



Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia

Office of Legislative, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs

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CSOSA HOSTS OFFENDER REENTRY STRATEGY MEETING FOR STAKEHOLDERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Washington, DC – The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) and its partners in the District of Columbia’s faith community, neighborhood organizations and federal and District government stakeholders have worked for the past two years to develop a ***Comprehensive Reentry Strategy for Adults in the District of Columbia***. A formal workshop to announce the strategy and discuss responses from stakeholders will be held on June 12, 2003 at CSOSA headquarters, 633 Indiana Avenue, Sixth Floor, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The public is also invited to attend the workshop.

Over 2,000 offenders return to District of Columbia neighborhoods from prison each year. The Reentry Strategy provides a long-range plan for the delivery of services for these offenders in such areas as housing, substance abuse and mental health treatment, education, job development and training. The Strategy also addresses service provider quality assurance issues, community education efforts and public safety and legislative priorities.

Paul A. Quander, Jr., Director of CSOSA stated, “This Strategy was developed in collaboration with all the important stakeholders here in our capital city. I am confident that its implementation will enable more of our men and women to successfully reintegrate into the community, leading to both a reduction in recidivism and an improvement in public safety.”

One of the new initiatives already being implemented as a result of the Strategy is the partnership between CSOSA and the Rivers Correctional Institution in Winton, NC. This facility is currently home to over 1,000 District offenders. On June 11, 2003, CSOSA and its Faith Community Partnership will launch a Pre-release Assessment and Reentry Team Demonstration Project. The demonstration project will unite 15 inmates at Rivers with their faith community mentors in the District through a video teleconference connection. These mentors will help the inmates with release planning, resource identification, and referrals.

CSOSA is also preparing to sign Memorandums of Understanding with District government agencies that will assist offenders with their efforts to obtain employment.

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