



SUCCESS IN THE COMMUNITY: A Matrix for Thinking about the Needs of Criminal Justice Involved Women

Success in the community is about more than a job or housing, or even staying clean and out of trouble. It is about all of that, and more. Whether returning to the community after incarceration or living in the community pretrial or as an alternative to detention or incarceration, a woman's success is related to the degree that there are adequate provisions in six domains of her life: livelihood, residence, family, health, criminal justice compliance, and social connections. The other basic human need is for encouragement, orientation to new things, and to be recognized as valuable by others. The domains are interdependent. A viable plan must include provisions in each domain that can be reconciled with each other.

PHASE	BASIC LIFE AREAS					
	Livelihood	Residence	Family	Health & Sobriety	Criminal Justice Compliance	Social / Civic Connections
<u>Survival</u>	Gate money Public assistance Soup kitchens, pantries Personal care kits	Shelter Family or Friend Street	Find children Make contact	Continuity of medication Relapse prevention	Report to supervising authority (court, probation, parole, etc.) Comply with requirements	Receive peer support
<u>Stabilization</u>	Public assistance / Workfare Employment/Education Training Clothes for Interviews	Transitional Residence Family or friend	Supervised visitation Get refamiliarized Trial discharge	Drug treatment and treatment of urgent health and mental health issues Counseling	Earn reduced supervision	Join support group or nurturing community Volunteer work
<u>Self Sufficiency</u>	Job that pays a living wage and provides benefits	One's own apartment with public subsidy, if necessary	Reunify Participate in family counseling Contribute to others	Regular health visits paid by health insurance Ongoing support: 12 step, therapy, community activities	Satisfy conditions of supervision	Help others Contribute to community life
GOAL	Adequate money for food, clothing, transportation, and personal and family expenses	Safe, clean, affordable home that accommodates household comfortably	Reunification with children Reconciliation with family members	Physically and mentally healthy, or receiving affordable quality care including needed prescriptions	Abide by laws Live without community supervision	Healthy friendships and network of supportive adults Opportunities to give back, civic participation (voting, etc.)

WPA's reentry and ATI plans include provisions in all of these areas. However, funding available for needed services is too often restricted to special needs populations (like the mentally ill or people who are HIV+). Further, there are more supports for families than for single adults seeking to live on their own. In fact, it is usually most difficult to find supports for the single woman or man without mental illness, HIV, or a substance abuse problem.