

## **W2D - Successful Reentry/Transition from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation: Identification of Barriers and Solutions to Address Them**

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Lisa Heintz, JD

Jamal Rowe

Kevin Hoffman

Track: Words to Deeds

CE: CPA/BBS/BRN (1.5)

### Narrative

Successful reentry (also called transition) from state prisons into the community, especially for justice-involved people with behavioral health needs, requires systemwide collaboration to ensure adequate programmatic support for the complex challenges they face. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Transitions Team and the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) have drafted an inventory of identified barriers to successful reentry from corrections into the community, in part to respond to the Governor's veto message of SB 369 (Hertzberg). This presentation gives participants the opportunity to familiarize themselves with identified barriers to reentry at the system, provider, and individual levels. In addition, the presentation highlights ongoing interventions that seek to address those barriers and metrics used to assess the impact of those interventions.

Moving forward, the inventory will be a living document that organizes and defines the ongoing collaborative work of addressing those barriers. While CDCR has already made major investments in reentry support services, more work needs to be done to ensure positive reintegration outcomes for all. This presentation gives participants from the field with the opportunity to inform the development of the reentry barriers document. Given the focus of the SB 369 veto message, the presentation focuses on reentry from prisons, rather than jails, to the community. However, because many people are released from prison to Post-Release Community Supervision through county agencies, local partners are an essential part of successful prison reentry. In addition, many of the barriers that found at the prison level also exist for those transitions from jails to the community. The presentation will be interactive and attendees will be encouraged to participate in a facilitated discussion.

### BIO

#### **Brenda Grealish, MA**

Brenda Grealish is currently the Executive Officer of the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health, which is part of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. She served as Chief for the Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division at the California Department of Health Care Services since 2019, where she has served in several positions since 2013, including Chief of the former Mental Health Services Division and Assistant Deputy and Acting Deputy Director for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services. She held several positions at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Office of Research from 2009 to 2013, including Deputy Director, Research Manager III and Research Manager II. Brenda held several positions at the former California Department of Mental Health from 1999 to 2009, including Research Program Specialist I, Research Analyst II and Research Analyst I. She earned a Master of Arts degree in psychology from California State University, Sacramento.

**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.

**Kevin Hoffman**

Kevin Hoffman has been the Deputy Director of Program Operations for the Division of Rehabilitative Programs with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation since 2016. He served as Associate Director of Program Operations for the Division of Rehabilitative Programs with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in 2015. He served as Deputy Director and Deputy Executive Director at the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission from 2011 to 2015. He has held multiple managerial positions within the Division of Juvenile Justice and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from 2000 to 2011 including the position of Youth Correctional Officer, and Youth Correctional Counselor. He attended California State University, Sacramento where he studied Psychology.

**Jamal Rowe, BS**

Jamal Rowe was appointed to Chief Deputy Administrator of Re-entry Services in the Division of Adult Parole Operations on January 1, 2021. He has held several positions with the division since 2006 including Parole Administrator, Parole Agent III, Parole Agent II and Parole Agent I. Mr. Rowe worked at California State Prison, Sacramento from 2002-2006 and in 2014 where he served as a Correctional Officer and Correctional Counselor. Mr. Rowe has held several positions with the division since 2002 including Correctional Counselor, Background Investigator and Correctional Officer. Before joining the CDCR team, he worked for Sacramento County Probation for 4 years.

He served as a member of the California Sex Offender Management Board (CASOMB) from 2018 to 2021 and has served on multiple workgroups and task forces throughout his career. He was a Subject Matter Expert (SME) in electronic monitoring and sex offender treatment and spearheaded the creation and implementation of DAPO's first California POST-Certified Parole Academy. Additionally, he designed customized Principled Policing training for DAPO and has presented in several conferences as an ambassador of the Division.

Mr. Rowe holds a Bachelor of Science degree from California State University, Sacramento and is a graduate of the Los Angeles Police Department Leadership Program, formerly WestPoint Leadership Program. He is also a nominee for the American Leadership Forum's (ALF) prestigious Fellows Program.

He possesses a great deal of experience and knowledge of CDCR, community corrections, re-entry efforts and public safety. Mr. Rowe is proud to be a leader in CDCR as it embraces its mission to not only rehabilitate, but habilitate the people entrusted to its care and their transition into our communities, understanding that this is key to the safety of the people of the State of California, and to the future of the State.

### Learning Objectives

1. Describe the system-level, provider-level, and individual-level barriers to success at reentry.
2. Identify evidence-based interventions, including those currently in use, for overcoming barriers to success at reentry.
3. Identify metrics that are used to measure success at reentry, such as connection to high-quality health services and improved health.