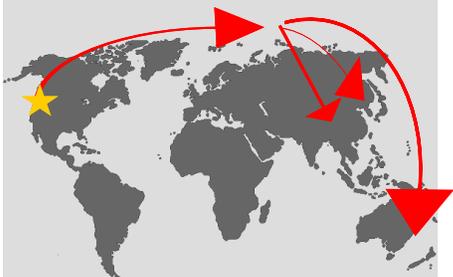




Rehabilitation

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP)
Millicent Tidwell, Director

**DRP Global Scope Expands:
First Japan, then China,
and now...**



New Zealand



Prison Arts New Zealand

27 November 2014

Reducing re-offending through pilot arts programme



Rodger Meier, Deputy Director and Mary Beth Barber, California Arts Council, share the Arts in Corrections Program at CDCR with Jacqui Moyes (center) of New Zealand's Arts Access Aotearoa. [Click here](#) to read more.

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Community and Reentry Services' A New Home for Female Parolees

FOTEP #6 Opens in Orange County

DRP's sixth Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program (FOTEP) opened in Orange County in September. The facility provides space for 36 women to receive services, including eight women with minor children. FOTEP services are available to female parolees (with or without minor children) who are under the jurisdiction of the Division of Adult Parole Operations. Eligible parolees should also have an identified Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions need.

The gender-responsive trauma-informed program can last up to 15 months and is designed to help women returning to the community after incarceration. Services offered include substance abuse treatment, counseling, vocational and educational support, assistance with job search and placement, as well as parenting and child development services.

Phoenix House helps parolees develop healthy relationships with program peers, staff, families, and the community. A "strength-based" approach is used: assessment and interventions are designed to

Today!



identify existing strengths that each parolee may draw on to deal with life's challenges. Phoenix House utilizes the following evidence-based curricula specifically for FOTEP parolees: *Understanding Addiction* by Stephanie Covington; *Seeking Safety* by Lisa Najavits; *Time Out for Me* by Texas Christian University; and more.

Children twelve or younger may reside with their mothers and are offered numerous developmental and group activities at Phoenix House. Children participate in developmental activities while mothers take parenting classes.

Phoenix House residential substance abuse treatment programs for adults are licensed by the California Department of Health Care Services and fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

Please contact Bob Logan, Community and Reentry Services, robert.logan@cdcr.ca.gov or Paula Rice –Sherman, Director of Adult Services, Phoenix House Orange County, price-sherman@phoenixhouse.org

FOTEP participants work on Phoenix House music studio



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The right inmate in the right program at the right time:

Academic Education

Increases inmate reading levels to minimum 9th grade level and achieve a GED or high school diploma. Access to college courses also available

California Identification Card

Assists in obtaining state-issued I.D. cards used to secure employment, housing, bank accounts, travel, and more

Career Technical Education

Prepares inmates for viable vocational career paths upon release by training to industry certification levels

Cognitive Behavioral Treatment

Provides evidence-based treatment for Substance Abuse, Anger Management, Family Relationships and Criminal Thinking

Long Term Offender Program

Provides evidenced-based treatment programming in criminogenic behavior to inmates serving long-term sentences

Offender Mentor Certification

Trains and certifies long-term inmates as interns to assist as mentors in various substance abuse treatment programs

Pre-Employment Transition

Provides job readiness skills including job search, resume, interviewing, financial skills, access to career centers

Reentry Hub

Provides relevant training and services to eligible and interested inmates within 4 years of release

Step-Down Program

Provides alternatives to criminal gang lifestyle to reduce confinement in Security Housing Units (SHU)

Substance Abuse Treatment

Promotes positive social behavior and helps inmates develop knowledge and skills necessary to avoid substance use relapse and successfully reintegrate back into the community, through **single** and **multi-level** substance abuse treatment programs

In-Prison Programs CMC's First Transitions Class Graduates

The Transitions Program has shown me different avenues to achieve my goals. I hope to someday have my own clothing line. I also feel like I am ready to interview for a job. The workbooks have a lot of useful information in them. I will be bringing both of them home with me to use during my job search. Inmate McAllister

On Friday, September 19, 2014, California Men's Colony (CMC) held a graduation ceremony for inmates completing the Transitions program. The initial class of 25 inmates was recognized for successfully completing the five week program facilitated by Cuesta College. The program is mandatory for inmates within six months of release and in need of employment skills; inmates may also enroll voluntarily.



Pre-release inmates complete the Transitions program at Valley State Prison, January 2014.

The class consists of two main components. The first four weeks focus on the job search, applications, resumes, interview skills, and transitional planning to their community of release. The final week of the class covers financial literacy skills including banking, investing for the future, credit, and managing money.

The Transitions program is held five days a week in 3.25 hour sessions. The program utilizes a curriculum developed by the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency, Elk Grove Unified School District, and Los Rios Community Colleges.

For additional information contact Steve Smith, Correctional Counselor III, CMC, steve.smith@cdcr.ca.gov

Office of Correctional Education CHCF Goes SMART



Jack Tone Adult School (JTAS), located at California Health Care Facility (CHCF) in Stockton, California, is dedicated to providing the best possible education for students. CHCF inmates have the most severe and long-term medical and/or mental health needs.

JTAS recently began using Smart Response Systems to provide 21st century readiness tools to traditional academic and Career Technical Education students. Smart Response Systems include interactive handheld polling devices for students and software to capture student responses on large-screen displays. Students select an answer on the device and provide teachers with instant feedback regarding their knowledge of the subject being taught. Teachers can immediately review results and re-teach the concept if needed. Performance being measured also includes student attendance and participation.

Every inmate's chance of recidivating decreases when they engage in rehabilitative education programming. Our inmates are actively involved in interactive lessons that are preparing them for 21st century readiness through the use of innovative technologies, in accordance with Penal Code 2053.1. Hillary Iserman, Principal, CHCF

Approximately 25% of CHCF's students are using smart technologies; however, JTAS plans to make this available to all JTAS students in 2015. CHCF's new Developmental Disability Program and Enhanced Outpatient Program teachers are currently preparing lesson plans utilizing the Smart Response System to improve effectiveness of education for special needs students.

Please contact Hillary Iserman, Principal, CHCF, hillary.iserman@cdcr.ca.gov



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DRP funds a growing network of focused evidence-based Community and Reentry Services throughout California to help offenders transform their lives and successfully reintegrate into society:

Computer Literacy Learning Centers (CLLC):

Offer computer-based courses provided by certified instructors for basic reading, writing and math

Day Reporting Centers (DRC) and Community Based Coalition (CBC):

Address parolee's needs through assessment and placement in classes and support services. "One stop shop" education, life skills, financial and employment training, substance abuse and counseling in setting. Some transition housing available.

Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program (FOTEP):

Provides gender-responsive residential treatment services for women and their children

Parolee Service Centers (PSC):

Provide group and family reunification, life, employment skills in residential program

Residential Multi-Service Centers (RMSC):

Helps at-risk parolees transition back into the community with housing, substance abuse treatment and independent living skills

Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP):

Provides comprehensive residential and outpatient programs and services supporting parolees needs for housing, substance abuse treatment, cognitive behavioral intervention, employment, education, family relations and community referrals

Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Program (STAR):

Provides substance abuse treatment education by certified instructors in select parole offices



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OMCP Parolee: Positive Change Starts with You

Note: Inquiries about this former inmate's path to success in the community were received after he was pictured in the June 2014 Rehabilitation Today! newsletter.

Keith Wagoner realized he had missed out on too much of his family's life, and resolved to change when he was unable to attend his oldest son's wedding. Sentenced to 25 years to life, Keith decided he needed to work for a specific release date to help him reunite with his family.

Keith took college courses, majoring in Psychology to better understand his own behavior and help others in the same regard. The California State Prison, Solano (SOL) inmate self-help program **Breaking Barriers** planted the seed to change his own belief system, and a victim awareness program helped him realize how many people were impacted by his crime. This prompted him to contact all of his victims with letters of apology. Keith believes that "words are just words without actions," and he continued to take active roles in other self-help groups.

Keith was approached by correctional counselors in 2009 to sign up for a new program being launched. The **Offender Mentor Certification Program (OMCP)** would be a lengthy educational and on-the-job training program for select inmates. There were no promises for either milestone credits or term reductions for participants; the only commitment from SOL was that mentors would be allowed to help other inmates change their behavior. He participated in the program, then took his written exam with the **California Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (CAADAC)** to be certified as a mentor and obtain the 4,000 hours needed to practice alcohol and other drug counseling in California upon release.

Keith and other inmate mentors created a variety of self-help programs – Anger Management, Denial Management, Conflict Resolution, Parenting, Bridge Building, Victim Awareness, and Understanding Criminal Behavior. One program was a workshop on methadone treatment offered to inmates. Rebecca Lira, Director of **American Health Services**, recalls being so impressed with the initial OMCP class – also known as the "Solano Fifty", that she asked mentors to submit their resumes to her. Keith



Keith Wagoner

took this opportunity, and Rebecca offered him employment contingent upon release.

Keith's file was submitted to the **Board of Parole Hearings** for parole consideration in 2012, and Keith went before the board shortly afterwards. He shared his story and commitment to be accepted back into society. The board was impressed by the changes brought about by the OMCP mentor program, and Keith in particular. Keith's hard work over the years helped him earn parole.

Keith's employment with **American Health Services** has progressed since release, and Keith is Coordinator for Outpatient Programs at American

Health Services' facility in Rancho Cordova, California.

Keith credits CDCR staff who helped him once he determined he wanted to make the change. In Keith's own words, "Staff will help you make the changes you want, but it has to start with you. Once you decide that you are going to change, and they (staff) see it, they'll give you as much support as possible. You'll find other like-minded inmates with common interests; those are the influencers you want to be around. There may be only a few, but they are strong."

Keith's story reflects DRP's philosophy, "Positive change and the chance for a successful new life starts with you!"



Keith Wagoner and Rebecca Lira



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DRP has initiated a number of advancements to improve the effectiveness and efficiencies of rehabilitative programs:

E-Readers

Help offenders achieve milestone credits with increased access to college curriculum textbooks. Tablets, pre-loaded with Voluntary Education Program (VEP) textbooks, are provided to inmates enrolled in VEP college courses. Devices are checked, charged, updated and reissued for use by other inmates.



Enterprise Inmate Online Education Network

Secured inmate education network connects inmates to computers that enables use of online resources: internal centralized learning repositories, internet based certification programs, and distance learning environments.



Law Library Touch Screen Technology

Provides Administrative Segregation Unit inmates with electronic touch screen access to the Gilmore Law Collection as mandated by *Casey v. Lewis* court case. This also reduces time and costs required to escort high security inmates to the library.



Offline Digital Resource Library for Inmates

Uses technology to reduce education textbook and library collection costs by providing those items electronically to inmates in classrooms and libraries via an offline "internet in a box" concept.



Internet Protocol Television Integration

Supports adult basic education, career technical education, and college on multiple channel televisions for inmates, using more efficient technology.



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Rehabilitative Advancement Can You Believe 48 Gigabytes of Legal Documents are in this Box?



The Law Library project team, comprised of staff from Enterprise Information Services and DRP's Office of Correctional Education and Office of Program Accountability and Support, successfully completed implementing the initial phase of DRP's Law Library Touch Screen Technology project.

Touch screen kiosks containing more than 48 gigabytes of legal briefs, rulings and documents dating back to 1865, will be installed in all adult institutions. This initiative addresses the need to improve information access for Restricted Housing Unit inmates, and also reduces time and cost of escorting these high security inmates to the prison library.

California Health Care Facility (CHCF) and California State Prison, Sacramento (SAC) each implemented 27 mobile and 15 wall mounted touch screen kiosks on November 13, 2014. The kiosks were provided by CDCR vendor partners Touch Sonic Technologies and the law library content was provided by LexisNexis.

Initial testing of the kiosks by CHCF and SAC staff members went well, and inmates are now being introduced to this service. Kiosks will be deployed to remaining adult institutions through early 2015.

Please contact Sirisha Gullapalli, IT Program Manager, DRP Programs, sirisha.gullapalli@cdcr.ca.gov

Employee Recognition Awards Program



Joanne Gray, Office of Program Accountability and Support; Director Tidwell; Robert Dunlap, Office of Offender Services In-Prison Programs

On December 4, 2014, Director Millicent Tidwell presented DRP Employee Recognition Awards to four employees at DRP headquarters. Employees recognized for extraordinary efforts to support DRP's rehabilitative initiatives to reduce recidivism during the 3rd quarter performance period were (name and office): Joanne Gray, Office of Program Accountability and Support, Matika Rawls, Office of Correctional Education, Robert Dunlap, Office of Offender Services – In-Prison Programs, and Abby Steinmetz, Office of Offender Services – Community and Reentry Services. Award winners will be announced quarterly.



Matika Rawls, Office of Correctional Education; Director Tidwell; Abby Steinmetz, Office of Offender Services Community and Reentry Services