

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: ENSURING RESULTS THROUGH EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES SYMPOSIUM

February 22, 2008
Ohio Institute On Correctional Best Practices
London, Ohio

ABSTRACT

Community corrections is an umbrella term that encompasses everything from pre-trial diversion to intermediate sanctions. By definition it includes any non-jail or -prison, yet supervised way of dealing with offenders who are facing conviction, have already been convicted or are transitioning back into the community following jail or prison incarceration. Community corrections in Ohio refer to a system of specific facilities that provide residential and non-residential services to criminally convicted persons. The programs provide an intermediate residential sanction at the front end of the correctional system between probation and prison, called diversion, and re-integration services at the tail end of the system between prison and parole, called transition (Burrell and English 2006). Evidence-based practice is the application of science into operational practice for services and programs, in this case, for offenders. The objective is to use practices that have been empirically tested and have shown to reduce recidivism among offenders. With this in mind, the symposium seeks to bring together academia, practitioners and policy-makers to continue the dialogue on the application of research in reducing criminal activity. This will be achieved by participants attending a variety of sessions that highlight research-supported best practices in Ohio, implementation strategies and lessons learned.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:00 a.m. Registration/Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Welcome

Edward Rhine, Deputy Director, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

9:10 a.m. Opening Remarks

Terry Collins, Director, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

9:30 a.m. Session I: "Improving the Effectiveness of Correctional Programs through Research"

Edward Latessa, Professor of Criminal Justice and Head, Division of Criminal Justice, University of Cincinnati

10:45 a.m. Session II: "Using Research to Improve Outcomes: The Maryland Experience"

Judy Sachwald, National Consultant, National Institute of Corrections and former Director of Parole and Probation, Maryland Department of Corrections

11:45 a.m. Networking Luncheon

12:30 p.m. Luncheon Address: "Correctional Programming and Research Design: What the Project Greenlight Evaluation Can Tell Us"

James Wilson, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Fordham University

1:45 p.m. Session III: Panel: "Ohio Success Stories"

Moderator: Linda Janes, Deputy Director, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Panelists: Anne Connell-Freund, Vice President of Operations, Oriana House, Inc.

Bruce Gibson, Program Director, Clermont County Probation

Denise Robinson, President and Chief Executive Officer, Alvis House

Mary Spottswood, Director of Regional Corrections, Talbert House

3:00 p.m. Closeout Activities (Closing Remarks, Evaluations, Resource Tables)