



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Criminal Justice Reform: Opportunities for Counties

**National Council of County Association Executives
and State Association of Counties' Executive
Directors**

White House Briefing

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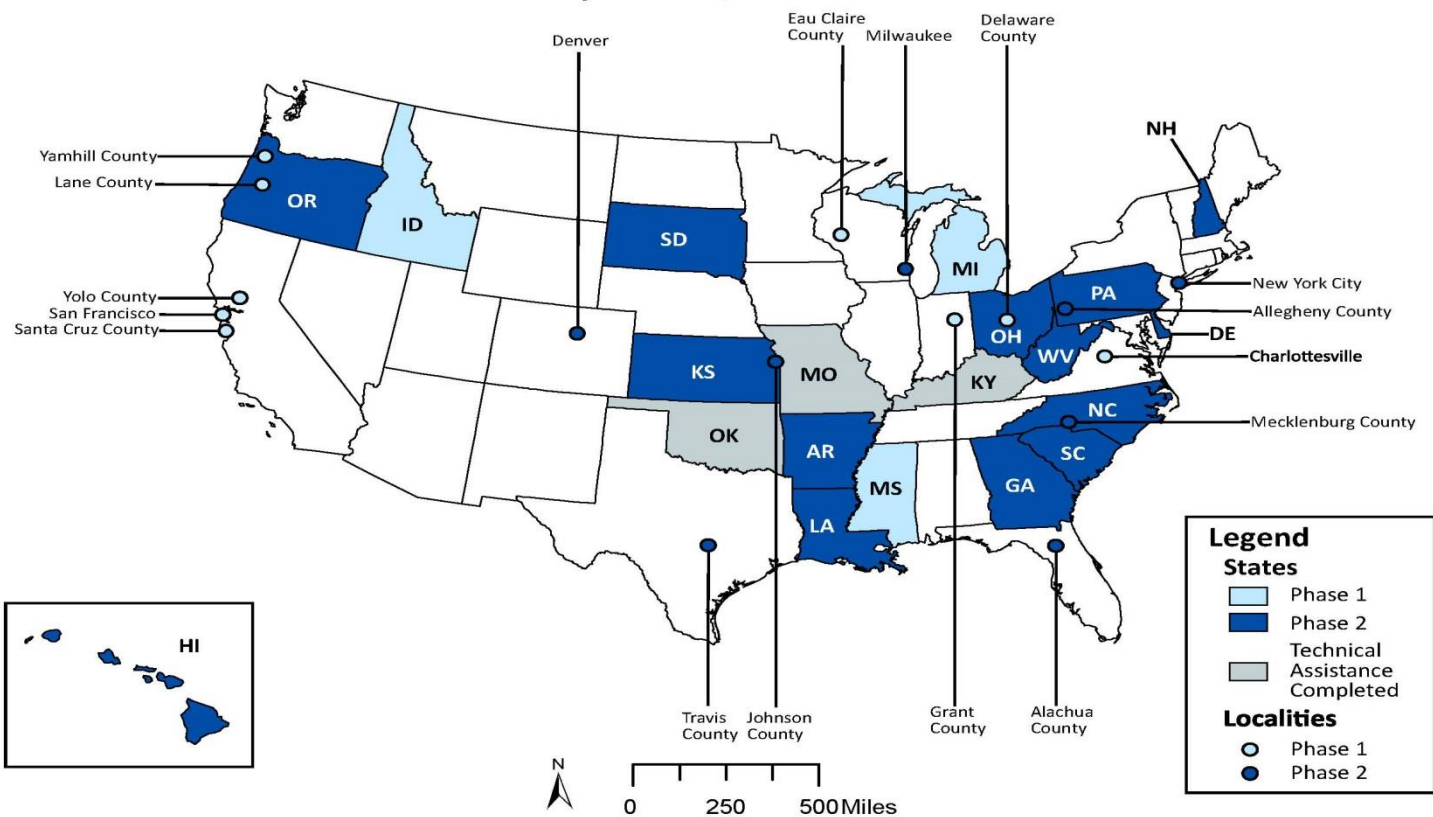
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J R I

Justice Reinvestment Initiative

Justice Reinvestment Initiative Sites

As of December 12, 2013





Justice Reinvestment Three-Step Process

Bipartisan, Inter-Branch, Inter-Disciplinary Structure

1

Analyze Data and
Develop Policy Options

- Analyze data to look at crime, court, corrections and supervision trends
- Solicit input from stakeholders
- Map allocation of resources
- Develop policy options & estimate cost savings

2

Adopt New Policies

- Identify assistance needed to implement policies effectively
- Deploy targeted reinvestment strategies to increase public safety
- Review implementation progress

3

Measure Performance

- Track the impact of enacted policies/programs
- Monitor recidivism rates and other key measures



JRI Resources

- BJA Website – JRI Page:
https://www.bja.gov/ProgramDetails.aspx?Program_ID=92
- Center for Effective Public Policy: <http://cepp.com/justice-reinvestment>
- Crime and Justice Institute: <http://www.crj.org/cji/projects>
- Urban Institute: www.urban.org/center/jpc/justice-reinvestment/resources.cfm
 - Justice Reinvestment: A Toolkit for Local Leaders
 - The Criminal Justice Planner's Toolkit for Justice reinvestment at the Local Level
- Council of State Governments: <http://csgjusticecenter.org/jr/>
- VERA Institute For Justice: <http://www.vera.org/centers/center-sentencing-and-corrections>
- Pew Center on the States: Public Safety Performance
http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/initiatives_detail.aspx?initiativeID=31336



Reentry and Recidivism Reduction

- Seven programs provide resources to states, tribes, cities/counties and non profit agencies to affect change and reduce recidivism among different reentry populations through the Second Chance Act (SCA).
- Over \$1 billion in SCA funds requested; to date over \$300 million in grants have been made to 600 recipients in 49 states
- New focus on leveraging Affordable Care Act and recidivism reduction opportunities
- Since its initial administration in Fiscal Year (FY) 2009, SCA programs have included the following:
 - Adult offenders with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health Adult and juvenile demonstration (planning and implementation) projects
 - Reentry courts
 - Adult and juvenile mentoring programs
 - Technology careers training projects for incarcerated adults and juveniles
 - Adult statewide recidivism reduction projects
 - Smart probation projects
 - Evaluation of adult and juvenile reentry demonstration projects



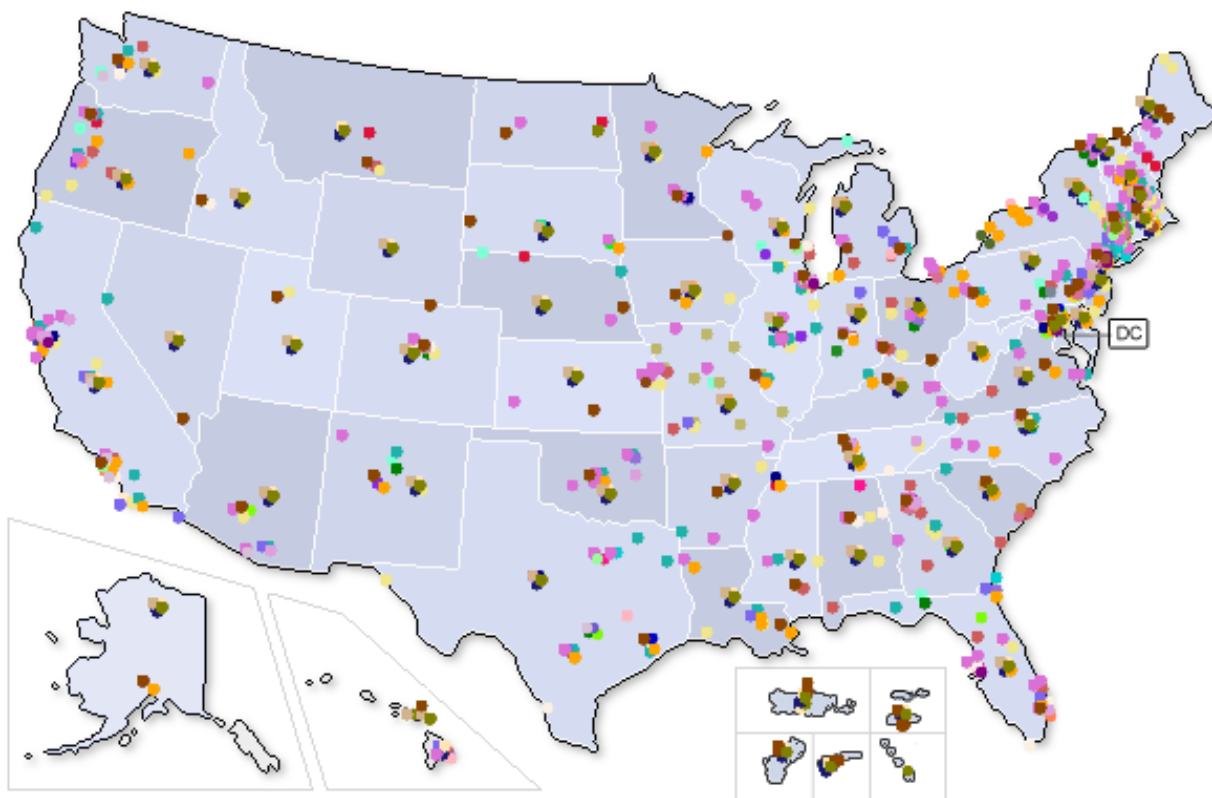
Knowledge Development and Transfer

- National Reentry Resource Center
(www.nationalreentryresourcecenter.org)
synthesizes what works in reentry and disseminates through website, webinars, national convenings, and peer networks.
- National conferences and workshops
- Four evaluation projects underway assessing process, cost, implementation and impact of many SCA-funded adult and juvenile projects



Federal Coordination Through the Reentry Council

National Reentry
Resource Center
inventoried and
mapped major
federal reentry
resources
going to states
and localities





Address Federal Barriers to Reentry

Federal Coordination



Public Housing



Barriers to
Employment



Veterans

38,000

Collateral
Consequences



Access to Benefits



Address Common Reentry Myths

Each sheet addresses a common ‘myth’ about reentry, ranging from federal financial aid to employment issues.

It lists facts debunking the myth, answering common misperceptions...

...describes the details of each, including explanations of different state policies...

...and lists important suggestions and recommendations for readers.

At the end of the form, each sheet lists useful online resources.

On Child Support

REENTRY MYTH

BUSTER!

A Product of the Federal Interagency Reentry Council

MYTH: Non-custodial parents who are incarcerated cannot have their child support orders reduced.

FACT: Half of all states have formalized processes for reducing child support orders during incarceration. Three-quarters of all states have laws that permit incarcerated parents to obtain a reduced or suspended support order.

Paying child support is an important responsibility for parents and mothers, usually in the form of support amount determined by state guidelines that take into account parental ability to pay. Child support orders are often suspended when incarceration because parents lose the financial ability to pay or cannot locate their child. This means an inability to pay child support during prison. Studies report child support arrears equal in the range of \$15,000 to \$20,000.

More than half of the States have the ability to suspend orders during periods of incarceration and 25 States have implemented formalized processes or procedures to reduce child support obligations. However, the process is not uniform. In most states, incarcerated non-custodial parents have to file a request for a review of their order before any adjustment or modification can be made.

Examples of state processes for modifying orders for incarcerated parents include:

- Orders set based on actual (not imputed) income during incarceration. [31]
- If the child support agency established that a non-custodial parent is incarcerated, it must review the order to determine whether it is appropriate under the guidelines and may request a modification. [38]
- Child support is limited to the minimum child support modification request, and suspend enforcement. After release, a court hearing renews order. [34]
- Orders are suspended for most of the period of imprisonment, and are reported to the parent for at least six months and cannot be more than \$200/month. [36]

For More Information:

Reentry Facts:
<http://www.reentryfacts.org/factsheets/child-support>
Working with Incarcerated and Released Parents:
<http://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles/d19/jr0001.pdf>
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What Is a REENTRY MYTH BUSTER?

This myth buster is one in a series of fact sheets intended to clarify existing federal policies that affect formerly incarcerated individuals and their families. Each year, more than 700,000 individuals are released from state and federal prisons. Another 600,000 enter the system each year. When reentry fails, the social and economic costs are high. Some states are doing more to help guide them, but more progress needs to be shared state and federal levels.

Because reentry involves such health and housing, education and employment, family, faith, and community building, many federal agencies are focusing on initiatives for the reentry population. Under the auspices of the cabinet-level interagency Reentry Council, federal agencies are working together to enhance community safety and well-being, assist those returning from prison and jail in becoming productive citizens, and give convicted citizens by lowering the direct and collateral costs of incarceration.

For more information about the Reentry Council, go to www.reentrycouncil.org or www.reentry-council.org.



Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation

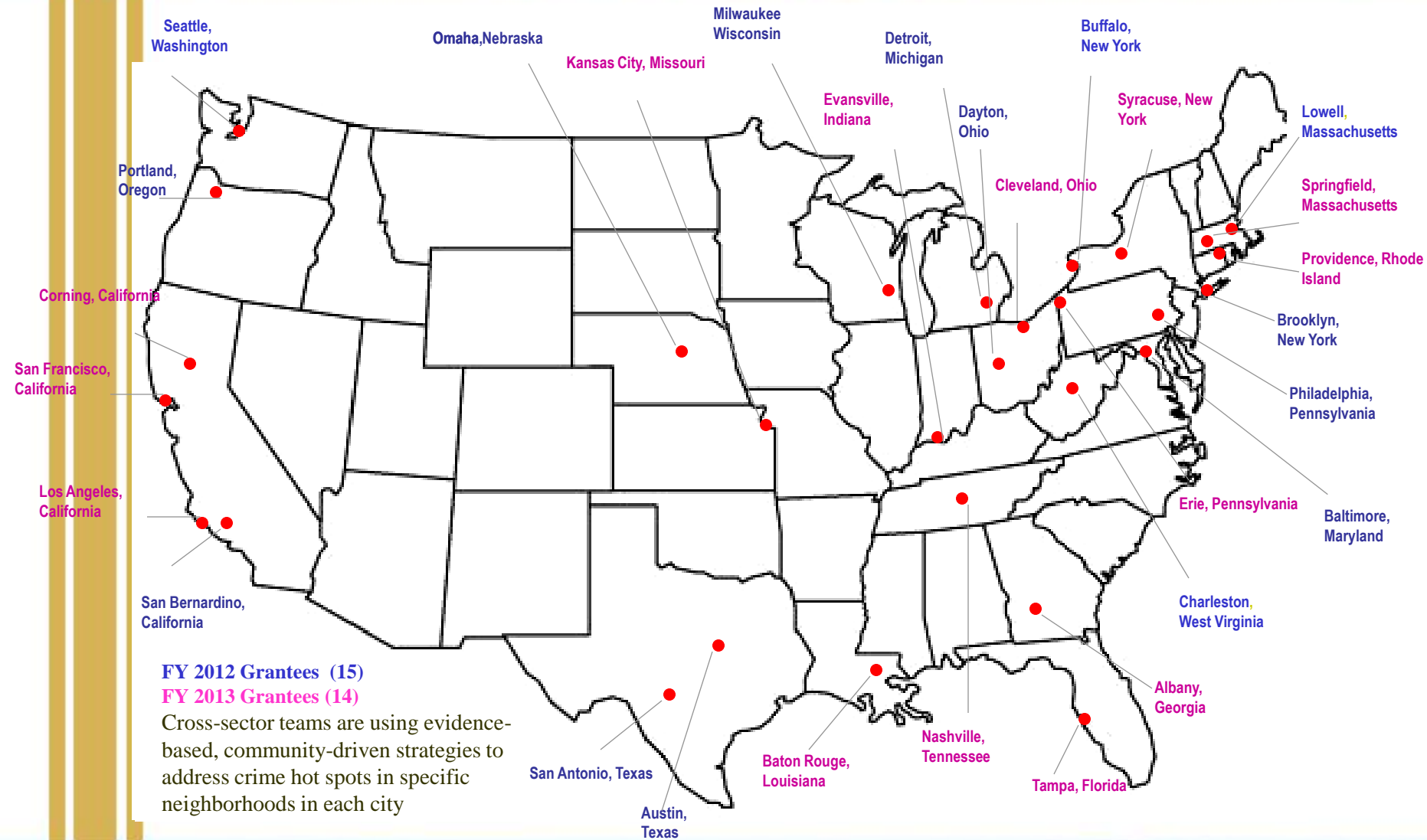
- Created as part of the Obama Administration's larger neighborhood revitalization efforts to help local and tribal communities develop place-based, community-oriented strategies to change neighborhoods of distress into neighborhoods of opportunity. BCJI was launched in 2012.
- Through coordinated federal support, this interagency effort aligns programs of the Departments of Education (*Promise*), Justice (*BCJI*), Housing and Urban Development (*Choice*), Health and Human Services and Treasury



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Map of FY12 and FY 13 BCJI Grantees





BCJI Core Program Elements

- **Place Based:** Targets crime “hot spots” or microplaces as part of a comprehensive neighborhood development strategy
- **Data-driven problem solving:** Uses local researcher-practitioner partnership to use data to clearly define problems and identify solutions
- **Community-oriented:** Seeks to catalyze and sustain change through active involvement and leadership of neighborhood residents, as part of a broad cross sector partnership team.
- **Cost effective:** Place-based strategies should maximize local resources; BCJI promotes leveraging all other funding sources (federal, state, local, and private.)



BCJI Site Funding

- **FY 12 and FY 13 Solicitations:**
 - Planning and Implementation (up to \$1 million)
 - Planning and Enhancement (up to \$600,000)
 - 29 total grantees (17 P & I, 12 ENH)
 - FY14 solicitation planned
- **Training and Technical Assistance:**
Provided by the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).



Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

- The law passed in 2003 with many elements in the law to include:
 - Federal Agencies (grants, research, TA)
 - Data Collection
 - National Prison Rape Elimination Commission
 - PREA Standards/Audits
 - Compliance/Governor's certification
- Final standards released May 2012, providing requirements to better prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse in confinement settings.
- Impacts a range of facility types:
 - adult jails and prisons, juvenile facilities, community confinement facilities and lock-ups



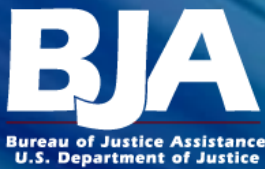
BJA PREA Resources

- PREA Resource Center (PRC)
<http://www.prearesourcecenter.org/>
- FY14 Solicitation for PREA Demonstration Projects for “Zero Tolerance” Culture
- \$5M sub-grants through PRC to 43 local and juvenile detention facilities to establish zero tolerance culture



Additional PREA Resources

- AEquitas <http://www.aequitasresource.org/>
- American University <http://www.wcl.american.edu/endsilence/>
- Center for Innovative Public Policy <http://www.cipp.org/>
- Just Detention International <http://www.justdetention.org/>
- The Moss Group, Inc. <http://www.mossgroup.us>
- National Institute of Corrections <http://www.nicic.gov>
- Vera Institute of Justice <http://www.vera.org/>



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