



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- The Virginia Community Reentry Initiative (VCRI) is a community-based reentry approach unique in its integration of human services and public safety. It is being voluntarily implemented by a number of Virginia localities.



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- VCRI is an approach to reentry that grew out of the Commonwealth's participation in the Reentry Policy Academy of the National Governors Association.



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- VCRI supports the Governor's Virginia Reentry Initiative and the Virginia Adult Reentry Initiative developed by the Virginia Department of Corrections.



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- VCRI goals are to increase public safety through reduced recidivism, to maximize opportunities for former offenders returning to the community and to support family and community reintegration for persons previously incarcerated.



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- It is not a new program nor does it impose any requirements on institutions or local government agencies and their community partners. It is rather a collaborative reentry approach that maximizes effective use of existing resources.

Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Integrates human services and public safety
- Addresses both system change & service needs
- Developed around four primary principles:
 - Pre-release planning
 - Interagency/governmental level coordination
 - Integrated service delivery
 - Positive links to community with system of family and community support

Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Communities establish reentry councils. Local human services directors, probation & parole chiefs and/or community partner agencies serve as conveners



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Brings together law enforcement, local human services, Community Service Boards, Workforce Investment Boards, non-profits and faith-based groups, business community, along with probation offices and others to coordinate pre and post-release services with the previously incarcerated person and the correctional center/jail



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Uses a risk assessment and an outcome focused service delivery system to improve public safety through reduced recidivism
- Individual and family-to-family mentoring during the pre-release phase and for 9 Months following return to the community
- Emphasis on use of evidenced-based practices



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

■ Core Reentry Activities Include:

- Linkage to employment /workforce development services
- Assistance with locating housing resources
- Help With connecting to transportation
- Connection to health/mental health/substance abuse services
- Family strengthening/reintegration services

Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Initially six areas of the state voluntarily adopted the VCRI approach to reentry and formed local reentry Councils.
 - Norfolk Reentry Council
 - Richmond Regional Reentry Council
 - Culpeper Reentry Council
 - King George & PD 16 Reentry Council
 - Charlottesville/Albemarle Reentry Council
 - Southwest Virginia Reentry Council



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- In 2010 VDSS was awarded \$750,000 in federal funding. This along with a \$750,000 in-kind match of services from Virginia localities and state agencies resulted in a \$1.5 million reentry project for these six areas of the state. The grant project is focusing on employment, job training, housing, mental health and substance abuse programs and family reintegration services.



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Technical assistance on the project is being provided by the Council of State Governments.
- Emphasis is on early engagement in work.



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Newly established reentry councils are:
 - Danville/Pittsylvania
 - Roanoke City/Roanoke County
 - Green County
 - Alexandria
 - Loudoun County
 - Fairfax

Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Reentry councils are under development to serve an additional 12 communities:
 - Arlington
 - Southampton/Franklin/Suffolk/Isle of Wight
 - Newport News
 - Hampton
 - Emporia/Sussex/Surry/Greenville
 - Petersburg

Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Informational Sessions on VCRI are Scheduled for:
 - Harrisonburg
 - Winchester
 - Eastern Shore
 - Portsmouth
 - Virginia Beach/Chesapeake
 - Williamsburg/James City/York
 - Martinsville/Henry



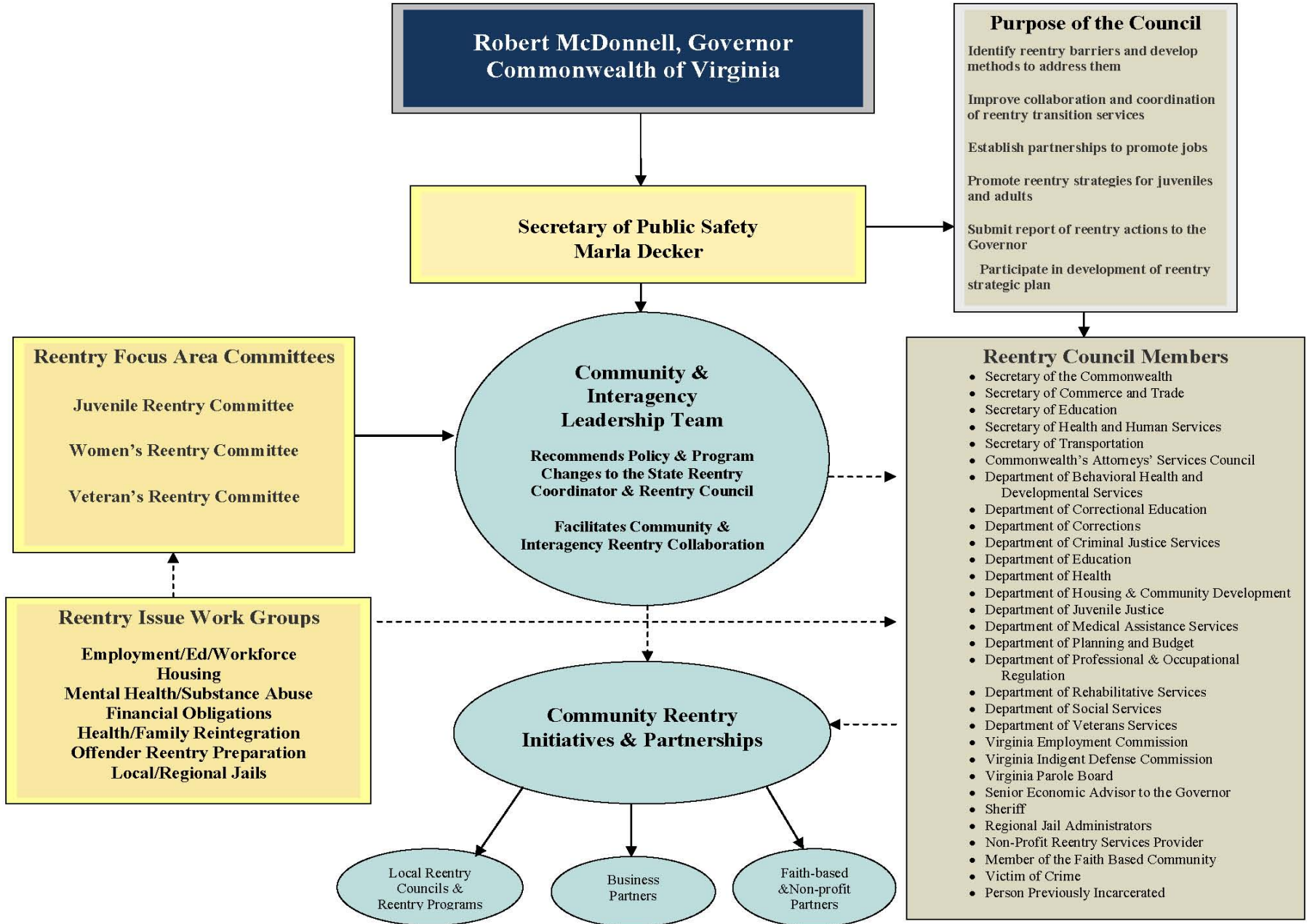
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- Informational sessions on VCRI's community-based reentry approach will be scheduled for the remainder of the State before the End of 2011.

Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- 2010 Executive Order 11:
Governor Robert McDonnell established the Virginia Prisoner and Juvenile Offender Re-entry Council
- Council charge:
Identify re-entry barriers and develop methods to address them; improve collaboration and coordination of re-entry transition services; establish partnerships to promote jobs; promote re-entry strategies for juveniles and adults; participate in the development of the state re-entry strategic plan; and submit a report of re-entry actions to the Governor

Virginia Prisoner & Juvenile Offender Reentry Council



**Robert McDonnell, Governor
Commonwealth of Virginia**

**Secretary of Public Safety
Marla Decker**

Purpose of the Council

Identify reentry barriers and develop methods to address them

Improve collaboration and coordination of reentry transition services

Establish partnerships to promote jobs

Promote reentry strategies for juveniles and adults

Submit report of reentry actions to the Governor

Participate in development of reentry strategic plan

Reentry Focus Area Committees

Juvenile Reentry Committee

Women's Reentry Committee

Veteran's Reentry Committee

Community & Interagency Leadership Team

Recommends Policy & Program Changes to the State Reentry Coordinator & Reentry Council

Facilitates Community & Interagency Reentry Collaboration

Reentry Council Members

- Secretary of the Commonwealth
- Secretary of Commerce and Trade
- Secretary of Education
- Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Secretary of Transportation
- Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council
- Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
- Department of Correctional Education
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Criminal Justice Services
- Department of Education
- Department of Health
- Department of Housing & Community Development
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Department of Medical Assistance Services
- Department of Planning and Budget
- Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation
- Department of Rehabilitative Services
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Veterans Services
- Virginia Employment Commission
- Virginia Indigent Defense Commission
- Virginia Parole Board
- Senior Economic Advisor to the Governor
- Sheriff
- Regional Jail Administrators
- Non-Profit Reentry Services Provider
- Member of the Faith Based Community
- Victim of Crime
- Person Previously Incarcerated

Reentry Issue Work Groups

Employment/Ed/Workforce
Housing
Mental Health/Substance Abuse
Financial Obligations
Health/Family Reintegration
Offender Reentry Preparation
Local/Regional Jails

Community Reentry Initiatives & Partnerships

Local Reentry Councils & Reentry Programs

Business Partners

Faith-based & Non-profit Partners



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

- Governor McDonnell has made successful reentry a priority issue for his administration
- Governor directed the Departments of Corrections and Juvenile Justice to develop comprehensive reentry plans
- Governor surveyed all state agency heads and asked that they identify services and initiatives from their agencies that support reentry
- On the community side the Virginia Department of Social Services continues to facilitate reentry community capacity building and expansion of the Virginia Community Reentry Initiative which supports the Governor's comprehensive reentry initiative



Virginia Community Reentry Initiative

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