

TCRC Meeting History

October 16, 2016

Topic: The Sheriff's Office & Reentry

Guest Speaker: Bill Waybourn, Sheriff Elect of Tarrant County

September 16, 2016

Topic: System for Economic Sustainability

Guest Speaker: Andre Johnson, Human Development Specialist, "CORE Training"

August 19, 2016

Topic: Goodwill Industries & Reentry

Guest Speaker: Kristen Bostick, Director of Special Projects for Goodwill Industries of Fort Worth

July 15, 2016

Topic: The Tarrant County Alliance for Economic Independence Web Portal

Guest Speaker: Debby Kratky, Director of Capacity Building and Training, Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County

June 17, 2016

Topic: Parole & Reentry

Guest Speaker: Vernon Judy, Parole Supervisor, Parole III Office (28th street)
"Parole & the Local Reentry Community"

Cheryl McDonald, TDCJ Community Case Manager Parole I Office (McCart Ave.)
"TDCJ Community Case Management in the Local Community"

May 20, 2016

Topic: Specialty Courts & Reentry

Guest Speaker: Courtney Young, Program Coordinator, "Tarrant County Veterans Court"

{No meeting in April}

March 18, 2016

Topic: Law Enforcement & Reentry

Guest Speakers: Lt. Fred Long, Fort Worth Police Department, "The National Initiative"

Lt. Kirk Drive, Fort Worth Police Department, "The Leverage Project: East Lancaster"

February 19, 2016

Topic: Social Services & Reentry

Guest Speakers: KATHRYN ARNOLD is the Executive Director of Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County in Fort Worth, Texas and has served in this role for 11 years. She received her

Bachelors of Science in Social Work from Texas Christian University in 1990. Kathryn believes that all individuals possess unique strengths, and her work at Family Pathfinders fulfills her passion for serving people struggling to overcome barriers to self-sufficiency. Under her leadership, Family Pathfinders has experienced significant growth, expanding the depth and breadth of the Best Practices Mentoring program and establishing the Financial Capability program. She is dedicated to helping people develop the skills and tools necessary to attain their personal goals and create a vision for their futures that is filled with hope. Kathryn was featured in Fort Worth, Texas Magazine as the February 2014 Hometown Hero. She is active in many community coalitions and serves on the boards of Lena Pope and the Tarrant County Reentry Coalition.

JULIE PARKS is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and serves as the Director of Tarrant County Department of Human Services. Her previous experience includes work in the areas of mental health, aging, medical social work and community relations. She received a Master of Social Work from the University of Houston in 1980. She has been employed by Tarrant County Government for 20 years.

ALLISON GILES serves as the AIRS Supervisor for ACH Child and Family Services. She has been in her current position for 2 years, and her department responds to an average of 450 calls per month. These are crisis intervention calls for children and families with a wide range of needs. Prior to this position, Allison worked for four years in Tarrant and rural counties to establish multi-agency collaborations developed to strengthen systems of care. She has extensive experience in connecting families with resources and access to systems.

January 15, 2016

Topic: Local & Statewide Employment Initiatives

Guest Speaker: Wes Jurey is Chairman of the Texas Workforce Investment Council, currently serving his second term as the Governor's appointed Chair. He previously served as the President and CEO of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce from 2001 – 2015. Prior to that he was the President of the El Paso Chamber of Commerce.

{No meeting in Dec.}

November 20, 2015

Topic: Overview of Findings of Local Probation Research: Employment is Critical

Guest Speaker: Kelli D. Martin has a B.A. in Psychology, with a minor in English and a M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at Arlington. She has completed much of her coursework toward a PhD in Criminology at the University of Texas at Dallas, with a current 4.0 GPA. Mrs. Martin has twenty years' experience in the field of community corrections. She held a variety of positions at various Adult Probation departments through-out her tenure. She has nine years' experience in community corrections management including supervising regular field units, the sex crimes unit,

Training Academy supervisor for new probation officers, and she is currently the Research Unit Supervisor at Tarrant County Community Supervision and Corrections Department. Additionally, Mrs. Martin has 11 years' experience in academia, the majority of this time at Texas Christian University. Mrs. Martin is a published author with works including a criminology college e-textbook, a book chapter in *Icons of Crime Fighting*, a report for the U.S. Dept. of Justice on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking, numerous journal articles and technical reports, and web content for various college textbook publishing companies.

October 16, 2015

Topic: Grand Opening of the Reentry First-Stop Center for Tarrant County

Summary: We met at the conference center of The Resource Connection, the site of the new First-Stop center. We had approximately 100 guests come and here local dignitaries speak about their enthusiasm for the new center. We then had an open-house at the center and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Pictures of the event are on the TCRC website, www.tcreentry.org.

September 18, 2015

Topic: Roundtable Discussion & Networking

Summary: Our guest speaker canceled due to illness, so we opened up the meeting to hearing from some of our key partners. We spent extra time sharing information about the programs that many of our member organizations provide to returning citizens in reentry in Tarrant County.

August 21, 2015

Topic: Overview of the Reentry First-Stop Center for Tarrant County.

Guest Speaker: Steve Gordon, president of Strategic Reentry Group, a consulting firm specializing in reentry solutions, and also Project Manager for the Tarrant County Reentry Coalition and the new Reentry First-Stop Center, gave an overview of the project, which opened (in "pilot" mode) on July 6, 2015. His topics included "overlapping, inter-locking cycles that need to be broken", the First-Stop Logic Model, benefits offered to clients ("neighbors"), benefits for partners, the First-Stop Process Flow, the orientation process, the navigation process, following up with neighbors, and the vision for offering coaching services in the future.

July 17, 2015

Topic: Trauma-Informed Programming

Guest Speakers: Over fifty local reentry practitioners from approximately thirty-five organizations and agencies attended our panel discussion on Trauma-Informed Programming at Cornerstone's Community Room on Friday, July 17. The panel was chaired by Wayne Vaughn of Lena Pope Home. Our panel of local experts was Tony Guinn from Guinn

Healthcare Technologies, Stacey Lewis of Lena Pope Home, and Greg Sumter of Tarrant County Juvenile Services. After a short video introducing the subject of Trauma-Informed Programming, the panel members gave an overview of how they came to work in the area of trauma-informed care and their perspectives on how reentry service providers can be more inclusive of trauma-informed issues in dealing with their clients, the returning citizens who may be struggling to this day from childhood stress and adult trauma. At the end, each panel member presented a list of resources that can be found online to assist those seeking to learn more about Trauma-Informed Programming. This list is available from the Coalition upon request.

June 19, 2015

Topic: Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)

Guest Speakers: Brenda O'Quin, Director of Training, Education and Special Projects for the Safe City Commission, gave a comprehensive presentation on the Safe City Commission's various programs, with a special emphasis on the Project Safe Neighborhoods program. Dow Croyle, Law Enforcement Coordinator, U.S. Attorney's Office Northern District of Texas, gave a detailed presentation on the PSN Reentry program, which primarily consists of a monthly mandatory meeting for all state probations and parolees being released to Tarrant County. This monthly meeting averages 300 returning citizens, and has been shown to reduce gun crime in the community by 55%!

May 15, 2015

Topic: Working Families Success Program

Guest Speakers: Wende Burton, Community Philanthropy Director at Communities Foundation of Texas, spoke about the WFS program that they are funding to provide bundled services to families in poverty (Financial, Employment, and Income Supports Coaching). A federation of TCRC member organizations, led by CAN, has been working with Wende to prototype the WFS program in Fort Worth. Kathryn Arnold, Executive Director of Family Pathfinders, one of the key partners in the group, gave a detailed look at how the prototype was going and the vision for the future.

April 17, 2015

Topic: Juvenile Reentry

Guest Speakers: The *Tarrant County Reentry Coalition* April meeting was an expert panel on Juvenile Reentry. Randy Turner, Chief Probation Officer at Tarrant County Juvenile Probation, Diana Goodwin, Regional Supervisor for TJJD, and Wayne Vaughn, Director of School and Community Based Services at Lena Pope Home represented over seventy-five years of combined experience with juvenile justice and reentry!

We had an excellent turnout from our membership and excellent participation from the group by way of questions for the panel. We were especially curious about the differ-

ences between adult and juvenile reentry. We learned that the two main differences are that the focus is on education (getting them back in school) as opposed to employment and working with the family starts at the beginning of the incarceration to prepare for their eventual return home.

Two great results of the meeting are that Randy is going to make sure someone from his office is attending our coalition meetings from now on and Vicke Wooten from the Recovery Resource Council volunteered to head up a new Juvenile Reentry Subcommittee! The date of the first meeting of this new group is TBA.

March 20, 2015

Topic: Reentry Success Stories!

Guest Speakers: TCRC partner organizations provided clients who are successful in their reentry to Tarrant County from incarceration to speak as a panel. Considered one of our best meetings to date.

February 20, 2015

Topic: Sex Offender Reentry

Guest Speakers: Mary Sue Molnar, Texas Voices for Reason and Justice (San Antonio); Pastor Jon Cordeiro, New Name Ministries; John Haralson, Reclamation Ministries. Included a review of the book *Unprecedented: How Sex Offender Laws are Changing America*.

January 16, 2015

Topic: Starting Off Right: An Overview of the 2015 Legislative Year in Criminal Justice, Prison, and Reentry Reform

Guest Speakers: The Honorable Jerry Madden- Former Member, Texas House of Representatives; Vikrant Reddy - Texas Public Policy Foundation; Pat Prophitt – Texas Inmate Family Association

December 5, 2014

Topic: Holiday Party

October 17, 2014

Guest Speakers: Linda Serrano - Bureau of Prisons, Oscar Esquivel – Attorney General’s Office of Texas, Justin Dalykas – Federal Correctional Institution, Fort Worth

Topic: Federal Bureau of Prisons & Reentry

September 19, 2014

Topic: Community Conversation on Transitional/Reentry Housing

August 15, 2014

Guest Speakers: Nicole Geller, Melissa Dietz, Bojan Cubelar - Social Solutions

Topic: Meaningful collaboration and data-informed decision-making for successful reentry

July 18, 2014 Meeting

Guest Speakers: Family Panel - Roger Hollar, Debby Kratky, Pat Profitt, Janyth Kindles, Von Diggs, Traci Young, Dorice Alves

Topic: Family of Inmates Panel Discussion

June 20, 2014 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Les Smith, Tarrant County Criminal Justice Coordinator

Topic: Community Justice

May 16, 2014 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Pastor Jerry Phillips, Covenant Fellowship Church

Topic: Reentry Programs in Huntsville

Guest Speaker: Carey Welebob, Texas Department of Criminal Justice Director of Community Justice Assistance Division (CJAD)

Topic: Criminogenic Needs

March 21, 2014 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Brad Mohler, President of the Association of Reentry Professionals

Topic: Reentry Professional Certification

Guest Speaker: April Zamora, Director of the Reentry and Integration Department of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice

Topic: Programs & Services of RID

February 21, 2014 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jennifer Pankow, Associate Research Scientist Ph.D., Experimental Psychology Texas Christian University

Topic: Implementation Science Research Initiatives at TCU

Guest Speaker: Dr. Julie Gray, Research Postdoctoral Fellow Ph.D., Experimental Psychology Texas Christian University

Topic: Implementation Science Research Initiatives at TCU

January 17, 2014 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Dr. Byron Johnson, Director of the Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion (ISR)

Topic: The impact of faith-based programs on recidivism reduction and prisoner reentry.

December 20, 2013 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Debby Kratky, Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County

Topic: Bringing Ex-Offenders Training to Enhance Reentry (BETTER) Program; *Healing Neen* Video (Trauma-informed care and the justice system)

November 15, 2013 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Patsy Thomas, Mental Resource Connection & Ramey Heddins, Tarrant County MHMR

Topic: The Impact of Mental Illness on Reentry

October 18, 2013 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Dr. Melinda Schlager, Texas A&M Commerce

Topic: Rethinking the Reentry Paradigm: A Blueprint for Action

September 20, 2013 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Leighton Iles - Tarrant County Community Supervision & Corrections Department (CSCD)

Topic: Probation in Tarrant County

August 16, 2013 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Executive Deputy Bob Knowles - Tarrant County Sheriff's Department

Topic: Tarrant County Jail Inmate Reintegration Program

July 19, 2013 Meeting

Topic: Reentry Continuum of Care Workshop Follow-Up and Findings

June 18, 2013 Meeting

Topic: Reentry Continuum of Care Workshop

May 17, 2013 Meeting

Guest Speaker: District Judge Sharen Wilson, Tarrant County District Court

Topic: Judiciary and the Reentry Process

March 22, 2013 Meeting

Guest Speaker: Debby Kratky, Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County

Topic: Next Step Program

Guest Speaker: Steve Gordon, Strategic Reentry Group

Topic: The Formula for Reentry Reformation

First TCRC Meeting - February 15, 2013

Guest Speaker - Tarrant County Commissioner Roy C. Brooks

Topic: Tarrant County Reentry Coalition Kickoff & Launch of New Directory System