

# Improving Public Safety by Positively Changing Lives

## Reentry Systems Unit

Briefing Update

FY 2023



### Reentry Navigation Data\*

Annual Data for FY 2023 for closed participants:

*1175 Total Individuals were referred for reentry navigation services.*

*772 of those Individuals completed reentry navigation services.*

Of those who completed reentry navigation services:

*716 Individuals received assistance with a transition phase Individual Reentry Plan.*

*454 Individuals received assistance with a community phase Individual Reentry Plan.*

*713 Individuals received assistance with a Release Needs Survey.*

*721 Reentry Team Meetings were conducted.*

These numbers reflect people who were closed in FY 2023 and do not include resentencing

### OVERVIEW

The Reentry Division programs focus on the Department's mission and strategic plan by directly supporting the Governor's Executive Order 16-05, BUILDING SAFE AND STRONG COMMUNITIES THROUGH SUCCESSFUL REENTRY and facilitates compliance with RCW 72.09.270 concerning the legislatively mandated development of an Individual Reentry Plan.

### REENTRY NAVIGATION

The Reentry Navigators for the Reentry Division work closely with various navigators throughout the state including college/education navigators, work force navigators, health services navigators (psychiatric social workers and medication assisted treatment navigators), housing specialists and community partners. In addition, the Reentry Navigators receive requests for assistance from classification counselors, various community stakeholders, and DOC leadership to support individuals in their reentry planning efforts.

Primary services include assisting individuals in identifying strengths by completing their individual reentry plan, essential needs planning to prepare for their transition to the community, and resource navigation. Additionally, services include helping transitioning individuals and corrections staff to navigate through numerous supportive services being offered and addressing potential barriers to transition.

The primary focus for a Reentry Navigator is connecting individuals to essential needs and supportive services which may include Food, Clothing, Phones, Health Care/Wellness, Supportive Housing w/Pathways to Permanent Housing, Identification, Educational/Vocational Training, Job Search Assistance, Financial Benefits, Peer to Peer Support and Mentoring.

Since 2021, the Reentry Navigator team expanded from 13 reentry navigators to 27. This includes two navigators who focus on individuals impacted by sentencing reform and two specialist navigators who work with Veteran and Native American/Alaskan Native populations.

The unit's expansion allowed for stakeholders to submit other referrals for individuals who needed additional assistance in their transition to the community. The other referrals include commutations, juvenile board individuals, 10+ year sentence in DOC, pregnant/nursing individuals, those with a disability, high medical/mental health needs at risk of decompensation post-release, age 65+, and other cases who have identified high reentry needs.

In FY 2023, Reentry Navigators served 42 Community Parenting Alternative participants, 741 Graduated Reentry Participants, 153 Reentry Center participants, and 101 "other" referrals. Cultural Specialist Navigators served 220 participants. Since January of 2022, 768 veterans received assistance from the Navigator unit in securing a copy of their DD-214.

## FY 2023 PROJECTS

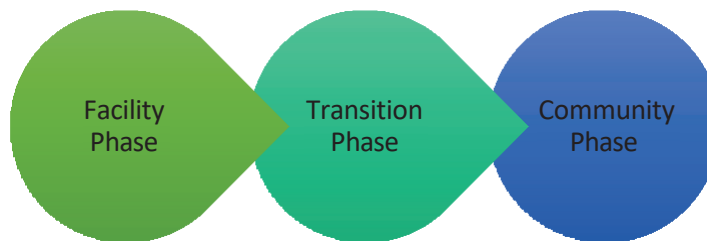
- Supporting DNR Crew at Brownstone Reentry Center
- Expansion of services to all Reentry Center participants.
- Statewide Virtual Resource Fairs
- Verified Provider Grant Project at Reynolds, Bishop Lewis, Helen B Ratcliff, and Ahtanum View Reentry Centers.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Reentry Navigators attend monthly meetings with CPTS- Community Partnership for Transition Services/Solutions- to enhance community partnerships and collaborate with community stakeholders. In addition, reentry navigators seek out community-based reentry service providers to understand the referral process and services to help individuals navigate to the services they need for a successful transition.

## APPROACH

An investment in people through an integrated reentry model that focuses on individual needs, and leverages connections to state, local and community-based resources and mentors to assist with transition and help individuals in the community. This model includes three phases:



- Facility Phase begins at reception with continuous case planning, orientation, evidence-based programs and treatment, education, and employment readiness as identified in the Washington state risk assessment tool which assesses the individual's criminogenic risks and programmatic needs. In addition, the Individual Reentry Plan guides the individual through setting individualized SMART goals to prepare for their reentry based on the plans they identify.
- Transition Phase begins at the time the individual is approaching transfer to partial confinement or release to the community. The transition phase includes updating the Individual Reentry Plan, essential needs planning, health and wellness transition, short-term housing assistance, community navigator connection, continuity of care transition planning, identification, and connections to resources.
- Community Phase begins at the time the individual is stable in the community and includes pro-social supports, long-term housing, health and wellness, financial stability, long-term employment, and educational pathways.

**For more information:** David Sather, Interim Reentry Systems Administrator, [djsather@doc1.wa.gov](mailto:djsather@doc1.wa.gov)