

Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: The Honorable Kellie Warren  
Senate Judiciary Committee

From: Dr. Cris Fanning, Executive Director, Programs and Risk Reduction  
Kansas Department of Corrections

Date: March 5, 2024

Re: HB2522 Re-entry and Release Planning

HB2522 concerns re-entry and release planning for KDOC residents. Risk reduction, re-entry services, and release planning are provided to all residents consistent with their custody level and areas of risk and need, beginning at 16 months pre-release (or time to serve if >16 months). The Unit Team counselor is responsible for developing a Re-entry Plan, and with higher-need residents, additional discharge planning services are provided.

**95% of our residents will return to the community.**

**33% serve less than a year – 47% serve less than two years – 66% serve less than five years**

- Risk score and profile from the Level of Service Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) for males or the Women's Risk Needs Assessment (WRNA) for females
- Residence Plan
- Program history and progress reports
- Work history, job skills, and plan for employment after release
- Status of identification including birth certificate, social security card, and a Kansas Driver's License/Identification card (DL/ID)
- Health profile, physical and mental, and any known disabilities and medication
- Description of the resident's relevant disciplinary history
- Any known detainers that are pending and/or unresolved
- Any known victim issues that may impact the plan
- Information related to support systems (family, resources)
- Any treatment needs, including substance use and sex offenders, and plan for after-care
- Any pending obligations (restitution, child support, etc.) and plan for payment
- Plan for transportation upon release
- Mental Health level 4 and Medical level 3 and higher, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicare/Medicaid, or specialized housing needs require additional discharge planning

#### Initiatives

- Re-entry starts at intake: Creating a more efficient process through effective case management
- Developing a statewide catalog of community partners and resources to facilitate feedback and communication, especially for high-risk and hard-to-place residents
- Identifying current components that can be done prior to 16 months: birth certificate, social security card, purposeful education and employment plans, and career readiness/work skill development
- Building on the success of DL/ID clinics to increase the number of residents releasing with their state ID

#### Challenges

- Timeline restrictions from external entities, specifically Social Security and Medicare/Medicaid applications
- Methods of ensuring a resident has access to their resume and other job-seeking materials after returning to the community
- Safe housing options for our most vulnerable residents is a consistent challenge.