



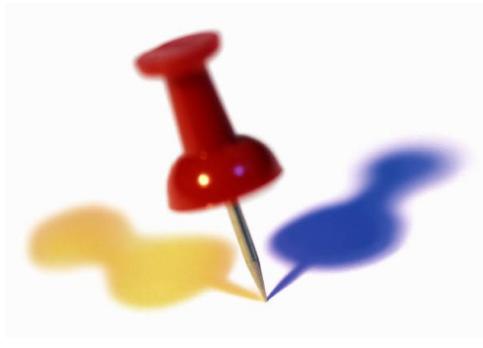
Ohio Department of Youth Services

Bureau of Parole

REENTRY CONTINUUM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Progress Report – October 2013

The Bureau of Parole is committed to ensuring public safety through collaboration and partnership with courts, the community, families and youth to enhance supervision accountability and competency development for youth on parole.



Ohio Department of Youth Services

Bureau of Parole

The Bureau of Parole is committed to implementing the following actions for the parole reform effort:

- * Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS)
- * Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS)
- * Juvenile Relational Inquiry Tool (JRIT)
- * Family Locator Tool
- * Family Intervention Training
- * Video Communicator/Video Conferencing
- * Mentors and Volunteers
- * Ohio Benefit Bank
- * Reducing Length of Stay on Parole
- * Pre-Qualified Vendors Initiative
- * Judicial Collaboration
- * Reentry Coalitions
- * Discharge Agreement
- * Youth ID Project (YO-RIC)
- * C.L.O.S.E. to Home (Bus Transportation Project)

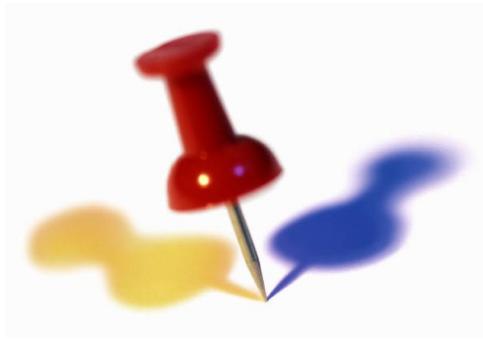
The status and timelines for each action are outlined in the following pages of this plan, as indicated by one of the icons in the legend below.

A summary of the status for all actions is located on page 18 of this plan.

 = Implemented/On-going

 = In progress

 = Not started



Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

Ohio Youth Assessment System- A five-stage uniform risk/needs assessment that provides the juvenile justice system with a standardized process to evaluate the risk and criminogenic needs of youth. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Training

October 2009– Training began for regional staff.

June 2010– Training completed.

July 2012- Bureau of Parole staff will continue to receive annual training for the OYAS.

Utilize System

All Juvenile Parole Officers (JPOs) are utilizing the system. As of April 30, 2012, all JPOs, Senior JPOs, and Juvenile Parole Services Supervisors have received their annual OYAS reentry booster training.

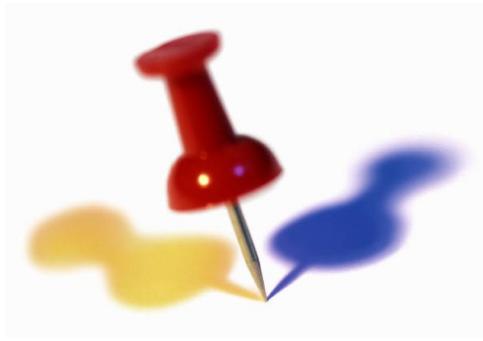
July 2012- The use of the OYAS will be monitored as part of the ODYS Strategic Plan, 2013-2015.

October 2013- OYAS trainings continue for court, community and DYS staff. Currently in development is a recertification database and upon its completion, recertification will be rolled out for the 1000+ users.

Note: While this action has completed the training phase, use of the OYAS process will be on-going in the bureau.

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS)- The EPICS model is an evidence-based framework designed to improve the interaction between the youth and his/her Juvenile Parole Officer (JPO). EPICS encourages a more positive relationship through cognitive-behavior and social learning- connecting JPO and youth to target risks and criminogenic needs, determine appropriate services, and discuss progress. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Training

January 2010– Training began for regional staff.

March 2011– Training completed.

April 2012- By May 31, 2012, all JPOs, Senior JPOs, and Juvenile Parole Services Supervisors will have received their annual EPICS booster training.

July 2012- Bureau of Parole staff will continue to receive annual training for EPICS.

October 2013– The Bureau of parole has created a new position, Parole Services Liaison, whose major responsibility will include assisting parole staff to enhance consistency, uniformity, and fidelity in the application of EPICS and Family EPICS. New regional parole staff have received EPICS training this year.

Note: While this action has completed the training phase, use of the EPICS process will be on-going in the bureau.

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

Juvenile Relational Inquiry Tool (JRIT)- A tool created for providing day-to-day case management and developing reentry plans. It is also used as a complement to standard risk and needs assessments. The tool is used to develop and reinforce positive support systems (e.g. family and social networks) and identify transitional services for youth. Results are incorporated into the reentry planning documents. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Training

December 2010– Pilot project. Training began for a select number of JPOs.

FY 2011– Training completed at Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility and Cuyahoga Hills JCF.

October 2011– Training completed at Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility.

January 2012- Approximately 75% of the Juvenile Parole Officers have been trained in the use of the JRIT. All remaining JPOS will be trained in partnership with the staff at Scioto Juvenile Correctional Facility during the week of February 13, 2012.

April 2012– All JPOs, Senior JPOs, Juvenile Parole Services Supervisors have received training on use of the JRIT.

Utilize Tool

July 2012- The use of the JRIT will be monitored as part of the ODYS Strategic Plan, 2013-2015.

Note: While this action has completed the training phase, use of the JRIT tool will be on-going in the bureau.

STATUS:



Ohio Department of Youth Services

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Family Finder Tool- A process to identify and locate previously unknown family members of youth. This tool can be used to establish a lifetime network for previously disconnected youth with the ultimate goal of creating a network of people to provide permanency, meaningful relationships and support through their transition to adulthood and beyond. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

January 2012- DYS received a grant from the Office of Criminal Justice Services to offer this training. A contract agreement was established with Hillside Children's Center.

April 2012- The Family Finding Kickoff was completed as well as the first 3 days of the 6-day training series.

July 2012- The Family Finding Training occurred according to the following schedule:

March 6, 2012– Overview/Kickoff	March 15-16, 2012– Days 1&2	April 17, 2012– Day 3
May 7, 2012– Phone Coaching#1	May 31, 2012– Day 4	June 26, 2012– Day 5
July 12, 2012– Phone Coaching#2	July 24, 2012– Day 6	August 7, 2012– Face-to-Face Coaching

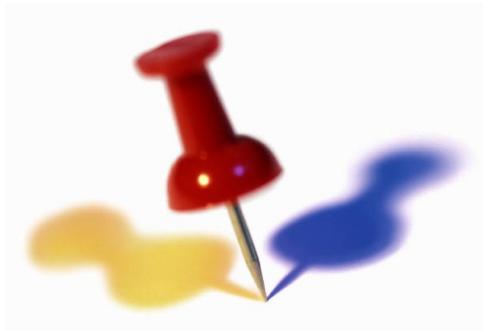
October 2012- The Family Finding training has reached its conclusion. Hillside Family of Agencies has submitted a final report to ODYS. The training has demonstrated that a significant and fairly immediate increase in family involvement and planning suggests applicability of this model to the correctional population.

October 2013– As needed, the parole staff are still using the online search engine, via Hillside, to locate family members.

The use of Family Finding technology will be monitored as part of the ODYS Strategic Plan, 2013-2015.

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services

Bureau of Parole

Family Intervention Training- An expansion of the EPICS model of supervision, which is designed to strengthen how JPOs facilitate family skill building sessions. The Family Intervention Training will support how JPOs work with families while the youth is incarcerated and assist them in identifying and improving problem areas. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Training

May 2011– Piloted in Dayton Region.

December 13 & 14, 2011– 2-day training for the Columbus Region parole staff completed.

January-April 2012– Coaching Days scheduled for the Columbus Region JPOs.

April 2012– The Columbus Region is wrapping up their coaching sessions. Initial coaching days for the Toledo Region have been scheduled for early May 2012.

July 2012– The Columbus and Toledo regions have completed training. Akron and Cleveland are slated to receive training in early FY2013.

October 2012– The Akron and Cleveland regions are nearing the completion of their training and coaching.

April 2013- The Dayton Region is nearing the completion of the training and coaching process. All regional offices will continue to receive annual training for Family EPICS. The Bureau of Parole will develop a quality assurance process for the Family EPICS model.

October 2013– New parole staff are attending training via their supervisors. The new Parole Liaison position will be responsible for Family EPICS implementation and to offer technical assistance to parole officers, as needed. The Dayton Region participated in coaching sessions immediately following their booster trainings earlier this year. Booster trainings will be on-going for the parole staff, as warranted.

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

Video Communicator/Video Conferencing- This project promotes family involvement, strengthens case management and helps with reentry planning by utilizing webcam technology and wireless internet to connect youth with their families and community while still in a DYS facility. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Utilize the System

April 2012– Since August 2011, JPOs have used the video communicator equipment to conduct 144 family visits, 215 reentry conferences, 261 staffings, and 36 other related activities.

July 2012- Since August 2011, 183 visits, 267 reentry conferences, 313 staffings, and 38 other activities occurred.

September 2012– Since August 2011, 258 visits, 327 reentry conferences, 342 staffings, and 44 other activities occurred.

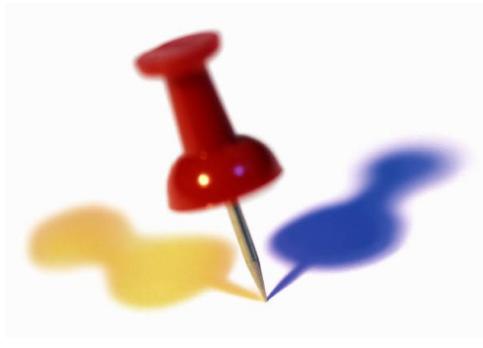
April 2013– Since August 2011, 391 visits, 507 reentry conferences, 467 staffings, & 47 other activities occurred.

October 2013– Totals to date: 510 visits, 765 reentry conferences, 592 staffings, and 56 other activities.

The use of video communicator/video conferencing technology will be monitored as part of the ODYS Strategic Plan, 2013-2015.

STATUS:





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Mentors and Volunteers- Connect youth to mentors in the community and identify volunteers to work with youth while incarcerated via group, one-to-one or peer mentoring. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Solicit and train mentors/volunteers

October 2011, DYS received an OJJDP grant for juvenile mentoring services. Three community partners (True North Ministry, Heart of Ohio, and Men of Standards) were contracted to provide mentoring oversight services (e.g. recruitment, training, matching, and monitoring) for youth in 5 Ohio counties.

January, 2012- 49 youth were referred to the partners to begin mentoring services and 2 new program staff were hired under the grant to manage the program. Referrals were delayed to allow for a stronger preparation period for the partners.

April 2012- Heart of Ohio voluntarily withdrew from the project. A new organization, Community for New Directions, has been selected to serve youth in Franklin Co. The goal of the grant is to serve 245 youth over the next 2 years. We omitted Allen county due to low commitments and replaced it with service in Hamilton Co.

July 2012- To date, 50 youth have been matched with mentors by 2 of our partners.

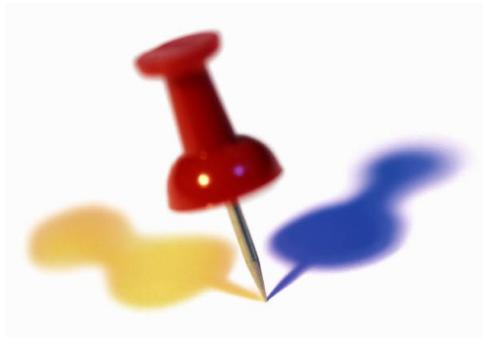
October 2012- 86 youth have been matched while in the facility and 32 of them are continuing services while on parole.

April 2013- We concluded calendar year 2012 with 105 youth active in the mentoring program, and mentors clocked over 1200 hours and nearly 700 visits of mentoring services. We are currently soliciting two new partners to serve in Cleveland and Northeast Ohio for the Akron region.

October 2013- We now have two partners: Sunlight Village for Montgomery and Hamilton Counties and David's Challenge for Cuyahoga and Lorain counties. We also received a no-cost extension to continue the grant program for another year.

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

Ohio Benefit Bank- A web-based system that allows JPOs to assist families in applying for public benefits. Each regional office is a registered OBB site. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Train staff to become OBB counselors

2010– 36 regional staff members trained.

June 2011– Remaining regional staff training completed.

Utilize System

2010– All sites began using system in the offices.

October 2011– Increase utilization once video communicator equipment is deployed to remaining JPOs.

February-March 2012- Parole regions have partnered with local Benefit Bank sites to develop a refresher course in order to educate JPOs of system updates, improvements, etc.



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Reducing Length of Stay (LOS) on Parole- A strategy to limit the length of stay for low to moderate risk youth in accordance with research-based timeframes for those youth demonstrating appropriate behavior and progress. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Identify appropriate youth

December 2009– Initial, thorough review of current parolees.

February 2010– Began periodic reviews for discharge consideration. Established new length of stay timeframes for youth on parole, based on level of supervision.

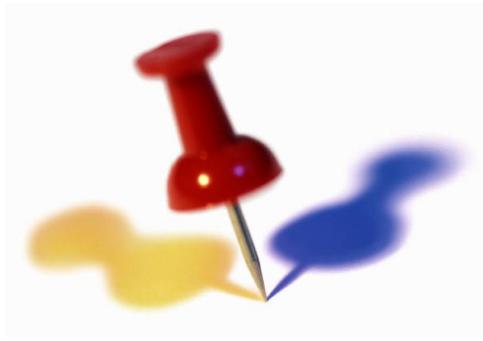
October 2012- Parole Policy 601.01.01, Supervision and Case Management and 601.01.02, Contact Standards and Length of Parole Period have been re-written to reflect current practice.

October 2013- Regular discharges from parole with LOS (for youth with an OYAS score):

	FY2011	FY2013
Low	7.5	8.6
Moderate	8.8	10.6
High	10.6	9.8

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

Pre-Qualified Vendors (PQV) Initiative- This initiative will reinstate the ability to purchase non-residential services, improve how we target these services, and purchase these services on a case-by-case basis through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Select Vendors

May 2011– Post RFQ packet on agency website.

June 2011– Reviewed replies and placed the accepted vendors on a Master Vendor List.

Utilize Services

September 2011– The Pre-Qualified Vendors Initiative was approved and launched across the Bureau of Parole, services were available to youth as of September 2011.

July 2012– In FY2012, over \$61,000 (Total NCRS budget) has been used for PQV services.

October 2013– In FY2013, nearly \$125,000 has been used for PQV services. Also, during that time, 4 new vendors have been approved and added to the qualified vendors list.

Note: This action will be on-going for the bureau.

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

Judicial Collaboration- Parole leadership, judges, and other county juvenile court staff merge efforts to review youth progress for “special discharge” recommendation to the Release Authority for those youth who have received maximum benefit of parole. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Initiate Reviews

August 2009– Meeting held with the judges. Collaboration began.

October 2009– First “Special Discharge” recommendation was made.

Note: this action will be on-going for the bureau.

STATUS:





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Reentry Coalitions- Ohio has established an Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition (OERC) consisting of 14 state agencies designed to reintegrate offenders back into their home communities, reduce recidivism, and maintain public safety via the development and collaboration with local reentry taskforces. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

2012– The OERC established a joint workgroup (adult and juvenile systems) to address the collateral consequences in Ohio that are associated with or barring gainful employment for ex-offenders as they reenter society. Forums composed several recommendations. On April 24, 2012, House Bill 524 was introduced to the legislature.

July 2012– SB 337 (formerly HB254) was signed into law in late June 2012. This law promotes and ensures the confidentiality of juvenile records; allows judges the discretion to seal juvenile records; and develops the juvenile portion of the Civil Impacts of Criminal Convictions Database (CIVICC), which distinguishes between adult convictions and juvenile adjudications.

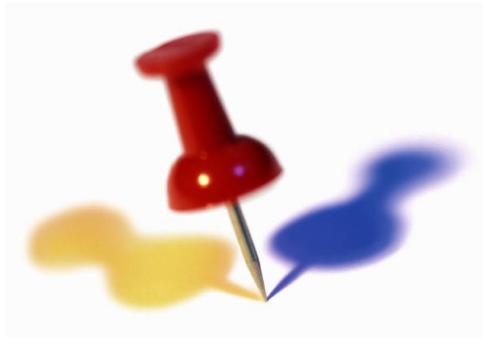
October 2012– On September 26th, the OERC voted to adopt the new Juvenile Branch, effective immediately.

April 2013– The Juvenile Branch presented during the February OERC plenary and hosted its first meeting immediately thereafter. The members decided to focus the initial efforts on increasing reentry access to the local juvenile detention centers. A survey was developed and distributed to all 39 centers and 12 community correctional facilities to assess the current reentry protocol and reentry needs of these facilities. Based on the survey results, the Branch will determine its subsequent action.

October 2013– The Juvenile Branch is also encouraging local coalitions to develop a juvenile component to its coalition's reentry efforts. To date, over 25% of the OERC-affiliated coalitions, alliances and partners have a juvenile component. The Juvenile Branch is also conducting focus groups around the state in preparation for its strategic planning session in early 2014.

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

Discharge Agreement- An agreement between the youth, youth's family, significant persons in the youth's life, and the JPO. This document serves as a final checklist to ensure all discharged youth have been connected to long term services and as a resource list of significant supports for the youth post discharge. A comprehensive community resource list with contact information will also accompany the agreement. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Establish a protocol

July 2011– Create the agreement.

July 2011– Establish guidelines for the use of the agreement.

Implement Agreement

January-March 2012– The Discharge Agreement has been implemented in all regions. After 90 days, the tool will be reviewed for strengths and weaknesses. Also at that time, the addition of a “permanency pact’ companion document will be considered.

July 2012– The Discharge Agreement is being updated and improved based on the 90-day pilot version. A Permanency Pact document will be developed and added, as well.

April 2013– By December 31, 2013, juvenile parole officers will complete a Discharge Agreement for 100% of youth who are successfully discharged.

October 2013– The Bureau of Parole work group has created a Transition Toolkit, which combines aspects of the Discharge Agreement with aspects of a Permanency Pact. It will be piloted for six months beginning December 1, 2013. Training for all regional offices on the new tool is scheduled during the month of November.

STATUS:



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Youth ID Project- DYS established the Youthful Offender Release Identification Card (YO-RIC) for the benefit of the youth. Once the youth's identity (birth and social security number) is verified, the facility issues the YO-RIC. Upon release, unless transported directly by the facility staff, the youth is escorted by the parole officer to the local Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) to exchange the YO-RIC for a State ID. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Implement project

September 1, 2011– The YO-RIC project was launched across the agency. The first State ID issued via the YO-RIC exchange was on September 27, 2011.

April 2012– A total of 142 youth have received a YO-RIC in 2012, which is 86% of the youth released from 4 DYS facilities and Paint Creek Youth Center (private facility) during this time: Jan= 49 Feb= 42 Mar= 51

July 2012– From September 2011 to June 30, 2012, nearly 60% of the youth released received a YO-RIC. As of July 1st, we are providing YO-RIC IDs to youth released from our new private facility, Parmadale.

October 2012– For all 6 facilities combined during July 1– September 30, 73% of the youth released received a YO-RIC. The YO-RIC policy was approved by our Legal Division and pending the Director's signature.

April 2013– As of March 31, 2013 (since January 1, 2013), there were 131 releases and 110 YO-RICs produced. 84% of the youth released who are eligible received a YO-RIC.

October 2013– From September 2011 to September 2013, over 900 YO-RICs have been produced. Since January 1, 2013, parole officers report that 65% of the YO-RICs produced have been exchanged for state IDs.

STATUS:



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Ohio Department of Youth Services Bureau of Parole

C.L.O.S.E. to Home- DYS established the C.L.O.S.E. (Connecting Loved Ones Sooner than Expected) to Home Project, a free bus transportation service for families who desire to visit their youth during their stay in one of our facilities. This project is part of our Family Engagement Initiative, initially funded by an Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services grant. For this action, the following tasks were assigned within the bureau:

Implementation Plan

The first 2 bus schedules were created for May 12th and June 16th, 2012.

July 2012– On 4 dates with 8 bus trips across the state, 128 family members visited their youth.

October 2012– To date, 288 family members have been served on 19 bus trips. DYS was awarded a Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) to continue bus services until October 31, 2013.

April 2013– The bus trips are increasingly popular and much appreciated by the youths' families. As a result, we have added bus trips to include attendance to a graduation ceremony at one of our correctional facilities. As of April 30th, we have hosted 53 trips and served 756 family members since May 2012. Our goal is to offer at least 30 trips next fiscal year.

October 2013– 24 bus trips have already been hosted this fiscal year. Our goal of 30 will be achieved by early December. Since the inception of the project, 87 bus trips have occurred serving over 1,100 family members.

STATUS:





Ohio Department of Youth Services

Bureau of Parole

Summary of Implementation Plan

Action	Start	Partnership	Full Implementation Date	Status
OYAS	Oct 2009	University of Cincinnati, Juvenile Courts	Jun 2010	
EPICS	Jan 2010	University of Cincinnati	Mar 2011	
JRIT	Dec 2010	Vera Institute of Justice	Apr 2012	
Family Finder Tool	Jan 2012	Hillside Institute for Family Connections Univ. of Cincinnati Corrections Institute	Apr 2012	
Family Intervention Training	May 2011	University of Cincinnati	Apr 2012	
Video Communicator/Conf.	Oct 2010	N/A	Sep 2011	
Mentors and Volunteers	Dec 2010	True North Ministry, Community for New Direction, Men of Standards	Jan 2012	
Ohio Benefit Bank	2010	Governor's Office	Oct 2011	
Reducing Length of Stay on Parole	Dec 2009	Juvenile Courts	Feb 2010	
Pre-Qualified Vendors Initiative	May 2011	N/A	Jul 2011	
Judicial Collaboration	Aug 2009	Juvenile Courts	Oct 2009	
Reentry Coalitions	2009	14 Ohio state agencies	Jan 2011	
Discharge Agreement	Jul 2011	N/A	Sep 2011	
Youth ID Project (YO-RIC)	Mar 2011	Vital Statistics, Social Security Admin.	Sep 2011	
C.L.O.S.E. to Home	Apr 2012	Childers Transportation, Lakefront Lines, Omega Transporters	May 2012	