



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



the NATIONAL REENTRY
RESOURCE CENTER

State and Community Partnerships to Reduce Recidivism

National Forum on Criminal Justice

August 1, 2017

Brought to you by the National Reentry Resource Center and the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice



OVERVIEW

- 01** Overview of Statewide Adult Recidivism Reduction Program
- 02** What We Have Learned
- 03** Perspectives From Nevada and Vermont

Speakers

**Ruby Qazilbash, Associate Deputy Director for Justice Systems
Policy**

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
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COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS JUSTICE CENTER

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NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Bureau of Justice Assistance

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

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



<https://www.bja.gov/>



the NATIONAL REENTRY RESOURCE CENTER

— A project of the CSG Justice Center —

- Authorized by the passage of the Second Chance Act in April 2008
- Launched by the Council of State Governments in October 2009
- Administered in partnership with the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice
- The NRRC has provided technical assistance to over 600 juvenile and adult reentry grantees since inception



SRR is a Flagship Grant Program



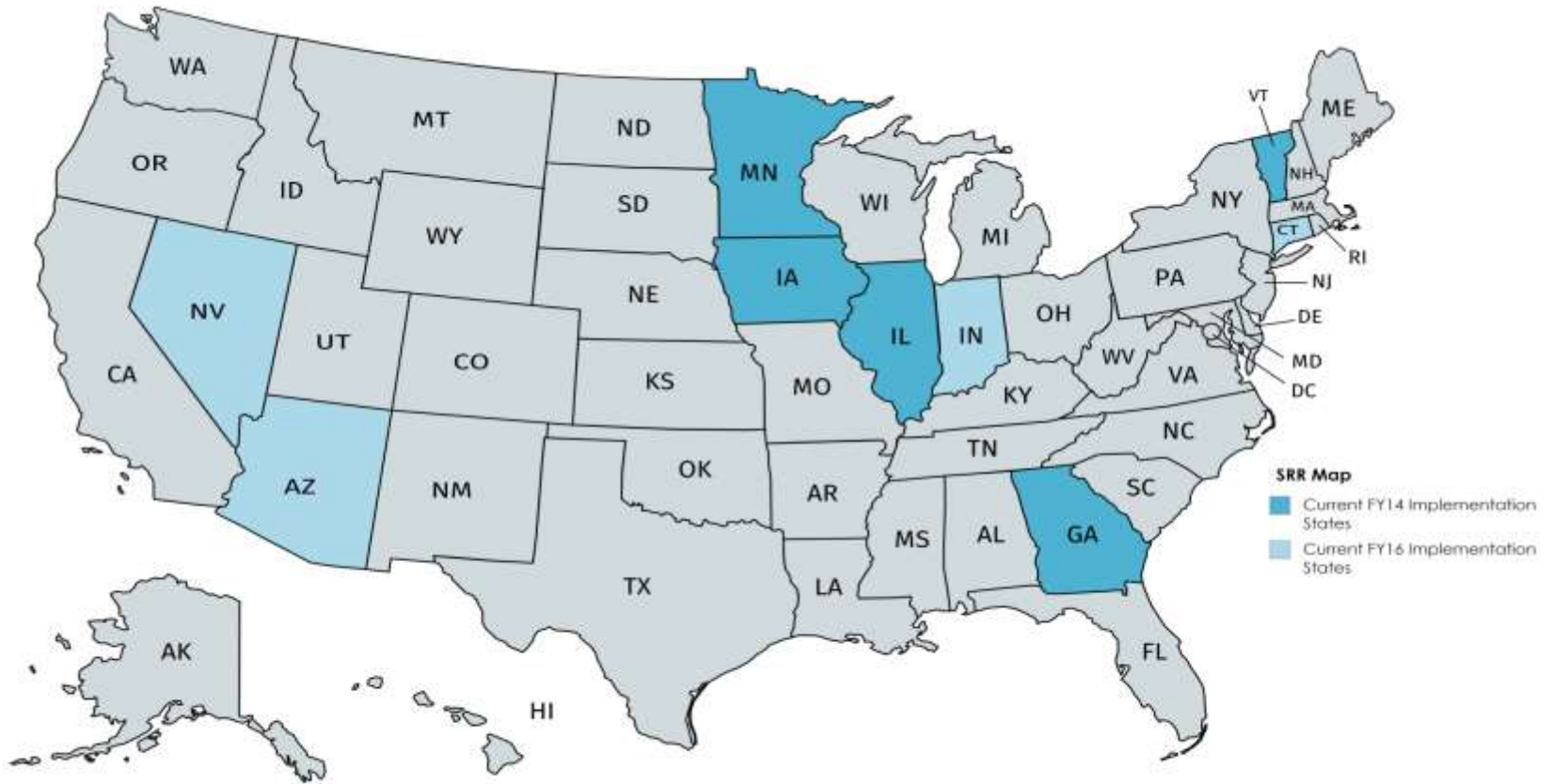
1. Highly visible and competitive
2. For the state, managed by an agency
3. Convene stakeholders and execute a statewide reentry plan
4. Build on or tie related initiatives together
5. Focus on evidence-based strategies
6. Create state centers of excellence as national models



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Map of FY14-16 SRR Grantees



Created with mapchart.net ©

SRR: Cultivating Change



Workforce Development

Organizations don't change, people do



Action Research

Investigate, Plan, Act



Data Informed Case Planning

*Targeting the right Interventions
for the right people*



Continuous Quality Improvement

If it ain't broke, make it better

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Nevada: Overview



Current Total Population: 14,102

12,740 Males and 1,362 Females

Average Male Age (39) Average Female Age (36)

**Seven (7) Institutions, Nine (9) Camps and Two (2)
Transitional Housing Centers**

Intake and Releases Average between 500 and 600 Per
Month

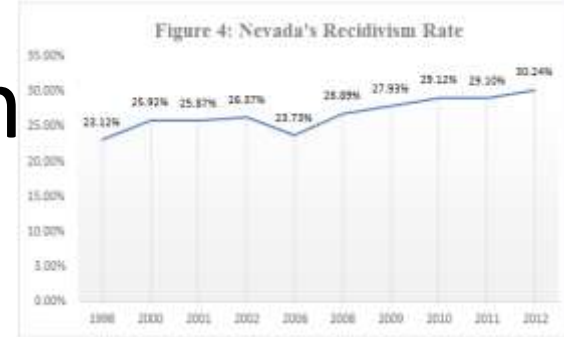
Custody Staff: 1,733 and Non-Custody: 908

***Parole and Probation is under the Department of Public
Safety and not part of the Nevada Department of
Corrections**

Nevada's Geographic Complexities



Nevada: Drivers of Recidivism



Nevada Defines Recidivism as: The re-incarceration of individuals into the NDOC within 36 months of release.

Employable Skills/Education – long sentences have handicapped offenders that haven't kept up with technology.

Substance Abuse Treatment – Lack of resource information

Mental Health Services – Lack of continuity

Challenges: There is no national definition to compare state data; Recidivism does not take into consideration Nevada's transient population (returns to their home state); limited data system which may not capture all arrests or re-incarceration.

Nevada: Collaborative Plan to Address Drivers

Nevada Risk Assessment System (NRAS – Modeled after ORAS)

- NDOC in partnership with University Nevada, Reno, is in the process of validating the NRAS for Nevada's population
- Currently identifying and addressing criminogenic needs of our offender population for program development and placement
- Case Planning processes will begin in year two of the SRR Grant based on limited case management training

Workforce Development

- Partnering with Parole and Probation to implement NRAS in Parole.
- EPICS training conducted in conjunction with Parole and Community Partners .
- Expanding base of Community and state agency partners
- Providing Continuity of Care, Programming, Medicaid Eligibility
- Training and adopting evidence-based practices for re-entry (i.e. MRT)

Nevada: Collaborative Plan to Address Drivers

Quality Improvement

- Staff Training that requires competency testing – not just attendance
- Qualitative and Quantitative Audit Instruments are currently being developed
- Conducting a review of all Evidence-Based Programs to provide a smaller number of programs with efficiency and fidelity, rather than a larger number of ineffective programs

Nevada: Sustainability of Practices

- Researchers requesting to be engaged in policy decisions that are not specific to research
- Active Research and the understanding of academic versus practicality
- Nevada Offender Tracking Information System: NOTIS does not provide reports, only raw data that must be scrubbed
- Definitions of recidivism; parole violator with new charges versus violations; needs assessment
- Manual collection of data that is inconsistent between institutions, including the use of different data collection instruments at various facilities
- Lack of standardization
- Culture shift from “lock them up” to programmatic approach to reducing recidivism – staff consider it a benefit for inmates, but do not focus on the reduction of victimization in the community
- Case Planning – requires system development, automation & training
- Overcrowding - increased workload without resources and lack of program space
- Lack of understanding, lack of commitment and lack of motivation

Vermont: Overview



- Unified system: Incarceration, Probation, Parole
- 7 Correctional Facilities
- 11 Field Offices

Measure	FY2007	FY2016	FY2017	% Change Past Decade	% Change Past Year
Persons Seen	12,259	9,773	9,549	-22%	-2%
Incarceration	2,165	1,791	1,784	-17.5%	0%
Reentry	986	913	887	-10%	-2.8%
Intermediate Sanctions	794	901	775	-2%	-14%
Parole	988	994	921	-7%	-7%
Probation	7,326	5,174	5,182	29%	0%
Housed under OOS	561	252	269	-52%	6%

Vermont: Drivers of Recidivism

Moderate to high risk offender on furlough recidivate at higher rates than the entire released population

Baseline Recidivism Rate 2009 Cohort

LSI-R Level of Risk	Total	Act41 Recidivism Rate
Low (0-23)	479	34.9%
Moderate (24-33)	724	43.6%
High (34-54)	294	55.8%
Mod or High (24-54)	1018	47.2%
LSI-R Missing	48	29.20%
Total number of offenders released	1537	43.3%

Recidivism Rate for Target Population: Moderate/High Risk Offenders on Furlough

LSI-R Level of Risk	Total	Act41 Recidivism Rate
Low (0-23)	366	39.9%
Moderate (24-33)	572	48.4%
High (34-54)	222	59.9%
Mod or High (24-54)	794	51.6%
Total	1208	47.4%

Vermont: Collaborative Plan to Address Drivers

Multi strategy plan:

- Address inconsistent casework practice across the system
- Provide staff with guidance on how to incorporate RNR principles and corrections best practice into casework
- Stabilize people (moderate-high risk on furlough) during transition to make sure they are successful within first 90 days of release

Strategy Example: Professional Development of Casework Staff

- Implement Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS)
- Adopt two New England Addiction Technology Transfer Center Models
 - Criminal Justice Competencies
 - Criminal Justice M.A.T.R.S

Vermont: Collaborative Plan to Address Drivers



Strategy Example: Action Research Partnership

- Participatory Evaluation
- Research partner engaged from the beginning to design plan
- Regular contact with teams working on the strategies
- Quarterly/Semi- Annual reports on progress/measures

Results Based Accountability™

- How much
- How well
- Is anyone better off?

Vermont: Sustainability of Practices

INTEGRATION

- Incorporate corrections best practices into Department policy documents (e.g.)
 - Case management
 - Risk and Needs Reducing Services
 - Classification
- Technology Transfer/Coaching/Personal Development Plans
- Personnel evaluations include adherence to best practice
- Reduce reliance on external trainers –develop internal expertise for future training (EPICS, ORAS)



CHALLENGES

- Staff readiness to change/adoption of model
- Communication
- Legislative and budget pressures

Panel Discussion



Questions From Audience





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Thank You

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