

WHY WORK TOGETHER?

The social and economic impacts of crime affect everyone...

- Annually, more than **650,000** inmates are released from federal and state prisons to return to their communities. Of these, two out of three will be charged with new crimes within three years of their release, and just over half will be re-incarcerated.
- Another **7 million** individuals will also release from jails across the United States.
- Unemployment among ex-offenders is estimated between 25% – 40%. An unemployed ex-offender is **3 – 5 times** more likely to return to prison than an employed ex-offender.
- Incarcerated parents owe on average **\$20,000** at release.
- The average annual cost of incarceration is over \$20,000 per inmate — an estimated **\$40 billion per year** from taxpayers.

For every inmate there is a family left behind... a potential job unfilled... a direct impact on a community's resources...

WHAT HELP IS AVAILABLE?

Offender Workforce Development Training

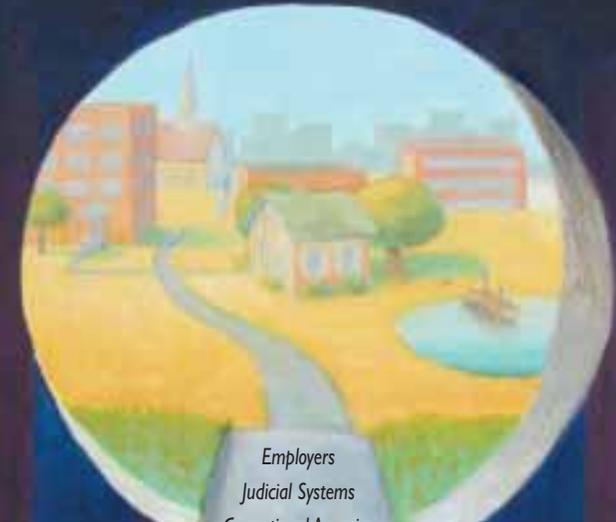
Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS) training, sponsored through the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Office of Probation & Pretrial Services, and the National Institute of Corrections, increases your ability to provide offenders and ex-offenders with the skills required for employment, retention, and career advancement. To learn more about this and other related training visit: http://www.nicic.org/WebPage_93.htm

Partnership Development Assistance

For more detailed information on the key components, suggested agency roles for the key partners, or guidance and related assistance, click on the website below. This website will also direct you to the point of contact for the National Partnership agencies involved.

www.nicic.org/NOWDP

OFFENDER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



Employers
Judicial Systems
Correctional Agencies
Supervision Agencies
Employment Services
Citizens
Offenders & Families
Social Services
Government Agencies
Community Support Services
Education/Training Institutions
Faith Based & Community Organizations



*Let's
All Work Together...*

March 2006

National Offender Workforce Development Partnership

WHAT IS AN OFFENDER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP?



At the local level.....

- A collaboration between correctional facilities, local government and community organizations, employers and business organizations, colleges, universities, and other training institutes, faith based organizations, family members, and the community.

Working together to provide:

- *self-sustaining career opportunities for offenders returning to their communities*
- *a qualified, trained workforce that is available to meet the needs of the labor market*

At the national level...

- A National Offender Workforce Development Partnership has been established between Federal government agencies and national organizations to provide overall assistance and guidance for local partnerships engaged in workforce development. The National Partners also focus on identifying strategies and alternatives for organizational and legal barriers that impact offender workforce development objectives.

WHAT ARE THE PARTNERSHIP'S GOALS?

- Improve job opportunities for ex-offenders to enable them to be family-sustaining
- Increase the number of qualified applicants in the labor pool for high-growth, high-demand occupations
- Promote public safety
- Improve the social and economic quality of life for communities and ex-offender families
- Improve communications and streamline activities amongst the partnering agencies
- Reduce victimization

Key Partners

- Employers ■ Judicial Systems
- Correctional Agencies ■ Supervision Agencies
- Employment Services ■ Social Services
- Educational/Training Institutions
- Community Support Services ■ Citizens
- Offenders & Families ■ Government Agencies
- Faith-based and Community Organizations

Key Components

- Skill & Career Assessments ■ Job Forecasting
- Career Barriers ■ Information Sharing
- Resource Collaboration/Coordination
- Follow-up/Monitoring Results
- Job Retention ■ Career Planning
- Program/Training Linkage



HOW DO YOU GET STARTED?

Establishing local partnerships takes a few easy steps...

- **Identify** “Key Partners” that represent all levels of your community (Federal, state, and local), using the suggested list as a guide, but taking your community’s unique resources into consideration.
- **Establish** a process for local collaboration between these partner agencies, e.g., a multi-agency reentry task force.
- **Select** a coordinator to act as a point-of-contact; this will facilitate communication flow, follow-up and other logistics.
- **Set-up** a first meeting where the team will outline how to address each of the “Key Components,” also listed.
- **Contact** the National Partners for assistance: www.nicic.org/NOWDP

