Effective Reentry Case Management

The Community Corrections Partnership recently approved Probation taking over the operation of the Adult Day Reporting Center. At the center of the new program design is a One Plan approach based on reentry research by the Center for Effective Public Policy. This month’s research brief highlights recommendations from the “Chapter 6: Effective Case Management” of CEPP’s *Increasing Public Safety Through Successful Reentry: Evidence-Based and Emerging Practices in Corrections.*

From the chapter, characteristics of effective reentry case management:

**One Offender, One Plan.** The ideal is to craft a single case management plan for each offender that comprehensively addresses the intervention needs and management strategies that will ultimately facilitate a successful return to the community. Poorly coordinated planning can result in fragmented offender management activities, duplication of efforts, unclear roles and responsibilities, lost information across agencies and disciplines, and misallocation of resources, confusion, frustration, easy opportunities to pass the buck among all parties involved, and unnecessarily overburdening the offender with demands, thus reducing the likelihood of successfully meeting expectations.

**Individual Offender, Individualized Plan.** Outcomes are maximized when interventions and strategies are matched based on the individual risk level, criminogenic needs, and responsivity factors of a given offender. Put simply, one size fits all case management plans will not effectively reduce recidivism, increase public safety, or lead to successful reentry. Case management plans must be assessment-driven and tailored to the specific individual.

**Dynamic Offender, Dynamic Plan.** The case management plan must be a fluid, flexible, and responsive working document that evolves with the offender as the offender moves through the institutional, transition, and community phases.

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