



the NATIONAL REENTRY
RESOURCE CENTER

— A project of the CSG Justice Center —

Principles of Tribal Reentry

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Brought to you by the National Reentry Resource Center and the
Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice

With support from American Indian Development Associates

Speakers

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www.nationalreentryresourcecenter.org

- The resource center is continually updating its website with materials relevant to the reentry field.
- Sign up for the monthly NRRC newsletter to receive news about upcoming distance learning and funding opportunities.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Reentry Resource Center. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About, Library, Topics, Training & TA, Reentry Facts, and What Works. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a 'Subscribe to our newsletter' form with fields for Name and Email, and a 'Subscribe' button. Below this form are sections for 'Audiences' (States/Locals, Community and Faith-based Organizations, People Returning Home) and 'Tools & Resources' (Calendar, Funding, Reentry Service Directories, Program Examples, Second Chance Act, Forums/Networking, Announcements). In the center, there is a 'WELCOME TO THE National Reentry Resource Center' section with a paragraph describing the center's mission. To the right of this section is a 'What's New?' section with several news items, including 'The National Reentry Resource Center is Hiring!', 'Register Now for Webinar: The Essential Elements of Reentry Webinar: Primary Care and the Transitions Clinic Approach', 'Updated Version of Back to School: A Guide to Continuing Your Education after Prison Now Available', 'Watch "From Arrest to Homecoming—Addressing the Needs of Children of Incarcerated Parents" Webinar', and 'Watch "Local Governments Role in Reentry" Webinar'. At the bottom of the page, there is a 'Popular Topics' section with links to Housing, Substance Abuse, Juveniles, Employment, and Starting a Reentry Initiative. To the right of this section is an 'Announcements' section with links to 'National Reentry Resource Center Announces Two Upcoming Web Events', 'Recognizing the Value of Peer Recovery Support', and 'Justice Mapping Center Launches First National Atlas of Criminal Justice Data'. At the bottom left, there is a logo for the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S. Department of Justice. At the bottom right, there is a 'Reentry in the Media' section with a link to 'New York Amsterdam News (NY) — New homes open for the formerly incarcerated'.

Offender Reentry in Indian Country & Native Communities Webinar Series

May 24: Offender Reentry Provisions in Tribal Law and order Act & Interagency Agreements

June 21: Principles of Evidence Based Practices & Building an Evaluable Program

July 26: Information Sharing & Reentry

August: 23: Jail Reentry

September 20: Sex Offender Management: Registration and Community Notification

October 25: Health & Social Services Role in a Multidisciplinary Approach To Reentry

November 15: The Role of Law Enforcement in Reentry

To learn more about this series, please visit:

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/programs/flyer-webinar.pdf>

Principles of Tribal Reentry Outline

- Difference in Short-term Reentry and Long-term Reentry
- Challenges to Jail or Detention Reentry
- Challenges to Prison
- Principles for Building a Reentry Program
 - Jail or Detention Level
 - Prison Level
- 2009 Tribal Juvenile Detention & Reentry Green Demonstration Program
- Question and Answer Session

Selected Differences

Jail or Detention

- Managed at local level
- Multiple functions
- Two purposes:
 - pre-conviction and convicted
- Length of stay under a year
- Intake & booking
- Facility in or near home community
 - More contact with family
- Reentry often secondary
 - Lack of resources & time
- Often released w/o community supervision

Prison

- Managed by state or federal
- Medium or maximum convictions
- Commitments beyond a year
- Intake & booking, planned & scheduled
- Far from home
 - Contact w/ family minimal
- Reentry planning mandated
 - Minimal involvement of family or local resources
- Community supervision attached

Selected Similarities

Jail or Detention and Prisons

- Few culturally relevant services or resources.
- Lack culturally informed staff to provide needed services.
- Lack effective relationships with Tribal government or program providers: probation, services, education, etc.
- Deal with offenders with special needs for physical health, behavioral health, or substance abuse.
- Same issues with helping offenders obtain employment, education, and housing.
- Minimal contact with family or communities.

Challenges

- As federal, state, and tribal resources decrease and more budget restrictions develop, tribes and localities will have to contend with:
 - Growing incarcerated populations (e.g., 5.8% increases in 2008).
 - Systemic issues:
 - Coordination of offenders back to the community.
 - Disproportionate minority confinement of adults and juveniles for tribal, state, and federal government entities.
 - Balance of cultural-based programming versus mainstream services in jails and prisons.
 - Community preparation.

TRIBAL CHALLENGES

- Incarceration not a cultural-based remedy.
 - Short history of operating jails contributes to lack of institutional knowledge.
- Tribes operating jails lack the resources:
 - To address poor conditions of confinement,
 - Lack programming during confinement,
 - Transitional programs to assist offenders with reentry back into their communities, e.g., risk and needs assessments for planning.
- Collaborative reentry planning with tribal agencies and facilities to continue rehabilitation process.
- Strategies to prevent re-offending.
- Interventions to hold offenders accountable for their criminal or delinquent behavior involving victimization.
- Strategies for relapse prevention and recovery support for offenders incarcerated for alcohol- or drug-related crimes.
- Use of culture based interventions, treatment, healing, and/or corrective action in offender reentry plans.
- Limited community-based resources.

STATE CHALLENGES

- States arrest, prosecute, convict, and impose prison sentences on AI/AN that commit crimes off-tribal lands and those in PL 280 jurisdictions.
- More than half (14,264) of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) inmates in state prisons or facilities.
- Lack of tribal-state relations prevents:
 - Consultation among tribal and state leadership.
 - Involvement of tribal criminal and juvenile justice representatives, who could assist in all aspects of transitional planning.
 - Proper notification by state authorities to tribal authorities that the state is housing an Indian offender or will release an offender.
 - Service agencies from coordinating and collaborating to develop an offender rehabilitation or care plan and to help with eventual reentry.
 - Tribal justice and other service agencies from remaining in contact with tribal members serving sentences in off-reservation prisons or facilities.

FEDERAL CHALLENGES

1 in 10 AI/AN inmates (2,135) were held in a federal prison (JIC)

Federal prisons or contracted correctional facilities often lack:

- Formal relationships with tribal criminal justice authorities.
- Tribal involvement in planning the return of Indian offenders.
- Notification policies or procedures to inform tribal authorities that they have custody of a tribal citizen or that an ex-offender is returning.

Federal prisons or contracted correctional facilities are not located in every state, resulting in many offenders being sent to out-of-state facilities. These facilities may, or may not, receive more resources to support prisoners' faith-based spiritual needs and treatment.

The AI/AN prisoner population is a minority group within the federal prison system, which contributes to the facilities' ability to meet Indian-specific treatment or religious or reentry planning goals.

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

DIMENSIONS

1. Building Relationships
2. Building Knowledge, Skills and Abilities
3. Working Together and Interdependence
4. Commitment

ASPECTS

- a. Interpersonal level
- b. Organizational level
- c. Community level
- d. Leadership or political level

Example of Principles for Family Inclusion

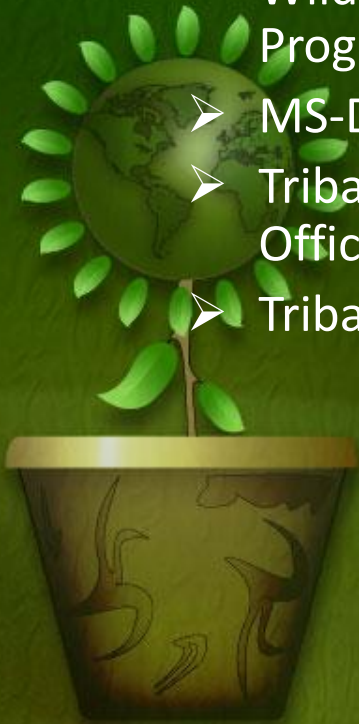
	BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS	BUILDING SKILLS	WORKING TOGETHER	COMMITTMENT
Inter-personal	Maintaining family & community relationships.	Learning to address issues.	Inclusion of families in reentry plans.	All agree on solutions to implement.
Organizational	Understand offender's status and issues with family involvement.	Train staffs to include families in risk & needs assessments.	Conduct facilitated discussion of concerns & expectations.	Develop policies and strategies for formal inclusion of families.
Community	View community as a resource.	Learn about community capabilities.	Prepare communities to support families.	Build local alliances with resources.
Leadership Political	Acknowledge local authority.	Learn roles & responsibilities of local leadership.	Enlist leadership in solutions.	Develop local-level agreements.

Example of Principles for Tribal Relations

	BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS	BUILDING SKILLS	WORKING TOGETHER	COMMITTMENT
Inter- personal	Individuals need to rebuild “good standing” w/ Tribe.	Learn what one needs to do, i.e. land assignment.	Family support to work with Tribe.	All agree on solutions to implement.
Organiza- tional	Develop relations with local and upper level governmental officials.	Learn about each others systems, institutions, and requirements.	Identify roles & responsibilities that overlap, are shared or to pass on.	Develop policies and strategies for cross-agency or jurisdictional involvement.
Community	View community as a culture-based resource.	Assess & build community capabilities.	Work with communities to receive ex-offenders.	Build local alliances with resources.
Leadership Political	Maintain relations with tribal leaders and justice entities.	Understand government to government.	Shared funding and technical assistance resources.	Develop inter-governmental agreements.

DANIEL MITTAN, Director of Court Services

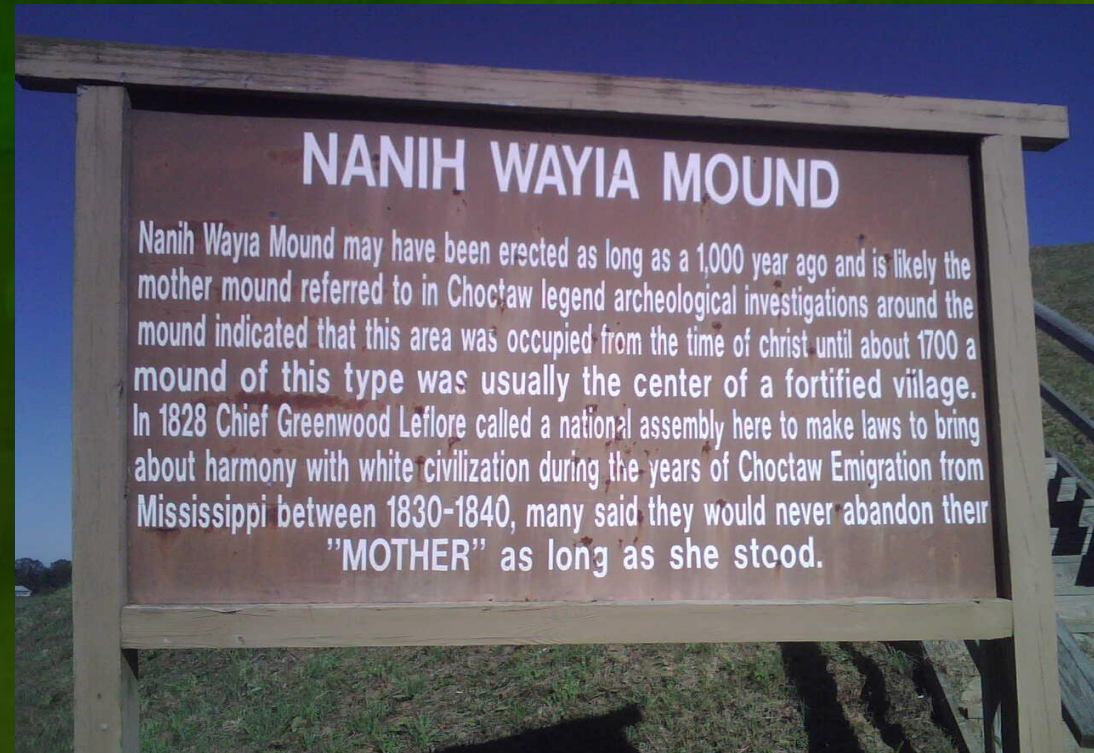
- BA in Administration
- Asst. to Director of a Residential Group Home for Adolescents
- Exec. Director of Non-Profit Wilderness Adventure Program
- MS-DHS-DYS Counselor
- Tribal Juvenile Probation Officer
- Tribal Youth Court Counselor



Origins



- 1) Migration from the Southwest = Chahta & Chickasaw, Chahta stopped at the mounds
- 2) Cave Mound = “the mother” where we came from out of mother earth



CHOCTAW JUSTICE COMPLEX

- occupied since 2007 -



2009 Tribal Juvenile Detention & Reentry GREEN Demonstration Program:

- “services and programming for tribal youth in juvenile detention facilities...”
- “provide comprehensive and quality programs...”
- “partner with an institution...”
- “incorporate green technologies and environmentally sustainable activities...”



“Osapausi Amasalichi”



The Three Sisters
Corn 🌽 Beans 🌱 Squash

"RESTORATION to the community:



OTHER “platforms” being considered:

- RECYCLING for paper/plastic/bio-fuels
- WATER quality & improvement
- FORESTRY enhancement
- NATIVE PRAIRIE restoration
- ALTERNATIVE ENERGY applications



OTHER “STRATEGIES” utilized:

- Family Group Decision Making
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy® groups
- Life-Skills activities
 - Boys & Girls Club curriculum
 - Service Learning projects



CONNECTIONS not CORRECTIONS

Necessary PARTNERS:

- Federal
 - USDOJ-OJP-OJJDP
 - USDA-NRSC
- State
 - Mississippi State University Extension Service
- Tribal
 - Departments (CPD/CYJC/NatRes/Enterprises, etc)
- Community
 - Elders/Leaders



2009 TRIBAL DETENTION & REENTRY GREEN DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM



...established as another path of
RECONNECTING (“WEAVING”)
YOUTH, ADULTS, ELDERS –
PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE!

“COMING FULL CIRCLE –
REGAINING & EMBRACING OUR MOTHER MOUND”
CHOCTAW TRIBAL CELEBRATION – NOVEMBER 14,
2008



ELDERS &
YOUTH –
CONNECTED!

YAKOKI! (THANK YOU)

- Thank you USDOJ-OJP-OJJDP for providing this wonderful opportunity
- Thank you to Choctaw Tribal Government for consistent & sacrificial support
- Thank you to Mississippi State University for extending a valued partnership
- Thank you to the Choctaw people for their invested trust



www.choctaw.org

www.tribalreentry.org

Concluding Comments

- While challenges exist, we know most AI/AN offenders serve terminal sentences.
- They return home.
- Tribes need culture-based methods and approaches to build reentry programs or be a part of state and federal reentry plans.
- Cross-jurisdictional relationships are essential to ensure family and community involvement.

Helpful Resources

- [Offender Reentry in Indian Country & Native Communities Webinar Series](#), U.S. Department of Justice; Indian Health Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and U.S. Probation
- [Tribal Probation: An Overview for Tribal Court Judges](#), American Probation and Parole Association
- [Strategies for Creating Offender Reentry Programs in Indian Country](#), American Indian Development Associates
- [Journal of Court Innovation, Special Issue on Tribal Justice](#), Center for Court Innovation

Contact Information

- Content questions about this webinar should be directed to:

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