

FIRST DAY OUT

Identification/Clothes/Hygiene/Transportation

Assets

- Catholic Charities
- Carriage Town
- Offender Success
- Crossover
- First Presbyterian
- Hispanic Tech Center
- Parole Agents
- MDOC help w/important documents

Barriers

- Cross-system collaboration and communication
- Lack of insurance
- Lag time-lack of knowledge
- Labeling and stigmas
- Family expectations
- Birth certificates – time

Gaps

- Resource navigation
- Funding to access transportation
- Personal supplies and money for identification
- No funding to pay fines
- Not everyone gets documents before they leave

Key Players

- MDOC
- Parole people
- Agency
- Navigator/mentor

Resource Providers

- Funders
- Service Providers
- Vendors – Donations
- Felon Friendly
- Social Responsibility
- Facebook

Top 3 solutions: Who is going to do what?

1. *Orientation/Supplies – Provided to all homeless parolees*
 - a. Info flyers
 - b. Hat, gloves, underwear
 - c. Calendar
2. *Reduce Lag Time – Deliver to parole offices*
 - a. Coordinate with MDOC to provide information
 - b. Connect prior to release
3. *System Navigation – Grow Resources*
 - a. Assist with navigating resources
 - b. Need more mentors

Behavioral Health/Health

Substance Abuse Treatment, Mental Health Treatment, Health Care

Assets

- Mobile Mental Health GHS
- Sacred Heart
- Batterer Intervention
- Genesee Health Plan
- Catholic Charities
 - No waiting list
- New Paths Treatment
- Community Mental Health
- Hurly 2-1-1
- Community Help Centers
- Hamilton Health
- MDHHS – Plan B
- Odyssey House
- Cognitive CBT

Gaps

- Lack of capacity for proper assessments
- Local substance abuse services and not enough specialists
- Detox
- Sober housing while you wait
- Not enough capacity re: water
- Family Counseling

Barriers

- Misdiagnosis
- Domestic violence
- Nutrition
- Not knowing how to navigate the system
- Integrated care
- Cultural competency
- Willingness to get help
- Literacy
- Access to internet/computers
- Validate resources
- “Unfriendly/difficult intake processes and systems (e.g. automated attendant systems, long wait times)
- Timing/lapses between release and insurance coverage (e.g. Medicaid incarcerated code removed)

Top 3 Solutions: Who is going to do what?

1. Navigation/navigator to coordinate care at all levels
 - a. Hamilton community health network will host and coordinate a gathering of outreach workers, SVC providers
2. Ongoing education w/MDOC parole office
 - a. New Flint MDOC supv. (TIM/MDOC)
3. Connecting faith based, neighborhood outreach programs with provider networks/re-entry
 - a. Greater flint health coalition (Sandra, Kenyetta)

All Solutions

- Nutrition Education
- Domestic Violence Court
 - Assessing, identifying, dv victim’s batterers, referring, treatment
- Identifying behavioral concerns prior to release
- MDOC education (Parole)
- Remove medical codes upon release
 - Hamilton will host/coordinate gathering of outreach workers, service providers, codes being released
- Navigator coordination of care/services
- Faith based prison ministries, neighborhood outreach organizations
- Connecting provider networks/re-entry programs (Sandra, Kenyatta)

Housing

Assets

- New Paths
- Other Recovery Housing
- Offender Success Housing
- Carriage Town Recovery Housing
- Voucher Program
- My Brother's Keeper
- Rental Assistance
- CMH Housing
- Rental Deposits
- Fair Housing Center
- Civil Rights Office

Gaps

- Transition to permanent housing

Barriers

- Affordability
- Public Safety
- Eligibility
- Background Screening
- Insurance Requirements
- Waitlist time for Public Housing

Top 3 Solutions: Who is going to do what?

1. Financial Literacy
 - a. MADE
 - b. OS
 - c. Elga Credit Union
 - d. Metro
 - e. CC
 - f. Re-Connect
2. Life Coach Re-Safety
 - a. MADE
 - b. Re-Connect
 - c. Urban Renaissance
 - d. New Paths
 - e. OS-LL's
3. LL – Fair Housing
 - a. MADE
 - b. LL's
 - c. Fair Housing
 - d. Legal Services
 - e. Glenn Wilson – Community Inc.
 - f. Metro Community Development

All Solutions

- Identify a list of offender friendly housing landlords
- Identify specific "safe" transitional housing
- Fair housing
- Percy Glover
- MADE
- Mentoring Organizations
- Offender Success
- Identify a path of what to do if denied housing based upon criminal background
- Civil Rights Office
- Life coaching programs

Affordability and Promoting

- Offer classes on managing bills, home budgeting, saving, assistance with security deposits, and water.
- Offender Success
- MADE
- Elga Credit Union
- One Stop Housing
- GCARD
- City of Flint
- Richard Baire
- Flint Housing Commission

Sobriety and Safety in Transitional Housing

- Hold landlords accountable for unsafe conditions
- Ensure Flint rental inspections
- MDOC
- COF
- Landlord Association
- Parole
- Notify HUD/MSHDA when transitional housing stipend goes to unsafe housing or there is substance abuse on site
- Increase compliance checks
- Utilize frequent and random drug testing to ensure one is not using while in transitional housing.
- Accountability for behavior in the home. Utilize frequent and continued mentoring after transitioning to permanent housing
- Thorough communication with landlords

Pro-Social Supports

Assets

- MADE
- Re-Connections
- Literacy Network
- Flint STRIVE
- Motherly Intercession
- 12-step program
- Families Against Narcotics
- Wellness Services
- Faith Community

Gaps

- Shortage of mentors
- Not knowing about services
- Community information and resource sharing
- Increased access to pro-social activities that are family-friendly

Barriers

- Specialized peer support and case management
- Unacknowledged mental health issues
- Cultural competency gap (providers)
- Some parole conditions
- Low priority (with all else going on)
- Transportation
- Internal and external stigma
- Safety in housing (violence and substance-free)
- Communication
- Fear of engaging with institutions
- Damaged family relationships
- Loss of relationships
- Relationship struggles with significant others
- Isolation from family and community

All Solutions

- Safe and substance-free place for activities, exercise, mentors, community-managed referrals to substance abuse treatment (Other substance abuse agencies, MADE, Broome Center, Re-Connections, IINN, GHS)
- Training for mentors and increasing recruitment of mentors with an emphasis on trauma-informed care (Literacy Network, MADE, Leon, Re-Connections, faith-based organizations)
- More training for parole officers in pro-social activities, how to support parolees in more positive ways (Call Stephanie, MDOC, RECAST)
- Mentor training for returning citizens (Literacy Network, MADE, Re-Connections)
- Family Literacy (Literacy Network)
- Better network of services that is easier to navigate (MDOC, Employer Resource Network)
- Involve family members in transition team meetings
- Share existing service information with families
- For 16-24 year-olds, require family to participate in wraparound services
- Engage returning citizens during PER time, with workshops on housing options post-release
- Family-engaged programming during and post-incarceration

Top 3 Solutions: Who is going to do what?

1. Training- mentors, parole officers, inmates, returning citizens as mentors
2. Safe spaces- Activities, family-friendly, pro-social, substance-free
3. Information sharing/networking- Families, inmates, community organizations, parole officers

Education & Employment

Assets

- MRS employment and education
- Michigan Works!
- Ban the Box Genesee County
- MADE
- Salvation Army
- Goodwill
- Elite Career Solutions
- Mott Community College
- Urban Renaissance Center
- Flint STRIVE
- Catholic Charities
- Re-Connections
- St. Luke NEW Life Center
- Local universities and colleges

Gaps

- Lack of communication
- Not enough jobs
- Living wages
- Skills gap and preparation
- MRS matching dollars

Barriers

- Screening
- Social stigma
- Work history gap
- Racial and ethnic barriers (discrimination)
- Accessing financial aid
- Coordination and communication
- Not knowing about services
- Parole conditions (example: not using the internet)
- Transportation
- Social skills and job retention

All Solutions

- Expand employer resource network (employers need more employer recruitment)
- Leverage federal resources (matching funds)
- Regular open dialogue between parole agents and the agencies/institutions working with returning citizens (MDOC, employers, educational institutions, training programs other stakeholders)
- Parole agents sharing their knowledge and expertise
- New EEOC policy to ban discriminatory hiring practices (practices that have a racially discriminatory effect, even if they are not intended as such) (Civil Rights Commission, general awareness)
- Michigan Works! assessment, skills workshops and employer education
- Expansion of learn and earn model (Michigan Works!)
- Open house to promote available wraparound services (Mott Community College, Flint and Genesee Chamber of Commerce, other institutions)
- Stipends for apprenticeship programs (federal government and other funders) or shortening training programs (employers, training providers, funders and supports, workforce development)
- More resource specialists at MDOC
- More mentorships (faith-based partners)

Top 3 Solutions: Who is going to do what?

1. *Regular networking among parole agents, agencies, and institutions to problem-solve (MDOC, Employers, Offender Success Steering Team, and workforce development agencies)*
2. *Expanding Employer Resource Network to identify champions (Chamber of Commerce, Mott Workforce Development)*
3. *Leveraging resources and funding (MADE, Metro Community Development, MRS, Wraparound, Earn/Learn apprentices, funders, federal agencies, trades, skilled trade training)*