

Summary Notes from LARRP Housing Committee's Making Connections for Reentry Housing- April 18, 2019

There were four (4) main themes that came from the Breakout Sessions at the April 18, 2019 Making Connections for Reentry Housing convening. The recommendations for each of those areas are provided below.

1. Access to Information

- a. Reentry providers need more training about CES homeless services program components and the policies that govern that work.
- b. Reentry Housing providers need more education about service contract requirements and more timely notification about contracting and subcontracting opportunities
- c. Providers need training to better understand basic CES and homeless services terminology and concepts (CES 101)
- d. Reentry participants need access to more information about homeless services available to them by type and geography.
- e. Reentry Housing Providers would benefit from educational sessions to help them better understand how to utilize the harm reduction model and other effective service delivery practices

2. Connection and Coordination

- a. Reentry housing providers needs to be connected to CES providers in their region to coordinate services and resources
- b. A seamless process needs to be developed to improve how providers link participants to other agencies, conduct warm-hand-offs and engage in ongoing agency-to-agency coordination continued
- c. We need to develop and create forums and spaces to have continuing conversations to bridge the gap between the housing/homeless and reentry sectors
- d. We need improved strategies and coordination with landlords and owners
- e. Increase and/or continue participation in LARRP and the LARRP Housing Committee

3. Capacity Building Support for Reentry Focused Services

- a. We need more reentry focused interim and permanent housing solutions to ensure their special needs are being met
- b. Reentry Communities or affordable housing needs to be developed so that there are designated units for justice involved men and women
- c. We need capacity development for CES providers to be better equipped to meet the needs of reentry participants
- d. We need further development of peer-to-peer service models
- e. Challenging for the smaller reentry services providers to be paid in arrears for the services they are providing

4. Longer Term Solutions

- a. Allocation of more funding to increase more interim and permanent housing availability for people who are justice-involved
- b. Development of affordable housing that is accessible to reentry participants
- c. Additional resources and funding for independent living support services
- d. Development of funding and investment targeting Permanent Supportive Housing specifically for the reentry community
- e. A mentorship program for small and or upcoming reentry providers to be supported by larger/well-established agencies
- f. Educate larger and smaller providers with examples of how they can work together