

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP MEETING
October 1, 2012

Present: Craig Burr, Martene Mackie, Stephen Dark, Carl Henson, Michelle Foredice, Daniel Meinhart, Wayne Parker, Ruth Ann Majnik, Gaylene Dawes, Jennifer Bartell, Jennifer Wilson, Brian Tease, Debbie & Gary Martin, Mark Wheatley, Norma Bench, Allison Payne, Sara Lambrinos, Debby Stone, Paula Young, Richard Godfrey, Julie Breckenridge and Becky Rathke, Mindy Baird – Recorder.

Craig Burr welcomed the group.

Craig handed out the FOCUS news letter.

Next meeting is January 7th at 6:00.

Craig introduced Martene Mackie, Supervisor, DORA Project from Region 3, and Jeff Wilson, Supervisor, Employment Project.

Martene Mackie

- DORA was funded by the legislature in 2005 for the purpose of dealing with inmates with a substance abuse problem.
- DORA works with as a team with AP&P and court judges.
- DORA is offered in Davis, Utah, Salt Lake and Weber Counties.
- The guidelines for DORA are, (1) must be a resident of the county (2) convicted of a felony (3) moderate to high LSI scores, (4) no pending charges (5) No sex crimes (6) No assault charges (7) probationers only.
- The DORA cases are reviewed once a week.
- DORA is not forced unless court ordered.
- The goal for DORA is to reduce recidivism rates.
- The Drug Offender Reform Act report can be found on-line at the Utah Criminal Justice Center's website: http://ucjc.law.utah.edu/wp-content/uploads/DORASatewide2011_v110811_final.pdf

Mark Wheatley asked how many offenders are treated with DORA?

Martene stated there are approximately 621 offenders treated so far for 2012.

The University of Utah Research Department in conjunction with CCJJ completes an annual report of the DORA Program.

Craig Burr thanked Martene for her time and turned the time over to Jeff Wilson.

Jeff Wilson

- The Employment Team focuses on developing community-based employment opportunities and brings offenders and employers together.
- Eighty percent of offenders return to prison as unemployed.
- The focus of the Employment Team is to decrease the number of offenders returned to prison or unsuccessfully completing probation because of the lack on employment.
- This community based team seeks to enhance the Department's transition responsibilities by helping offenders learn the necessary skills to find and keep a job.
- What the Employment Team does (1) Provide employment and career planning to offenders (2) Develop resumes (3) application preparation (4) job search (5) Provide training and job readiness training (6) Develop a network of public, community and private employers that are willing to hire offenders. This includes face-to-face contacts with employers (7) Provide direct support to AP&P staff on matters related to employment (8) provide on-going support to offenders who want to enhance their employment (9) Provide follow-up and support to employers who have hired offenders.
- Once the offender is released they should go to Workforce Services.
- There is no set date when an offender should be employed, just ASAP.

Suggestions for the next meeting:

- Invite Director Steve Turley and Warden Bigelow.
- Mental Health -- invite Dale Schippenboard.

Approved: Programming, Director Craig Burr

FOCUS: UDC News

Guest Speakers:

- ✓ Martene Mackie, Supervisor, DORA Project
- ✓ Jeff Wilson, Supervisor, Employment Project

Date:

- ✓ 1 October 2012 @ 6 PM
Utah Department of Corrections

UDC Supports Offender Education, Life Skills and Treatment Opportunities



It Takes A Community To Have A Successful Transition

OUR VISION –

We envision a culture where honor, accountability, and integrity are reflected in our conduct. In so doing, we foster an environment rich in professionalism, compassion, collaboration, and dedication. Together, we are a fair, focused, innovative, and energized team.

OUR MISSION –

Our dedicated team of professionals ensures public safety by effectively managing offenders while maintaining close collaboration with partner agencies and the community. Our team is devoted to providing maximum opportunities for offenders to make lasting changes through accountability, treatment, education and positive reinforcement within a safe environment.

DORA Strategies

The Drug Offender Reform Act 2011 statewide report can be found on-line at the Utah Criminal Justice Center's website:

http://ucjc.law.utah.edu/wp-content/uploads/DORASatewide2011_v110811_final.pdf

DORA is looking toward 2013 to

- 1) Examine ways to improve outcomes for high risk offenders (higher LSI score, younger age, requiring higher treatment intensity).
- 2) Begin serving a parolee population again if funding becomes available ("bang for buck" is greatest with higher risk offenders, and parolees are the highest risk group).
- 3) Maintain the high quality of supervision intensity and access to treatment.
- 4) Continue to implement strategies to increase time in treatment and likelihood of completion.
- 5) Select probationers who have a drug conviction at their DORA-qualifying event if funding and slots are limited.

Employment Trends

The employment agent team's emphasis this year includes job development and public presentations...anything related to educating the public in regards to our Department, offender employability, benefits of hiring offenders and offender challenges when transitioning from custody to community.

Do YOU know someone willing to hire an offender? There are many tangible, emotional and civic benefits that come from giving someone a second chance.

See the next page for more detail about the Employment Team's work since July 2009.

See the next page for more detail about the Drug Offender Reform Act (DORA).

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Craig Burr, Director

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DORA with dedicated Adult Probation Agents is offered in Davis, Salt Lake, Utah and Weber Counties. That means the agent works directly with the treatment provider and the offender from sentencing date to treatment program completion, the focus is on substance abuse-specific cases and the agent receives additional alcohol and drug training.

Some counties also receive treatment funds through **DORA** without the supervision component. Those are Cache, Carbon, Emery, Iron, Tooele and Washington.

Substance abuse treatment and supervision providers may contact us about an exciting joint federal - state training opportunity in October.

FOCUS members, THANK YOU for your support, suggestions and participation in this quarterly event.

Read More [Here](#) About The Employment Team's Activities:

The Employment Team focuses on developing community-based employment opportunities and brings offenders and employers together.

Eighty percent of offenders returned to prison are unemployed.

A primary focus of the Employment Team is to decrease the number of offenders returned to prison or unsuccessfully completing probation due to a lack of employment. This community based team seeks to enhance the Department's transition/re-entry responsibilities by assisting offenders as they develop the necessary skills to find, retain, and enhance their employment opportunities. By assisting offenders to maintain employment and encourage lawful behavior, the Department supports its mandate to maintain public safety.

What the Employment Team does:

Provide employment/career planning to offenders.
Develop resume, application preparation, and job search training geared to offenders; and provide job readiness training.

Develop a network of community, public, and private employers willing to hire offenders. This includes face-to-face contacts with potential employers.

Coordinate with allied agencies, educational, private, and community organizations to enhance offender employment opportunities (Task Force).

Provide direct support to Adult Probation and Parole staff on matters related to offender employment.

Provide on-going support to offenders who are seeking or desire to enhance their employment.

Provide follow-up and support to employers who have hired offenders.

Maintain a current understanding of important issues related to the job market, hiring trends, and job readiness training.

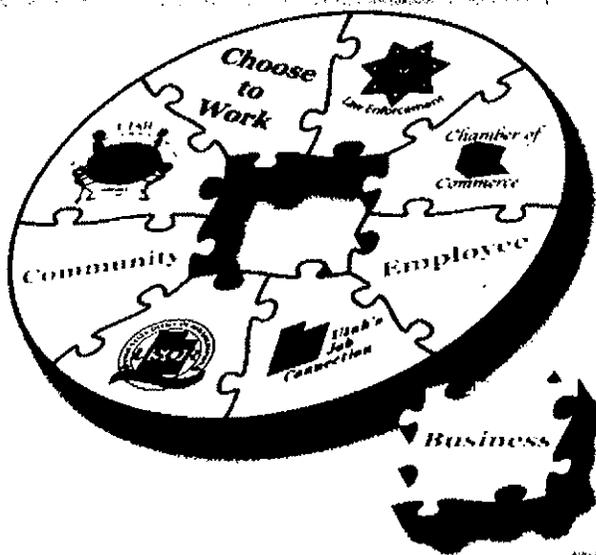
FOCUS members: How can YOU help make a difference?

FOCUS members: Save the date ~ 7 January 2013 ~ at 6 PM for the next FOCUS meeting.

Utah Defendant Offender Workforce Development Task Force

U.D.O.W.D.

Mission Statement: Unite offenders and employers by assisting offenders with employment options, job readiness training and employment application assistance.



HISTORY

The U.D.O.W.D. Task Force was established in the fall of 2009. It consists of members from state, federal and local law enforcement and non-profit and religious organizations whose primary goal is to assist ex-offenders obtain employment and to learn how to become productive members of society.

Some of these agencies include:

- Utah Department of Corrections
- U.S. Probation/Pretrial Services
- Utah State Office of Rehabilitation
- Utah Department of Workforce Services
- Federal Bureau of Prisons
- Local Law Enforcement Agencies
- Utah Federal Defender's Office

HIRING INCENTIVES

Work Opportunity Tax Credit: Employers can receive up to \$2,400 for each ex-offender they employ. For more information about this program: www.jobs.utah.gov/employer/business/wotc.asp

Federal Bonding Program: This program provides employers with free bonding insurance from \$5,000 to \$25,000 for certain perceived "high-risk" applicants. For more information regarding this program go to www.bonds4jobs.com

Additional tax credits, incentives and support may be available. To learn more, contact the U.D.O.W.D representative in your community.

EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE

Ex-offenders are commonly more motivated than most employees as they feel they have something to prove to themselves, their families and society in general. Being under supervision also mandates they maintain stable employment and undergo counseling and random drug testing, which is commonly an ultimate savings to most employers.

Be part of the "cycle of success"

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Mission Statement - Our dedicated team of professionals ensures public safety by effectively managing offender behavior through a diverse combination of prison, probation, and parole services. We provide a continuum of services and opportunities for offenders to make lasting changes through accountability, treatment, education, and positive reintegration into a safe and healthy community.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Over 2000 employees
- 2 prisons (Draper and Gunnison) = 6500+ inmates
- 4 Community Correctional Centers (halfway houses)
 - Salt Lake City (3), Ogden (1)
- 6 Probation/Parole Offices
 - Region I - Logan - (435) 713-6240
 - Region II - Ogden - (801) 626-3700
 - Region III - Salt Lake - (801) 239-2100
 - Region IV - Provo - (801) 374-7633
 - Region V - St. George - (435) 634-2800
 - Region VI - Price - (435) 636-2800
- Approximately 17,000 offenders are on community supervision statewide at any given time.

SUPERVISION STANDARDS

Probation - Jail sentence + community supervision

Parole - Prison sentence + community supervision

Community supervision of probationers and parolees is relatively the same; however, probationers report to a judge, while parolees report to the Board of Pardons.

Fulltime employment and/or education, random drug testing, counseling, restitution, and community service are common conditions of probation/parole.



Approximately 3,000 inmates are paroled from prison each year in Utah. Of those released nationally, around 65% will return to prison within 3 years. Of those, over 80% will be unemployed at the time of their arrest.

The recidivism rate for the local county jails is substantially higher than that of the prison due to offenders being constantly in and out of custody pending adjudication of their cases, probation violations, or serving sentences for offenses which are not eligible for a prison commitment.

TAX LIABILITY

- Approximate cost to house an inmate in the Utah State Prison = \$30,000.00/per year
- Approximate cost to supervise an offender in the community = \$2,700.00/per year