

PRISONER REENTRY IN MICHIGAN

History & Overview

June 2, 2011



SERVING CITIZENS OF MICHIGAN SINCE 1956

MICHIGAN COUNCIL
ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

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PROMOTING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH EFFECTIVE POLICIES AND SYSTEMS

- MCCD is the only statewide organization that partners with Michigan’s citizens and leaders to develop a comprehensive solution to crime and delinquency.
- Our work includes:
 - *Advocacy*
 - *Technical Assistance*
 - *Education and Training*
 - *Convening*
 - *Evidence-informed Policy*
 - *Research and Evaluation*
- From 2003 – 2011, partnered with the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) and Public Policy Associates, Inc. (PPA) to design and implement the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI).
- Continue to partner with Michigan stakeholders to improve community safety by increasing success rates among returning prisoners.

National Overview of Reentry

- The United States leads the world in incarceration rates.
 - European countries (1:1,000)
 - United States (**1:100**)
- Over **7 million adults** are under some form of correctional supervision in the United States today.
 - Up from 1.8 million in 1980.
- More than **97%** of individuals incarcerated in state prisons will be released at some point.
- Over **600,000 individuals** are released from prison each year.
 - It is estimated that roughly 1/3 of released offenders are younger than 24 years of age.

National Overview of ReEntry

- The incidence of serious mental illnesses is two to four times higher among prisoners than it is in the general population.
- Three quarters of those returning from prison have a history of substance use disorders. Over 70 percent of prisoners with serious mental illnesses also have a substance use disorder.
- Only 7 percent to 17 percent of prisoners who meet DSM criteria for alcohol/drug dependence or abuse receive treatment in jail or prison.

National Overview of ReEntry

- Spending on corrections has been among the **fastest growing** items in state budgets over the last 15 years
- American taxpayers spent \$9 billion for corrections in 1982; by 2002, this figure rose to **\$60 billion**
- Between 1977 and 2001, total state and local expenditures for corrections increased **1,001%**, compared to:
 - 448% for education
 - 482% for hospitals and healthcare
 - 617% for public welfare

National Overview of ReEntry

- In 2002, **over 40%** of people released from prison were re-incarcerated within three years, either for committing a new crime or violating conditions governing their release.
- Revocations are the fastest growing category of prison admissions—parole violators account for **34%** of new prison admissions today (as compared to 18% in 1980)

Michigan Overview

- 124,652 Offenders
- 43,972 Prisoners
- 22,183 Parolees
- 58,497 Probationers
- \$2 billion annual operating budget

High Costs, Unacceptable Outcomes

Prior to launching the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative:

- More than 13,000 inmates released each year
 - Approximately 85% were paroled, 15% discharged on maximum sentence
- Of the 11,000 inmates paroled:
 - Expectation that over **5,000 (45%) will return to prison** sometime during their parole sentence
- Returning offenders cost the state **\$112 Million**

A Successful ReEntry Strategy

- ✓ Leadership and Organizational Change
- ✓ Rational Planning Process
- ✓ Multi-agency Collaboration
- ✓ Offender Management Practices

National Initiatives

- National Governor's Association's Prisoner Reentry Policy Academy (**NGA**)
- National Institute of Corrections' Transition from Prison to Community Initiative (**TPCI**)
- U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs' Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (**SVORI**)
- U.S. Department of Labor, Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (**PRI**)

MPRI Vision & Mission

- The **VISION**: Every prisoner released from prison will have the tools needed to succeed in the community.
- The **MISSION**: Reduce crime by implementing a seamless plan of services and supervision developed with each offender—delivered through state and local collaboration—from the time of their entry to prison through their transition, reintegration, and aftercare in the community.

MPRI Goals

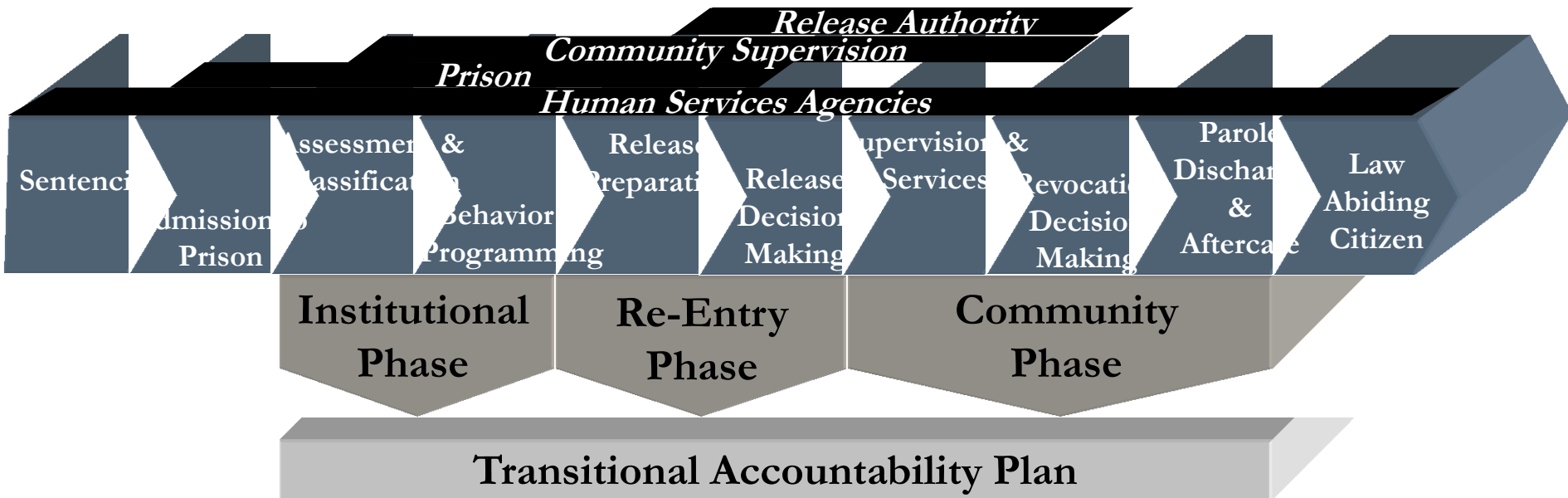
- **Promote public safety** by reducing the threat of harm to persons and their property by released offenders in the communities to which those offenders return.
- **Increase success rates of offenders** who transition from prison by fostering effective risk management and treatment programming, offender accountability, and community and victim participation.

MPRI Progress

As of December, 2010:

- 30,592 MPRI and IRU parolees since start of implementation
 - **3,790 fewer (35.6%)** returns to prison within three years compared to baseline expectations
- Even though there are more parolees, the number returning to prison for *new crimes* fell from 2,020 in 2006 to a projected 1,836 in 2010.

3 Phases, 7 Decision Points

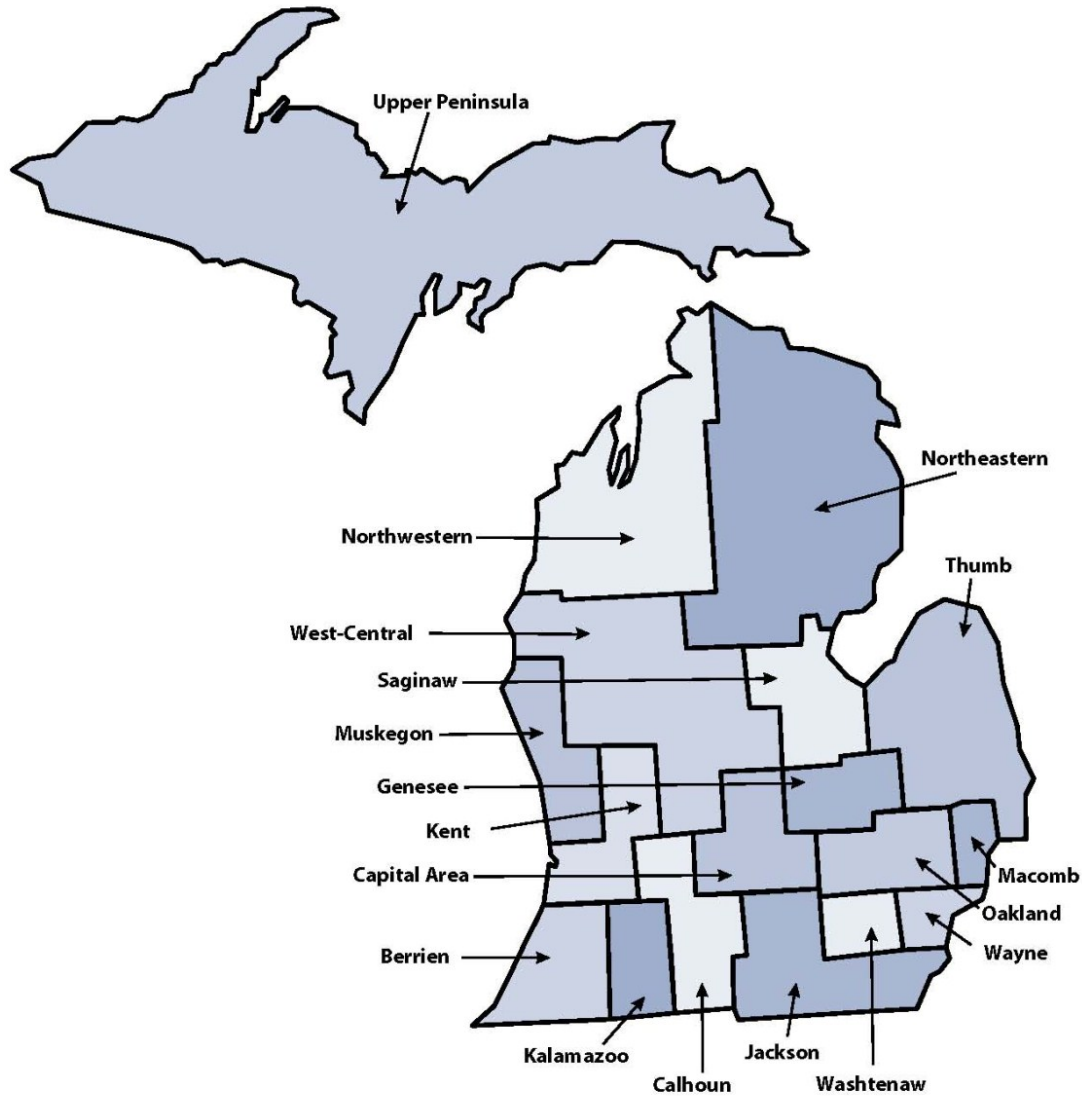


Source: National Institute of Corrections' Transition from Prison to Community Initiative (TPCI)

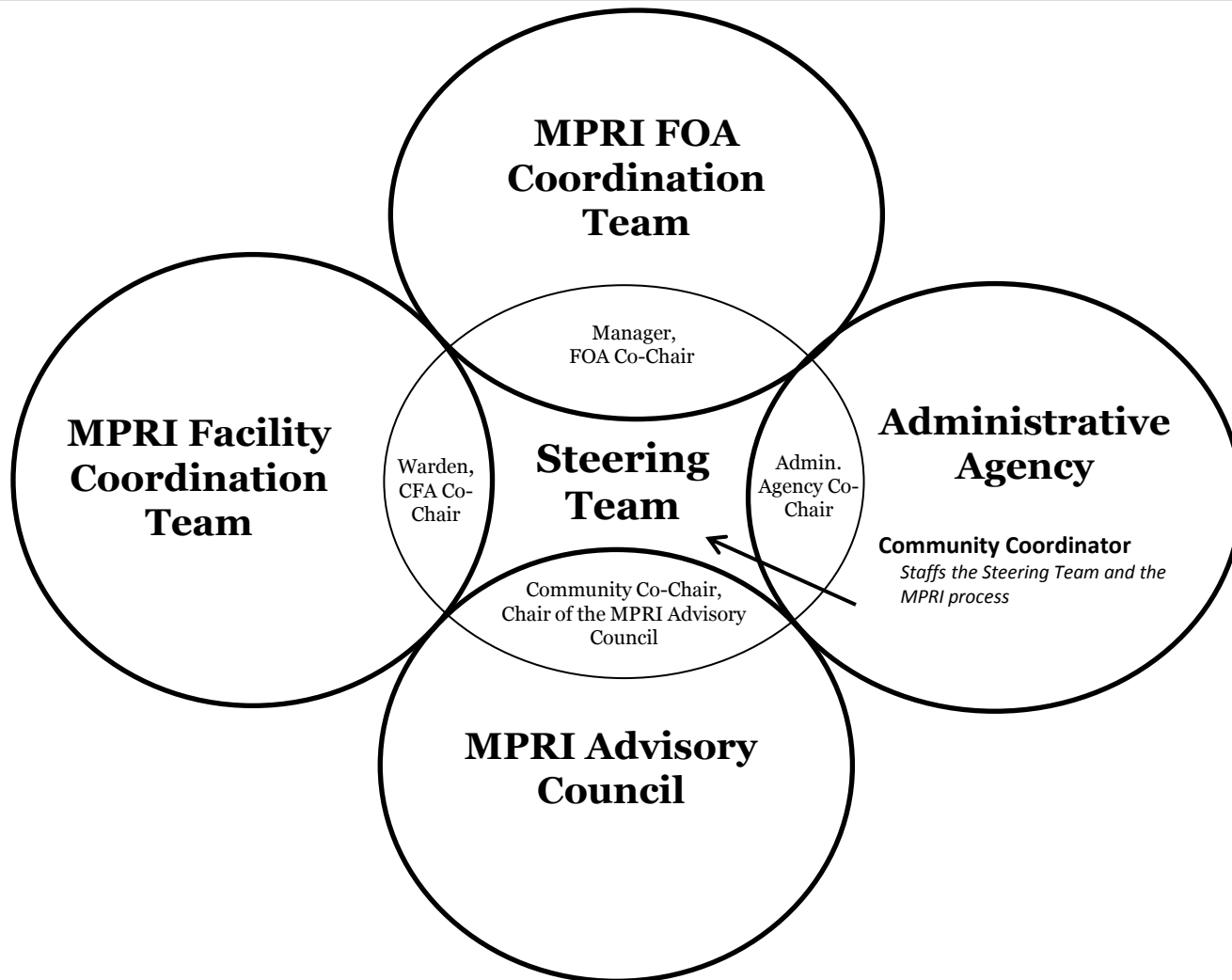
MPRI = Collaboration

- Launched in 2003 as partnership between:
 - State government
 - Corrections
 - Education
 - Community Health
 - Human Services
 - Energy, Labor & Economic Growth
 - MSHDA
 - Office of Faith and Community Based Initiatives
 - Private partners
 - Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency
 - Public Policy Associates, Inc.
 - Local communities

MPRI Regional Map



MPRI Local Structure



The Comprehensive Plan

- Community-driven strategic planning
- Highly specific plan that should describe the policies, practices, and programs that will:
 - Build on *assets*, remove *barriers*, and fill *gaps*.
 - Create evidence-based solutions in key reentry need domains, including:
 - Residential Stability •Health
 - Employment Readiness •Behavioral Health
 - Focus on performance: Increased safety, cost effectiveness, fewer parolees returning to prison, etc.

Employment is a Key to Success

Contemporary research indicates:

- Finding and maintaining a legitimate job after release is one of the most effective factors in reducing recidivism (Harer, 1994; Lipsey, 1995; Sampson and Laub, 1993, 1997; Uggen, 2000).
- Participation in prison education, job training, and placement programs is associated with improved postrelease outcomes, including reduced recidivism (Adams, 2001; Gaes, 1999; Hull, 2000).
- As little as a 10 percent *decrease in an* individual's pay has been associated with a 10 to 20 percent *increase in* criminal activity; the higher the wages, the less likely parolees will **return to crime** (Bernstein and Houston, 2000; Grogger, 1998; Michigan Poverty Law Program, 2007; Travis, Solomon, and Waul, 2001).

The National Picture

- **40%** of adults released from prisons and jails have not obtained a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Only **1 out of 3** inmates receives vocational training while incarcerated.

Preparation Starts Pre-Release

MDOC offers wide variety of educational and vocational programming.

- Emphasis on GED/high school completion
- Vocational opportunities provide real-world experience and ‘soft skills’ practice
- Recent initiative to integrate ACT WorkKeys and the National Career Readiness Certificate

Community Strategies for Employment Success

Each MPRI Steering Team designed a unique set of employment strategies tailored to fit the needs of the community and the individuals returning from prison.

- Coordinated with existing workforce development services (*Workforce Investment Act's Core Services, Michigan Rehabilitation Services for those with disabilities, Veterans Services, etc.*)
- Responsive to the individual's skills and needs
- Coordinated with other important reentry services, including cognitive-behavioral programming, substance abuse treatment, housing, and social support.

Community Employment Strategies

Communities provide wide variety of evidence-based employment readiness services, including:

- Job readiness and ‘soft skills’ workshops
- Vocational assessments
- Job search and referral assistance
- Supervised community service
- Occupational training
- Transitional employment
 - Temporary work experience
 - On-the-job training
- Employment retention services
 - Mentoring, pro-social support
 - Basic needs assistance

For Additional Information

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 - (517) 482-4161
 - rburroughs@miccd.org
 - www.miccd.org
- Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative
 - Michigan Department of Corrections (517) 373-0720 or www.michigan.gov/corrections
 - Your local MPRI Community Coordinator (handout)