

OFFENDER RE-ENTRY INITIATIVE

NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE BRIEFING

FEBRUARY 27, 2006

OVERVIEW

Offender Re-entry Initiative

- **PURPOSE**
- **COUNCIL QUESTIONS**
- **OFFENDER STATISTICS**
- **MISSION**
- **GOALS**
- **OBJECTIVES**
- **MEASURES**
- **PROGRAM PHASES**
- **PARTNER AGENCIES**
- **STATUS REPORT**
- **NEXT STEP**



PURPOSE

Offender Re-entry Initiative

- **Address Council Questions regarding Offender Re-entry**
- **Discuss/Update on the Offender Re-entry Initiative (EHS)**
- **Support Council Priority 4 Public Safety Initiative 4.4.5 Crime Prevention Program**

COUNCIL QUESTIONS

What is the City's policy?

Response:

1. City Council has identified key focus area Priority 4: Public Safety Initiative 4.4.5 targeting ex-offender re-entry.
2. FY 05-06, the City Council approved an offender re-entry program to be established under Community Development Block Grant.

COUNCIL QUESTIONS

Offender Re-entry Initiative

Who deals with offenders?

Response: Texas Department of Criminal
Justice (Parole officers)

Texas Workforce/Project RIO (Re-Integration of
Offender & Workforce Investment Act (WIA))

Community social service providers

Medical & mental health providers

Faith based providers

Educational service providers

COUNCIL QUESTIONS

What programs are available to help integrate offenders back into the community?

Response:

**TDCJ offers community programs and referrals:
(See Appendix)**

OFFENDER STATISTICS – Dallas, Tx

Offenders released into the City of Dallas over a 3 year period from TDCJ facilities

Fiscal year 2003

Total = 8,347 offenders released to Dallas

Male = 7,088

Female = 1,259

Fiscal year 2004

Total = 8,456 offenders released to Dallas

Male = 7,115

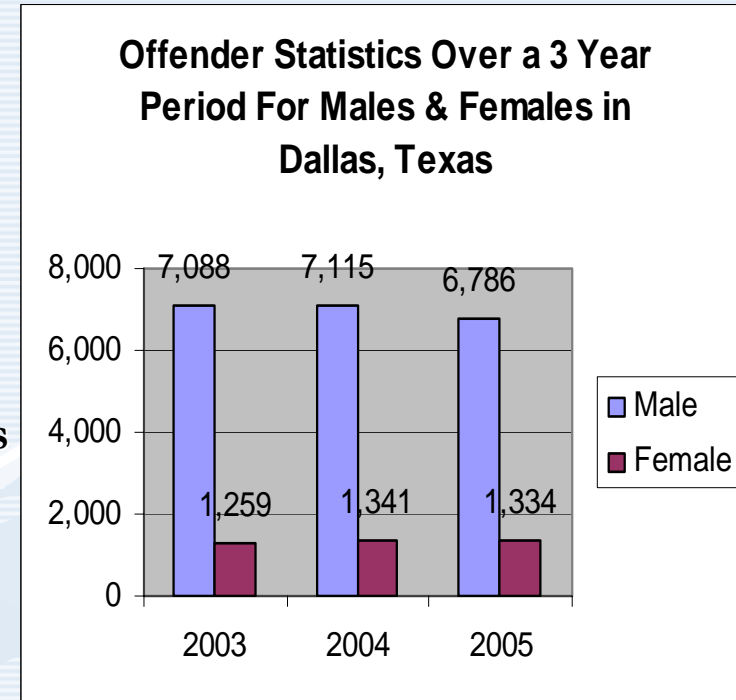
Female = 1,341

Fiscal year 2005 Preliminary

Total = 8,120 offenders released to Dallas

Male = 6,786

Female = 1,334



Source: Texas Department of Criminal Justice, December 2005

MISSION

Prepare and provide ongoing community re-entry support services to offenders 18 & older with emphasis on individuals with HIV/AIDS, mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse issues.

PROGRAM GOALS

- Identify a minimum of eighty (80) adult (ages 18 or older) offenders with emphasis on individuals with HIV/AIDS, mental illness, mental retardation, and substance abuse issues.
- Develop partnerships with social service providers that shall offer support services in the areas of life skills, job readiness, housing, medical, health, substance abuse, mentoring, education, counseling and restitution for offenders.
- Conduct 80 unduplicated pre/post assessments of participants in the Offender Re-entry Initiative in a twelve-month period.

OBJECTIVES

The Offender Re-entry Initiative shall:

- Establish a collaborative effort with MLK Community Court, criminal justice agencies, social service providers, victim advocacy groups, faith-based community groups, health and educational service providers.
- Assist with housing, employment, transportation, substance abuse, mental/medical health and restitution.
- EHS shall continue to provide support services to offenders placing emphasis on individuals with HIV/AIDS, mental illness, mental retardation, and substance abuse issues.
- Collaboration with state correctional staff and parole officers to increase access for pre/post release assessments of offenders.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Program will be measured by:

- Number of offenders who receive support services through the City of Dallas Offender Re-entry Initiative.
- Number of offenders assisted who demonstrate resiliency as evidenced by not being re-incarcerated within a six to twelve month period after discharge from a state or county correctional institution.

PROGRAM PHASES

A two phase re-entry initiative has been developed to identify community re-entry and stabilization needs for offenders. This two phase re-entry initiative will begin the development of a model re-entry program that starts and continues throughout an offender's transition to and stabilization in society.

PROGRAM PHASES

Phase 1 – Control and Restore: (Six month post prison release):
Immediately after offenders are released from state correctional institutions, the City and through community services providers shall offer services to include (as appropriate):

- Case Management
- Education
- Mentoring
- Counseling
- Life skill development & training
- Job skills development
- Job placement
- Housing
- Physical and mental health services
- Substance abuse treatment
- Transportation
- Restitution (Community Services)

PROGRAM PHASES

Phase 2 – Sustain and Support:

Community-Based Long term Support program. The City will continue to monitor offenders six months after enrollment in the program.

- **Provide ongoing services and mentoring relationships in a collaboration with the justice system and a network of social service agencies and community based organizations.**

PARTNER AGENCIES

RECOVERY TREATMENT AGENCIES

Holmes Street Foundation

Homeward Bound

Turtle Creek Manor

Nexus Recovery Center

Phoenix Houses of Texas

Green Oaks

AGENCIES RECEIVING HOPWA FUNDS (HOUSING)

Legacy Counseling, Inc.

Welcome House, Inc.

AIDS Services of Dallas

Dallas County Health & Human Services

City of Dallas

PARTNER AGENCIES

HOUSING AGENCIES – CONT:

- A Lasting Solution – Transitional/Recovery housing
- Metro Haven of Love, Inc.
- Way Back House
- Union Gospel Mission
- Legacy Founders Cottage
- Dallas Life Foundation

PARTNER AGENCIES

Offender Re-entry Initiative

EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT/MENTORSHIP/COUNSELING AGENCIES

Richland Community College
Texas Workforce Center/Project RIO
Urban League of Greater Dallas
Bajito Onda
People of Purpose (POP)
Legacy Counseling Center
Operation Oasis
Mosaic Family Services, Inc.
La Sima Foundation
AID Arms, Inc. (Free World Bound)
Community Learning Center

PARTNER AGENCIES

HEALTH SUPPORT & MEDICAL TREATMENT AGENCIES

Parkland

Dallas County Health & Human Services

AIDS Interfaith Network, Inc.

Dallas County Treatment Center

Renaissance III, Inc.

U. T. Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas

Legal Assistance:

Legal Services of North Texas, Inc.

Attorney General of Texas, (Child Support Division)

STATUS REPORT

- **Reintegration Coordinators hired**
- **Office space secured thru collaboration with TDCJ**
- **Tools (MetSYS) developed**

NEXT STEP

- **Hold meeting with senior level TDCJ officials on February 28, 2006, to launch pilot project:**
 - * **Pre-assessments in state correctional institutions by April 2006**
 - * **Educational/support service presentations in state correctional facilities by April 2006**
 - * **Establish an on-site transitional job training program**
- **Establish partnerships with Texas Workforce Board, local educational and career training institutions**

APPENDIX

Programs offered thru TDCJ:

- **GED/ABE Classes**
- **New Arrival Orientation**
- **Substance Abuse Counseling**
- **Legal Education**
- **Hispano Survival Skills Program**
- **African American Males Survival Skills/Mentoring Program**
- **Health Education**
- **Parenting Skills**
- **Finance & Budget Management**
- **Anger Management**
- **Drug Education**