

W2D – From CDCR to Community: Transition Planning Before, At, and After the “Gate”

Lisa Heintz, JD

Doug Smith, MD, DFAPA

Holly Cundiff, MA

Terri McDonald

Track: Words to Deeds

CE: CPA/BBS/BRN (1.5)

Narrative

Transitioning from prison to local communities requires extensive preparation and planning, particularly with regard to individuals who have behavioral health needs. In addition to health and behavioral health services, many of these individuals require services from multiple systems, such as access to supported housing, income support, education/vocational training, and services to address their criminogenic needs, all of which are ideally provided through a collaborative and coordinated multi-agency infrastructure. Although this is no easy task, experts from the California Department of Corrections and Summit County, Ohio, will each present their current, effective prison-to-community transition processes, as well as highlight areas where more work is needed to strengthen and sustain these efforts.

BIO

Lisa Heintz, JD

Lisa Heintz serves as the Director of Legislation and Special Projects for the Federal Court Receiver and is the Project Executive for the Integrated Substance Use Disorder Treatment (ISUDT) program. Prior to this assignment, Lisa served as an Associate Director for the Division of Adult Parole Operations, and as the Chief Clinical Program Administrator for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), overseeing the CDCR's Mental Health Continuum, including implementation of the Affordable Care Act for all CDCR inmates. Lisa has over 25 years of applied program experience specializing in state and federal program design, implementation, and focusing on obtaining successful outcomes to support recovery. Lisa's administrative experience is focused on addiction policies, barriers to treatment for substance use disorder, correctional operations, adult parole operations, mental health program administration, court administration, project management and community-based program development.

Doug Smith, MD, DFAPA

Doug Smith completed his Medical Degree at the University Of Maryland School Of Medicine and his Internship and Residency in General Psychiatry at the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, where he served as the Outpatient Chief Resident in his final year. He then completed a Fellowship in Forensic Psychiatry through a combined program at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. For over 10 years he served in the role of Medical Director for 3 Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare inpatient and 3 outpatient sites until 4/30/12. Since 5/1/12, he has served as the Medical Director for the Summit County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board. During the past 22 years in Ohio Doug has been involved academically, serving as Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Toledo and at the UHHS-Case School of Medicine. In 2012 he additionally joined the Psychiatry Faculty at the Northeast Ohio Medical

University (NEOMED) where he is an Associate Professor, the Director of Community Psychiatry, The Medical Director of the ECHO Superhub, and Co-Director of the Integrated Community Psychiatry and Primary Care Fellowship (when funded). From November 2019 through August 2020 Dr. Smith served as the Interim Chair of the NEOMED Department of Psychiatry.

Doug has given more than 200 presentations to a wide range of professionals, students, and the public at many venues in Ohio and at regional and national meetings. He has lectured in London, England at the Bethlem Royal Hospital. He has co-authored more than 20 publications.

Doug has continued to be active at the state level for many years. Most recently, since 2015, he has been serving as a member of the Board of Trustees of NAMI Ohio. Since 2017 he has also been serving on the Board of Directors of the Ohio Health Information Partnership (OHIP).

Doug is Board-certified in Psychiatry and Forensic Psychiatry and, outside of his public service job, has a part-time forensic psychiatric practice completing civil and criminal forensic psychiatric evaluations.

Holly Cundiff, MA

Holly Cundiff serves as Care Access and Client Rights Coordinator for The County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board. Holly has worked in the behavioral health field for over 30 years. She has a wide variety of experience working with the severely mentally ill dual diagnosed population including justice involved individuals. She has worked in community agencies, criminal justice settings, hospitals, and most lately county government.

Terri McDonald

Terri McDonald has 40 years of public service, working in mental health treatment facilities, state and local corrections. Terri began her working career in 1981 serving as a mental health worker and supervisor in a variety of mental health and drug treatment facilities. She began her correctional career in 1988, working as a correctional officer with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. While working for the state prison system, Terri served in a variety of facilities and assignments and was promoted from correctional officer through various ranks and ultimately served as the Undersecretary of Operations, responsible for executive direction and oversight of the supervision and rehabilitative services to over 300,000 parolees, juveniles, and inmates in the California state correctional system. In 2013, Terri transitioned to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to lead reforms within the Los Angeles County Jail system. In Los Angeles, Terri was responsible for envisioning and overseeing significant reforms to virtually every aspect of the Los Angeles jail system - the largest jail system in the nation. In 2017, Terri transitioned again and was appointed as the Chief Probation Officer in Los Angeles County, retiring in 2020. The Los Angeles County Probation Department is the largest in America supervising over 50,000 probationers and 1,200 juveniles in the largest county in the United States. Terri currently consults on a variety of complex correctional initiatives. Terri holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Leadership in Law Enforcement, graduating with Honors, from the University of San Francisco. She is an active member of several criminal justice associations, has served on a variety of non-profit boards, and continues to serve as a subject matter expert on numerous criminal justice related projects.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the various steps involved in preparing incarcerated individuals for their transition to their community, including screenings, assessments, benefits enrollment, data sharing and community care coordination/transition planning.
2. Explain the various needs with which incarcerated individuals with behavioral health conditions present, such as housing, income, vocation/education, as well as health and behavioral health care services, criminogenic risk and needs interventions.
3. Identify the different State and local level entities involved in planning and coordinating the transition for incarcerated individuals.
4. Describe what challenges/barriers were faced when working to establish a prison-to-community transition process, and how these may be overcome.
5. Explain what opportunities for improvement currently exist and current thinking on how they are or will be addressed.