

# Graduated Reentry Participation Eligibility

# 2021 Report to the Legislature

As required by Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5121, 2021.

December 2021

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This is the report to the Legislature as directed by ESSB 5121 and contains information on Department of Corrections Graduated Reentry Program – Participation Eligibility.

300-SR002

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# Graduated Reentry: Participation Eligibility

## 2021 Report to the Legislature

## Purpose

"The department shall submit an annual report by December 1st to the appropriate committees of the legislature with the number of offenders who were transferred to home detention as part of the graduated reentry program during the prior year."

-Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5121, Section 1 (9), [2021]

## **Executive Summary**

In 2018 Graduated Reentry (GRE) was established through the passage of Substitute House Bill 2638. Through GRE, incarcerated individuals were eligible to return to their communities for up to the final six months of their sentence if they met certain criteria.

The initial staffing for GRE was based on a maximum average daily population (ADP) of 187 individuals, which included nine Correction Specialists 3, two Correction Specialists 4, one Community Correction Supervisor, and one Administrative Assistant 3. On average, GRE participation was at 80 percent capacity prior to the expansion in 2021.

In 2021, the Washington State Legislature passed Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5121, significantly expanding eligibility for the GRE program. The revised statute creates two tracks for individuals to serve a portion of their sentence in partial confinement alternatives. Both tracks have additional requirements that are either contained in the statute or within the departments policies. In the first 4 months of expanded eligibility, 99 additional individuals have moved to GRE.

Since the passage of ESSB 5121, the department has been focused on building infrastructure including developing policies, screening tools and criteria, establishing new staff positions, and processes to support the transfer of individuals into the community. This work has included the engagement of outside stakeholders, including families of incarcerated individuals, to ensure that a wide variety of perspectives are considered when developing reentry plans and meeting individual's needs.

Successful reentry relies on positive support systems such as family, employment, education, and targeted treatment to reduce the likelihood of negative lifestyle choices which could lead to returning to prison thus negatively impacting public safety.

## **Implementation of GRE Expansion**

Implementation of ESSB 5121 is planned in two phases. The first phase is currently underway, with the goal of transferring 599 individuals to approved residences, utilizing EHM, by the end of February 2022. The second phase will begin in March 2022, with the goal of reaching at least 1200 participants by the June 30, 2022. It is

in the second phase that we plan to integrate screening level one and two sex offenders to be included in the movements onto GRE.

Since the passage of ESSB 5121, which went into effect on June 7, 2021, a team of dedicated staff members from multiple divisions within the agency have worked for months to create a strategic plan, put processes into place, and build an infrastructure to identify, screen, and transfer individuals into the community as part of GRE. This work has included the engagement of outside stakeholders with the hope that every perspective is considered when developing reentry plans and meeting individual's needs.

The department has taken a phased approach to this expansion, consistent with the 2021-23 biennial budget assumptions, to allow for continual processes improvement, to ensure the safety of our communities, and in meeting the needs of those individuals who are returning home.

## Staffing

The agency received funding for 100 Correction Specialists, seven Correction Supervisors, one GRE Administrator, one Administrative Assistant 4, 20 Administrative Assistant 2, one Electronic Home Monitoring Manager, and one Community Contracts Manager. The department prioritized an internal recruitment to expedite the onboarding and training process to offer those in positions that were impacted by community supervision and prison caseload reductions, an opportunity to transition into the Reentry Division. To date, 44 Correction Specialists, five Supervisors, and five support staff, have been hired.

As the GRE population grows, the department will continue to recruit, hire, and train Correction Specialists to maintain the desired ADP. A lower caseload ratio, 20:1, allows for staff to "shoulder" with an incarcerated person on their reentry pathway to understand their goals and what is important to them so that we can work together for a successful transition from incarceration to the community.

## DOC Policy 390.590 - Graduated Reentry

A policy workgroup was established and met virtually on five separate occasions, over a two-month timeframe to review and provide feedback on proposal of the new policy. The workgroup consisted of over 23 internal and external stakeholders, including family members and community partners. After each meeting, updates were made based on feedback and discussion from the group. The policy workgroup concluded their meetings in October 2021. At the time of this report's writing, the policy has been posted for public comment and will then be prepared for the Secretary's review. Once approved, the policy will be made available on the departments website along with other already developed forms and processes.

### **Improved Processes**

As we continue to build the infrastructure needed to move this population from confinement to community, procedures and processes are continually being assessed to ensure operational sustainability. This involves not only the Reentry Division but also the Prisons, Health Services, Community Corrections, and Administrative Operations. Multiple workgroups met to evaluate the journey a participant travels once screened as eligible for GRE. This work has resulted in improved processes within the agency's current operations and provides the reality that reentry begins at reception.

### **EHM Equipment**

We have worked closely with Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), who provides the electronic monitoring equipment from the vendor. We are carefully and thoughtfully acquiring equipment on an as needed basis to ensure that our vendor has enough lead time to fill our orders. With the addition of an EHM Manager our ability to meet ADP and ensure the essential equipment to monitor individuals in the community completing a prison sentence is in place.

### Training

The department continues to build and enhance the GRE training course which provides an overview of programmatic elements, treatment, EHM equipment installation and monitoring, and staff resiliency work with Dr. Thompson, Equity and Inclusion Administrator. In addition, the department has contracted with the University of Washington to deliver trauma informed training that includes suicide awareness and self-care from a trauma informed lens. This training is standard for all GRE staff. The department will continue to prioritize training opportunities in areas that enhance our ability to understand challenges faced by our returning population.

### Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement is an ongoing and important strategy as we expand the ways in which individuals can transition from prison into the communities. The agency has established a mailbox <u>docreentryexpansion@doc1.wa.gov</u> for the purpose of communicating with loved ones, staff, and other community members regarding GRE policy, processes, and general inquiries. In addition, the Statewide Family council and other family stakeholders have been updated on GRE as well as our incarcerated individuals. On November 5, 2021, we published a public facing webpage,

<u>https://doc.wa.gov/corrections/incarceration/graduated-reentry.htm</u>, that includes frequently asked questions, resources, and information regarding GRE. This public facing page contains the number of individuals that move monthly from total confinement onto home detention.

## **Participant Data**

The 2021-2023 legislative fiscal note estimated 2,656 individuals would be participating in GRE by June 30, 2022 which was based on prison population data as of February 28, 2021. Subsequent changes to the overall prison population will directly impact those estimates. Since the passage of legislation, the estimated GRE participant numbers have been revised to 1,200 by June 30, 2022. The adjustment is in part due to the Covid-19 pandemic's impact to admissions and the Supreme Court State v. Blake decision.

Between July 1, 2021 and November 1, 2021, 99 individuals were transferred onto GRE.

July 2021 August 2021 September 2021 October 2021 Total	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021		Total	
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13 20	27	39	99
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## State v. Blake Impacts

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Washington State Supreme Court issued an opinion in State of Washington v. Blake, declaring that RCW 69.50.4013 (Washington's simple possession of a controlled substance statute) violates the due process clause of the state and federal constitutions and is therefore void. As of October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the department has received 2,650 orders, impacting 1,434 incarcerated individuals with 459 individuals granted immediate release pursuant to State v. Blake. If these individuals would not have been part of the court decision, most would have been eligible for and participating in GRE.

## **Participant Letter**

From Aaron Morrow, who entered prison in 2018 and released from GRE in March of 2020.

"Thank you for allowing me to be a part of the GRE program. To be able to progress back with my family/community. Self-accountability helped me restructure how I changed my habits to create healthy new choices in my life. My life was lost, insecure, and deep with a drug addiction. After poor choices and neglecting my family, I continued wrongful decisions and ended up with my incarceration.

Having an opportunity with the GRE program helped inspire a fresh start in my life. My first focus was creating structure for myself and re-connect a relationship with my family. Being able to go on lunch dates with my wife, picking up and attending my children's' events from school, attending substance abuse disorder recovery meetings and church programs gave me a sense of freedom while still being accountable with my outings.

My new approach with the ability to change the course of my life– not looking into the past– but running to a better future. Community Corrections Officer Sara Thompson helped keep me accountable to all my outings I attended, be sure I stayed on point with my daily itinerary logs, listen to barriers I told her and gave insight/suggestions to better myself during check-ins. My relationship with family and a good support system are better today than ever. I applaud all those who take the time to keep this program moving forward for inmates who want to change their lifestyles."

## Attachments

- Essential Needs Checklist
- Reentry Continuums (Prison to EHM, Work Release to EHM)
- Individual Reentry Plan
- Reentry Purpose and Guiding Principles



**Essential Needs Checklist** 

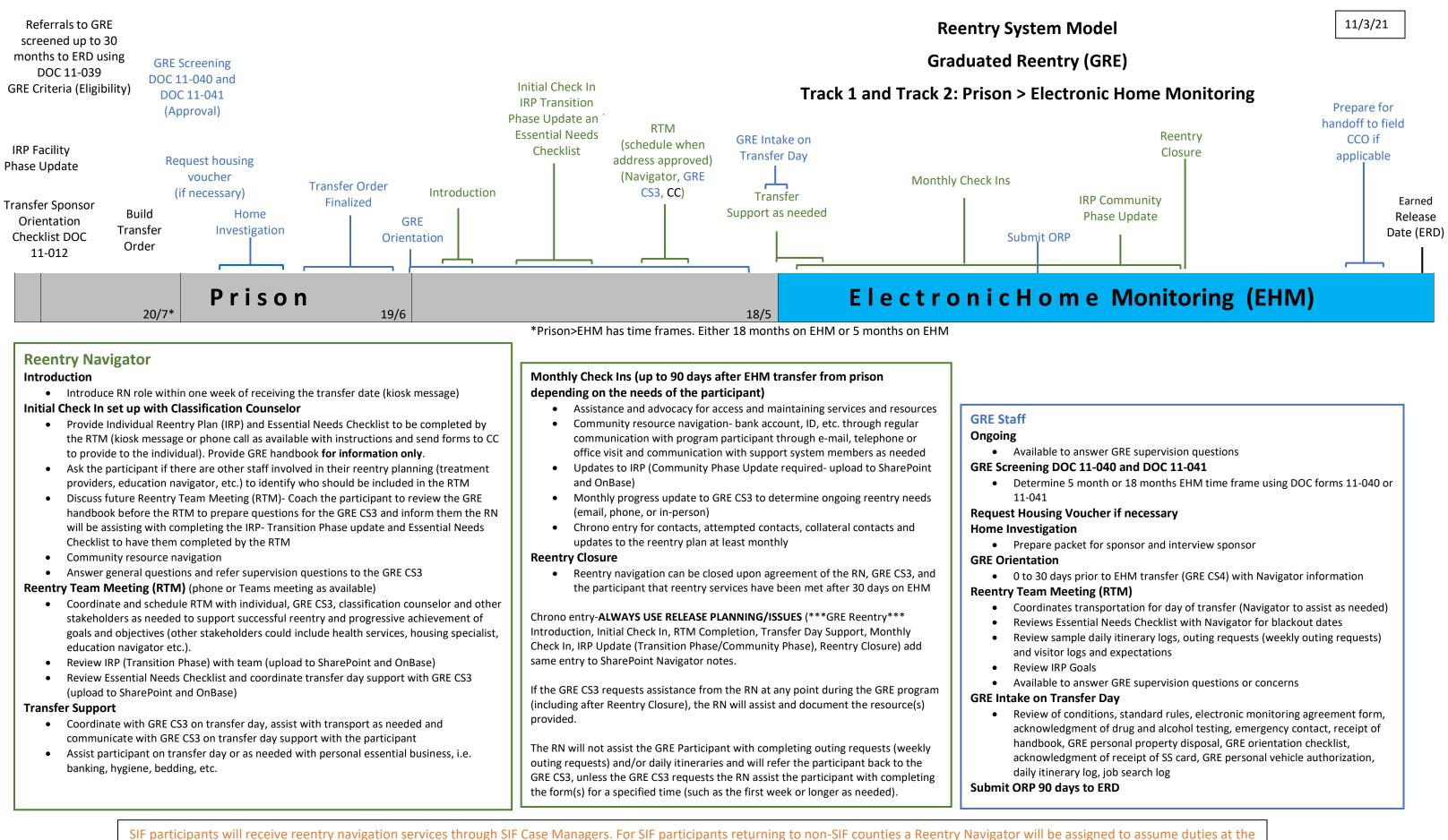
Participant Name	DOC#	Transfer to Partial Confinement/Release Date	Reentry Team Meeting Completion Date	Staff member assisting individual in completing this checklist			
Funds							
How much money will you							
Will you be able to open a bank account?    □Yes   □No							
How do you plan to spend this money for your transition?							
Are you currently receiving any supplemental income? (i.e., pension, apportionment of VA benefits, tribal benefits, back child support etc.)							
Food							
Will you need to visit a loca		d know where one is	located? (staff	□Yes □No			
can provide food bank resources Will you need to apply for		ce from DSHS – FBT (	card/cash	□Yes □No			
benefits?							
If you are purchasing food	for yourself, pl	ease complete groce	ry list of needed ite	ms.			
Medical							
Is your medical insurance s	set up?			□Yes □No			
Do you have a 30-day supp	oly of needed n	nedications?		□Yes □No □ N/A			
Are there any other medic	al needs that n	eed to be addressed	once you have trai	nsitioned?			
Cell Phone/Computer							
Do you have a cell	□Yes □N	D	If Yes, what is				
phone? If you do not have a cell ph		vou get ono?	the number?	L			
Will you have access to a	$\Box Yes \Box No$		What is your				
computer?		, ,	email?				



**Essential Needs Checklist** 

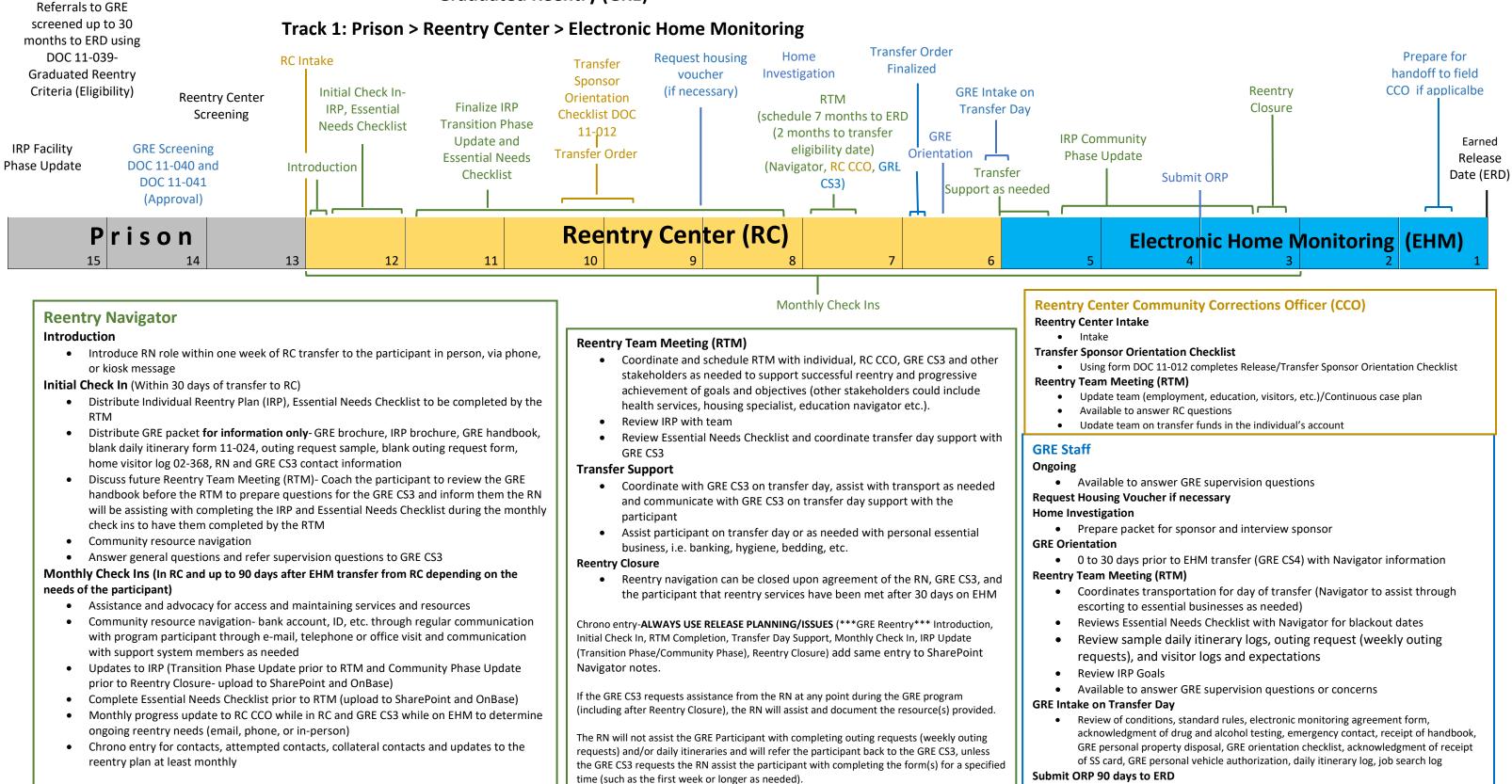
Othe	Other Needs/Concerns/ Navigator Assistance									
conce your t	other nee rns do you ransition? g, hygiene e	u have fo (Clothing								
Trans	portation	n/Ident	ificati	ion						
Do yo licens	u have a d e?	river's		□Yes □No	Berna D					
Will you have a copy of your state ID/DL on your transition day?					□Yes	□No				
Do yo	u have a p	lan to o	btain i	insuran	ice?				□Yes	□No
Do you have a current bus pass? Do you have funds to purchase next bus pass?				funds to	□Yes	□No				
Other	methods	of trans	portat	ion Wa	alk/Bik	e/Rides (\	Who?)		1	
Schee	duled App	pointm	ents (	lf Appl	icable	e)				
Date		Time		Se	rvice/	Address				
Date		Time		Se	Service/Address					
spons	ors and vi	sitors.		-				tion to your Speci your Community (		
(CCO)										

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## **Reentry System Model**

## **Graduated Reentry (GRE)**



SIF participants will receive reentry navigation services through SIF Case Managers. For SIF participants returning to non-SIF counties a Reentry Navigator will be assigned to assume duties at the



## **Individual Reentry Plan**

The **Washington State Department of Corrections** is looking forward to working with you. Although this is a challenging time in your life, please take this time to self-reflect and begin planning for your future. There will be targeted opportunities and pathways supporting your successful transition back into your community. This is intended for your use to begin planning your journey through the 3 phases of reentry (Facility, Transition, Community). We encourage you to take advantage of programs and resources for skill building, self-improvement, and preparing for a successful reentry. Please review yourassessed criminogenic risks and programmatic needs and be mindful of areas identified through your Washington ONE assessment as opportunities for growth.

Your **Individual Reentry Plan (IRP)** will include this plan and attachments to create an individualized portfolio. Your plan should include your SMART goals and objectives, essential needs checklist, letters of support, personal education achievements, certifications, employment skills, work experience, skills, and training received prior to and during incarceration, resources specific to your county, and any other documents that you feel will support your successful reentry. You should review and update your plan throughout the 3 phases, with a focus onupdates prior to transferring to your community.

**Reentry Team Meetings (RTMs)** may be offered to discuss how to support you for successful reentry. Your Individual Reentry Plan, Individualized portfolio, SMART goals, and next steps would be reviewed at the RTM. Depending on your reentry path these meetings may occur during the transition phase of your incarceration and could include current support system members and community partners.

Please take your time completing your Individual Reentry Plan by answering all the questions as honestly as you can. The answers you provide in this plan will assist in identifying any unmet needs you may have so current support system members and community partners, and staff can provide you information on community-based resources to support you in your success. This plan will also assist you in organizing your thoughts, identifying areas where you may still need assistance, and help you to track where you are at with your SMART Goals and Individual Reentry Plan to align with your Mission Statement.

**Mission Statement-** A personal mission statement defines who you are as a person and identifies your purpose in life or aspecific area of your life. It explains how you pursue that purpose and why it matters so much to you.

**SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-Based) Goals:** Goals are thoughts you have about the future that you wish to make happen. Using the SMART Goals framework sets boundaries and defines the steps you will need to take, resources necessary to get there, and milestones that indicate progress along the way. With SMART goals you are more likely to achieve your goal efficiently and effectively.



Name	DOC	
Anticipated release or transfer date to the con		
Facility Phase IRP Completed on:	Transition Phase IRP Completed on:	Community Phase IRP Completed on:
Review(s) and Update(s) Completed on:	•	

## **Goal Setting**

Facility Goal:	
Transition Goal:	
Community Goal:	
	🗆 Yes 🗆 No

## Identification

_	 
🗆 State ID	🗆 State ID
Social Security Card	Social Security Card
🗆 Birth Certificate	🗆 Birth Certificate
🗆 Veteran ID	🗆 Veteran ID
□ Immigration ID	$\Box$ Immigration ID
🗆 Prison ID	🗆 Prison ID
□ Military DD214	🗆 Military DD214
🗆 Tribal ID	🗆 Tribal ID



	OTON STATE			
2. Do you have a	valid driver's license?	🗆 Yes 🗆 No		🗆 Yes 🗌 No
			Never had a license	Unpaid tickets
			Ignition interlock needed	□ Testing needed
			□ Revoked	Expired
				🗆 Yes 🗆 No 🗆 N/A
				🗆 Unknown
				🗆 Yes 🗆 No 🗆 N/A
				🗆 Unknown
				🗆 Yes 🗆 No 🗆 N/A
				🗆 Unknown

## Housing (Residential)



a.	
b.	
C.	
	🗆 Yes 🗌 No

## **Education/Vocational**

🗆 Yes 🗆 No
🗆 Yes 🗌 No

Department of Corrections WASHINGTON STATE

6. Are you currently working with an Education Navigator?	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
If no, staff can assist you with connecting to the facility or community Education Navigator.	
7. Are you interested in a pre-apprenticeship, vocational, technology programs or trades?	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
If yes, which programs are you interested in?	
	-
8. Are you registered for the selective service?	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
(This can impact your ability to apply and receive financial assistance)	🗆 Unknown
9. Do you have any outstanding financial aid debt that could prevent you from applying for FAFSA	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)?	🗆 Unknown

# Employment

a.	
b.	
с.	
a.	
b.	
<u>c.</u>	
	🗆 Yes 🗔 No



## Supplemental Income

	🗆 Yes 🗌 No
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	
Social Security Disability Insurance	
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/Food Stamps	
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	
Cash assistance	
Child Support	
□ VA Benefits	
Tribal (SPIPA)	
Other. Please Specify:	

### Financial Management (Transition and Community Phase)

	🗆 Yes 🗌 No
	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
If Yes, explain:	
	🗆 Yes 🗌 No
	🗆 Yes 🗌 No
	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
	□ N/A
	🗆 Yes 🗌 No
	□ N/A
	🗆 Yes 🗌 No
	□ N/A



## Social Support (Social Influences)

Creating Your Community Support System- What spe	cific people do you want around you after your transition?
NA (Narcotics Anonymous)	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)
AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)	□ Al-ANON (support for people worried
Parenting (Miscellaneous programs/groups)	about someone with a drinking problem)
GA (Gamblers Anonymous)	□ Religious programs/places of worship
Domestic Violence	□ Other
	□ Yes □ N



Parenting (Skip to Overcoming Thinking Errors section if you will not have children in your care or do not have children)

·
□ Yes □ No □ Already engaged/Completed

## Hobbies/Interests



Overcoming Thinking Challenges (Attitudes, Behaviors & Aggression)

1. What will be the warning signs that you would want your support systems to look for that you may be on t	

## Other

Other
1. What other needs do you have that are not already covered in this plan throughout the 3 phases
(Facility, Transition, Community) of reentry?
a.
b.
C.
2. What other services and resources do you need to meet your needs?



**Access to Healthcare** (If you are within 30 days of your transfer to the community from a facility and have NOT met with facility medical staff regarding enrollment in an insurance plan under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), please contact facility medical staff. If you are at a reentry center and do not have ACA medical, please contact staff.) BEFORE SHARING THIS DOCUMENT WITH A COMMUNITY MEMBER (SUPPORT OR PROVIDER) A RELEASE OF

INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.

http://insidedoc/forms/default.aspx?type=keyword&filter=Release%20of%20Information

1. Are you interested in the Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Yes No Applied/Assessed   program? (If yes, staff can refer you to MOUD program)			
			🗆 Yes 🗌 No

### **Treatment/Aftercare** (Substance Abuse & Mental Health)

1. Have you participated in treatment during this incarceration? (Chemical Dependency, Domestic Violence,	🗆 Yes 🗆 No
	🗆 Yes 🗆 No
	·
	🗆 Yes 🗆 No



# Department of Corrections Reentry Division

# Purpose Statement and Guiding Principles

## Purpose Statement:

The Reentry Division provides targeted opportunities and pathways supporting successful integration into our communities.

## Guiding Principles:

- Practice active listening
- Be open to learning
- Be authentic
- Be curious
- Make informed decisions
- Embrace change
- Build relationships
- Mentor each other
- Seek collaboration outside our own areas to gain perspective
- Model behaviors we wish to see
- Assume positive intent