum for Family Partnership Facilitators, child welfare supervisors and LDSS staff addressing issues of domestic violence during the Family Partnership Meeting and in planning for a meeting that is safe for all participants. It is anticipated that fewer fathers with a history of domestic violence and/or criminal charges will be excluded from participation as a result of this training.
- Family Search – The Regional Resource Family Consultants conduct trainings for LDSS staff on how to locate family members to be involved in decision making including those who have been or are currently incarcerated. VDSS provides access for LDSS to Accurant, a sophisticated search engine, to assist in identifying and contacting extended family.
- Seven state and local department of social services employees have completed the Master Trainer Institute (MTI) with the National Partnership for Community Leadership. The MTI prepared them to deliver the Fatherhood Development curriculum and to train additional Fatherhood Group facilitators, to guide program implementation, and conduct program assessment and evaluation. The Fatherhood Development Curriculum provides a guide to work with fathers in providing support, life skills, responsible fatherhood, relationships skills and health information. The training provides 25 sessions and a methodology for training,

learning, and assessments tools. The training has been used in four national demonstration projects targeting fathers from diverse backgrounds and specifically addresses concerns regarding fathers in “fragile family” contexts, including paternal incarceration.

The participants of the MTI are now working with and training LDSS staff in the Northern, Central and Eastern regions to increase capacity to offer Fatherhood Development groups across the state.

- Virginia Putative Father Registry has provided services to assist individuals who have experienced incarceration or are currently incarcerated to register with the Virginia Putative Father Registry in order to protect their parental rights.
- Child Protective Services has grantees that work with individuals who have experienced incarceration to reduce child abuse and neglect and prevent child abuse.
- The Permanency Regional specialists provide guidance on working with family members of children in foster care including individuals who have been incarcerated. Although these family members may not be suitable for placement, they may be able to provide support to another family member.
- Family Engagement Unit reviewed Promoting Safe and Stable Families grant applications to identify specific fatherhood activities being conducted by grantees and promote the inclusion of such activities in future fiscal years.
- The Innovators for Success Council organized a cohort of local departments of social services to explore barriers to family strengthening, share best practice and promising practices, pilot creative strategies, and galvanize interest for engaging families and promoting fatherhood. Many of the participating agencies included prisoner reentry activities in their pilot projects, especially those connected with fatherhood and child support enforcement. Many of the Innovator agencies also participate in the local re-entry councils. Several agencies have developed new projects with correctional facilities in their localities.
- For example, Powhatan has partnered with Beaumont Juvenile Correctional facility and the organization First Things First to provide Inside/Out Dads to residents in the facility. The Frederick County DSS has partnered with the Clarke, Frederick, Winchester regional adult detention facility of CFW regional adult detention facility to implement a video conferencing system for those housed within the facilities and their relatives. Some agencies have included prisoner re-entry sessions or information in their Community Forums as well.
- In addition VDSS is a collaborative partner through Casey Family Programs support to implement the Pathways Project, a pilot re-entry program serving 100 returning fathers at Richmond City Jail. The purpose of Pathways is to reduce the likelihood of participant recidivism by facilitating family engagement strategies and reducing barriers to re-entry. The Pathways Project consists of pre and post re-entry services. Upon release, each

father will be referred to the weekly father support group, organized by the Richmond Department of Social Services. Through the father support groups, fathers will be connected to additional services provided by the Richmond Department of Social Services. Each father will also receive free health screenings and services through the Richmond City Health District. Fathers, who have family members residing in housing sites under the oversight of the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority, will have the opportunity to add their names to the leases on a provisional basis. Each father will be monitored for one year post release.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Domestic Violence shelters (or alternative housing) are available for victims of domestic violence who have been incarcerated for crimes other than DV related crimes. Female victims (offenders) may not feel safe to return home to their abuser. Some DV programs have policies or practices that make it difficult for a person to gain entry to a shelter directly from jail.

Pro-Social Activities

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

VDSS is working to integrate the “Protective Factors” framework throughout agency programs as a case management strategy to improve outcomes when working with children and families. The “Protective Factors” framework provides a foundation for increasing parental resilience, understanding the importance of social connections, understanding where to obtain concrete support in times of need, gaining knowledge of parenting and child development, and understanding the social and emotional competence of children. Ex-offenders and juveniles returning home to their families and communities can face daunting challenges. This case management strategy focuses on working with the entire family to overcome challenges that impede family re-unification.

Victim Services

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The Office of Family Violence funds 48 domestic violence programs, including 41 shelters. Shelters play a crucial role in victim safety when an offender is released. The temporary safety the victim experiences while the offender is incarcerated ends with his release. All domestic violence programs offer safety planning to victims. Shelter options are included in most of the safety plans.

The Office of Family violence prioritizes the funding of accredited domestic violence programs. Accredited programs offer consistent comprehensive services for victims and their children. Services

include, but are not limited to hotline, advocacy, crisis intervention, information and referrals, children's services, support groups, emergency transportation, and coordination of services.

Every accredited domestic violence program also provides some level of legal advocacy which may range from information provided over the phone, to accompaniment to court, to an office within the J&DR court. Many of the DV programs work closely with law enforcement, commonwealth's attorneys, victims/witness programs, court services units and judges to remove risk factors for victims in court.

DV programs initiate Coordinated Community Response Teams that bring together non-profit service providers, court personnel, law enforcement and social services to improve the system response to domestic and sexual violence in their localities.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

- The number of shelter beds in Virginia is finite, and requests for shelter exceed the available space. Domestic violence shelters are obligated to house victims in hotels if there are no other options available, but the recent demand has exceeded the financial resources the programs have available. Recent shifts in priorities of HUD and DHCD have further reduced the funding available to Virginia's domestic violence shelters, further threatening the sustainability of some programs.
- The success of some offenders is contingent on having safe shelter options available for the victims.
- \$1 million in designated funding at VDSS for the sustainability of traditional domestic violence shelters is needed.
- The lack of community collaboration in select communities decreases the levels of both victim safety and offender accountability. To close the gap, assess the needs and develop an effective, reciprocal, and meaningful partnership, these communities need a high level of technical assistance

Data and Information

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

In the TANF program, the VDSS' data warehouse collects data on individuals who have been convicted of a drug felony, who are fleeing felons or who have violated the terms of their parole.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers, in order to maximize your agency's current information system, have been implemented over the past year?

A barrier to optimal reentry outcomes in the inability of VDSS to track services and benefits linked to those previously incarcerated. While this information is available at the case record level, it is not available or tracked by any of the benefits and services automated systems of the agency. This has implications for case planning, policy planning, funding requests, grant funding and interagency coordination on reentry.

Please describe any grant funding that your agency has received for re-entry-related initiatives. Please provide the title of the grant, a brief description of the grant project and what the funding is being used for, the total amount of funding that the grant will provide, and when the funding has/will terminate.

In October 2010, VDSS was awarded a \$750,000 Second Chance Act Prisoner Re-entry grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Funding from the award went to the original six areas of the state that have established local re-entry councils to coordinate services for those leaving prison or jail. These include Albemarle/Charlottesville, Culpeper, King George and Planning District 16, Norfolk, Richmond City and surrounding counties of Henrico, Chesterfield and Hanover and fifteen localities of far Southwest Virginia. The federal grant award along with a \$750,000 in-kind match of services from Virginia localities and state agencies resulted in a \$1.5 M re-entry project for the Commonwealth. This project which will end September 2013 has focused on employment and employment support services. Funding has been used to assist individuals as they transition into the community through services such as job training, temporary housing, literacy classes, mental health and substance abuse programs, education programs, and family reintegration services.

Project sites have worked with over 200 returning citizens proving case management and support services. As well as providing services, project localities have also conducted town hall meetings and other activities to raise public awareness about reentry issues in the community.

Department of Veterans Services

Approximate number of offenders served by your agency in the last year: 80

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

The Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) and the Benefits Division of the Department of Veterans Services continue to develop a working partnership supporting re-entry efforts, along with the Virginia Department of Corrections, the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Veterans Healthcare Administration and many others.

Mackenzie Abridello, the VWWP Greater Hampton Roads Re-Entry Specialist, participated in four *Cross Systems Mapping for Behavioral Health and Transformation Justice Transformation* workgroups (Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck, Eastern Shore, Norfolk, and Western Tidewater) between January 2013 and July 2013. Martha Mead, the VWWP Special Projects Coordinator is a Cross Systems Mapping Facilitator and co-facilitated workshops in Mecklenburg and Halifax Counties in September, 2012, and

Rappahannock and Fauquier Counties in March, 2013. The workgroups comprise community partners and stakeholders representing law enforcement, jails and correctional centers, magistrates' office, Community Services Boards, State Hospitals, Court Systems, state and local re-entry efforts, community corrections/parole/probation, and local Departments of Social/Human Services. The focus is to identify where and how those with mental health issues come in contact with the criminal justice system, including outlining the distinctive needs of Veterans and women, and where the community can create an action plan to divert those experiencing mental health issues at the earliest stages of criminal justice involvement, if appropriate. Each workgroup concludes with an action plan where stakeholders personally take on roles to sustain the action plan, with short-term, low-cost goals and long-term goals. Each workgroup sets a period to reconvene at some point over the next year in order to assess progress and/or barriers to achieving their goals.

Eric Endries, VWWP Greater Hampton Roads Regional Director, and the Re-Entry Specialist worked together in order to create an eleven page proposal to request funds from the Tidewater Officers' Spouses' Association (TOSA) to support VWWP re-entry efforts. The proposal was for a "Re-Entry Sustainment Package" that is available to "any prior US military member that is currently incarcerated and has been for at least 15 days out of the last three calendar months...The target population is those incarcerated veterans due to be released without immediate housing/shelter needs met." The goal of the Re-Entry Sustainment package is to provide a temporary, stable transition from incarceration to a permanent situation. The Package addresses the following needs: immediate shelter, clothing, food, transportation, birth certificate, and picture ID. Ten percent of the requested funds were approved and awarded by TOSA.

The VWWP Greater Hampton Roads Re-Entry Specialist began collaborating with the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ) Director of Support Services and the Veterans Healthcare Administration Hampton Roads Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist to create a more efficient tracking method for incarcerated Veterans in the Regional Jail. This project is also addressing the best way to use that data to provide services to the inmates on a consistent basis. As a result, the Colonial Re-Entry Council has updated its intake form to capture all that have served in the US Military. VPRJ's Director of Support Services reported the best place to capture those that need services by VWWP and/or the Colonial Re-Entry Council would be during the 'classification' stage of incarceration instead of the initial intake of those coming into incarceration. Efforts to collaboratively develop this system will continue.

The VWWP Greater Hampton Roads Re-Entry Specialist proposed and has led the development of the Newport News Re-Entry Council's Veteran Subcommittee. The goal is to address unique needs of prior military. The Subcommittee meets monthly as of February 2013, and has set goals and a vision. The Subcommittee submits minutes to the Re-Entry Council, and adopted its first official project in June 2013. The project is to gather secondary research and information regarding Veterans Treatment Courts.

Please describe any pending or upcoming collaborative efforts that involve your agency.

VWWP made initial efforts in collaboration with DOC, DBHDS and the Haynesville Correctional Center to pursue the Offender Reentry Program [SAMHSA] grant. The numbers of eligible inmates reentering the community in one year from Haynesville were insufficient to fulfill the grant requirements. VWWP plans to continue to work with DOC and DBHDS to pursue the grant in 2014.

The VWWP Re-Entry Specialist of Greater Hampton Roads is currently working with Precinct 2, Virginia Beach Police Department to develop a "Military Leadership Program". The program will involve active duty and prior military who come in contact with law enforcement at the Ocean Front. The initial proposal is that volunteers trained by Precinct 2 provide community resources and/or mentorship to divert incarceration. Currently Precinct 2 is awaiting guidance and/or support from the Oceana Command Master Chief and Oceana JAG. Once their level of involvement is determined development will move forward.

VWWP is also increasing the role of the VWWP Re-Entry Specialist in Greater Hampton Roads to a more statewide, full time resource. The other 4 VWWP regions all have Resource Specialists who provide reentry services as a collateral duty. VWWP Region 4 was approved in the FY 2014 budget to hire a part time Re-Entry Specialist.

Housing

Assets:

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

DVS has added two positions to address homelessness among veterans and their families. A Director of Housing Development (on staff as of March 2013) and an Associate Director (on staff as of June 2013) are collaborating with numerous federal, state and local agencies to develop permanent, sustainable housing options for at risk or homeless veterans and their families. The Housing Development Directors are also working with non-profit and private developers and homeless services providers in the Continuum of Care to increase affordable and safe housing options for persons with prior evictions, poor credit, and criminal backgrounds. Often returning citizens face many barriers to housing including: lack of identifying documents and/or sustainable income, and stigma from their offender status. The Housing Development Directors serve on the Governor's Homeless Outcomes Coordinating Council (HOCC) with other state agencies including DCJS, and DOC where transition issues for veterans being released from jails or prisons are addressed collaboratively. The Housing Development Directors also facilitate ongoing dialog on veteran re-entry services in Virginia with staff from the DOC, the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, and VWWP in the Discharge Planning Subcommittee of the HOCC.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

Each of the 5 VWWP Regions is designating or hiring a staff member to work with the Directors of Housing Development on local case management and housing opportunities for veterans and their families. These regional representatives will provide direct services to veterans with housing needs including locating emergency and transitional housing for those experiencing homelessness. Regional staff will also help local communities enhance their housing services for veterans and families through participation in the Continuum of Care meetings, networking with local housing services providers and building a resource database.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Veterans being released from jail or prison may lack stable housing until they obtain employment and/or disability benefits. VWWP Resource and Re-Entry Specialists work with case managers in jails or prisons prior to release to help veterans obtain identifying documents and develop housing plans prior to release. VWWP staff also provides veterans with linkages to housing and support services post-release regardless of military discharge status and/or VA eligibility effectively providing a services safety net for many veterans that would have previously fallen through the cracks.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

There is a state-wide shortage of stable and permanent housing options for veterans (and members of the general population) labeled as sex offenders. The Housing Development Directors are working to address this housing need with other agency partners on the Homeless Outcomes Coordinating Council and Continuum of Care. VWWP Re-Entry Specialists also advocate for low barrier housing with community partners in the Re-Entry Council meetings however many funders of housing subsidies and affordable housing developments continue to refuse these veterans.

Alcohol and/or Drug Addiction

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VWWP coordinates and monitors behavioral health and rehabilitative services for veterans and their families throughout the Commonwealth. Re-Entry Specialists work directly with veterans returning to their communities from incarceration. This staffs attend meetings of the Re-Entry Councils and participate in statewide and local collaborative efforts.

Mental Health

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VWWP coordinates and monitors behavioral health and rehabilitative services for veterans and their families throughout the Commonwealth. Re-Entry Specialists work directly with veterans returning to their communities from incarceration. This staffs attend meetings of the Re-Entry Councils and participate in statewide and local collaborative efforts

RE-ENTRY FOCUS AREAS

Veterans

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) and the Benefits Division of the Department of Veterans Services continue to develop a working partnership supporting re-entry efforts, along with the Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC), the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), the Veterans Healthcare Administration and many others.

The Benefits Services Division of DVS maintains a cadre of 36 Veterans Claims Representatives who are and have worked with incarcerated veterans on claim matters. Visits have been made to some correctional facilities upon request. In various localities, DVS claims agents have worked with Probation Officers and the Re-Entry Councils to educate veterans who have issues or concerns with benefits and disability compensation.

Mackenzie Abridello, the VWWP Greater Hampton Roads Re-Entry Specialist participated in four *Cross Systems Mapping for Behavioral Health and Transformation Justice Transformation* workgroups (Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck, Eastern Shore, Norfolk, and Western Tidewater) between January 2013 and July 2013. Martha Mead, the VWWP Special Projects Coordinator is a Cross Systems Mapping Facilitator and co-facilitated workshops in Mecklenburg and Halifax Counties in September, 2012 and Rappahannock and Fauquier Counties in March, 2013. The workgroups comprise community partners and stakeholders representing law enforcement, jails and correction centers, magistrates' office, Community Services Boards, State Hospitals, Court Systems, state and local re-entry efforts, community corrections/parole/probation, and local Departments of Social/Human Services. The focus is to identify where and how those with mental health issues come in contact with the criminal justice system, including outlining the distinctive needs of Veterans and women, and where the community can create an action plan to divert those experiencing mental health issues at the earliest stages of criminal justice involvement, if appropriate. Each workgroup concludes with an action plan where stakeholders personally take on roles to sustain the action plan, with short-term, low-cost goals and long-term goals. Each workgroup sets a period to reconvene at some point over the next year in order to assess progress and/or barriers to achieving their goals.

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The VWWP Greater Hampton Roads Re-Entry Specialist began collaborating with the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ) Director of Support Services and the Veterans Healthcare Administration Hampton Roads Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist to create a more efficient tracking method for incarcerated Veterans in the Regional Jail. This project is also addressing the best way to use that data to provide services to the inmates on a consistent basis. As a result, the Colonial Re-Entry Council has updated its intake form to capture all that have served in US Military. VPRJ's Director of Support Services reported the best place to capture those that need services by VWWP and/or the Colonial Re-Entry Council would be during the 'classification' stage of incarceration instead of the initial intake of those coming into incarceration. Efforts to collaboratively develop this system will continue.

The VWWP Greater Hampton Roads Re-Entry Specialist proposed and has led the development of the Newport News Re-Entry Council's Veteran Subcommittee. The goal is to address unique needs of prior military. The Subcommittee meets monthly as of February 2013, and has set goals and a vision. The Subcommittee submits minutes to the Re-Entry Council, and has adopted their first official project in June 2013. The project is to gather secondary research and information regarding Veterans Treatment Courts.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

VWWP made initial efforts in collaboration with DOC, DBHDS and Haynesville Correctional Center to pursue the Offender Reentry Program [SAMHSA] grant. The numbers of eligible inmates reentering the community in one year from Haynesville were insufficient to fulfill the grant requirements. VWWP plans to continue to work with DOC and DBHDS to pursue the grant in 2014.

The VWWP Re-Entry Specialist of Greater Hampton Roads is currently working with Precinct 2, Virginia Beach Police Department to develop a "Military Leadership Program". The program will involve active duty and prior military who come in contact with law enforcement at the Ocean Front. The initial proposal is that volunteers trained by Precinct 2 provide community resources and/or mentorship to divert incarceration. Currently Precinct 2 is awaiting guidance and/or support from the Oceana Command Master Chief and Oceana JAG. Once their level of involvement is determined development will move forward.

VWWP is also increasing the role of the VWWP Re-Entry Specialist in Greater Hampton Roads to a more statewide, full time resource. The other 4 VWWP regions all have Resource Specialists who provide reentry services as a collateral duty. VWWP Region 4 was approved in the FY 2014 budget to hire a part time Re-Entry Specialist.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Lack of housing continues to be a barrier for Veteran offenders, particularly for those with violent offenses or sexual offenses in their backgrounds.

Please describe any past or current gaps and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Gaps include the lack of services for Veterans who are ineligible for VA benefits or healthcare. VWWP Re-Entry Specialists have been able to offer some resource coordination for those Veterans.

Each correctional facility is different, including programs offered, staffing and demographics/physical or behavioral conditions that they serve. Differences are even greater among state, regional and local facilities. These differences create challenges for VWWP and DVS Benefits staff when developing various efforts to support the facility staff and incarcerated Veterans. Efforts are being made by DVS staff to

learn more about each facility individually and where DVS and VWWP staff can best assist veterans and the correctional staff.

DATA AND INFORMATION

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

VWWP, DVS has implemented a new Data Management System (DMS) that is able to provide information on the referral source for veterans and family members referred to VWWP and their housing status, including incarceration.

What has been the impact to date of your agency's information system on the collaborative sharing of case-level information between agencies?

Collaborative information sharing always provides improved outcomes for the veteran and family.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers, in order to maximize your agency's current information system, have been implemented over the past year?

Since the VWWP DMS is relatively new the VWWP Executive Team is working with staff to ensure that data is entered and entered accurately. At present, housing status is a non-mandated field, but we are realizing that this data is essential in order to have the numbers on veterans who are incarcerated. This is a barrier that VWWP is addressing.

ALLOCATED FUNDING FOR OFFENDER RE-ENTRY

Please describe any grant funding that your agency has received for re-entry-related initiatives. Please provide the title of the grant, a brief description of the grant project and what the funding is being used for, the total amount of funding that the grant will provide, and when the funding has/will terminate.

The VWWP, in partnership with DBHDS was awarded a federal grant of \$71,250 from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to fund a targeted educational program for judges, court personnel, and other criminal justice partners across the Commonwealth. This grant is in the 4th year of execution. To date, the project has included comprehensive research required for the development of the training curriculum, development of the training curriculum, and an evaluation tool for court and criminal justice personnel on the health, behavioral health needs and resources available to justice-involved veterans and their family members. Training has been provided across the Commonwealth to over 800 law enforcement and corrections personnel. In the final year of funding, VWWP plans to provide a train the trainer curriculum to advanced Crisis Intervention Team officers and to develop a webinar for judges and magistrates. Total funding provided for the 4 year period equals \$285,000.

Please describe any legislative funding that your agency has received for re-entry-related initiatives?
Please provide a brief description of the intended purpose of the funding and what the funding has been used for to date, the total amount of funding that the grant will provide, and when the funding has/will terminate.

None earmarked for re-entry. VWWP/DVS has chosen to use appropriated funds for the purpose of hiring reentry specialists to work in the regions.

Virginia Employment Commission

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

VEC staff collaborates with local jails and prisons throughout the Commonwealth to provide pre-release information sessions to include – job market information; how to prepare for interviews; Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC); where to obtain training; referrals to pre-employment supportive services; workshops, etc. Assistance is given on resume writing and application completion techniques. The goal is to provide information and assist in preparation prior to release. Hopefully, early intervention will prevent some of the problems that cause ex-offenders to return to incarceration. Staff also works with community agencies and other organizations established to assist ex-offenders. These organizations assist the VEC staff in scheduling pre-release information sessions. Representatives may also meet with ex-offenders in VEC offices and other one-stop locations to provide assistance and information. Funding for such service providers is limited and, therefore, representatives may have to travel to provide services to other areas.

Veteran staff also works with the Department of Labor ETA VETs Program to provide “stand down” services for homeless vets who are ex-offenders. They collaborate with businesses to offer job opportunities and services. During the activity, barbers offer free haircuts. Clothing and supplies are also provided. Organizations provide information on housing, transportation, training, employment, and other services.

Please describe any past or current policy-level barriers to collaboration and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Funding is the main barrier, which limits the availability of service locations for many of the other organizations.

Employment/Job Training

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

VEC staff continues to collaborate with local jails, prisons, and institutions throughout the state to provide pre-release information sessions to include – job market information; how to prepare for interviews; where to obtain training; referrals to pre-employment supportive services; Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC); workshops, etc. Assistance is given on resume writing and application completion techniques. The goal is to provide information and assist in preparation prior to release.

Hopefully, early intervention will prevent some of the problems that cause ex-offenders to return to incarceration.

Staff also works with community agencies and other organizations to assist ex-offenders. These agencies and organizations coordinate with VEC staff in scheduling pre-release information sessions.

Representatives may also meet with ex-offenders in VEC offices and other one-stop locations to provide assistance and information. Funding for such service providers is limited and, therefore, representatives may have to travel to provide services to areas around the Commonwealth.

Veteran staff also works with the Department of Labor ETA VETs Program to provide “stand down” services for homeless vets who are ex-offenders. They collaborate with businesses to offer job opportunities and services. During the activity, barbers offer free haircuts. Clothing and supplies are also provided. Organizations provide information on housing, transportation, training, employment, and other services.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

Funding is the main barrier, which limits the availability of service locations. The lack of funding and limited access to services due to funding is the primary concern. The economy is a barrier since thousands of unemployed persons have skills and work experience, but the jobs are limited, and competition is steep.

Education

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

The VEC staff continues to educate offenders and ex-offenders on job market information; how to prepare for interviews; where to obtain training; referrals to pre-employment supportive services; Workforce Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC); workshops, etc. Assistance is given on resume writing and application completion techniques.

Women

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

VEC staff collaborates with local jails and prisons throughout the Commonwealth to provide pre-release information sessions to include – job market information; how to prepare for interviews; where to obtain training; WOTC; referrals to pre-employment supportive services; workshops, etc. Assistance is given on resume writing and application completion techniques. The goal is to provide information and assist in preparation prior to release. Hopefully, early intervention will prevent some of the problems that cause ex-offenders to return to incarceration.

Staff also works with community agencies to assist ex-offenders. Representatives may also meet with ex-offenders in VEC offices and other one-stop locations to provide assistance and information. Funding for such service providers is limited and, therefore, representatives may have to travel to provide services to areas around the Commonwealth.

Veteran staff also works with the Department of Labor ETA VETs Program to provide “stand down” services for homeless vets who are ex-offenders. They collaborate with businesses to offer job opportunities and services. During the activity, barbers offer free haircuts. Clothing and supplies are also provided. Organizations provide information on housing, transportation, training, employment, and other services.

Veterans

Please describe any efforts, programs, or services implemented by your agency within the last year and the impact of these assets.

VEC staff collaborates with local jails and prisons throughout the Commonwealth to provide pre-release information sessions for veterans to include – job market information; how to prepare for interviews; where to obtain training; referrals to pre-employment supportive services; WOTC; workshops; etc. Assistance is given on resume writing and application completion techniques. The goal is to provide information and assist in preparation prior to release. Hopefully, early intervention will prevent some of the problems that cause ex-offenders to return to incarceration.

Staff also works with community agencies to assist veterans. VEC Veterans staff meets with ex-offenders who are veterans in VEC offices and other one-stop locations to provide assistance and information. Funding for such service providers is limited and, therefore, VEC Veterans staff will travel from their office locations to provide services.

Veteran staff also works with the Department of Labor ETA VETs Program to provide “stand down” services for homeless vets who are ex-offenders. They collaborate with businesses to offer job opportunities and services. During the activity, barbers offer free haircuts. Clothing and supplies are also provided. Organizations provide information on housing, transportation, training, employment, and other services.

Please describe any pending or upcoming efforts, programs, or services that involve your agency.

Continue and expand the Veterans Services programs. An outreach position has been added to assess the needs of veterans around the Commonwealth and what the VEC can do to assist. This person will travel around the Commonwealth.

Virginia Indigent Defense Commission

The Virginia Indigent Defense Commission served approximately 102,000 indigent criminal defendants.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

Alexandria PD Office – staff from this office serve on the city’s reentry taskforce that is led by the adult probation and parole office, the reentry committee at Alexandria Detention Center—part of a taskforce that works with mentally ill individuals being released to the community from local jails (called the Collaboration for Recovery and Reentry), and the Correctional Services Advisory Board to the Sheriff, which provides input on programming at the jail for inmates about to be released. These collaborations help establish contact between those serving sentence and the probation office before offenders are

released, as well as identify resources for inmates upon release, and assist in creating alternative sentencing plans. Options for community support are being expanded through the re-entry council and through the transitional planner working at the jail. There is also a new jail-based committee formed called the Integrated Services Planning team which works collaboratively to identify clients in need of services and plan for re-entry.

The Public Defender serves on a citizen advisory board to the Sheriff. Its mission is to provide input on programming at the jail that can ease the transition to the community and enhance inmate rehabilitation efforts. Efforts to create a partnership with Offender Aid and Restoration to provide additional services on cognitive restructuring with aftercare services on release that were underway last year, did not materialize because of contractual issues. However, the Board undertook a review of existing jail programming and made suggestions for improvement and provided additional support to the exiting life skills program and to a new mentorship program to be directed by the jail chaplain. The Correctional Services Advisory Board has been working with the local community college to set up college classes for inmates at the jail and to introduce them to the institution so that they will be prepared to register for more courses upon release. In June, the first inmates to successfully complete college courses received certificates of completion having met all course requirements. That program will continue in the coming year. The jail is also offering food service training that provides a Safe Serve certificate in food handling to those who successfully complete the program. Successful participants have received their certificates this year.

Barriers – met with resistance from mental health providers at CSBs when trying to connect clients with a challenging mental health and criminal history with mental health services. We continue to work other agencies and the CSB on diversion programs for the mentally ill and are attempting to address concerns we have about difficulties in securing the full range of services for the seriously mentally ill who have failed in treatment efforts in the past. We initiated efforts to increase diversion interventions at the early stages after arrest (i.e. between advisement and bond motions). We are working with community and jail CSB staff to improve communication and divert clients earlier. We have seen improvement this year in getting useful information concerning mentally ill clients to the public defender staff quickly which is exceedingly helpful, especially in getting bonds set quickly for clients once they have stabilized.

Fairfax PD Office:

We continue to collaborate with many different agencies to assist in the re-entry of our clients. These agencies include probation offices in all three courts, Offender Aid and Restoration and the Community Services Board. Our Public Defender is a member of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee and the Community Criminal Justice Board which receives reports on various court related matters, including re-entry programs. The office also hosts speakers from various agencies to inform and assist in updating the office about various programs for re-entry. This past year we welcomed a probation officer who spoke to the office about the procedures for transferring probation from Virginia for out of state supervision and how the attorney can assist in that transfer prior to their release. In addition on July 11, 2013 we hosted a representative from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services for training on mental health disorders as well as the sequential intercept model.

Norfolk PD Office –Our office in Norfolk collaborates with and sits on the board of the reentry docket, which is supported by a grant from the Supreme Court for the specific purpose of assisting transition back into the community for those incarcerated.

Barriers have simply been in obtaining sufficient participants. Many have been excluded for various reasons despite efforts to be as inclusive as can be while still mindful of the success of the program.

Efforts by the Re-entry court docket team have been to include more female participants, and our office in particular has been responsible for submitting more female applicants.

Simply striving to enlarge the pool of eligible applicants has been a barrier to inclusion of this group.

Tapping into resources of the VA in this area has been very helpful in identifying participants, and services specific to this group. This particular group is also now being served through the mental health docket as well and the collaboration between the diversionary court participants means that more participants are identified and services provided. Barriers have simply been in identifying those who would likely be eligible and coordinating services available. This has been particularly beneficial for those who suffer from dual diagnosis and have heretofore been ineligible for programs because they have more than one issue.

Collaboration of these agencies permits the sharing of information with the confidentiality as to non-participants remains intact. Not being able to access information that others are able to (particularly probation and parole) has been a barrier.

Martinsville PD Office:

The Public Defender was a member of the Criminal Justice/Behavioral Health Collaborative (also known as Cross-Systems Mapping) group that was a grant-funded pilot project that began several years ago. In addition to the Public Defender's Office, our group consisted of representatives from the local police departments, sheriff's departments, probation and parole, commonwealth's attorneys, Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute and our local community services board. Two major projects emerged from our group and continue to operate today. First is the CIT or crisis intervention training. This is taught to local law enforcement to improve police contact with the mentally ill and teaches officers what it feels like to suffer auditory and visual hallucinations. Officers are then instructed in de-escalation techniques. The program has been universally praised by all the stakeholders.

The second Cross-Systems program is the Jail Diversion program. This is available for people in the criminal justice system or at risk of becoming part of it, who suffer from housing instability, mental illness and substance abuse issues. The program is available to six people at a time (there are limited apartments) and can be ordered either as a condition of release or as part of a sentence on a misdemeanor or felony. Once eligible, the participants are housed at the jail diversion residence, where they receive wrap around services. The expectation is that by the end of the first 30 days, participants will have secured employment and independent housing. If extensions are needed, those can be approved up to an additional 60 days. This program has shown tremendous success.

We communicate with counselors in the local Clean Start program, a collaborative program funded jointly by the Martinsville Sheriff's Office and the local CSB. It is available to incarcerated and bonded clients. Inmates in the local jail sign up for substance abuse counseling and other services offered

through Clean Start. Our local Circuit Court frequently orders successful completion of Clean Start as a condition of probation and our District Court judge's order participation as a condition of bond where appropriate. The City jail also offers GED instruction and mental health counseling.

Resources in our small community are always limited and getting more scarce with each budget. There is only one local program for juveniles, a half-way house for boys that is ordered for juveniles in lieu of detention (pre- and post-dispositional) or commitment to DJJ. There is no equivalent resource for juvenile females.

Two of our local jails have no GED instruction and no group substance abuse programs such as the Clean Start program in the City. We plan to continue to lobby the sheriff's to make such a program available in the future, but it is an uphill battle. Some of the Commonwealth's Attorneys do not see this type of program as a priority.

EIP (electronic incarceration program) is available through all three local jails but with widely differing eligibility criteria. The City allows the most inmates out on HEM, and Henry County the least.

Staunton PD Office:

A comprehensive reentry program has been established through the efforts of a committee overseen by the local Probation and Parole office (District 12). This office was actively involved in that process. Numerous local stakeholders in the broadly defined criminal justice field sat on the committee. In addition to this office, representatives from the CSB, the misdemeanor probation office, the jail and local DOC facilities, ex-offenders, and local churches and community groups took part.

Housing and employment were identified as key initial factors in the success of recent releases. Consequently, representatives from local shelters and housing programs, and state and private employment services were involved in the process. A grant was applied for to hire a full-time director. In the meantime, the jail and probation are providing the management of the program. Involvement for participants begins before release for jail inmates, and upon reporting to District 12 for DOC releases.

Active Drug and DUI court programs in the area also have significantly contributed to reducing recidivism among a traditionally intransigent abuser population. Representatives from this office sit on the boards of both programs.

Efforts by this office helped revive a defunct Juvenile Restorative Justice Program, supervised by staff from the local misdemeanor probation office. The program targets young first offenders, and has statistics to show that participants have a significantly lower recidivism rate compared to traditional juvenile probation.

In addition, a local Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program has been established, again with input from this office, which helps at the outset of a situation to divert cases involving mental health issues out of the criminal justice system and into the appropriate mental health service.

Leesburg/Warrenton PD Office:

Our office continues to be actively involved in various Re-Entry Programs. We have had several in-house meetings/trainings sessions with the Probation Office/Jail Re-Entry Coordinator so as to better understand what is available for our clients and what may be required of them.

Over the past year we have meet with and heard from the Mental Health Re-Entry Liaison to the local jail, the Gang Re-Entry Officer, the Probation Re-Entry Officer. We have worked with and continue to work with each of these programs to enhance our client's success on probation.

Our Sentencing Advocate is a member of a task force to coordinate better responses from law enforcement to defendant's/detainees/suspects with mental health issues. Our Deputy Public Defender is actively involved in the JDAI initiative. Myself and my Deputy are a part of D.A.R.T. We had an APD on the Drug Court team; however, finances forced our Drug Court to close.

The Leesburg/Warrenton Public Defender is also a member of the planning team for a Day Reporting Center for Juveniles.

Franklin PD Office:

Our Juvenile Attorney will be attending the Cross-Systems Mapping & Taking Action for Change workshop sponsored by Western Tidewater CSB. The goals of the workshop are to identify existing services and resources, identify current gaps in services and to develop county-wide strategies and plans for moving forward. We have been a vocal advocate for a Drug Court Program. There is no funding for this program at present and while the former Chief Judge was a strong advocate there is no reason to think this program will be instituted in the near future. Our Attorneys work closely with Probation and Parole to help provide services and to find alternative programs for our clients. We also give our clients detailed instructions as to their obligations in regards to Probation and the ramifications of revocation hearings.

Winchester PD Office:

The Public Defender is a member of and/or attends several regional workgroups and committees looking at various issues affecting mental health, substance abuse, and re-entry in the areas served by the Office of the Public Defender. These workgroups and committees are the Northern Shenandoah Valley Re-Entry Council, the Valley Health Regional Mental Health Work Group, the Jail Diversion Work Group, and the Juvenile Court Best Practices Committee. These work groups help foster collaborative efforts with other agencies such as DSS, Probation and Parole, Pre-Trial Services, the regional and local jails, court personnel, local hospitals, and private mental health and substance abuse treatment providers.

These groups meet monthly and/or quarterly and explore how to access various services in the community. Several of these groups have also applied unsuccessfully for several state and federal grants. The major barriers involve funding and fragmentation of services. These groups have addressed these barriers by meeting regularly and sharing information among the various participants concerning available services. The Juvenile Court Best Practices Committee has implemented a system of referrals using court orders for those the jurisdiction of that Court.

The Council is planning a major meeting involving as many stakeholders as possible in September 2012. The Public Defender serves on the Northern Shenandoah Valley Re-Entry Council that has recently begun regular meetings. The Council is meeting monthly and is planning an area-wide meeting of stakeholders in September. Efforts are also underway to reach out to the faith-based community to help with a mentoring program.

The Public Defender serves on the local Jail Diversion Task Force that includes Pre-Trial Services at our regional jail. The group meets quarterly and discusses issues that arise that affect various services, including pre-trial services. The Public Defender's Office works closely with pre-trial services to assist our clients in complying with the terms and conditions of the program.

The Valley Health Mental Health Work Group has been exploring various options to create a crisis stabilization unit that could serve both adults and juveniles. Members of the group worked on and submitted an Innovation grant that was not successful. The group includes a number of stakeholders in the community. The group continues to meet monthly and is exploring various options to improve the delivery of needed mental health and substance abuse services to the community.

The Juvenile Court Best Practices Committee continues to meet and address various needs of juveniles and their families. This office participates with the Committee and has attended programs sponsored by the committee.

Chesapeake PD Office:

Our office is a stakeholder that participates in the Mental Health/ Criminal Justice committee that meets with the Sheriff, Police, CSB, CWA magistrate, dispatchers, and community. It discusses current community needs of the mentally ill individuals involved in the criminal justice system and new programs, including the implementation of crisis intervention training the police department is undertaking, as well as the initiation of a crisis intervention assessment center which is being undertaken as a collaborative effort between Chesapeake and Portsmouth, and will offer an alternative for the police when dealing with mental health involved offenders.

Jennifer Titter, one of our Assistant Public Defenders, is a participant in meetings with the Court and Sheriff's Department in discussing the possibility of implementing a mental health court in the General District Court to divert mentally ill cases. This effort is being modeled after the Mental Health Court in the Norfolk Circuit Court, and includes discussions with the judge in Norfolk who is administering their court.

Our office actively participates in Drug Court with the CSB, police department, Probation and Parole, and the CWA in the circuit court. Because many drug involved cases are often dual diagnosed, Drug Court often identifies and makes referrals for mental health treatment as well as substance abuse treatment. Drug Court often uses resources to assist participants in maintaining a stable healthy lifestyle.

Mike Husk, our sentencing advocate, has recently connected with Adult Services to attempt to place senior inmates into adult housing (i.e. nursing homes). It was reported to me that they expect more inmates to be released that are in need of specialized housing services. Mr. Husk also is involved in initiatives regarding the coalition for the homeless. This group addresses the local homeless needs. It consists of many local agencies. As a benefit, Mr. Husk is able to distribute updates about local job fairs

to the office to then provide to clients.

Danville PD Office:

We work closely with Probation and Parole, both Adult and Juvenile, to identify and implement appropriate services that are beneficial to our clients so that we may provide the Judge alternatives to incarceration at sentencing. This has allowed our Judges to fashion sentences that are appropriate to the crimes and tailored to the individual allowing for both punishment and rehabilitation.

In previous years we had worked closely with various agencies in the community (Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Police Department, Social Services, Probation and Parole) trying to lay the groundwork necessary to establish a drug court program. There is no funding for a drug court program at present and it seems doubtful we will be successful in obtaining funding at this point in time. Our former Circuit Court Judge was a big supporter of the drug court whereas our current Circuit Court Judges are not. Additionally, the lack of funding has not been sufficiently addressed with respect to other programs that may be beneficial to our clients. Services are either extremely limited or disappearing due to lack of appropriate funding. Drug treatment programs have long waiting lists and there are not enough counselors for those in need.

There have been some new faith-based drug/alcohol treatment programs that have started here in Danville over the past year. Our sentencing advocate has been working with her church to establish a local Celebrate Recovery program. This is a 12 step faith-based program for people needing help with addictions. The Judges have been receptive to our clients attending this program to satisfy drug/alcohol counseling requirements that the court may impose upon them.

Probation and Parole has continued to monitor former clients who are placed on probation following conviction and / or release from incarceration. The Judges of every court are utilizing probation and parole on some level depending on the needs of the particular individual. The individual probation officers work closely with our client to identify and refer them to agencies or groups within the community that can provide counseling, treatment, and other rehabilitative services that may be beneficial or necessary for clients.

We are able to identify services that are beneficial to our clients at the time of sentencing. Unfortunately there is little that we can do to help our client's transition or implement these services upon release from incarceration. We try to educate our clients as to the benefits of these services prior to sentencing with the hope that they will follow through upon release. Additionally we inform them of the consequences for failing to comply with any of their terms of probation. Appropriate funding for probation and parole is lacking. There are fewer probation officers this year and it seems as if there are fewer services available through probation and parole to assist our clients.

The largest impact of pre-trial release is that it allows the Judge to release our clients prior to trial. Release is the main objective for many clients. However, release serves an additional benefit in that it allows our clients to recover from choices they have made and hopefully avoid lasting consequences. Release allows them to return to their jobs in many cases and resume their life at home. It allows them to begin treatment programs and enter appropriate counseling programs immediately rather than postponing it until the end of a period of active incarceration. Financially, the condition of pre-trial release is frequently used in situations where individuals request a reduced or lowered bond amount.

Pulaski PD Office:

Re-entry services are minimal in the four jurisdictions served by the Pulaski Public Defender Office. The New River Valley Regional Jail discontinued providing such services. Probation and Parole has assigned a senior probation officer to develop and oversee re-entry services. I have requested to be included in any meetings and discussions that might be held as a committee is developed to implement re-entry services. To date my requests have not been answered other than a request sent to the chief probation officer that I be included. No action has been taken.

In speaking with the senior probation officer, he indicated that so far re-entry services are solely the development of home plans for inmates being released from Bland Correctional Center. He has identified a particular difficulty in offering services to inmates being released from the New River Valley Regional Jail because no information is received for these individuals.

The office continues to work with Probation and Parole and Community Corrections in making our clients aware of the various programs available and encouraging participation. Referrals are also made to Community Services.

One service that has been especially helpful is the Bridge Program. Its services are available for our clients with charges in Pulaski County and the City of Radford. This program provides wrap around services for individuals with mental health diagnoses. Initially this program was limited to pre-trial release. However it has now been expanded to include services to probationers. This program lasts up to fourteen months and has been very successful in addressing all needs of the mentally ill involved in criminal matters. The only service that has not been addressed is housing. All efforts to provide housing have been unsuccessful, and there are no homeless shelters in this area.

Drug treatment options offer several out-patient programs through Community Services and Community Corrections. There is only one residential program that currently offers thirty day in-patient treatment with eighteen months aftercare and relapse prevention. Any other in-patient treatment requires the patient to be insured.

The only resource for employment is the Virginia Employment Commission. Previous attempts to develop programs to offer assistance in obtaining employment have been unsuccessful. Re-entry services for juveniles are limited to those offered by the Court Services Unit. The office works closely with juvenile probation officers in discussing services and options. The New River Valley Juvenile Detention Home does offer a post-dispositional program. Very few of our juvenile clients receive commitments to the Department of Juvenile Justice that are not suspended. Very few of our juvenile clients are transferred to be tried as adults.

City of Richmond PD Office:

The Community Criminal Justice Board (CCJB) works closely and in conjunction with the local community corrections board (now called Division of Adult Probation or DAP) and with the state and city criminal justice services. The common goal of all involved is decreasing the jail population and addressing the issues that contribute to recidivism. We focus primarily on 2 aspects: 1. is to provide acceptable

alternatives to incarceration for certain populations of offenders, and 2. to address the housing needs. The chair of the CCJB is also the executive director of Homeless Connect, the agency that serves to coordinate housing efforts.

Some of the efforts of this past fiscal year include:

Richmond Juvenile Detention Center: this facility was closed for a year, and has opened this month. The City faced many personnel and licensing challenges and this proved to be a very time consuming issue for all involved. It is back on track.

Richmond Adult Drug Treatment Court: continues to be supported as an effort to assist those clients who are likely facing lengthy sentences in circuit court, trying to break the cycle of substance abuse and recidivism

DAP/general district court populations: Most of the focus of the CCJB and DAP is in this area:

Richmond Behavioral Health Authority has established a mid tier substance abuse program for those who need more than statutory first offender treatment but less than the several year comprehensive Drug Court program. While the primary inpatient program is Rubicon, there are programs available for co-dependent disorders and a pregnancy/newborn inpatient program has been re-established.

DAP has implemented **electronic monitoring** for pretrial and some post trial offenders. This is different than the jail monitoring programs in that it is a different type of monitor that is much more affordable for indigent clients, there are more of them, and the DAP has a designated staff to monitor them and to make house visits, etc.

Mental Health Docket: continues to thrive with referrals from the general district and traffic courts, in an effort to provide and reconnect this population with services and to monitor closely on supervision rather than incarceration.

Planned Projects for this year:

The new City Jail (to be called the **Justice Center**) is slated to open in January. Many aspects are being added to the intake areas, such as mental health and medical screenings, risk assessment screenings for pre-trial release, etc.

The Process Review Committee, which is comprised of CCJB subcommittee members and City planners, is planning a comprehensive Day Reporting Center - (**Offender Reporting Center**) to serve an additional portion of the city jail population. Rather than terms of incarceration, the reporting center will provide a wide array of services and treatment, based on needs and on court orders. This is currently in the RFP process with the City and is slated to open November 1.

Other potential programs being discussed include an Interdiction Program, whereby the Commonwealth's Attorney identifies chronic alcohol dependent offenders in given neighborhoods and attempt to entice treatment in lieu of jail time. As the interdiction process is initiated by the Commonwealth's Attorney Office, there has been no real movement on this other than periodic discussion.

I serve on the CCJB in an executive board capacity, the Process Review Committee, the RFP committee and I personally monitor the Mental Health docket. I feel that as defenders we provide vital practical information at the planning stages of any program that impacts our clients - most policy planners have very little practical experience. In Richmond, we are fortunate to have an enlightened Commonwealth's Attorney, Police Chief and Mayor and their efforts and attitudes make much of what has been accomplished possible.

Hampton PD Office:

Sr. Sentencing Advocate joined the Re-Entry Council in Hampton. The Council consists of representatives from P & P, CSB, VA Medical Center, Hampton Sheriffs Dept, Dept of Human Services, and several community based organizations which provide re-entry services. The Council meets once a month.

The Council is currently working with the Hampton Sheriff's Department in an effort to provide re-entry information to those incarcerated in the Hampton City Jails by way of a "Common Help" type kiosk. The system will allow inmates to research housing, VEC Work link, DSS programs and other community services.

The Sentencing Advocate is serving on the Reception committee which is planning a reception for offenders as well as local Judges, Defense Attorneys and the Commonwealth Attorneys. The goal of the reception is to familiarize community leaders with the Re-entry Council and available re-entry services.

We are working with the Step up Re-entry program based in Norfolk. This program provides employment, housing and advocacy services to persons in the jails with 60 days or less left on their sentence and to persons recently released from incarceration. The goal of this collaboration is to ensure that services are in place when a client is released.

P & P has been helpful with financial assistance for placement in Oxford House modeled programs for clients being released from incarceration.

Sentencing advocates have established a direct line of communication with the CSB jail services department. Once we contact this department, they quickly assist our client by assessing their mental health issues, medications and residential placement is necessary. This collaboration offers our clients uninterrupted medication and services once they are released.

We continue to work closely with the VA Medical Center's Outreach Specialist to have all clients who are veterans are screened and/or connected with services upon their release or as an alternative to incarceration.

Barriers: Free or low cost long term residential treatment programs (six months or more) are still scarce. Lack of funding for these programs is an ongoing problem.

Virginia Beach PD Office:

The office recently participated in a "Reentry Town Hall Meeting" sponsored by the Virginia Beach Reentry Council. – A collaboration between Adult Probation and the Virginia Beach Human Services Department. At this meeting city staff and representatives from local agencies were on hand to address

barriers and answer questions regarding programs and services available to help ex-offenders successfully return to the community. Subsequently, I have reaffirmed to the Reentry Council our continued interest in actively assisting them with any of their ongoing programs concerning reentry.

Staff from this office serve on the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (“JDAI committee”) – more specifically, the Public Defender serves on the executive committee and one of our juvenile court attorneys serves on the working committee. The committees are comprised of representatives from various agencies (including the Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office, City Attorney’s Office, Court Service Unit, Department of Social Services, and Police Department) and meets monthly. Specific approaches of the initiative include working to reduce unnecessary delays at each step of the juvenile court process, providing alternatives to detention for youth whose risk can be moderated by program participation, and ensuring proper conditions for youth in custody.

In recent months our sentencing advocate has created an advocacy resource folder that is full of programs as alternatives to incarceration with computer links for use by attorneys. Many of the juvenile resources are evidence based practices and some are from evidence based mapping. The reentry goals are reviewed by our sentencing advocate in the search for alternatives to incarceration and for continued treatment and services after reentry. Additionally, our sentencing advocate attends some of the Virginia Beach adult correctional services staff meetings and this, along with ongoing reviews and discussions with Adult Probation & Parole and Juvenile Court Service Unit staff, helps refine our use of their services to support any reentry treatment goals and service plans.

Finally an attorney in our office who functions as our mental health expert has been involved in multiple programs/organizations that focus on reentry. Although her specialty involves coordination of mental health alternatives, she has also worked on finding programs for the homeless and the drug and/or alcohol addicted.

Lynchburg PD Office:

Staff from this office work closely with the Regional jail's re-entry representative to provide housing, educational and job opportunities. For the past several years, we have served on the city's Jail Diversion Alliance and Central Virginia Coalition for Treatment & Recovery. Those programs lost grant funding this year. However, we have continued to maintain contacts with the local agencies who served on the coalition to continue to provide support. We also serve on the Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court Improvement Committee which involves collaboration with all entities that touch that court. We continue to collaborate with those agencies with regard to juveniles and their reentry to the area. Our sentencing advocate assists with gaining access to appropriate mental health counseling, treatment options, housing, job placement, and mentor programs.

Probation and Parole officers work closely with this office to identify appropriate counseling and treatment options.

A new pilot program, Immediate Sanction Probation Program, has begun this year in Lynchburg for probation violations. The program targets low risk offenders and places them in the program which provides greater probation oversight. The offender is violated for all technical violations and provided priority on the docket. They are then provided a swift and immediate minimal jail term. This office has worked closely with the Sentencing Commission to get the program up and going in Lynchburg. The

program's intent is to provide swift punishment for infractions which has been shown to curb violations and prevent future violations.

Petersburg PD Office:

In Petersburg our office participates in the Offender Reentry Program thru the Sheriff's Office-Positive S.T.E.P.S pre-release/transition services with partnerships with other local agencies. Clients are connected with resources and services that provide for a smoother transition and participation. This is a structured program that operates 24 hours a day in a positive social environment with focus on appropriate social values and cognitive skills.

Suffolk PD Office:

In Suffolk we do not currently have any formal re-entry efforts. My sentencing advocate attends bi-monthly mental health support meetings at the Western Tidewater Regional Jail. The focus is on clients either awaiting trial, or awaiting transfer to a state hospital for either forensic evaluation or restoration services. For local inmates pending release, the sentencing advocate will occasionally be involved in setting up the home plan for the client.

The only other area where our efforts can be classified as being involved in re-entry, which I interpret as referring to a client getting out of custody, whether D.O.C. or local, involves assistance in getting proper state ID. My sentencing advocate has assisted numerous clients obtain their birth certificates, which is often a prerequisite to getting a state issued picture ID.

Arlington PD Office:

The Office of the Public Defender, along with the Sheriff's Office and Department of Human Services, developed a Reentry Committee in the Detention Facility in 2009. The Committee meets twice a month and discusses clients who are scheduled to leave the detention facility within ninety days. Members of the committee put plans in place to link clients to housing, medical, mental health, and substance abuse services, as well as benefits, clothing, and transportation. The Office of the Public Defender as a creator and advisor for the committee worked with the Sheriff's Office and Department of Human Services to have a dedicated Reentry Coordinator for the Committee. Having a dedicated coordinator has helped provide better linkage and follow-up for all of the clients. Additionally, the coordinator is able to expand the committee's services to inmates located both in the Department of Corrections and the Peumansend Creek Regional Jail in order to provide a smooth transition back to the Arlington community. Similar to prior years, the Committee is serving approximately 100 clients per year. Those inmates have been successfully linked to services in the community. Overall, our involvement with the committee has allowed us to have more open communication with service providers in the community, so we can best prepare our clients for release. Our relationships with agencies in the community have become very strong due to this reentry effort. In 2010, the Arlington County Reentry Committee identified a need to include Probation and Parole in its reentry efforts. This addition has helped many inmates with substance abuse and mental health issues transition onto probation successfully. The Probation office has taken a role in collaborating with community organizations.

Additionally, this year the Reentry Committee formed a Reentry Council, which serves to advise the committee and uphold the Memorandum of Understanding among committee members. The Reentry Council was initiated in response to Governor McDonnell's Executive Order (No.

11), the Virginia Prisoner and Juvenile Offender Reentry Council. The Council is made up of key leaders and stakeholders in the community and is currently working on initiatives to expand support from community leaders, as well as developing a reentry presence within the interfaith community in Arlington. The Office of the Public Defender participates on the Reentry Council. In 2011, Arlington created a pilot project, Project Exodus, for clients with severe mental illness reentering society from jail and prison. Since then, the Project has been established as a program. During the creation of the program, we were involved in creating the Memorandum of Agreement among committee members and developing eligibility criteria. The Probation Department and the Department of Human Services meet with specific clients prior to their release to set up a plan together. Once they are released, that person meets with both a clinician from DHS and his/her Probation Officer. Once a month, the whole Project Exodus team meets and discusses the clients. Our role is that of a steering committee member, as well as a source of referrals.

Although there is a great presence by DHS attending the Reentry Committee, at times there still continues to be a challenge linking clients directly from jail to residential treatment programs in the community. Our agency continues to try to build relationships within the DHS in order to create a more fluid system of placement of our clients into residential treatment facilities. Although there continues to be barriers in getting people linked directly into residential treatment programs from the jail, the process has improved due to increased communication among agencies.

The Reentry Committee has partnered with the Department of Human Services Behavioral Healthcare Division in order to provide people with substance abuse and mental health services upon their release from jail. The Reentry Committee has helped improve the communication across the entire mental health system. Each different type of mental health team is cooperative with helping people connect back to services once they leave jail. The Forensic Team really provides the most linkage for people with severe mental illness leaving the jail.

Charlottesville PD office:

“Healthy Transitions” was initiated by collaboration between Albert LaFave, Sentencing Advocate, the District 9 Probation Office, and Region Ten Community Services. Initially this program was donation funded and has since been funded by the localities we serve, Charlottesville and Albemarle County. Our office has had issues getting clients into this program who have the opportunity to avoid a felony conviction, as the program was initially designed to help clients on supervised probation for a felony conviction. This limitation was addressed this year by amending the program requirements to allow individuals under misdemeanor or pre-conviction probation to participate while they are under the supervision of Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR). This is important as clients with federal disability benefits can lose these important benefits, which are critical to their ongoing success in treatment, if they incur a felony conviction.

Mental Health and Wellness Coalition provides medication management and counseling services to clients without Medicaid, insurance, or funds to afford these services elsewhere. These services continue to be available through community funding (\$100,000 grant provided by the Charlottesville-Albemarle Community Foundation). Albert LaFave is our office representative and serves on both the Steering and Programs Committees.

The “Local Inmate Workforce Program” is at last up and running, giving local inmates opportunity to do unpaid work in the community for local government agencies (e.g. maintenance work for parks and

recreation) and receive credit towards court costs and fines based on a minimum wage reimbursement schedule. This provides no cost services to the community and provides valuable work experience, job skills, work references, etc. to inmates. One major benefit of the program is that the payment of court costs enables inmates to keep their drivers licenses, something that can significantly improve their chances of successful re-entry into the community. Also, some inmates who have done well in the workforce program have been able to obtain full-time paid employment while still in jail and they can continue that employment after their re-entry into the community. Our office was very involved in the process of developing the workforce program. The only barriers were getting all local judges to agree to utilize the program in their courts. Time, publicity, and peer pressure have tipped the scales here, and all courts are currently participating.

Progress has been made on how probation violation cases are handled through collaboration with community stakeholders working within Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM) parameters. Our office actively participated in revising procedures for handling probation violations, in collaboration with judges, Commonwealth's Attorneys, probation officers, court staff and others. The above process is still ongoing, although new initiatives have been recently announced through the District 9 Probation Office. These initiatives involve inmates released from prison and address their counseling needs while under probation supervision. Our office is participating through EBDM channels. Previous treatment options offered by probation (VAPTO) were very much "one size fits all". Newer alternatives are much more progressive and promise to be much more effective.

Bedford PD Office:

At this time there exists no formal re-entry program at the Blue Ridge Regional Jail in Bedford, Or, indeed at any of the jails in the BRRJ system. Nearly two years ago an experienced re-entry co-coordinator was hired by the BRRJ to implement a re-entry program at the Amherst Regional Jail. Due apparently to a lack of funding, that experienced re-entry co-coordinator has been running the work-release program at the Amherst regional Jail since she was hired. On August 5 of this year, however, the long anticipated re-entry program at the Amherst Regional Jail will begin. The program will consist of classes twice a day for six weeks covering such topics as anger management, parenting skills, dealing with issues of substance use and abuse, and life skills of all kinds. Initially the program will be limited to Department of Corrections inmates who will never actually be transferred to DOC custody-inmates with sentences under two years-but the program administrator hopes to expand the program to local inmates and to other facilities within the BRRJ system as soon as funding will allow.

A major barrier to the effectiveness of this program is the lack of incentive for inmate to participation. At the DOC such programs are mandatory but that is not the case within the regional jail systems. While the regional re-entry coordinator would like to somehow make such programs mandatory she has welcomed a recent offer from the Bedford Public Defender to meet with the Bedford Commonwealth's Attorney and our circuit court judge, Judge Updike, to explore ways to incentivize inmate participation. Obviously, this office would prefer the carrot (additional time suspended for participation) to the stick (a new and onerous condition of release). It also seems clear that DOC could support these programs immeasurably by, for instance, increasing good time credits for inmate participation.

In addition to the above, the Bedford Public Defender's Office works with Probation and Parole, both adult and juvenile, to identify alternatives to incarceration on the sound theory that avoiding an "exit" precludes any need for re-entry. The lawyers in this office are also trained to advise their clients that a probation officer is better viewed as a resource than as jailer. In our experience this can increase the

level of communication between the probationer and the officer and often serves to encourage probation officers to assist released offenders with such things as life skills counseling when difficulties arise, rather simply punish the released offenders.

The Public Defender has also been a long time member, and frequent chair, of the local CCJB. During the length of that tenure this Judicial Circuit has seen a marked increase in diversion from jail to supervision by the CCCA, as well as an increase in pre-trial release which can be instrumental in avoiding the aforementioned "exit." We have not been closely involved in prisoner reentry in Roanoke. We do, however, on occasion become involved with reentry and the various agencies that assist in that regard.

Roanoke PD Office:

We utilize and work with Pre-Trial Services in an effort to keep as many of our clients out on bond as is appropriate under the circumstances. When issues affecting Pre-Trial Services arise we are usually included as one of the stakeholders that are invited to provide input and or to be apprised of new developments.

We make use of Drug Court and have done so since 1995 when it was established as the first Drug Court in the Commonwealth. We make use of it not only in drug cases but in other cases arising from drug use. As Public Defender I serve on the Drug Court Advisory Board and attend meetings when possible.

District 15, Probation and Parole has a Re-Entry Counsel which includes Total Action Against Poverty, Virginia Cares, Veterans Affairs, Blue Ridge Behavior Healthcare and Court Community Corrections. Jackie Holdren, our Sentencing Advocate, has been invited to attend and to join any of their subcommittees.

The Roanoke City General District Court has just recently established a Therapeutic Docket to assist defendants with mental health problems through closely monitored supervision and sentencing alternatives.

A number of our clients make use of the Rescue Mission, the main facility in Roanoke providing actual living quarters for the homeless. In the appropriate cases, both before and after conviction, we make our clients aware of the services offered at the mission. The mission also provides an 18 month residential drug and alcohol treatment program, the only such long term, residential treatment program in Roanoke. We utilize their program frequently.

We have within the last year developed contact with the Veterans' Justice Outreach program at the VA Medical Center in Salem. The program serves veterans through the provision of services to veterans involved in the criminal justice system. The program can address housing needs, medical needs, referrals for employment, mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, etc.

Virginia Cares assist inmates recently released from incarceration. They assist with job readiness classes, transportation issues; resume assistance, mock interviews, obtaining birth certificates and

identification and rights restoration. We have occasionally made use of their service. We have referred clients to them and they occasionally testify on behalf of our clients.

TAP (Total Action Against Poverty) provides numerous services that are relevant to but not necessarily directed at former inmates. They assist those in need with educational needs, including but not limited to GED classes, employment, car purchases, clothing, child care, domestic violence and crisis intervention, housing, fatherhood services, housing and homeless services, restoration of rights and resume assistance. We refer clients to TAP when the need arises.

Fredericksburg Public Defender Office:

This office serves clients in Fredericksburg City, and King George Stafford and Spotsylvania Counties. Each of our localities participates in the typical programs such as Adult and Juvenile Drug Court to address substance abuse issues. Our office also has a team member on the Rappahannock Domestic Violence Council (RDVC). It is helpful to have a defense counsel on the task force to keep our attorneys informed about the latest local domestic violence initiatives and to provide feedback to the RDVC team members from the defense perspective. Below you will find a brief summary of pertinent information from each locality our office serves.

Fredericksburg-

No specific changes in reentry services in the past year. It is noteworthy, however, that specifically regarding juveniles a case-specific plan is developed when a juvenile offender has usual circumstances.

King George-

Since the new Commonwealth's Attorney took office last year, the CA's office has been amenable to adult drug court in some instances. Previously, the Commonwealth's Office policy was that drug court was not available.

Stafford-

In the past year, the Commonwealth has increased receptiveness to drug court for both juveniles and adults. The Commonwealth is also more receptive to juveniles participating in programs as an alternative to incarceration, in instances when the Court Services Unit supports the program.

Spotsylvania-

In the past year, there has been no significant change in the number or level of reentry services. The Commonwealth is, however, receptive allowing clients who would ordinarily not qualify for the drug court program to participate in alternative methods of drug treatment and receive a charge incentive.

Newport News Public Defender Office:

About 18 months ago an offender re-entry council was formed in Newport News, but aside from a couple of "town hall" meetings I don't know what it has accomplished. Re-entry in Newport News is typically aided by the Dept. of Probation and Parole. Much like Danville, this office is involved in re-entry

as a part of sentencing if the disposition of the case allows it. We have an excellent sentencing advocate who is very active in securing alternative dispositions and sentencing plans to include substance abuse treatment and counseling, housing, mental health care and financial aid to those who qualify. She works very closely with the clients who continue to seek her support even after the case has been closed.

To the extent that drug court can be considered as a re-entry program, I personally attend every drug court staffing session to monitor the progress of the clients this office refers to that program.

Portsmouth Public Defender Office:

Our sentencing advocate actively searches for alternative programs prior to sentencing. She works closely with privately run programs to determine eligibility requirements and to screen potential candidates. Because the state run programs have become so limited we are becoming more reliant on private resources when searching for alternative to incarceration.

Our jurisdiction does have a Drug Court program, and our office stays involved throughout the screening process, as well as throughout the client's period of probation. We attend weekly drug court dockets to aid clients and advocate for their best interests.

We are becoming more involved with the mental health diversion program which is run by Portsmouth Behavioral Health care. The representative from that program, Robin Whittaker, is currently scheduled to speak to our office on August 1, 2013 in an attempt to coordinate efforts to help clients with ongoing mental health issues.

Virginia Parole Board

The Virginia Parole Board has served approximately 4500 offenders in the last year.

Please describe any collaborative efforts made by your agency within the last year and the impact of these efforts.

William W. Muse, Chairman, is a member of the Re-entry Council.

The Parole Board, in cooperation with Department of Corrections, is able to grant parole conditioned upon the successful completion of the VDOC re-entry program. This allows the Board to grant parole, but the offender is not actually released until he completes the program, approximately 6 months later. The VDOC places the offender in the program as soon as space is available rather than waiting to a time close to his mandatory release date.

Please describe any pending or upcoming collaborative efforts that involve your agency.

The Board is setting up a satellite office near the Deerfield Correctional Center to better serve the large geriatric population at that and other nearby institutions. Geriatric parole is being emphasized by the Board as a means to lower costs to the taxpayers for that more expensive population to house. Obviously, this emphasis will not be at the expense of public safety.

Please describe any past or current policy-level barriers to collaboration and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers have been implemented over the past year?

The primary barrier is the absolute lack of any public assisted living/nursing home facilities able to assume care of this population.

DATA AND INFORMATION

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

The Parole Board uses and relies upon the Department of Corrections' CORIS system. We have been able to update the Parole Board module of that system with more specific reasons for the denial of parole, and for more security of our module so that it cannot be accessed by others outside the Parole Board.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers, in order to maximize your agency's current information system, have been implemented over the past year?

The CORIS system has some inadequacies for which changes would be helpful. However, that system cannot generally be changed by VADOC IT staff and they require modification by the vendor of CORIS under its contract with VADOC. This has proven to be very expensive and beyond the ability of the Board to pay.

Virginia State Police

DATA AND INFORMATION

Case Information

Please describe any improvements or updates made to your agency's information system in the last year.

Additional court dispositions have been researched and added to the Criminal History record Information (CHRI) system; thereby, making more dispositions available nationwide.

What has been the impact to date of your agency's information system on the collaborative sharing of case-level information between agencies?

The availability of Virginia criminal history information which is forwarded to the FBI, III (Interstate Identification Index) and the National Instant Check System (NICS) is utilized for the purpose of approval/denial of firearms purchases/transfers to prohibited individuals. In addition, the criminal history records maintained by Virginia and contributed to the FBI, are accessible for making informed decisions concerning employment and allowing access to the vulnerable population.

Please describe any past or current barriers and how these barriers have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at removing or managing these barriers, in order to maximize your agency's current information system, have been implemented over the past year?

Continue to adding additional correctional status information and disposition data daily

System Information

Please describe any improvements or updates that have been made to your agency's information system in the last year.

Additional identification of arrested persons at the time of booking. Additional biometric data elements have been added to the AFIS system to improve the matching capability.

What has been the impact to date of your agency's information system on the agency's ability to track offender characteristics and outcomes?

Not applicable to this agency, but the criminal history record system provides data for tracking agencies

Please describe any past or current gaps in your agency's information system and how these gaps have been addressed. What efforts or initiatives aimed at minimizing these gaps have been implemented over the past year?

Continue to work with the courts to improve disposition reporting with enhanced technology.

Have there been any changes to the "master plan" for improved data systems? If so, please describe them below and include the lead agency and that agency's single point of contact.

Work has started on our master plan to improve and build a new criminal history record system. The agency will continue to review legislative changes to enhance public safety.

Have there been any changes/updates to data elements related to offenders (e.g., whether an offender is on probation/parole, whether the offender committed a misdemeanor or felony, etc) that can be identified by your agency? Please describe any new data element(s) that provide additional offender-related information.

Continue to update criminal history records with correctional status information.

Conclusion

This document contains an overview of Re-entry services and collaborations in the Commonwealth during fiscal year/calendar year 2013. In 2013 existing relationships have been strengthened resulting in additional resources and opportunities for individuals transitioning to the community.

Collaborations and community outreach assist in minimizing the impact of limited funding and available programs and services which are two of the main barriers mentioned by Agencies in this Inventory.

To facilitate a seamless re-entry process (that begins at sentencing and ends in the community) funding and policy barriers must be addressed. The most successful programs should be identified and replicated throughout the Commonwealth. Using data-driven processes for evaluating programs and initiatives will ensure the limited funding available is utilized towards efforts that will have the most significant impact on offender and juvenile re-entry thereby ensuring the Governor's Re-entry Initiative is successful.