

Re-Entry Task Force Charter

Name: Alaska Offender Re-Entry Task Force

Mission: To reduce Alaska's recidivism rate and thereby improve public safety and the overall health of Alaska's communities. This will be accomplished by developing a coordinated and seamless set of policies and programming from admission to prison through release that support the successful reintegration of prisoners into our communities.

Focus: To improve housing, employment and/or educational opportunities and increase sober and mental health support

Scope of task force work:

- Identify the partners and stakeholders essential to developing a reentry strategic plan.
- Collect, and analyze essential baseline data.
- Create data storing systems that communicate across agency lines.
- Map communities to which prisoners are returning and the services and supports in those communities.
- Identify the existing investments, systems, policies and services being deployed directly and indirectly to address successful reentry.
- Identify systems and programming gaps.
- Chart the current reentry strategies and programming in place from admission to prison through return and reintegration.
- Identify and evaluate state and local legal, policy and practical barriers to successful reentry.
- Identify evidence-based policies and programs that will reduce recidivism and improve reentry outcomes.
- Develop performance measures.
- Develop interdisciplinary work groups to look at specific issue areas such as alcohol and substance abuse, housing, education and training and legal barriers, and develop policy and programming recommendations.
- Identify the specific challenges facing rural communities in successfully re-integrating former prisoners to their communities.
- Develop a five-year strategic prisoner re-entry plan.

- Advise the Governor on appropriate policy responses to the identified prisoner reentry barriers and suggest improvements to existing policies and laws.

Proposed Members of the Task Force:

State Departments:

1. Department of Corrections
2. Department of Health and Social Services
3. Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
4. Department of Public Safety
5. Department of Labor
6. Department of Education
7. Alaska Housing Finance Authority
8. Alaska Court System
9. Alaska Judicial Council

Community Members:

1. Alaska Native Justice Center
2. Member from Municipality of Anchorage
3. Akeela
4. Nine Star
5. Partners for Progress
6. Southcentral Foundation
7. Faith based organizations
8. State Chamber of Commerce member
9. Philanthropy
10. Workforce providers
11. Former prisoners
12. Victims
13. Anchorage Community Mental Health Services
14. Evaluation/research community