

Reentry and Specialty Courts



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Learning Objectives

- 1. History of Missouri Reentry
- 2. Principles of reentry
- 3. Criminogenic Needs
- 4. Overview of Specialty Courts in Missouri
- 5. Evidence Based Principles and Correctional Interventions

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Who is this workshop designed for?

- School Counselors
- Social Workers
- Therapists & Counselors
- Teachers & Administrators
- School Nurses
- Juvenile Officers
- Probation and Parole Officers
- Correctional Staff
- Pediatricians
- Bus Drivers
- Coaches
- Judges
- Prosecutors

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In FY 2011

Missouri admitted over 18,000 offenders into the prison system

Supervised over 104,000 in the community

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Top 10 Admissions both male and female

- Possession of a controlled substance
- Burglary II
- Dist./Delivery/Manufacturing a C/S
- Theft
- Non support
- Forgery
- Tampering with a Motor Vehicle
- DWI/Alcohol
- Robbery I
- Assault II

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Offender Age Upon Incarceration

On June 30, 2011, 38.5% of all offenders were 40 years of age or older, 29.3% of offenders were between the ages of 30 and 39, and 32.2% of all offenders were 29 years of age or younger.

Among both female and male offenders, the age group with the largest percentage of offenders is from 25 to 29 years of age

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Historic Overview of Missouri Reentry

In August of 2002, the Department of Corrections began the tedious process of developing informational hearings and the identification of a steering team to begin working on the first steps to TCPI, Transition From Prison to Community Initiative.



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Reentry Defined

- Reentry is the process of leaving prison and returning to society. All prisoners experience reentry irrespective of their method of release or form of supervision.



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How do offender successes effect a community

- Fathers and mothers with their children
- Reduction in crime within communities
- Property values go up
- Insurance rates go down
- Communities stabilize
- Children's risk of going to prison is reduced
- Grandparents can be grandparents instead of caregivers
- Families grow stronger
- Drug and alcohol abuse is reduced



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Executive Order 09-16

- Department of Corrections
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Secondary and Elementary Education
- Department of Economic Development
- Department of Revenue
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Office of State Courts Administrator
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Transportation

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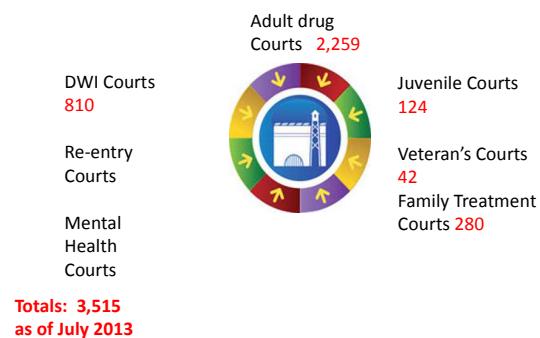
Why do offenders fail?

- Lack of education
- Lack of stable housing
- No job skills
- No transportation
- Relationship issues/ Family Issues
- Health issues
- Child support
- No birth certificate
- No social security card
- No driver's license or state identification
- Mental Health issues
- Substance Abuse issues
- Domestic Violence
- Lack of community resources
- Spiritual Issues

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Types of Missouri specialty courts:



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Substance Abuse and the offender population

More than 2/3 of all inmates use drugs regularly and more than one-half used them in the month before their current offense—the percentages of drug-involved women were higher than men

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•Juvenile Drug Courts

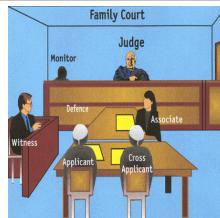
A juvenile docket within the juvenile court. The goal is to identify juveniles who have substance abuse issues and to determine the best treatment method to address substance abuse issues and other related issues.

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•Family treatment courts

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These are family dependency courts that are part of either the juvenile or family court dockets, for which parental substance abuse is an issue. The priority of the court is to help parents regain control of their lives and their children. To provide stability and family reunification.

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FACE FORWARD

- Full Employment Office
1710 E. 18th St
Kansas City, MO 64108
- Requirements:
 - 16-24
 - Never Convicted of a crime
 - Involved in juvenile justice system
- Referral from a court or referring agent
- Complete an interview and agree to participate in all Face Forward program components:
 - Education
 - Employment
 - Mentoring
 - Service Learning

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•Mental Health Courts



These are frequently modeled after drug courts and were developed in response to the large numbers of individuals with mental health issues within the court system. This helps move these individuals into judicially supervised community based treatment.

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•DWI Courts

This is a post-conviction system dedicated to changing the behavior of the alcohol-dependent repeat offender. The goal of DWI court is to protect public safety by using a drug court model.

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•Veteran's Treatment Courts

Veteran's courts are a hybrid of drug courts, this is used to serve veterans struggling with addictions, mental health issues and/or co-occurring disorders.

The treatment model uses veteran mentors, veteran support organizations as well as partners with the local Veteran's affairs officers to ensure participants receive proper benefits.

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•Re-entry Treatment Courts

These are treatment courts that work specifically with parolees, that have agreed to work with a state court.

These utilize drug court models to work on key components of substance abuse and other social issues as needed.

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Treatment Courts

- Integration of family into court plan
- On-going judicial interactions
- Early identification of possible participants
- Interdisciplinary planning and education of partners
- Access treatment and rehab services
- Stabilization of employment
- Coordinated strategies addressing all need areas
- Forging partnerships among courts, public agencies and community-based organizations
- Clearly set expectations

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Movement to Problem Solving Courts

- Problem solving courts represent a new way in which courts are dealing with rising trends to correctional facilities by mitigating some of the issues facing societies.



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Problem Solving Courts Cont...

- Benefits for the courts:

The judicial system receives many benefits from offering specialty courts. These allow judges and court officials to focus all of their attention on a specific issue allowing the courts to implement special rules and expectations

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Cost comparison

- Prison
 - Daily Cost per offender \$57.18
 - Annual Cost per offender \$20,870
- Probation/Parole
 - Daily Cost per offender \$4.92
 - Annual Cost per offender \$1,812

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Problem Solving courts Cont...

Benefits for participants

Specialized courts allow for the judges and court officials to have specialized training in a specific area for a greater understanding of specific issues. This allows for better rulings, expectations and outcomes.

What makes Specialty Courts different?

- Judicial interaction for the duration
- Team approach
 - Prosecutors
 - Probation Officers
 - Tracking Officers
 - Treatment
 - Law enforcement
 - Judge
- Swift consequences for negative behavior
- Acknowledgment for accomplishments
- Reduces recidivism
- Reduction in law enforcement costs
- Reduction in the states fiscal note for incarceration

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In order to participate in a specialty court, defendants must:



- Waive Rights
- Preliminary Hearing
- Change of Judge
- Fast and Speedy Trial
- Enter stipulations regarding offense
- Sign a court contract
- Agree to an order of supervision that may include searches
- Waiver of confidentiality
- Waive right to counsel in all court proceedings with the exception of dismissal from specialty court

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Traditional Probation and Parole Supervision

- Finding of/Plea of guilty
- Sign and agree to standard probation/parole conditions—11 Standard conditions
 - Laws
 - Travel
 - Residency'
 - Employment
 - Association
 - Drugs
 - Weapons
 - Reporting & Directives
 - Supervision Strategies
 - Intervention Fee
 - Special Conditions
- Special Conditions are special requirements to address specific behavior by either the court or board
- Directives are special requirements as directed by the Probation/Parole Officer to address specific behaviors



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THE BILL OF RIGHTS

The First Ten Amendments to the U.S. Constitution



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Specialty Courts Cont...

- **Down side:**

Specialized courts to take away money and resources from the general court system.

If not implemented properly will not have the expected outcomes. It must be noted that there are no uniform or standardized legal rules or criteria for the operating of a specialty court—there is considerable diversity in the way they operate across the country.

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Need Principle

By assessing and targeting criminogenic needs, agencies can reduce the probability of recidivism.



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Criminogenic Needs

- Dynamic risk factors –these are factors that change the probability of success
- These also provide the basis for the development of a treatment plan
- Addressing these issues will reduce risk
- Lead to public safety

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Examples of Criminogenic Needs

- Anti social attitudes
- Substance Abuse
- Mental Health Issues
- Lack of empathy
- Impulsive behavior
- Education
- Employment



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Why do offenders fail?

- Lack of education
- Lack of stable housing
- No job skills
- No transportation
- Relationship/family issues
- Health Issues
- Child Support
- No birth certificate
- No SSN Card
- No driver's license or state ID
- Mental Health Issues
- Substance Abuse Issues
- Domestic Violence
- Child Custody
- Lack of community resources
- Spiritual Issues
- Unseen barriers-attitude, anger, sense of despair



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Acute Risk Factors

- *These are factors that can change quickly:*

1. Employment
2. Mental Health Issues
3. Educational needs

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Recidivism Factors for Criminal Behavior

- Mental Health issues
57% of offenders with serious mental health issues return within 5 years of release
- Employment
72% of offenders who have never had a full-time employment return within 2 years
- Substance abuse
59% returning for prison are for drug offenses
42% of DWI prison admissions have five or more DWI convictions
92% of these returning to prison required substance abuse treatment

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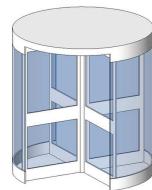
Targeted Incarceration

- During the 1970's we quickly learned that we could not legislate away crime—stiffer sentences led to prison over crowding and over incarceration of some crimes and under-incarceration for others.
- We now have 40 years of data that show us what works and what doesn't. Prison is not the answer in most cases.
- Evidence-Based Practices show us that the "punishment" should fit the "crime"

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Reducing the Revolving Door



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Responsivity factors

- Motivational interviewing techniques utilized
- Reinforcement of positive behaviors
- Cognitive restructuring theories
- Gender
- Stage of readiness for change
- On-going supportive care: family, aftercare & friends

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Smarter Sentencing



We need smarter and more individualized sentencing and corrections policies that allow judges, prosecutors, probation officers, and treatment programs to more carefully evaluate those individuals who should be imprisoned and those who are most appropriate for effective treatment and specialized court programs; thus keeping low risk offenders in the community.

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Chief Justice Mary Russell



Supreme Court Chief Justice Mary Russell, who is the third woman to serve as Chief Justice in Missouri, says she's open to ideas for more specialty courts, building on the success of drug courts and veterans' courts throughout the state. Drug courts combine efforts of justice and treatment professionals to intervene and break the cycle of substance abuse, addiction, crime, delinquency, and child abuse. Russell says the state also has truancy courts, where judges volunteer to go to schools and talk to kids who have attendance problems.

www.missourinet.com/2013

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Gov. Nixon said. "Because of the outstanding work by our Department of Corrections, the Missouri Reentry Process, which is used to successfully transition offenders into the community as productive citizens, is recognized as a national model, and our drug courts and specialty courts have made a significant difference. We want to continue to build on this professional expertise and success as we protect public safety in Missouri. This initiative will help us do just that."

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"The Department of Corrections has over 30,000 incarcerated inmates, 97 percent of whom will return home to our communities throughout the state. Each year there are approximately 20,000 inmates released back into the community. The Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) is designed to prepare offenders to be successful, productive, taxpaying citizens upon their release from prison. Through the Missouri Reentry Process, the Department of Corrections works with partner agencies and community organizations to help inmates overcome challenges such as substance abuse, lack of family support, mental health or medical issues, lack of education or skills, and housing to rejoin society as productive and contributing citizens."

www.governor.mo.gov August 4, 2011

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Thank you!

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