

Mass Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 25.143

☐ Policy

☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Development Board Chairs
Workforce Development Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
Department of Career Services

Date: January 30, 2017

Subject: **Smart Reentry – Focus on Evidence-Based Strategies for Successful Reentry from Incarceration to Community FY 2017 Competitive Grant Announcement**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce development partners of Funding Opportunity through the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, BJA-2017-11541: *Smart Reentry - Focus on Evidence-Based Strategies for Successful Reentry from Incarceration to Community*.

Background: At yearend 2014 there were over 2.2 million individuals incarcerated in state or federal prisons or held in local jails. Approximately 95 percent of those incarcerated will be released and return to communities across the nation. A majority of these individuals have needs that, if unaddressed in prison, during the reentry process, and after release, will negatively impact their ability to live productive, prosocial, crime-free lives in the community.

The goal of the Smart Reentry Program is to support jurisdictions to develop and implement comprehensive and collaborative strategies that address the challenges posed by reentry to increase public safety and reduce recidivism for individuals reentering communities from incarceration who are at medium to high risk of recidivating. Within the context of this initiative, “reentry” is not envisioned to be a specific program, but rather a process that begins when the individual is first

incarcerated (pre-release) and ends with his or her successful community reintegration and reduction in risk of recidivism (post-release).

This process should provide the individual with appropriate evidence-based services – including reentry planning that addresses individual criminogenic needs identified through information obtained from an empirically validated risk/needs assessment that also reflects the risk of recidivism for each individual. The reentry plan should reflect both specific and ongoing pre-release and post-release needs, and a strategy for ensuring that these needs are met throughout the duration of the reentry process.

Successful applicants under this solicitation will be required to work as a team that includes practitioners and an action researcher to complete a planning phase for their projects and after BJA approval, will be authorized to begin the implementation phase of the project.

Funding Opportunity Number:	BJA-2017-11541
Application Deadline:	March 14, 2017
Expected Number of Awards:	6
Expected Average Award:	\$1,000,000
Period of Performance:	36 months
Eligible Applicants:	Government s to include - City or township, State, Native American tribal (Federally recognized), County

Action

Requested: Please share with managers, staff and partners as appropriate.