San Bernardino Reentry

Day Reporting Center
• Fyodor Dostoyevsky, “The degree of civilization in a society is revealed by entering its prisons.”
U.S. Prisons

- U.S. leads the world in incarceration rates
- Over 1 million people in the U.S. are under some kind of court supervision
- Incarceration binge has led to an orgy of prison construction and dangerous levels of overcrowding
- Re-arrest rate for illegal immigrants is around 73%
- Some states revoke prisoners if they do not get jobs within a certain timeframe
U.S. Prisons, cont.

- Number of people released from prison has increased 350% over last 20 years

- Over 7 million people released from jails annually

- Almost 2 of 3 people released from prison in the U.S. are rearrested within 3 years of release

- 3 out of 4 have substance abuse problems

- More than 1 out of 3 prisoners report physical or mental disability
U.S. Reentry Efforts

- Federal government has prioritized reentry by passing Second Chance Acts, for funding community programs

- Rhode Island has established inside programs for release planning

- Ohio has started a Community-Oriented Reentry Project (CORE) to assist prisoners returning to their 2 largest cities (almost $3 mil)

- Chicago established several Day Reporting Centers for several groups returning from prison. Average recidivism rates in the programs has been reduced from 43.3% to 25.7%.
CA Prison System

- Over 70% of prisoners recidivate; parole violators now exceed new court commitments
- Adds to about 115,000 parolees coming back to prisons each year
- In 1978, returned parolees represented about 8% of total prisoners in prison
- In 1998, 71% of new admissions to CA prisons were parole violators
- By 2004, nearly 80% of CA prisoners were in for parole violations
- One year after release, almost 60% of former prisoners are not employed in the regular labor market
CA, cont.

- CA has distinction of most women in prison in the nation, and the world’s largest women’s prison. CA houses 10,987 women in its prisons; an increase of 300% since 1986

- Non partisan Commission found high recidivism rates are result of the state’s failure to prepare inmates to reenter society or to offer supportive services upon release

  
  Eliminates the mandatory 3 year determinate sentencing parole
CA Reentry

- 10 Day Reporting Centers in the State
- Programs very proscribed
- Most are for-profit organizations
- Each DRC is funded at about $1.2 mil/year
San Bernardino DRC

- Opened February 2011
- Not for Profit
- Only one administered and managed by a University
- Problems with the university system as well as corrections agreeing to such a structure
SBDRC, cont

- Serve returning State prisoners who have been convicted of serious, violent, and or sexual offences

- Big focus is on community collaboratives; we are partnering with over 20 agencies.

- In-kind contributions add up to almost the same amount as funding source.
SBDRC, cont, cont.

- DRC Program Offerings:
  - Case Management
  - Public Health
  - Substance Abuse Education
  - GED preparation
  - Critical Thinking
  - Cal Trans Employment
  - Anger Management
  - Creative Writing
  - Mary’s Mercy Kitchen
  - Domestic Violence
  - Cognitive Life Skills
  - Postsecondary Assistance
  - Job Development
  - Child Support Help
  - Financial Literacy
  - Peer Leadership
SBCRC, one more time

- Development of a culture of cooperation and welcome through a system of participatory management, or democratic government with elected student government

- Levels of progression through the program are proscribed by Department of Corrections, but our levels:
  - Novice
  - Citizen
  - Mentor

- University interns and volunteers provide great support, including educational counseling students

- One doctoral student is doing his dissertation on DRC students