



SUPPORTING IN-CUSTODY VETERANS: CHALLENGES, SUCCESSES, AND FUTURE STEPS

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INTRODUCTION

- OVERVIEW OF VETERANS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
- UNIQUE CHALLENGES THEY FACE DURING IN-CUSTODY STATUS
- IMPORTANCE OF TAILORED INTERVENTIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL REHABILITATION





UNDERSTANDING THE IN-CUSTODY VETERAN POPULATION

- COMMON OFFENSES
AMONG VETERANS
- DEMOGRAPHICS AND
STATISTICS
- CONTRIBUTING FACTORS
(PTSD, SUBSTANCE ABUSE,
TRAUMATIC BRAIN
INJURIES, HOUSELESS,
UNAWARE OF VETERANS
BENEFITS, DISCHARGE
STATUS REINTEGRATION
STRUGGLES)

CHALLENGES FACED BY IN-CUSTODY VETERANS

- MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS AND PTSD TRIGGERS IN JAIL SETTINGS
- LACK OF ACCESS TO VETERAN-SPECIFIC SERVICES
- UNCERTAINTY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCEEDINGS, AWAY FROM FAMILY (PHONE CALLS), JAIL ENVIRONMENT NORMS
- CHALLENGES IN RECEIVING VA BENEFITS WHILE INCARCERATED





WHAT WORKS – EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

- VETERAN-SPECIFIC HOUSING UNITS IN JAIL
- EVIDENCE-BASED, COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL, RESTORATIVE PRACTICES, CREATIVE ARTS, COMMUNITY SPEAKERS, TRAUMA RESPONSIVE CARE, AND HARM REDUCTION
- PEER MENTORSHIP SUPPORT



WHAT WORKS – EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS - 2

- ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT AND TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE
- COLLABORATION WITH VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS (VSOS) AND VA LIAISONS
- REENTRY PLANNING WITH VETERAN-FOCUSED SUPPORT NETWORKS
- KNOWLEDGE OF VETERAN AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES



WHAT DOES NOT WORK

TREATING
VETERANS AS A
HOMOGENEOUS
GROUP WITHOUT
CASE
MANAGEMENT

LACK OF
COORDINATION
BETWEEN JAIL
FACILITIES AND
VA SERVICES

MINIMAL POST-
RELEASE
SUPPORT
LEADING TO
HIGH RECIDIVISM
RATES

IGNORING THE
IMPACT OF
MILITARY
CULTURE AND
TRAUMA ON
BEHAVIOR



MOVING FORWARD – STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

- POLICY CHANGES TO STREAMLINE VA BENEFIT ACCESS WHILE INCARCERATED
- EXPANSION OF VETERAN TREATMENT COURTS AND DIVERSION PROGRAMS
- INCREASED FUNDING FOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT
- STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR REENTRY SUCCESS
- TRAINING JAIL STAFF ON VETERAN-SPECIFIC ISSUES AND TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

CALL TO ACTION

- ADVOCATING FOR BETTER POLICIES AND RESOURCES
- ENGAGING LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL AGENCIES IN SOLUTIONS
- ENCOURAGING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT REINTEGRATION
- ENSURING CONTINUOUS RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION TO REFINE APPROACHES
- ACCESS VETERAN WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BOOKING



CONCLUSION & Q&A

RECAP OF KEY
POINTS

OPEN FLOOR FOR
QUESTIONS AND
DISCUSSION

RESOURCES FOR
FURTHER
INFORMATION
AND
ENGAGEMENT

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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