

HUD's

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



Customized Bibliography

Discharge Planning From Publicly Funded Institutions



Office of Community Planning and Development

Introduction

Many systems of care have responsibility for the discharge of people leaving their institutions. Publicly funded institutions are often a factor in creating and maintaining homelessness by discharging people to streets or shelters. Part of a comprehensive strategy to end chronic homelessness is to prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place and good discharge planning is the lynchpin of a comprehensive prevention strategy. Helping people make successful transitions to the community as they are released from foster care, jails, prisons, and health care, mental health, or substance abuse treatment facilities requires systems to work together to ensure continuity of care and linkages to appropriate housing and community treatment and supports.

This bibliography represents a selection of the literature on discharge planning from the systems that people who experience chronic homelessness are most often in contact with. It is divided into three sections: Criminal Justice; Youth; and Health, Behavioral Health, and Other Related Issues. Unless otherwise noted, most of the literature included in this bibliography is available from your local library or inter-library loan. Entries available for download on the Internet contain active links to the websites from which they are available.

Criminal Justice

Authors: Legal Action Center.

Title: **After Prison: Roadblocks to Reentry. A Report on State and Legal Barriers Facing People With Criminal Records.**

Source: New York, NY: Legal Action Center, 2004. (Report: 26 pages)

Abstract: This report focuses on the obstacles facing people with experience in the criminal justice system upon their reentry to society. The authors grade each state on whether its law and policies help or hurt those seeking reentry. This report includes a comprehensive catalogue of each state's legal barriers to employment, housing, benefits, voting, access to criminal records, parenting, and driving. The authors make recommendations on how federal and state policymakers can help reintegrate people with criminal records into society in ways that better promote public safety (authors). Available From: Legal Action Center, 153 Waverly Place, New York, NY 10014, (212) 243-1313, http://www.lac.org/lac/upload/lacreport/LAC_PrintReport.pdf

Authors: Osher, F., Steadman, H.J., Barr, H.

Title: **A Best Practice Approach to Community Re-entry from Jails for Inmates with Co-occurring Disorders: The APIC Model.**

Source: Delmar, NY: The National GAINS Center, 2002. (Manuscript: 20 pages)

Abstract: Almost all inmates with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders will leave correctional settings and return to the community. Inadequate transition planning puts people with co-occurring disorders who enter jail in a state of crisis back on the streets in the middle of the same crisis. The outcomes of inadequate transition planning include the compromise of public safety, an increased incidence of psychiatric symptoms, relapse to substance abuse, hospitalization, suicide, homelessness, and re-arrest. While there are no outcomes studies to guide evidence-based transition planning practices, there is enough guidance from the multi-site studies of the organization of jail mental health programs to propose a best practice model. This manuscript presents one such model--APIC. The APIC Model is a set of critical elements that, if implemented, are likely to improve outcomes for persons with co-occurring disorders who are released from jail (authors). Available From: The National GAINS Center, 345 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054, (518) 439-7415, www.gainsctr.com

Authors: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law.

Title: **Building Bridges: An Act to Reduce Recidivism by Improving Access to Benefits for Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities Upon Release From Incarceration--Model Law.**

Source: Washington, DC: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, 2002. (Report: 34 pages)

Abstract: This report offers a model law that states can use to afford recently released inmates with psychiatric disabilities a successful transition to community life. Following an overview of the model law, the text of the proposed legislation is paired with a commentary with background and explanation to assist advocates and policymakers in working to adapt the model to their state. The commentary highlights potential issues, explains the choices the authors made as the language was drafted and provides references to helpful sources and supplementary materials. The authors have assumed that states will want to enact implementing rules or regulations related to benefit-reinstatement legislation, and accordingly have included suggestions as to what those rules should contain (authors). Available From: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, 1101 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 1212, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 467-5730, <http://www.bazelon.org/>

Criminal Justice

Authors: The National GAINS Center.

Title: **Community Re-Entry for Inmates with Co-Occurring Disorders.**

Source: Delmar, NY: The National GAINS Center, 2004. (Information Packet: 1 packet)

Abstract: This packet includes a number of resources that provide a synopsis of topics regarding community re-entry from jails for inmates with mental health disorders. The documents in the packet include, "Maintaining Medicaid Benefits for Jail Detainees with Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders" (The GAINS Center); "A Best Practice Approach to Community Re-Entry from Jails for Inmates with Co-Occurring Disorders" (The GAINS Center); "In Search of the Missing Linkages: Continuity of Care in U.S. Jails" (Veysey et al); "Prisons and Jails: Hospitals of Last Report" (Barr, H.); "For People with Mental Illnesses: Finding the Key to Successful Transition from Jail to Community" (The Bazelon Center); "The Mentally Ill in Jails and Prisons: Toward an Integrated Model of Prevention" (Lamberti, et al); "Case Management and Recidivism of Mentally Ill Persons Released from Jail" (Ventura et al); "Helping the Mentally Ill in Jails Adjust to Community Life: A Description of a Postrelease ACT Program and its Clients" (Lurigio et al); and "Release Planning" (Hartwell and Orr). Available From: The National GAINS Center, 345 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054, (800) 311-GAIN, <http://www.gainsctr.org/>

Authors: Council of State Governments.

Title: **Criminal Justice/Mental Health Consensus Project.**

Source: New York, NY: Council of State Governments, 2002. (Report: 432 pages)

Abstract: This report reflects the results of a series of meetings among one hundred of the most respected criminal justice and mental health practitioners in the country. The report provides forty-seven policy statements that can serve as a guide or prompt an initiative to improve the criminal justice system's response to people with mental illness. Following each policy statement is a series of more specific recommendations that highlight the practical steps that should be taken to implement the policy. Woven into the discussion of each recommendation are examples of programs, policies, or elements of state statutes that illustrate one or more jurisdiction's attempt to implement a particular policy statement. While promising, many of these initiatives are so new that they have yet to be evaluated to certify their impact on individuals and systems. Still, they demonstrate how partnerships and resourcefulness can be successfully replicated or tailored to the unique needs of a variety of communities. These examples should also help communities to build on the achievements without duplicating the failures or inefficiencies of others (authors). Available From: Council of State Governments, 40 Broad Street, Suite 2050, New York, NY 10004, (212) 482-2320, http://consensusproject.org/the_report

Authors: National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors.

Title: **Diversion and Jail Discharge Programs for Homeless People with Mental Illness: Working with the Police, the Courts, and Local Jails.**

Source: PATHFinder Report: June, 1995. (Newsletter: 16 pages)

Abstract: This issue describes effective alternatives to jailing homeless people with mental illnesses who come into contact with the police. Jail discharge planning and follow-up services for those discharged from jail who are homeless and have serious mental illness are also addressed. Mental health services in jails are not discussed, except as they apply to discharge planning.

Criminal Justice

Authors: Byrne, J.M., Taxman, F.S., Young, D.

Title: **Emerging Roles and Responsibilities in the Reentry Partnership Initiative: New Ways of Doing Business.**

Source: College Park, MD: Bureau of Governmental Research, 2002. (Unpublished Paper: 35 pages)

Abstract: This paper reviews the Reentry Partnership Initiative programs which share a common vision about offenders, communities, and the issue of public safety. The Reentry Partnership Initiative requires key criminal justice system actors to define their role and responsibility in this area, focusing not on what individual agencies should be doing, but on what the partnership should be doing to improve public safety. To facilitate this shift from individual agency-level reentry activities to coordinated system-wide reentry efforts, fundamental changes in the roles and responsibilities of police, court, and corrections personnel will have to be made. A major development is the inclusion of the community - victims and offenders in the partnership - sharing responsibilities for offender reintegration (authors).

Authors: Hirsch, A., Dietrich, S., Landau, R., Schneider, P., Ackelsberg, I., Bernstein-Baker, J., Hohenstein, J.

Title: **Every Door Closed: Barriers Facing Parents With Criminal Records.**

Source: Washington, DC: The Center for Law and Social Policy, 2002. (Report: 109 pages)

Abstract: This report, jointly published by The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) and Community Legal Services (CLS) of Philadelphia PA, documents the legal challenges that the approximately 400,000 mothers and fathers who have finished serving prison or jail sentences will face in successfully caring for their children, finding work, getting safe housing, going to school, and accessing public benefits. The report examines the barriers that, singly and in combination, tear apart families headed by ex-offenders, create unemployment and homelessness, and guarantee failure, thereby not only harming parents and children but entire communities as well. The report also offers recommendations for federal and state policymakers (authors). Available From: The Center for Law and Social Policy, 1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 906-8000, http://www.clasp.org/publications/EDC_fact_sheets.pdf

Authors: Center for Law and Social Policy.

Title: **Every Door Closed Fact Sheet Series. An Action Agenda.**

Source: Washington, DC: The Center for Law and Social Policy, 2003. (Fact Sheet Series: 16 pages)

Abstract: Each year, approximately 400,000 mothers and fathers finish serving prison or jail sentences and return home eager to rebuild their families and their lives. As these parents struggle to make a fresh start, they encounter many legal barriers that will make it very difficult for them to successfully care for their children, find work, get safe housing, go to school, access public benefits, or even, for immigrants, stay in the same country as their children. This new set of eight two-page fact sheets, a joint project of CLASP and Community Legal Services, Inc., of Philadelphia, details the scope of the challenges these families face and offers solutions for federal, state, and local policymakers. The titles are: Facts about Parents with Criminal Records; Ex-Offenders Thwarted in Attempts to Earn a Living; Low-Income Families Barred from Housing Because of Criminal Records; Lift the Ban on Financial Aid for Higher Education; Making Public Benefits Accessible to Parents with Criminal Records; Ex-Offenders Struggle with Child Support Obligations; Helping Incarcerated Parents Stay Involved with their Children; and Immigration Consequences of Contact with the Criminal Justice System (authors). Available From: The Center for Law and Social Policy, 1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 906-8000, http://www.clasp.org/publications/EDC_fact_sheets.pdf

Criminal Justice

Authors: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law.

Title: **Finding the Key to Successful Transition from Jail to Community.**

Source: Washington, DC: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, 2001. (Guide: 10 pages)

Abstract: This guide is an explanation of the federal disability programs' complex and interrelated rules and some options for state and local officials to use them more effectively. It is designed to contribute to the development of a more appropriate system of care for individuals with serious mental illnesses and to reduce recidivism. This is an important part of an effective solution to ensure that people with serious mental illness are connected with appropriate community agencies as they are released, and are enrolled in the federal entitlement programs that they need to support themselves: federal disability payment programs and health coverage through Medicaid and Medicare.

Authors: Hals, K.

Title: **From Locked Up to Locked Out: Creating and Implementing Post-Release Housing for Ex-Prisoners.**

Source: Seattle, WA: AIDS Housing of Washington, 2003. (Report: 170 pages)

Abstract: This is a report about the tragedy of homelessness among exiting prisoners. It is written for anyone who believes in building and filling more homes for ex-prisoners instead of more jails to which they can return when homelessness, among other problems, sends them on a U-turn back to lock-up. It is a starting point for planning post-release housing and related services to support the transition out of prison. It is also written to improve housing programs where ex-prisoners now live but, perhaps, do not fit in or succeed. This book also intends to dispel fear. Housing providers with minimal experience in the field of criminal justice often have anxiety about serving ex-prisoners. In response, the book explains who today's prisoners really are and the degree to which many belong more to the mainstream of society, even if to its most unfortunate tributary, than to a subgroup of sociopaths. Also explained are the dynamics of prison life, the experience of coming back to society, and how helpers who have not been behind bars themselves can learn to relate to those who have. Throughout, the book presents examples of post-release housing and related services. It shares the opinions of those who succeeded at melding the worlds of housing and criminal justice together. It offers advice, from the concrete to the philosophical, about how to create and implement such programs. For readers looking for more information on particular topics, references for other reports, books, websites, and videos are listed for this purpose (authors). Available From: AIDS Housing of Washington, 2014 East Madison, Suite 200, Seattle, WA 98122, (206) 322-9444, <http://www.aidshousing.org/>

Authors: Travis, J., Solomon, A.L., Waul, M.

Title: **From Prison to Home: The Dimensions and Consequences of Prisoner Reentry.**

Source: Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, 2001. (Journal Article: 57 pages)

Abstract: This monograph is the first to document in a single source the various aspects of prisoner reentry - from preparation for release to post-prison supervision. This focus on reentry sheds light on issues of sentencing, punishment, public safety, and prisoner reintegration. The report also explores the challenges posed by substance abuse, health problems, employment, and housing, as well as the complex implications of prisoner reentry for families and communities. The monograph covers the state of knowledge in each of these areas, identifying key research findings and highlighting opportunities for policy innovation (authors). Available From: The Urban Institute, 2100 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20037, (877) 847-7377, <http://www.urban.org/>

Criminal Justice

Authors: Cho, R., Gary, D., Ball, L., Ladov, M.

Title: **A Guide to Reentry Supportive Housing: A Three Part Primer for Non-profit Supportive Housing Developers, Social Services Providers, and Their Government Partners.**

Source: New York, NY: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 2002. (Guide: 30 pages)

Abstract: This guide is intended to provide supportive housing providers with a basic introduction to community reentry supportive housing, that is, supportive housing targeted towards formerly incarcerated individuals or ex-offenders, including those living with special needs. The objectives of this guide are: to provide a basic understanding of the need for supportive housing targeted towards returning prisoners; to provide a general overview of the criminal justice system (its values, function, and practice) as relates to the community reentry of ex-offenders; and to discuss crucial issues surrounding both the partners (project sponsors) and the people (target population) involved in community reentry supportive housing (authors). Available From: Corporation For Supportive Housing, 50 Broadway, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10173, (212) 986-2966, <http://www.csh.org/uploads/documents/live/GuideReEntrySH.pdf>

Authors: Hammet, T.M., Roberts, C., Kennedy, S.

Title: **Health-Related Issues in Prisoner Reentry.**

Source: Crime and Delinquency 47(3): 390-409, 2001. (Journal Article: 19 pages)

Abstract: This article reviews the state of programs and research in five health-related issues important to prison inmates' successful transitions to the community: discharge planning, community linkages, and continuity of care; adherence to treatment regimens; availability of housing; quick access to benefit programs; and the particular needs of dually and triply diagnosed individuals. In general, such services are currently inadequate, although there are exemplary programs and promising strategies in some of these realms. Additional research is needed to evaluate current programs and encourage their replication and enhancement. The disproportionate share of the nation's total burden of health problems found among inmates and the potential public health and fiscal benefits of an improved response should make this research a high priority (authors).

Authors: Cho, R.

Title: **The Impact of NY/NY Housing on Criminal Justice System Involvement Among Homeless Persons with Serious Mental Illness.**

Source: New York, NY: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 2002. (Fact Sheet: 2 pages)

Abstract: The study referenced in this fact sheet examined the impact of NY/NY housing on the use of medical, psychiatric, and emergency shelter services. The study also matched homeless individuals with mental illness who were placed into NY/NY housing with a set of cohorts who also had a similar record of shelter use, matched by various demographic characteristics, indicators of mental illness and substance abuse, and Medicaid eligibility. Criminal justice involvement was then compared for these groups for the two years before and after the first group was placed into supportive housing (author). Available From: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 50 Broadway, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10004, (212) 986-2966, information@csh.org, <http://www.csh.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=document.showDocumentList&parentID=34>

Criminal Justice

Authors: Gillece, J.

Title: **Leaving Jail: Service Linkage and Community Re-entry for Mothers with Co-occurring Disorders.**

Source: Delmar, NY: The National GAINS Center for People with Co-occurring Disorders in the Justice System, Policy Research Associates, 2002. (Monograph: 4 pages)

Abstract: This is the seventh paper in the eight paper series that discusses the many issues surrounding justice-involved women with co-occurring disorders and their children. This paper focuses on the need for service linkage for mothers who are returning to the community after serving time in jail. The complex circumstances that lead to the incarceration of women require coordinated multi-agency solutions. The author lists mental health, substance abuse and trauma treatment as well as housing, entitlements, vocational and educational services as critical elements in successful re-entry programming. In addition, detainees who are mothers require special supports for themselves and their children. The author identifies the commitment to collaboration between service agencies within the state of Maryland, as exemplary. Available From: The National GAINS Center for People with Co-Occurring Disorders in the Justice System, Policy Research Associates, Inc. 345 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054, <http://www.gainsctr.com/> (800) 311-GAIN.

Authors: Hartwell, S.W., Orr, K.

Title: **The Massachusetts Forensic Transition Program for Mentally Ill Offenders Re-Entering the Community.**

Source: Psychiatric Services 50(9): 1220-1222, 1999. (Journal Article: 3 pages)

Abstract: On April 1, 1998, the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health established the forensic transition program for mentally ill offenders. The primary goal of the statewide program, which follows clients for three months after their release from correctional facilities, is to coordinate services and assist in community reintegration. In the first year of the program, 233 mentally ill offenders received services. Seventy-four clients had been discharged as of April 1, 1999. At discharge 42 of the 74 clients (57%) were living in the community and were receiving mental health services. The other clients were hospitalized immediately after release (20%), reincarcerated (10%), hospitalized after a brief stay in the community (3%), or lost to follow-up (11%) (authors).

Authors: Hausman, K.

Title: **Mentally Ill Inmates Win Right to Discharge Planning.**

Source: Psychiatric News 28(6): 21, 2003. (Journal Article: 1 page)

Abstract: This article discusses the outcome of the class-action lawsuit against New York City, to mandate the provision of discharge-planning for mentally ill inmates. To settle the suit against it, New York City agreed to implement a comprehensive discharge-planning program that will follow mentally ill inmates into the community. Before it decided to settle the case, the city lost two appeals of a July 2000 ruling by a state trial court that ordered the city to begin such a program. The suit against the city argued that while city law mandates discharge planning that provides continuity of care for inmates receiving mental health care, the city routinely sends inmates back to the community with no postdischarge agreements in place.

Criminal Justice

Authors: Black, K., Cho, R.

Title: **New Beginnings: The Need for Supportive Housing for Previously Incarcerated People.**

Source: New York, NY: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 2004. (Report: 62 pages)

Abstract: This report examines the housing needs of formerly incarcerated people, particularly those with special needs, and presents a national survey of existing models of re-entry housing. This publication will assist conversations already underway in New York and around the country on the tremendous need for and promise of supportive housing for ex-offenders. Making supportive housing - affordable housing combined with needed support services - available and easy to access has proven a successful strategy for reducing and preventing criminal recidivism and homelessness in places throughout the country (authors). Available From: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 50 Broadway, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10004, (212) 986-2966, information@csh.org, <http://www.csh.org/>

Authors: Taxman, F.S., Young, D., Byrne, J.

Title: **Offender's Views of Reentry: Implications for Processes, Programs, and Services.**

Source: College Park, MD: Bureau of Governmental Research, 2002. (Unpublished Paper: 31 pages)

Abstract: This paper focuses on the offender returning from prison back into the community, since it is reported that these offenders are likely to recidivate within three years. The question confronting program designers is how to build reentry processes that reinforce the message of accountability and individual responsibility, while also attending to the issues about the offender's regaining legitimacy in society (authors).

Authors: Center for Law and Social Policy.

Title: **One Strike and You're Out: Low-Income Families Barred From Housing Because of Criminal Records.**

Source: Washington, DC: Center for Law and Social Policy, 2003. (Fact Sheet: 2 pages)

Abstract: This fact sheet is part of the eight part Every Door Closed fact sheet series on the struggles mothers and fathers face when they finish serving prison or jail sentences and return home. As these parents struggle to make a fresh start, they encounter many legal barriers that make it very difficult for them to successfully care for their children, find work, get safe housing, go to school, access public benefits, or even, for immigrants, stay in the same country as their children. This fact sheet details HUD's "one strike and you're out" policy, which prevents families from renting federally subsidized apartments if any member of the family has a criminal record. In this policy, families may be evicted: for the criminal behavior of a household member or guest; criminal behavior which occurs on or off the premises; regardless of whether or not there has been an arrest or conviction; without satisfying the standard of proof used for criminal conviction; and even if all of the criminal charges against the alleged offender are ultimately dismissed. This fact sheet details the scope of the challenges these families face and offers solutions for federal, state, and local policymakers. Available From: The Center for Law and Social Policy, 1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 906-8000, http://www.clasp.org/publications/EDC_fact_sheets.pdf

Criminal Justice

Authors: Solomon, A.L., Waul, M., Van Ness, A., Travis, J.

Title: **Outside the Walls: A National Snapshot of Community-Based Prisoner Reentry Programs.**

Source: Washington, DC: Urban Institute, 2004. (Report: 200 pages)

Abstract: This report provides descriptions of a broad array of prisoner reentry activity across the country, as well as briefing papers that discuss what is known about reentry as it pertains to employment, health, housing, family, faith, and public safety. The Urban Institute conducted a national survey of reentry programs that are addressing the needs and risks facing returning prisoners, their families, and communities. The report benefited significantly from the input of national experts who nominated programs that are implementing innovative approaches to easing the reentry process in their local communities (authors). Available From: Urban Institute, 2100 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037, (202) 833-7200, http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/410911_OTWResourceGuide.pdf

Authors: Corporation for Supportive Housing.

Title: **An Overview of the Criminal Justice System.**

Source: New York, NY: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 2002. (Guide: 12 pages)

Abstract: This document explains the courts, jail and prison system, and surveys existing community re-entry models. It provides a brief overview of the criminal justice system, including a discussion of the criminal justice system as a whole, its goals, its institutions, and as it relates to the arrest, adjudication, sentencing, incarceration, and discharge of inmates (authors). Available From: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 50 Broadway, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10004, (212) 986-2966, info@csh.org, <http://www.csh.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewPage&PageID=420>

Authors: Petersilia, J.

Title: **Parole and Prisoner Reentry in the United States.**

Source: In M.Tonry and J. Petersilia (Eds.), Prisons, 479-529. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1999. (Book Chapter: 50 pages)

Abstract: According to this article, with the average (median) prison term served of fifteen months, more than half of all inmates now in prison will be in the community in less than two years. Developing programs to reduce parole recidivism should be a top priority, and a few agencies are operating successful job-training and substance abuse programs. Experts argue that a new parole model is sorely needed, one that incorporates advances in technology, risk prediction, effective rehabilitation, and more "active" forms of supervision that incorporate citizens and others who know the offender. Such reforms are more promising than parole abolition, in that they reduce the public safety risks posed by parolees and increase the chances that offenders will succeed (authors).

Authors: National Coalition for Homeless Veterans.

Title: **Planning for Your Release: A Guide for Veterans Incarcerated.**

Source: Washington, DC: National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, 2004. (Guide: 15 pages)

Abstract: This guide offers instruction on how veterans can apply for VA benefits; where to look to find affordable housing; how to find employment training programs and job placement assistance; where to obtain medical and mental health services; and who is available to provide counseling and other assistance programs in their communities. The authors suggest that each veteran should have his or her own copy of the workbook in which notes can be recorded on the progress being made, community contacts who have helped, and agreements that are reached with service providers. The guide also serves as a guidance tool for corrections, social services and federal agency personnel who are trying to help incarcerated veterans. A wealth of contact information is provided, as well as tips on letter writing, filling out forms, and a timeline for when certain actions should be taken prior to the veteran's release (authors). Available From: National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, 333 ½ Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003, (202) 546-1969, <http://www.nchv.org/>

