Today’s webinar will begin in a few moments.

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The Better Futures Model: Improving Employment Opportunities and Outcomes for Justice-Involved Individuals

May 16, 2013
Tips for viewing this webinar:

• The questions box and buttons are on the right side of the webinar window.

• This box can collapse so that you can better view the presentation. To unhide the box, click the arrows on the top left corner of the panel.

• If you are having technical difficulties, please send us a message via the questions box on your right. Our organizer will reply to you privately and help resolve the issue.
Webinar Recording and Evaluation Survey

- This webinar is being recorded and will be made available online to view later or review.

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Question & Answer Session Instructions

- Type your question into the questions box at any time during the presentation, and the moderator will read the question on your behalf during the Q&A session.
NACo’s Work with Better Futures

Strategic partnership designed to:

• advance smart justice reforms that will promote better outcomes for individuals returning to communities from jail or prison,

• enhance public safety, and

• use public dollars more efficiently.

For more information about NACo’s Criminal Justice Programs and to view the recorded webinar, please visit: http://www.naco.org/justice.
Today’s Speakers:

Commissioner Peter McLaughlin
Hennepin County Commissioner
Hennepin County, Minn.

Steve Thomas
President and CEO
Better Futures Minnesota,
A Project of Better Futures Enterprises

Darryl Lindsey
COO
Better Futures Minnesota,
A Project of Better Futures Enterprises
Peter McLaughlin, Commissioner
commissioner.mclaughlin@co.hennepin.mn.us
The Start

• People First: African American Men’s Project
  – Unemployment
  – Child support
  – Housing
  – Incarceration rates

• A Response: The Network for Better Futures
Costly Systems

• Jail
• Probation/Parole
• Work House
• Child support
• Healthcare
• Public Assistance
• Housing
Quadruple Bottom Line

- Economic opportunity
- Cost-effective public services
- Environmental action
- Stronger communities
The Network/Better Futures

- Social enterprise
- Holistic approach
- Leveraging private funds
- Pay-for-Success Model
Better Futures-Hennepin County

• A partnership that’s
  – Good for the men
  – Good for taxpayers
  – Good for the environment
Steve Thomas
President & CEO of Better Futures Enterprises

Darryl Lindsey
Chief Operating Officer of Better Futures Minnesota
Building and Testing
A New Model of Success

May 16, 2013
The Problem We Are Trying to Solve

- Locked out of opportunities
- Locked into a cycle of dependency
- Enormous costs
  - Social
  - Economic
  - Human
- Status quo is not sustainable
Why We Exist

• Second chances
• Personal redemption
• Current practices are unfair and cost too much
• Work matters
Work Matters

- New economy
- Great Recession
- Poor education
- Limited skills
- Criminal record
- Little or no work experience
Our Big Idea

• **Re-imagine** a more rewarding, fulfilling future
• **Re-frame** the problem
• **Re-engineer** how systems work
• **Re-direct** scarce public dollars
Our Approach

Focused on meaningful change

Policy
Perceptions
Practice
Participants
Our Four Fundamentals

**HOUSING**
Connect men to safe housing

**HEALTH**
Provide access to primary health care, behavioral health supports, and trauma-informed care

**JOBS**
Create jobs and income for the men

**COACHING**
Pathways to personal transformation
Our Impact

For the men we serve

• Working
• Engaged with families and paying child support
• Engaged in mainstream society
• Inspire changes in policy and practice

Society benefits

• Taxpayers save money
• Creates jobs
• Improved public safety
• Reduced prison admits
• Lower public assistance costs
• Promotes justice
# Minnesota’s First Five Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008-2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men Enrolled</td>
<td>602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men Employed</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Income</td>
<td>$1,906,672</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 2012 Minnesota Results
Based on an average of 80 men receiving housing assistance and other supports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Status Quo</th>
<th>Better Futures Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying child support</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral health assessments</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to prison for a new felony</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>14%*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on participants who have been engaged since December 2009
Independent Evaluation

Design

• Comparison and Treatment Group
• Data from four state sources: Corrections, Employment, Health and Human Services and Public Safety
• Pre and Post enrollment data for at least two years
• Final results in early 2015

Value

• Gather baseline data from multiple systems
• Help assess our model: what’s working and what needs improvement
• Inform policy reform and changes in current practice
• Inform building models in other communities
Our Financial Sustainability Plan

- Current 2017
  - Grants
  - Business Income
  - Pay-for-Success Contracts
Pay-for-Success

Pay-for-success contracts hold the organization accountable for:

- More participant income
- Improved health
- Increased child support payments
- Reduced use of jail and prison
- Reduced use of acute health care systems

Pay-for-success controls public costs and ensures that public investments generate significant returns.
Lessons Learned

- Impact of lifelong traumas
- Legal and social barriers affect ex-offender
- Re-entry is a misnomer
- Outcome data hard to access
- Dealing with negative stereotypes
- Policy and practices create serious barriers
- Incredible resilience
- Desire to work but not ready to work
Value of This Distinctive Model

• Creates jobs
• Builds a business
• Improves public safety
• Increases child support payments
• Reduces child welfare costs
• Reduces use of acute health services
• Increases positive engagement in the community
• Preserves natural resources

• Pay-for-success is cost efficient and generates results
Join Us

• Share information and help us improve
• Help introduce our model to people in your community
• Work to change perceptions, policies, and practices
• Call us, or even better, visit with the men and tour our warehouse
Q & A

For more questions contact us at:

612-455-6133

Betterfuturesenterprises.com
Question & Answer Session Instructions

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Thank you for participating in NACo’s webinar.

For more information about NACo’s Criminal Justice programs, visit: http://www.naco.org/justice

For more information about the Better Futures model, visit: http://betterfuturesenterprises.com/

With any questions about this webinar, please contact: mlevine@naco.org