

Palm Beach County  
Public Safety Department

Reentry Task Force



Strategic Plan  
(Updated July 2018)

**Mission:** The mission of the Task Force is to increase public safety, reduce victimization and recidivism rates and create an improved quality of life for Palm Beach County residents. The Task Force will coordinate and facilitate resources, develop and maintain partnerships, implement changes based on evaluation, and identify opportunities for sustained reentry services.

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## **Palm Beach County Reentry Overview**

Palm Beach County's (PBC) Ex-Offender Reentry efforts began in 2001 with the establishment of a Reentry Workgroup under the Corrections Task Force within the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC). The Workgroup was focused only on the county sentenced jail population and what could be done to help them transition back to the community in order to reduce recidivism. As a result, the Public Defender's Office began a small reentry program consisting of one social worker. The CJC Reentry Task Force, comprised of elected officials, former offenders and other community stakeholders formally began meeting in February 2008, initially charged with examining remaining unresolved issues from former Governor Bush's Statewide Reentry Initiative. The Task Force developed a detailed assessment of all reentry services in Palm Beach County. The result was a clearer picture of what services were being offered, but more importantly, what services were lacking due to geographical, financial or other barriers.

The CJC formally adopted the Reentry Task Force as an ongoing committee in November 2008 and Palm Beach County Public Defender Carey Haughwout and former Congressman Harry Johnston co-chaired the initial effort. The Task Force then developed a Five Year Strategic Plan to create a strategy for filling the service gaps identified in the county-wide assessment.

In 2017, the task force was designated as an official Board of County Commissioner's advisory board and moved under the auspices of the Public Safety Department.



The current 2018 Reentry Task Force is now responsible, as more fully detailed on page 3, for the overall implementation and sustainability of the Strategic Plan and includes six (6) subcommittees that are responsible for various tasks that lead to the achievement of specific goals described in the plan. The Strategic Plan is continually updated to reflect changes in countywide programs. The consequence of such changes is that this Strategic Plan is a dynamic rather than static document, subject to modifications and periodic updates.

## **Reentry Task Force Ongoing Responsibilities**

### **1. Coordinate and Facilitate Resources**

- Continue to build a coordinated reentry service delivery plan by enhancing existing infrastructure.
- Increase employment opportunities for ex-offenders.
- Increase opportunities to educate returning ex-offenders about services that are provided in the community.
- Facilitate sharing of resources among agencies and service providers.

### **2. Maintain and Develop Partnerships**

- Continue to identify new partners and determine how and when to bring additional partners into the initiative.
- Maintain the reentry subcommittee structure.
- Continue to work with the Florida Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office to support offenders returning from each system.
- Engage federal, state and local officials.

### **3. Evaluate and Implement Changes**

- Identify gaps in reentry services and prioritize the needs.
- Map actual pre and post release services to determine when services are most effectively delivered.
- Annually evaluate reentry programs for effectiveness to determine funding recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.
- Update the Strategic Plan annually by fine tuning goals and tasks as needed, based on circumstances.

### **4. Sustainability of Reentry Services**

- Influence policies that allow for more effective inmate transition.
- Identify and seek additional funding opportunities in order to close service gaps.
- Determine feasibility of shifting county/state/federal-funded programming to community-based funding.
- Develop a plan to secure the financial sustainability of reentry services and programs utilizing diverse funding sources.

### **Intended Reentry Outcomes**

- ✓ Increased Public Safety
- ✓ Reduced Recidivism Rates
- ✓ Decreased Number of Crime Victims
- ✓ Improved Quality of Life for Palm Beach County Residents

## **PBC Reentry Task Force Accomplishments**

### **2001**

- Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) establishes Reentry Workgroup under the Corrections Task Force
- Public Defender's Office agrees to operate County's first reentry program focusing on county sentenced jail inmates only with a staff social worker

### **2008**

- Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) temporarily establishes the Reentry Task Force
- CJC formally adopts Reentry Task Force as an ongoing Committee

### **2009**

- Developed a detailed assessment of Reentry Services in Palm Beach County (PBC)
- First Second Chance Act Grant Submitted
- Reentry Subcommittees established
- First Reentry Employer Reception
- Florida Department of Corrections (FDC) Secretary McNeil visits Palm Beach County

### **2010**

- CJC hosts first reentry transition fair
- Signed initial Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with FDC
- Sago Palm Reentry Center opens
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Second Chance Act Grant Submitted
- First Second Chance Act Grant awarded to Palm Beach County (\$750,000) for Adult Reentry
- Established the Regional and State Transitional Offender Reentry (RESTORE) Initiative
- Statewide reentry conference held in Palm Beach County

## **2011**

- Bureau of Justice Assistance site visit
- Developed coordinated map of service areas
- First countywide Thinking for a Change Training
- Pre-Release Reentry Staff began work at the Sago Palm Reentry Center
- Portal of Entry coordinated felon registration with the delivery of reentry services
- Transition from Jail to Community began through The Lord's Place
- First formal countywide LSI-r Risk/Needs Assessment Training
- First RESTORE inmate released (8-1-11)
- Inside Out Dads parenting class for inmates began
- Technical Assistance Site Visit from Council of State Governments
- Awarded Juvenile Reentry planning grant (\$75,000)
- All county funded reentry programs utilize a uniform risk/needs assessment (LSI-r)

## **2012**

- CJC Reentry Network (RENEW) created- allows for uniform data collection
- Palm Beach State College visits Sago Palm Reentry Center- Pre-release vocational education
- First Pre-Release Family Reunification Class for inmates and families of inmate
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Second Chance Act grant awarded (\$750,000) for RESTORE Adult Reentry
- Formal RESTORE policies and procedures developed
- Community Reentry policies and procedures established
- University of South Florida (USF) evaluation of PBC reentry services Begins

## **2013**

- MOA extended with Florida Department of Corrections
- USF evaluation of reentry services completed
- RESTORE selected as a participant in a national evaluation of reentry services (\$1,500,000)
- Solidified uniform outcome measures, county-wide assessments, data collection systems, and evaluation methods.
- Created a link for primary health care for Palm Beach County ex-offenders
- Awarded juvenile implementation Second Chance Act Grant (\$750,000)
- Palm Beach County School District in partnership with PBSO created educational transition staffing for direct filed youth
- New DJJ Reentry Unit 104 established
- PBSO establishes a free tattoo removal program
- Boynton Beach Mayor establishes Team of Hope, a group of community leaders that recruits local businesses to hire ex-offenders

## **2014**

- Began implementing the juvenile reentry, Back to a Future Program
- Established the Mental Wellness Subcommittee
- Established the Reentry Housing Subcommittee
- PBSO begins to make electronic referrals to community-based reentry providers using RENEW
- RENEW adapted to accept juvenile clients
- County sentenced youth begin receiving reentry services for the first time
- PBSO begins connecting with juvenile mentoring program
- PBC reduced residency restrictions for sex offenders

## **2015**

- One of two sites in the country selected to participate in the Integrated Reentry and Employment Strategies Pilot Project
- County representatives met with leaders from the Department of Justice, Department of Labor and the Council of State Governments in Washington DC to provide input on how to leverage funding to improve employment outcomes for ex-offenders
- One of seven sites nationally participating in an evaluation of Second Chance Act programs
- Palm Beach County and Boynton Beach joined the City of West Palm Beach as the only jurisdictions that have banned the box in Palm Beach County
- The Back to A Future Program offered first Aggression Replacement class for juveniles incarcerated on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the jail
- One of 20 sites nationally awarded a \$150,000 planning grant from the MacArthur Foundation to look at strategies to decrease the jail population
- Awarded a \$500,000 Department of Labor grant to establish the Pre Release Employment Preparation And Reentry Engagement (PREPARE) Program in the local jail
- Received first Ad Valorem contributions from Palm Beach County (\$250,000) to support reentry
- Established a permanent reentry unit responsible for all County reentry programs under the Department of Public Safety's Justice Services Division
- Created uniform transition process for all youth returning to Palm Beach County
- Met the goal of reducing recidivism by 50% for those individuals enrolled in county funded reentry programs
- Reentry clients defined as a special population in the County's Consolidated Action Plan
- Formalized Reentry Task Force Bylaws

## **2016**

- The RESTORE Program received the Local and Statewide “Reentry Award” from the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency for outstanding work in the reentry field
- The City of Riviera Beach, Mangonia Park and South Bay joined Palm Beach County, Delray Beach, Boynton Beach and the City of West Palm Beach as the only jurisdictions that have banned the box in Palm Beach County
- Drafted Memorandum of Agreement with the five local Housing Authorities that develops a process for them to accept successful reentry clients on housing authority leases
- Received 389 signatures from the general public pledging to support second chances
- Contracted with Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network to improve Mental Health and Substance Abuse services for Palm Beach County Reentry Clients
- Staff delivered a presentation, “Correctional and Workforce Development Leadership in Integrated Reentry and Employment Strategies,” at the National Second Chance Act Conference
- Renewed and extended the Memorandum of Agreement with the Florida Department of Corrections which will allow services to continue for three more years at Sago Palm
- Provided Technical Assistance to reentry staff in Rhode Island, Chicago and California on how to create a collaboration between government and community-based organizations
- Received \$500,000 from the State of Florida to continue to serve inmates returning from Florida Department of Corrections Institutions
- Held a Business Engagement Event in partnership with CareerSource engaging local businesses from the construction sector to develop career pathways for reentry clients
- Recognized officer Maurice Cromer as the first Correctional Officer of the Quarter for his efforts in assisting inmates in their transition back to Palm Beach County
- Held the first ever joint staff meeting between Probation officers and reentry staff to develop relationships, share resources and brainstorm strategies to enhance the existing reentry process
- University of Miami completed an evaluation of Juvenile Reentry services
- Kelly Tractor donated a forklift to the Sago Palm Reentry Center to be used as part of a pre-release certification program
- Formed a partnership with the state Department of Motor Vehicles who now provide pre-release CDL testing at Sago Palm
- The juvenile reentry task force developed a visitation informational sheet for family members of incarcerated youth on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the jail that resulted in a 700% increase in visitation
- Instituted Aggression Replacement Training (ART) for youth in the County's Jail to address criminal thinking of the youth

## **2017**

- Received \$500,000 from the State of Florida to continue to serve individuals returning from Florida Department of Corrections Institutions
- Awarded an \$850,000 grant from the Department of Justice to enhance existing county reentry services by providing resources for transitional jobs programs and cognitive-based interventions for reentry clients
- Began the implementation phase of the Integrated Reentry and Employment Strategies (IRES) project
- Staff delivered presentations in New York, Denver, Milwaukee and to the PBC Homeland Security group on the community-based reentry model.
- Participated in the City of West Palm Beach Peace Walk
- Met with Florida Department of Corrections Secretary, Julie Jones, and developed methods to strengthen the partnership with Palm Beach County.
- Signed a Memorandum of Agreement with CareerSource Palm Beach County that creates specialized career paths for ex-offenders
- The Reentry Task Force was officially moved under the Public Safety Department as a County advisory board
- Developed a Tri-County Reentry Coalition with Broward and Miami-Dade Counties to explore strategies to better serve ex-offenders statewide
- Implemented a pilot project for Department of Corrections Youthful Offenders returning to Palm Beach County.
- Thirty-eight (38) county reentry staff were trained in “Employment Retention: Principles and Practices” by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC).
- Drafted Memorandum of Agreement with The GEO Group to improve services for inmates returning to Palm Beach County through their facilities.
- Forty (40) county reentry staff were trained in the cognitive-behavioral treatment system, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)
- Reduced recidivism rates by 50% for all county-funded reentry initiatives
- Started planning for a National Reentry Conference in 2018
- Received an in-depth technical assistance site visit by Heartland Alliance focusing on transitional jobs for ex-offenders

## **Subcommittee Overall Goals**

### **A. Employment Subcommittee Goals**

1. Determine the strategy and approach for increasing employment opportunities for ex-offenders.
2. Increase partnerships with the business community
3. Increase awareness of incentives for businesses that hire ex-offenders
4. Connect training programs to local labor market needs
5. Develop Access Points in the Community
6. Identify and research policy changes that will result in increased employment opportunities for ex-offenders

### **B. Sustainability Subcommittee Goals**

1. Develop a sustainability plan for all Countywide Reentry Program Models
2. Raise awareness about reentry among policy makers, community leaders and the private sector
3. Develop a proactive strategy for working with media, employers and other stakeholders
4. Develop a proactive strategy for responding to negative events involving participants
5. Prepare agency executives, staff, crime victims and formerly incarcerated people to serve as initiative spokespeople

### **C. Sex Offender Subcommittee Goals**

1. Identify and establish resources for ex-offenders
2. Analyze current sex offender and sexual predator restrictions for effectiveness and make any appropriate recommendations
3. Recommend improved monitoring methods
4. Increase opportunities for sex offender treatment in order to enhance public safety
5. Educate the community and service providers about sex offender issues

**D. Youth Reentry Subcommittee Goals**

1. To reduce juvenile recidivism
2. Promote public safety by implementing a coordinated and uniform comprehensive individualized transition plan for each youth based on his or her risks, needs and strengths
3. Incorporate youth into existing reentry committees
4. Ensure every incarcerated or committed youth returning to Palm Beach County has access to Reentry Services
5. Establish a local facility to house committed youth so local reentry services can begin pre-release
6. Work towards completion of goals outlined in the Palm Beach Juvenile Reentry Strategic Plan

**E. Data & Evaluation Subcommittee Goals**

This is an Ad Hoc Committee that is responsive not active.

1. Assist in collecting and producing data in response to funder's and service provider's performance measures and outcome needs.
2. Respond to requests for data or reports from other subcommittees.

**F. Housing Subcommittee Goals**

1. Establish diverse housing models and services for transitioning ex-offenders
2. Identify existing housing and service related funding streams and opportunities
3. Develop a local housing project dedicated to ex-offenders
4. Identify a network of local housing experts that are willing to find solutions to reentry housing issues
5. Investigate needs of special populations including women, juveniles and sex offenders and facilitate the implementation of service

## **County-wide Recidivism Goals**

### **A. Recidivism Goals**

The Reentry Task Force originally set a five-year goal in 2010 to cut recidivism rates by 50% for those enrolled in reentry programming. Goals were met by all county funded programs in 2015. Moving forward Palm Beach County aims to maintain and improve upon historical successes by maintaining at least a 50% reduction in recidivism.

<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>BASELINE RECIDIVISM RATE</b>	<b>GOAL</b>	<b>2015 1-YEAR PROGRAM RECIDIVISM RATES*</b>
<i>PBSO- LOCAL JAIL</i>	51%	25%	20.3%
<i>FDC- STATE</i>	68%	34%	16.8%
<i>FBOP- FEDERAL</i>	49%	NA	NA
<i>DJJ- JUVENILE**</i>	50%	40%	19.3%

\*Recidivism rates are determined using three year cohorts and are defined as re-arrest and conviction within 1 year of release.

\*\* Juvenile rates are determined using FDLE arrest data not new juvenile referrals.

## 2018-19 Current Objectives and Tasks by Committee

### EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE 2018-19 OBJECTIVES

**Objective 1- Find 20 new businesses that will commit to hire individuals with a criminal background and track their progress for 1 year**

- Task 1- Identify interested organizations*  
*Task 2- Refer job ready ex-offenders*  
*Task 3- Track progress and outcomes of project.*  
*Task 4- Evaluate and Report*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** CareerSource, Palm Beach County, The Lord's Place, Riviera Beach Justice Service Center and Gulfstream Goodwill

**Objective 2- Find 10 new businesses and municipalities to Ban the Box**

- Task 1- Continue to advocate for additional business and municipalities to ban the box that asks about criminal history*  
*Task 2- Develop groups of stakeholders to approach new businesses and municipalities*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** CareerSource, Palm Beach County Reentry Task Force Members and Palm Beach County Reentry Staff

**Objective 3- Determine trade needs of local business and governmental agencies and train ex-offenders in those trades**

- Task 1- Set up meet and greet with local businesses, unions and municipalities*  
*Task 2- Determine trades that are most in demand*  
*Task 3- Train ex-offenders in trade skill sets and match clients with hiring agencies.*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** CareerSource, Palm Beach County Reentry Task Force Members and Palm Beach County Reentry Staff

## **SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE 2018-19 OBJECTIVES**

### **Objective 1 – Identify unmet reentry service needs**

- Task 1- Define unmet needs in reentry*  
*Task 2- Quantify the cost of identified needs*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** Sustainability Subcommittee members and PBC Reentry Staff

### **Objective 2- Create a case statement and set meetings with Public Safety Department (PSD) and Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to expand reentry services**

- Task 1- Develop Case Statement based on data that outlines current services and trends.*  
*Task 2- Schedule meetings with PSD and BCC*  
*Task 3- Present case statement and proposed expansion to PSD*  
*Task 4- Schedule formal annual presentation to the Board of County Commissioners to propose recommendations*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** Sustainability Subcommittee Members and PBC Reentry Staff

### **Objective 3- Raise awareness about reentry among policy makers, community leaders and the private sector**

- Task 1- Develop Stakeholder groups that regularly meet with community leaders and policy makers*  
*Task 2- Establish tours for existing reentry facilities and programs*

**Delivery Date:** At least one meeting per quarter- On-going

**Responsible Parties:** Sustainability Subcommittee members, Chair of the Reentry Task Force, Ex-Participants and Palm Beach County Reentry Staff

## HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE 2018-19 OBJECTIVES

### **Objective 1- Gather specific data on ex-offenders returning to Palm Beach County that are in need of housing**

*Task 1- Request information from provider agencies*

*Task 2- Determine annual need for homeless ex-offenders/transitional housing/rental assistance/home ownership and attach a cost to each*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** Housing committee and data committee members and PBC Reentry Staff

### **Objective 2- Obtain funding for transitional housing and rental assistance for ex-offenders**

*Task 1- Research grants/forfeiture funds/private funding*

*Task 2- Research available land and obtain site(s) to create transitional housing*

**Delivery Date:** July 2020

**Responsible Parties:** Housing Subcommittee Members and PBC Reentry Staff

### **Objective 3- Obtain 25 one-year tenant-based vouchers for ex-offenders**

*Task 1- Present to City of West Palm Beach to obtain commitment*

*Task 2- Request that other municipalities follow the West Palm Beach model*

*Task 3- Match ex-offenders in needs of housing with vouchers*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** Housing Subcommittee Members and PBC Reentry Staff

## SEX OFFENDER SUBCOMMITTEE 2018-19 OBJECTIVES

### **Objective 1- Develop programs and locate resources specifically for the Sex Offender population**

- Task 1- Research and apply for grants*
- Task 2- Seek foundation and private citizen donations*
- Task 3- Identify a liaison within CareerSource to assist with employment needs*
- Task 4- Dedicate a case manager to this population*
- Task 5- Restructure and repurpose the Reentry Task Force SO Subcommittee*
- Task 6- Reengage the PBSO SPOT Unit*
- Task 7- Engage researchers*
- Task 8- Examine existing treatment requirements and practices*
- Task 9- Research potential risk and needs assessments*
- Task 10- Address service for high risk clients*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** Subcommittee members, reentry stakeholders, PBC  
Reentry Staff

### **Objective 2 – Continue to advocate for policy changes**

- Task 1- Advocate against residency restrictions*
- Task 2- Research tiers and different levels of classifications*

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** Subcommittee members, reentry stakeholders, PBC  
Reentry Staff

## YOUTH REENTRY SUBCOMMITTEE 2018-19 OBJECTIVES

### **Objective 1- Research, evaluate and seek grant funding for a transitional step-down program that would bring committed youth closer to Palm Beach County that utilizes Evidence-Based programming and services**

- Task 1-* Identify and build a team of key staff to be included in the planning, development, and implementation process for the program
- Task 2-* Define goals and objectives of the program based on results of youth's needs
- Task 3-* Develop an action plan and timeline for implementation
- Task 4-* Explore research-supported and theoretical programming
- Task 5-* Identify program activities, output and outcomes of the program
- Task 6-* Implement the action plan/logic model

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** PBC Reentry Staff and Subcommittee members

### **Objective 2 – Develop a data workgroup to research, evaluate and define Recidivism based on a programmatic methodology**

- Task 1-* Identify and build a team of key members
- Task 2-* Establish and set goals and objectives based on group cohesion
- Task 3-* Collaborative efforts to define recidivism terminology
- Task 4-* Maintain a close working relationships with key members and stakeholders

**Delivery Date:** July 2019

**Responsible Parties:** PBC Reentry Staff and Subcommittee members

**Objective 3 – Research, evaluate and implement strategies to ensure that transitioning youth stay in a school setting once re-enrolled**

- Task 1-* Continue the systemic process to ensure youth transition to an educational setting
- Task 2-* Maintain close working relationships with PBC School District, JPO, and BTAF
- Task 3-* Identify and resolve transportation issues for alternative school settings
- Task 4-* Partner with educators/mentors for group/private/online tutoring/counseling
- Task 5-* Review F.S. for PBC School District to promote Mentor partnerships

**Delivery Date:** Ongoing

**Responsible Parties:** PBC Reentry Staff and Subcommittee members

# **Reentry Task Force and Subcommittee Membership** **2018**

*(Revised July 2018)*

## **I. Full Reentry Task Force**

1. Dr. Angela Bess, PBC School District **\*\*INTERIM CHAIR**
2. Greg Starling, Chief Probation Officer, DJJ– Circuit 15 **\*\*VICE CHAIR**
3. Michael Gauger, Chief Deputy, Palm Beach County Sherriff’s Office
4. Oswald Newbold, Ex-Offender
5. Kimber Heddon, Circuit Administrator Florida Department of Corrections
6. John Cohen, League of Cities
7. Julia Dattolo, Vice President – Business Services, CareerSource
8. Kevin Jones, Member, Criminal Justice Commission
9. TBD, Assistant State Attorney, State Attorney’s Office- 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit
10. Carey Haughwout, Public Defender- 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit
11. Marsha Martino, Executive Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
12. Judge Samantha Feuer, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit
13. Justin Kunzelman, Rebel Recovery- Substance Abuse Community

### **Advisory, Membership**

1. Diana Stanley, President and CEO, The Lord’s Place
2. Roderick Huggins, Director of Justice Services, Gulfstream Goodwill Industries
3. Scott Siegler, Assistant Warden, Florida Department of Corrections
4. Orié Bullard, Director, Riviera Beach Justice Service Center
5. Maggie Witherow, Owner, Matthew 25 Ministries
6. Robert Graham, President and CEO, True Fast Ministries, Inc.
7. Michelle, Spangenberg, Director of Case Mgmt., Court Admin 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit

8. Judge Kathleen Kroll, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit
- 9 James Green, Director of Outreach and Community Programming PBC Youth Services
10. Meredith Powers-Lupo, Reentry Specialist, Veteran's Administration
11. Audrey McDonough, Director of AmeriCorps, Literacy Coalition
12. Ann Berner, CEO, Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network
13. Nicole Bishop, Director, Justice Services, PBC Department of Public Safety
14. Ty McCloud, Director, Prison Fellowship
15. Ronnie Felder, Director, Jay Ministries
16. Steven Spaulding, Administrative Coordinator, Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County
17. Joe Speicher, CEO, South County Mental Health Center
18. Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's office
19. Alton Taylor, Executive Director and CEO, Drug Abuse Foundation (DAF)
20. Jessica Chiappone, Ex-Offender
21. Clay Walker, Community Development Administrator, Dept. of Children and Families
22. Kristina Henson, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Commission
23. Cassandra Atkin-Plunk, Assistant Professor, Florida Atlantic University
24. Dave Adams, Palm Beach Library
25. Alia Spencer, Palm Beach State College
26. Pam Berry, Salvation Army
27. Palm Beach County Human and Veteran Services

## **II. Employment, Training & Education Subcommittee**

1. Dhiny Mercedes, CareerSource **\*\*CHAIR**
2. Jeff McGinley, Florida Training Services, Inc.
3. Tamara Starks, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
4. Tyrus McLeod, Prison Fellowship
6. Lisa Bozzone, Court Administration
7. Orié Bullard, The City of Riviera Beach Reentry Center
8. Roderick Huggins, Gulfstream Goodwill
10. Barbara Chieves, Converge and Associates
11. Barbara Gerlock, Juvenile Justice Board
13. Cristy Altaro, Court Administration
14. Crystal Leonard, Palm Beach County School
15. Maggie Witherow, Mathew 25 Ministries
16. Diane Walker, City of Pahokee
17. Julia Datollo, Career Source
18. Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
22. Marcia Bahia, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
22. Nicole Bishop, Justice Services, Public Safety
23. Mary McCarty, Team of Hope
24. Mark Williams, ENACCS
25. Marsha Martino, NAMI
26. Gregory Quinn, Catholic Charities Diocese of Palm Beach, Inc.

### **III. Sustainability Subcommittee**

1. Diana Stanley, The Lord's Place **\*\*CHAIR**
2. Tamara Starks, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office **\*\*VICE-CHAIR**
3. Roderick Huggins, Gulfstream Goodwill
4. Tyrus McLeod, Prison Fellowship
5. Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
6. Robert Graham, True Fast Ministries
7. Kimber Heddon, Florida Department of Corrections
8. Greg Starling, Dept. Of Juvenile Justice
9. Justice Prevail, One World Learning Center
10. Larry Rein, Childnet
11. Maggie Witherow, Matthew 25 Ministries
12. Nicole Bishop, Justice Services, Public Safety
14. Orié Bullard, The City of Riviera Beach Reentry Center
15. Justin Kunzelman, Rebel Recovery

#### **IV. Data and Evaluation Subcommittee**

1. Jennifer Loyless, Office of the Public Defender **\*\*CHAIR**
2. Tamara Starks, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
4. Roderick Huggins, Gulfstream Goodwill
5. Michelle Spangenberg, Court Administration
6. Kimber Heddon, Florida Department of Corrections
7. Orié Bullard, The City Riviera Beach Reentry Center
8. Rodrick White, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
9. Larry Welter, PBC ISS Department
10. Cassandra Atkin-Plunk, Florida Atlantic University

## V. Sex Offender Subcommittee

1. Ted Rodarm, Matthew 25 Ministries **\*\*CHAIR**
2. Kimber Heddon, Florida Department of Corrections
3. Maggie Witherow, Matthew 25 Ministries
4. Cherry Grant, Public Defender's Office
5. Orié Bullard, City of Riviera Beach Reentry Center
6. Dr. Holly Goller, Clinical & Forensic Institute, Inc.
7. Dr. Lori Butt's, Clinical & Forensic Institute, Inc.
8. Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
9. Patti Aupperlee, First United Methodist Church
10. Ted Rodarm, Matthew 25 Ministries
11. Michelle Spangenberg, Court Administration
12. Robert Graham, True Fast Ministries
13. Gena Rowlands, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
14. Carey Haughwout, Public Defender
15. Minka Veasy, City of Riviera Beach Reentry Center
17. Jerry Youmans, Matthew 25 Ministries
18. Chad Stoffel, Resident
19. Steven Spaulding, Legal Aid Society

## **VI. Youth Reentry Subcommittee**

1. Judge Kathleen Kroll, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit **\*\*CHAIR**
2. Geeta Loach-Jacobson, PBC Youth Services Department
3. Richard Rathell, Department of Juvenile Justice Unit 4
4. Greg Starling, Department of Juvenile Justice
5. Larry Rein, Childnet
6. Father Leo Fisher, Faith Based Advocate
7. Megan Eaton, Public Defender's Office
8. Tommy Henderson, Eckerd Project Bridge
10. Rodrick White, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
12. Crystal Leonard, PBC School District
13. Lynn Trimble, Choice to Change
14. Clay Walker, Department of Children and Families
15. Calvin Phillips, The Lord's Place
16. Laura Waterman, Gulfstream Goodwill
17. Linda Porter, Gulfstream Goodwill
19. Shirlon McCarty, Department of Juvenile Justice
20. Barbara Gerlock, Juvenile Justice Board
21. Cristy Altaro, Court Administration
22. Lynn Powell, State Attorney's Office
23. Christian Correa, Youth Participant
24. Diane Walker, Municipal Representative
25. Angela Bess, PBC School District
26. Edgina Gustave, Youth Participant
27. Marcia Bahia, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

28. Shahzia Jackson, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
29. Calli Cain, Florida Atlantic University

## **VI. HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE**

1. Armando Fana **\*\*CHAIR**
2. Roderick Huggins, Gulfstream Goodwill Industries
3. Kimber Heddon, Florida Department of Corrections
4. Orié Bullard, The City of Riviera Beach Reentry Center
5. Robert Graham, True Fast Ministries
6. Annetta Jenkins, Riviera Beach CRA
7. Melissa Lewis, South County Mental Health Center
8. Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
9. Roderick McLeod, Riviera Beach CRA
11. Terri Murray, Neighborhood Renaissance
12. Meredith E. Powers-Lupo, Veteran's Administration
13. Tamara Starks, PBC Sherriff's Office
15. Maggie Witherow, Matthew25 Ministries
16. Jessica Chiappone, Florida Rights Restoration Coalition

## *GLOSSARY OF TERMS*

**Access Points-** Community-Based providers that offer ex-offender reentry services.

**Ad Valorem-** Local tax dollars generated through property values.

**Back to A Future (BTAF)-** A Department of Justice initiated juvenile reentry program. Juveniles are recidivating at a higher rate than adults. This critical service provides additional opportunities for youth that are returning from residential facilities in order to make sure they stay out of the system.

**Community Reentry Programs-** Those programs that serve ex-offenders returning to Palm Beach County from the Department of Corrections that did not have the benefit of pre-release programming at the Sago Palm Reentry Center.

**Countywide Reentry Assessment-** The initial analysis of Palm Beach County reentry programs that identified strengths and service gaps.

**Ex-Offender-** Eligible clients who were “convicted in” and “returning to” Palm Beach County after incarceration in a local, state or federal facility.

**Family Reunification Curriculum-** Developed locally by Family Preservation Services of Florida, this curriculum is designed to transition incarcerated parents back into established households.

**Florida Department of Corrections (FDC)-** A State funded agency. Mission: To promote safety of the public, our staff and offenders by providing security, supervision, and care, offering opportunities for successful re-entry into society, and capitalizing on partnerships to continue to improve the quality of life in Florida.

**Inside Out Dad Curriculum-** InsideOut Dad is a curriculum for incarcerated fathers that bridges the gap between the inmate father and his children. Through the program, inmate dads deal with their pasts in order to discover their futures—and the possibility that they can parent differently from their own, often absent, fathers.

**IRES-** The Integrated Reentry and Employment Strategies program is designed to enhance employment training and employment outcomes for ex-offenders. The project was based on a white paper developed by the Council of State Governments. Palm Beach County was one of only two sites in the Country selected to pilot the outlined strategies.

**Justice Services Division-** A division of the Palm Beach County Public Safety Department that provides professional assistance to the Justice System and the citizens of Palm Beach County. This division now houses the permanent Reentry Unit.

**JPO-** Juvenile Probation Officer

**LSI-r (The Level of Service Inventory-Revised)**- A validated risk/need assessment tool which identifies problem areas in an offender's life and predicts his/her risk of recidivism. It is a 54-item instrument which assesses offenders across 10 domains known to be related to an offender's likelihood of returning to prison. Addressing need areas through prison rehabilitative interventions can ultimately reduce an offender's probability of re-incarceration. LSI-R's are completed by trained assessors who conduct interviews with offenders and verify the information through external sources, when possible.

**Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)**- A written document describing a cooperative relationship between two parties wishing to work together on a project or to meet an agreed upon objective. An MOA serves as a legal document and describes the terms and details of the partnership agreement.

**National Reentry Resource Center (<http://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc/>)**- Funded by the Second Chance Act of 2008, and launched by the Council of State Governments Justice Center in 2009, the National Reentry Resource Center provides education, training, and technical assistance to states, tribes, territories, local governments, service providers, non-profit organizations, and corrections institutions working on prisoner reentry.

**Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission (CJC)**- The CJC was created by a Palm Beach County ordinance in 1988. It has 21 public sector members representing local, state, and federal criminal justice and governmental agencies, and 12 private sector business leaders representing the Economic Council of Palm Beach County. It has an established history of building strong partnerships to improve the criminal justice system in the County.

**Vision**

Cultivate and enrich local criminal justice practice, policy, and program development

**Mission**

Serve as a catalyst to bring together criminal justice and related agencies in partnerships

**Portal of Entry**- Felons returning to Palm Beach County are required to register with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. The Portal of Entry, or Felon registration, provides a transition point from pre-release services to community-based service providers. Through the Portal concept, ex-offenders are linked to a variety of needs-based programs, including legal, health, housing, work release, child support and family counseling, mental health, substance abuse, life skills, mentoring, job training and placement, education and employment, community resources and transitional and permanent housing.

**PREPARE**- The Pre Release Employment Preparation And Reentry Engagement program that established an American Job Center inside the local jail. The program was established through a \$500,000 grant through the Department of Labor in 2015.

**Public Safety**- The welfare and protection of the general public.

**Recidivism-** One of the most fundamental concepts in criminal justice. It refers to a person's relapse into criminal behavior, often after the person receives sanctions or undergoes intervention for a previous crime.

**RENEW (PBC Reentry Network)-** A case management system, RENEW, was developed to ensure offender risk and criminogenic needs are identified and addressed in an effort to lower risk and reduce recidivism and victimization. This system is intended to focus the majority of resources on moderate and high risk offenders and shall include the following elements: on-going risk and needs assessment, responsiveness, case planning, case plan follow-up and documentation, transfer of records, staff training and quality assurance. A RENEW User Manual has been published and is available.

**RESTORE (Regional and State Transitional Offender Reentry Initiative)-** A Department of Justice funded offender reentry program delivered through a partnership between Palm Beach County and the Florida Department of Corrections. All programming begins at the Sago Palm Reentry Center.

**Sago Palm Reentry Center-** A 384 bed Department of Corrections Facility located in Pahokee, opened in October 2010 as the second reentry prison in the State of Florida dedicated to preparing inmates for a smooth transition back into society. The Center delivers pre-release services that assist in inmate transition.

**Second Chance Act-** Signed into law on April 9, 2008, the Second Chance Act (P.L. 110-199) was designed to improve outcomes for people returning to communities after incarceration. This first-of-its-kind legislation authorizes federal grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide support strategies and services designed to reduce recidivism by improving outcomes for people returning from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities.

**Sex Offender-** A person convicted of (or who has pled no contest or guilty to) a sex offense involving a minor and who is released on or after October 1, 1997, from the sanction imposed as a result of the offense. Offenses include, but are not limited to, child pornography, sexual performance by a child under 18 and a person under 18 for purposes of prostitution.

**Sex Predator-** A person convicted of a first-degree felony sex crime, or two second-degree felony sex crimes (with offenses, convictions, or released from court sanctions occurring within 10 years) and which occurred after October 1, 1993. In addition, the court must issue a written order finding a predator status.

**Sustainability Plan-** The ongoing effort between Palm Beach County, the Florida Department of Corrections and the Community-Based Service Providers who:

- (1) *Advocate for policy change and* develop policies that will positively shape future reentry funding and
- (2) Identify a realistic and comprehensive *funding plan*.

More specifically, the sustainability plan involves three strategies:

- (1) Community Ownership
- (2) Multiple Funding Streams

(3) Replication of Proven Essential Elements.

**Thinking for a Change (T4C)**- is an integrated, cognitive behavioral change program for offenders that includes cognitive restructuring, social skills development, and development of problem solving skills.

**TJC (Transition from Jail to the Community)**- A privately funded local jail reentry program delivered in partnership with the Palm Beach County Sherriff's Office and The Lord's Place.

**Victim Impact Curriculum**- In 1998, the California Youth Authority and Mothers Against Drunk Driving developed the first comprehensive national victim impact curriculum with funding from OVC. Since then, the victim impact program has been replicated in many states, in both juvenile and adult facilities.

OVC recognized the need for a standardized curriculum that could be used with adults and juveniles—one that puts “victims first,” and in 2005, it awarded funding to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop one.

Victim Impact consists of 13 units, built around 10 core crime topics: property crime, assault, robbery, hate and bias, gang violence, sexual assault, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, drunk and impaired driving, and homicide.

The basic precepts of the Victim Impact Curriculum are—

Victims and the impact of crime on them are the focus.

Victims' personal experiences are the centerpiece.

Victims deserve to have their rights enforced and their voices heard.

Anyone can become a victim of crime.

Victimization creates a “ripple effect” throughout the community.

Offenders have the opportunity to change their thinking and their behavior.

Offenders have an obligation to make amends to their victims, directly and indirectly.

**Youthful Offender**- Inmates sentenced or classified as youthful offenders are assigned to one of several designated youthful offender facilities.

- The Court may sentence a person as a youthful offender if the crime was committed prior to his or her twenty-first birthday (F.S. 958.04).
- The Department of Corrections may classify an inmate as a youthful offender if he or she is 24 years old or under, with a sentence of 10 years or less. Vulnerable inmates who are 19 or under with a sentence of more than 10 years may also be classified as youthful offenders, if their safety would be jeopardized in an adult institution.
- During FY 95-96, 50 inmates were at some point classified in youthful offender status for protective reasons.
- Capital or life felons may not be classified or sentenced as youthful offenders.
- Youthful offenders who are ages 14-18 must be separated from youthful offenders ages 19-24.