



Santa Clara County Re-Entry Resource Center

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Re-Entry Multi-Agency Program (MAP): A Model for Reintegration

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The Re-Entry Multi-Agency Program (Re-Entry MAP) is a multi-disciplinary team which provides assessment and transitional wraparound services including custody health, mental health, drugs and alcohol services, peer mentoring, general assistance, housing and transitional case management. MAP was developed to assess service needs and formulate a delivery model that would facilitate interagency coordination and provide effective re-entry services for incarcerated adults exiting prison and jail settings. The Re-Entry Resource Center pairs necessary health and hospital agencies with adult probation in order to reduce recidivism by developing re-entry plans for people transitioning from incarceration.

The MAP Team has been in operation since February 2012 at the Re-Entry Resource Center. Since its operation, the MAP Team have assessed and connected 453 individuals to needed services. Many of the individuals who are receiving services are finding something that they have not previously experienced in the cycle of incarceration, people who are reaching out with helping hands. At its core, the MAP is equipped to address issues that contribute to the cycle of incarceration. The County is working proactively to reduce recidivism; on a daily basis MAP Team serves clients who are taking steps to change their lives. Clients are undertaking career development, finding employment, addressing addiction and mapping their road to long term recovery. Santa Clara County is leading the way, implementing one of the regions strongest justice re-alignment programs, with credit due to a variety of participating agencies.

Here are some examples of client feedback:

- “They have helped me very much with what I need to stay out of jail and prison, very helpful.”
- “These services are excellent, they all made me feel good inside. God Bless you all for everything.”
- “Wonderful service – Thumbs up Santa Clara County!”

Addressing clients’ obstacles to re-entry provides the help and stability they need to get their lives on track. As the number of clients served increases, the positive impact on our community grows.



Photo of some MAP members

Families Matter

By Neelam Wadhvani
Program Manager, Sheriff's Programs Unit



After many disappointments with Chuck's behavior and addiction, Chuck's father, Chris is not sure if he wants to allow Chuck to return home. Chuck has been difficult to manage in the past. But as Chris visits Chuck at Elmwood, he starts to notice a change in Chuck's demeanor. Chuck is talking about recovery and is positive. He is enthusiastic about attending classes. For the first time in his life, Chuck is setting goals for himself. He shares these with his father. The change in Chuck is very noticeable, but Chris is still hesitant to allow Chuck to return home. Programs staff encourage Chris to attend Family Night so he can witness the struggles and journeys of other families and participants.

In the quiet evening hours, the Reentry Resource Center classroom comes alive on Family Nights. Participants, alumni, families, deputies, teachers and Programs staff come together to share stories and learn about resources and recovery.

"I have changed my work schedule so I can be here each month. I want to give back to the program".

Family Night originally started in the early 2000s by Late Rehabilitation Officer Wayne Sanders. It was his way of giving the families and participants a safe place to communicate, to express their frustrations and seek help for the challenges they faced each day.

When Chris comes to Family Night, he listens to Trevor's testimony. Trevor, a RCP graduate has stayed clean and sober for several years. He has attained a Master's degree and is now a county employee. He hears Cheryl's testimony. Cheryl has turned her life around and has attained an AA degree in Sociology. He meets Armando, a RCP graduate who is now CADAC certified and says, "I have changed my work schedule so I can be here each month. I want to give back to the program."

Chris listens to the Rehab Officer's presentation about 'Setting Boundaries'. But, what captures Chris's heart is the seventeen year old young lady who stands up and says to Teacher Ray "I worried about my mom, but now I am getting my mom back." He witnesses the mother as she gets up and hugs her daughter. He senses the bond between the mother and the daughter.

As Chris walks out that night, he says, "I worry about Chuck, I need him back."

Today, Programs Staff continue to work with the participants and their families to help them restore their relationships with the hope that families like Chris and Chuck can trust each other again.



A Second Chance for a New Beginning

By Buu Thai
Program Manager, Reentry Resource Center

Benny has been in and out of county jail and prison since 1972. "I was wild on the street and did crazy stuff to support my heroin...but I paid the price by going to prison", said Benny. Last year with the passage of AB 109, Benny was one of the individuals eligible for release back into the County of Santa Clara. "People told me about AB 109, but I couldn't believe it. I couldn't believe I was eligible. I never had a chance to be in a program. It was always jail time for me."

Benny is now 64 years old and was released a month ago to community supervision. "When I got out, I didn't have anything. My wife passed away while I was in prison. All my properties were in her name. I lost everything I had. When I saw my probation officer, I told him I will do whatever he told me to do." Benny's probation officer referred him to the Reentry Resource Center. There he met Jose Garcia, a peer mentor who connected him to housing, general assistance benefits, and drug treatment program. Benny has been clean and sober for 2 years. On a weekly basis, he goes to his drug treatment program and shares his recovery stories with others.

Throughout Steven's teenage years, he was going in and out of juvenile hall and the ranch. "I was always doing what I wanted to...on my terms. I was scared to ask for any help. When I would appear before the judges and they shot me down, I would just give up. I lost 10 years of my life."

On August 14, 2011, Steven was shot on the chest and thought he was going to die. "I just asked the Lord to forgive me for all my sins," said Steven and "HE saved me." Steven survived his gun wound and was incarcerated at Elmwood.

Steven was released in September 2012. By this time, Steven's family has given up on him. He didn't have anyone to go back to and no place to stay. He would sleep on the park bench. He learned about the Reentry Resource Center and came in. "I looked messy and came into the Center with the same clothes. The people there greeted me with a warm smile and fed me. They listened and connected me to general assistance benefits, housing, and work programs."

It has been more than a month since Benny and Steven have been released. While both individuals have different life circumstances, they share one thing in common: both are getting a second chance for a new beginning.

"I am doing things I never thought I would. If I had been in a program earlier in life, I would have changed direction. I am thankful for all the good people out there who are helping me," said Benny.

"I want to give back. I am volunteering at Sacred Heart and come into the Center on a weekly basis. The warm smiles I received give me a sense of hope," said Steven.



Photo of Steven, Jose, & Benny

Did You Know? The Center for Training & Careers

Center for Training & Careers (CTC) is a community based, non-profit, public benefit corporation, which as successfully provided vocational training and job placement assistance to San Jose and Santa Clara County residents since 1977. CTC was established to develop and enhance employment opportunities and job placement for the educationally and economically disadvantaged in the regional community. The key to their success is the direct result of involving business leaders in the development of CTC curriculum development and training programs.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES	SUPPORT SERVICES
Electronic Health Records	GED Preparation	Adult GED Preparation
Medical Administrative Assistance	Job Training	Basic Skills Assessment
Pharmacy Technician	Family Interactive Math	Career Assessments
Green Careers Academy	Family Interactive Literacy	Case Management
Multi-craft Pre-Apprenticeship	Parent Engagement Activities	Communications Workshops
OSHA30	After School Homework Center	Financial Literacy
Microsoft Office Suite 2007		Job Readiness Classes
Work2Future Affiliate Site		Job Placement Assistance

For more information:

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Upcoming Events: October/November 2012

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
October 17	12:30 pm - 2:30pm	Jubilee Christian Center 105 Nortech Parkway, San Jose	Faith Re-Entry Collaborative Meeting
October 18	9:00 am	Re-Entry Resource Center 151 W. Mission Street, San Jose	Community Correction Partnership Meeting
October 18	11:00 am- 1:00 pm	Re-Entry Resource Center 151 W. Mission Street, San Jose	Re-Entry Resource Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Open House
November 15	3:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Re-Entry Resource Center - Auditorium 151 W. Mission Street, San Jose	SJSU Speed Screening Individual review of rap sheets

Wish List

The Re-Entry Resource Center is seeking donation for our clients. Do you have gently used clothes you wish to donate? To make a donation, please contact Buu Thai at (408) 535-4236 or buu.thai@ceo.sccgov.org.

Contact Us

Multi-Agency Pilot (MAP) Services – (408)535-4257

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