

## History of Reentry

Reentry emerged as a top priority for the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) in late 2005 through a strategic planning effort with the Center for Effective Public Policy. By 2007, the unit began to take shape with the recruitment of a Reentry Director, followed shortly thereafter with project manager and coordinator positions. A decision-making body, the Reentry Executive Team, was also formed at this time, consisting of executive staff representatives from each DOC Division. The current Reentry Unit consists of eight staff assigned to DOC Central Office. Organizationally situated within the Office of the Secretary, the Reentry Unit provides agency-wide technical assistance and support.

## Reentry Business Plan

The vision of Reentry is operationalized through the ongoing completion of tasks in the Reentry Business Plan, organized into the six priorities shown below:

### Organizational Philosophy

Integrate the DOC mission of promoting public safety into all key Departmental activities.

### Data/Information/M Measurement

Develop a performance-based management system to assess DOC's progress toward achieving Reentry Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

### Assessment

Implement a comprehensive process for administering validated risk and needs assessments in order to guide agency staff and partners in effectively applying evidence-based principles and practices to key decisions.

### Case Management System

Implement a unified case planning and management system that targets risk reduction services, based upon empirically assessed risk factors, to moderate and high-risk youth, inmates, and offenders under community supervision.

### Interventions, Programs and Services

Assure that the risk reduction interventions, programs, and services provided to youth, inmates, and offenders under community supervision are evidence-based and effectively address the criminogenic needs and level of risk of the individual.

### Continuous Quality Improvement

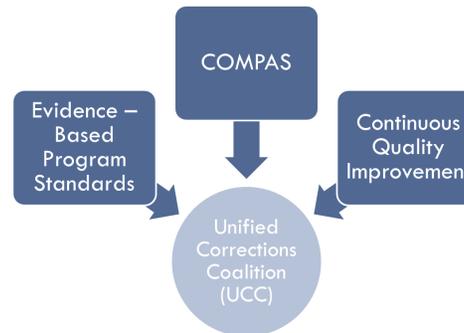
Develop and refine a "culture of quality" in DOC to ensure ongoing fidelity of evidence-based practices.

## Programs and Initiatives

Legislative Appropriation 112 is the primary funding source for recidivism reduction programming administered by Reentry. Annually, the Reentry Unit, in collaboration with DOC Cross-Divisional Partners, plans and executes the expenditure of \$10.2 million. Key Appropriation 112 Reentry programs are highlighted below:

### Unified Corrections Coalition (UCC)

The mission of the Unified Corrections Coalition (UCC) is to operationalize the DOC Offender Lifecycle by implementing a single statewide risk & need assessment and case management system, with an emphasis on evidence-based program standards and continuous quality improvement. The Unified Corrections Coalition is made up of personnel from the DOC, the Office of State Courts, and Northpointe.



### University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute Partnership

The University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) provides ongoing technical assistance to the DOC through a contracted partnership. Evidence-based alignment activities include:

- Corrections Program Checklist Training and Implementation
- Model Program Redesign Projects
- Staff Professional Development and Coaching
- Curriculum Review/Revision
- Evidence-Based Cross-Divisional Team Technical Support
- Strategic and Sustainability Planning

### Windows to Work (WTW)

Windows to Work is a pre- and post-release program designed to address criminogenic needs that can lead to recidivism. The program is a partnership with all 11 of Wisconsin's Workforce Development Boards where each board provides, or subcontracts to provide, a WTW Program at state correctional institutions or county jail facilities in each workforce development area. Eligible participants are enrolled in the institution/jail approximately 3-9 months prior to release, and programming continues in the community for approximately 12 months following a participant's release from incarceration.

### Opening Avenues for Reentry Success (OARS)

The OARS program is a DOC program managed by the Reentry Unit in partnership with the Department of Health Services. The program was developed to enhance public safety by supporting the successful transition, recovery, and self-sufficiency of offenders with mental health needs as they return to the community. Participants are enrolled six months prior to their release date and may continue in the program for up to two years after release.

### Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Mobile Lab

The DOC CNC Mobile Lab is a self-contained classroom that can be transported throughout the state to provide current technical instruction to participants at various correctional institutions. DOC has coordinated with the Department of Workforce Development (DWD), and the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) to provide an accelerated curriculum over the course of 12-14 weeks, culminating in individuals earning up to 16 technical college credits upon completion.



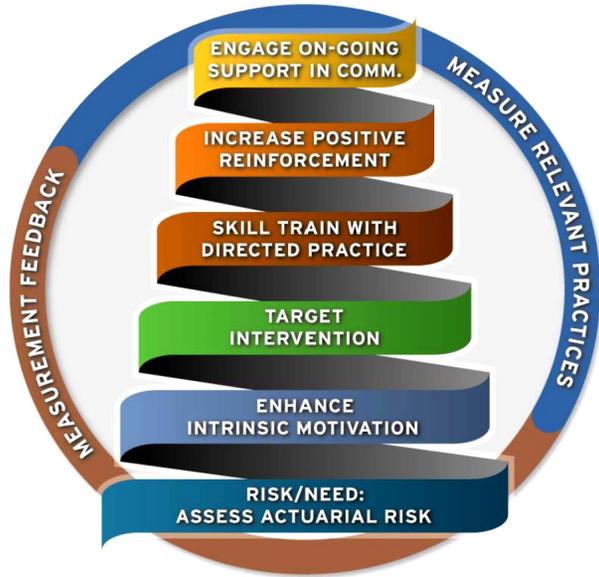
### Disabled Offender Economic Stability (DOES)

The DOES project promotes public safety by helping offenders with disabilities establish economic security through more rapid and increased access to state and federal benefits. Legal Action Benefit Specialists provide services to 14 DOC institutions. DOES Benefit Specialists are lawyers who work with DOC staff and community providers to ensure that disabled offenders receive and keep benefits for which they are eligible.

## Evidence-Based Practice

A progressive, organizational use of direct, current, scientific evidence to guide and inform efficient and effective correctional services (The Carey Group, 2008).

## National Institute of Corrections 8 Principles of Effective Intervention



## Risk, Need, Responsivity Principles (RNR)



### Risk Principle

- Accurately identify the level of risk to maximize the investment of resources.



### Needs Principle

- Know the needs of individual offenders and how those needs relate to recidivism.

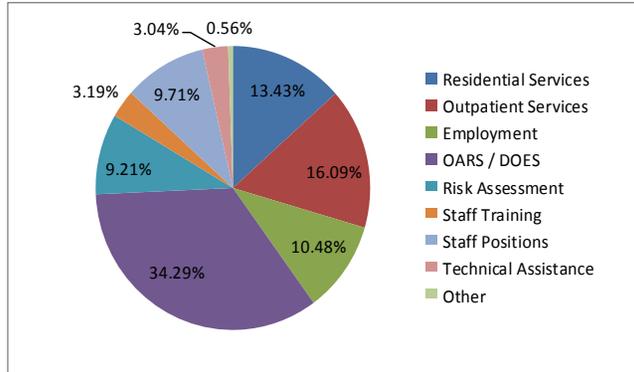


### Responsivity Principle

- Treat the offender's criminogenic needs through appropriate programming and supervision tailored to the individual characteristics of the person/group.

## Statistics

### FY15 Appropriation 112 funding by type



### Reentry Recidivism Data

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections defines recidivism as:

- Following an episode of incarceration or supervision with the DOC, to commit a criminal offense that results in a new conviction and sentence to DOC custody or supervision.

### Recidivism Rates by Reentry Program, One-Year Follow-Up Period

Reentry Program	Release Year	Number of Participants	Recidivism Rate
Windows to Work	2011	71	11.3%
OARS	2011	71	12.7%

**REENTRY**  
A BRIDGE TO SUCCESS!



## Reentry at a Glance

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Reentry promotes offender success from admission through discharge through the application of evidence based practices.