

13th Annual Reducing Recidivism Conference - *Smart Justice in Alaska*

DAY 1

Monday, March 12, 2018 | Hotel Captain Cook | Anchorage, Alaska

7:30 - 8:30	Registration Open & Continental Breakfast
8:30 - 8:45	Welcome: Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority & UAA Center for Human Development/Alaska Training Cooperative
Session 1 8:45 - 10:00	Keynote Address: <i>Criminal Justice Reform a National & Local Perspective</i> Keynote presenter - Melissa Threadgill, Senior Policy Specialist, Crime & Justice Institute
Session 2 10:00 - 11:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A Look Inside, What's Happening Specifically In Alaska What Does the Data Show Us?</i></p> Presenters: Susanne DiPietro, Executive Director, Alaska Judicial Council, and Brad Myrstol, Director, UAA Justice Center and the Alaska Justice Information Center
11:00 - 11:15	Break
Session 3 11:15 - 12:45	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Case Management and Evidence-based Practices</i></p> Presenters: Melissa Threadgill, Senior Policy Specialist, Crime and Justice Institute; Alysa Wooden, Program Coordinator, Division of Behavioral Health; Mike Van Linden, Reentry Case Manager JAMHI; Marsha Oss, Reentry Case Manager Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living; and Monica Hinders, Probation Officer, DOC
12:45 - 1:45	Lunch Provided, Networking & Exhibitor Visit
Session 4 1:45 - 3:15	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Medical and Behavioral Health Services in the Alaska Department of Corrections</i></p> Presenters: Laura Brooks, MS, LPA, Deputy Director of Health and Rehabilitation Services, DOC and Adam Rutherford, MEd, Chief Mental Health Officer, DOC
Session 5 3:15 - 4:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>No One Untouched: Addressing Alaska's Opioid Epidemic</i></p> Presenter: Andy Jones, Director for the Office of Substance Misuse and Addiction Prevention, Deputy Incident Commander for the Governors Opioid Response

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DAY 2

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 | Hotel Captain Cook | Anchorage, Alaska

7:30 - 8:30	Registration Open & Continental Breakfast
8:30 - 8:45	Morning Announcements: Center for Human Development/Alaska Training Cooperative
Session 6 8:45 - 10:00	<i>The Importance of Trauma Informed Approach with Criminal Justice Populations</i> Presenters: Patrick Sidmore, M.S.W., Health Planner, Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse and Heather Phelps, M.A, LPC., Behavioral Health Criminal Justice Planner, Alaska Department of Corrections
Session 7 10:00 - 11:15	<i>The Importance of Meaningful Employment</i> Presenters: Donald M. Revels, Statewide Reentry Employment Coordinator, DOL; Demetria Veasy, Career Support & Training Services Supervisor, DOL; Ciesta Williams, Employment and Training Manager Partners Reentry Center; Wesley Brewington, Peer Support Supervisor, CITC; and Jon Woodard, Training Coordinator Assistant Alaska Ironworkers Local 751
11:15 - 11:30	Break
Session 8 11:30 - 12:45	<i>Impact of Re-Entry Housing</i> Presenters: Kara Nelson, Director, Haven House; Venus Woods, Cook Inlet Tribal Council; Karl Soderstrom, Administrative Director of Fiend 2 Clean; and Brian Wilson, Director, Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
12:45 - 2:00	Lunch Provided, Networking & Exhibitor Visit
Session 9 2:00 - 3:15	<i>Kenai Henu' Community Wellness Court</i> Presenters: Evelyn Huf, Kenaitze Tribal Court Judge; Anna Moran, State Superior Court Judge; Terri Telkamp, Project Coordinator; and Michelle Bartley, Statewide Therapeutic Courts Program Coordinator
Session 10 3:15 - 4:30	<i>Culture Eats Strategy for Breakfast: Building a Long Term Movement for Change</i> Presenter: Melissa Threadgill, Senior Policy Specialist, Crime & Justice Institute

KEYNOTE & SESSION DESCRIPTION

Keynote Session 1 - March 12

Title: *Criminal Justice Reform a National & Local Perspective*

Presenter: Melissa Threadgill, Senior Policy Specialist, Crime & Justice Institute

Melissa Threadgill will provide the audience with a national perspective on criminal justice reform, detailing the increasing national focus on both the problems associated with over-use of incarceration as well as on the importance of using data and evidence to better understand what works – and what does not – to reduce recidivism. She will discuss the history of the Justice Reinvestment movement, both nationally and in Alaska, and explain how using smart justice principles can help states improve public safety while building strong communities.

Keynote Bio: Melissa Threadgill has been working to create a safer, more just society and improve the performance of state and local governments for more than a decade. She is a Senior Policy Specialist with the Boston-based Crime and Justice Institute, where she leads projects supporting states with the development and implementation of comprehensive criminal justice reform efforts through the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Justice Reinvestment project. Melissa has worked in partnership with local stakeholders on criminal justice reform efforts in Alaska since June of 2015. Previously, she worked on a wide variety of policy and legislative efforts as a senior aide in the Massachusetts State Senate. Melissa holds a Bachelor of Arts from Oberlin College and a Master of Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Session 2 - March 12

Title: *A look Inside - What's Happening Specifically in Alaska. What is the Data Showing Us?*

Presenters: Susanne DiPietro, Executive Director, Alaska Judicial Council and Brad Myrstol, Director, UAA Justice Center and the Alaska Justice Information Center

In recent years, the State of Alaska has committed itself to undertaking a generational paradigm shift in its approach to the development of criminal justice policy and prioritizing its investments in crime prevention programming. In 2014, the Alaska Legislature established the Alaska Criminal Justice Commission, with a charge to assess Alaska's criminal justice laws and practices, and recommend administrative and legislative reforms. Eighteen months later the Commission issued a comprehensive set of recommendations to reform Alaska's criminal justice system, reduce recidivism, and enhance public safety. Also in 2015, Alaska, in partnership with the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative, undertook a comprehensive benefit cost analysis of the state's adult criminal justice programs.

This work provided the state with a rigorously detailed analysis of the dollar-for-dollar return the state can anticipate from its current portfolio of adult criminal justice investments. The common thread linking these two developments was the use of Alaska-specific crime and criminal justice data to inform Alaska's criminal justice policy and program development decisions.

This session will provide an overview and discussion of these two evidence-based initiatives

KEYNOTE & SESSION DESCRIPTION

Session 3 - March 12

Title: *Case Management and Evidence-based Practices*

Presenters:

Melissa Threadgill, Senior Policy Specialist, Crime and Justice Institute; Alysa Wooden, Program Coordinator, Division of Behavioral Health; Mike Van Linden, Reentry Case Manager; Marsha OSS, Reentry Case Manager; and Monica Hinders Probation Officer, DOC

This panel will talk about what “Effective Case Management” is and how using this approach with our clients can help reduce recidivism. Panelists will also discuss steps that Alaska is taking to adopt this approach with justice-involved individuals. Discussion topics will include the core principles of Effective Case Management; what criminogenic needs are how to identify them, and why they should be targeted in case planning; the importance of developing individualized case plans in partnership with your client; and, the importance of positive reinforcement in achieving behavior change.

Session 4 - March 12

Title: *Medical and Behavioral Health Services in the Alaska Department of Corrections*

Presenters: Laura Brooks, MS, LPA, Deputy Director of Health and Rehabilitation Services, DOC and Adam Rutherford, MEd, Chief Mental Health Officer, DOC

The Alaska Department of Corrections serves as the largest provider of healthcare services in the state. Every day Alaskans walk through ADOC’s doors with serious medical and mental health issues, many of which have been untreated or undertreated until they are arrested. It is not unusual for someone to have their first dental exam in 20 years in custody; it is not unusual for a woman in her third trimester to have her first prenatal check up behind ADOC’s walls; and, it is not unusual for someone to have their serious mental illness diagnosed and treated for the first in ADOC custody. ADOC has a variety of specialty programs and housing units designed to care for individuals with serious medical and mental health conditions.

This presentation will provide participants with an overview of the types of special medical and mental health issues that correctional health staff care for every day. This will include a review of the process that happens at arrest and how special needs offenders are identified; a description of the range of in-custody services and how an offender may access those services; and, the release planning efforts that are available to special needs populations.

Session 5 - March 12

Title: *No One Untouched: Addressing Alaska’s Opioid Epidemic*

Presenter: Andy Jones, Director for the Office of Substance Misuse and Addiction Prevention, Deputy Incident Commander for the Governors Opioid Response

The opioid epidemic knows no boundaries and impacts all Alaskans. Participate in an interactive discussion with the State of Alaska to learn what response strategies are currently being implemented, how communities are mobilizing and applying prevention strategies that enhance the continuum of care, and keys to identify potential long-term recovery solutions to addressing this public health crisis.

KEYNOTE & SESSION DESCRIPTION

Session 6 – March 13

Title: *The Importance of Trauma Informed Approach with Criminal Justice Populations*

Presenters: Patrick Sidmore, M.S.W., Health Planner, Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse and Heather Phelps, M.A, LPC., Behavioral Health Criminal Justice Planner, Alaska Department of Corrections

This session will explore how Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) affects Alaskans inside and outside of corrections. The brain science and the stress response will be explored as well as Alaskan specific data about the prevalence of ACEs. Development of self-regulation skills as a means to counteract the impact of ACEs will be explored and the presentation will show how to use this information with Alaskans in the correctional system to help better understand an individual's behavior and potentially improve outcomes inside correctional facilities and upon release.

Special emphasis will be on understanding the potential impact on the brain and stress response precipitated by exposure to high levels of trauma in childhood and understanding ACEs within the entire population of Alaskans and specific groups with whom we have direct contact. The audience will also be exposed to specific methods of recognizing the impact of an overwhelmed stress response of a person in corrections and have at least two strategies to mitigate that response.

Session 7 - March 13

Title: *The Importance of Meaningful Employment*

Presenters: Donald M. Revels, Statewide Reentry Employment Coordinator, DOL; Demetria Veasy, Career Support & Training Services Supervisor, DOL; Gary Olsen, Criminal Justice Planner, DOC; Ciesta Williams, Employment and Training Manager Partners Reentry Center; Wesley Brewington, Peer Support Supervisor, CITC; and Jon Woodard, Training Coordinator Assistant Alaska Ironworkers Local 751

The speakers in this session will discuss the significance employment plays in reducing recidivism. Panelist will also discuss how their programs assist in creating pathways to meaningful employment by exploring:

- 1) Work Release Programs provided through Department of Corrections.
- 2) How employers can get involved with Work Release Programs.
- 3) Career Support/Training Services and ways it can provide resources to further employment goals and retention.
- 4) Fidelity Bonding and Work Opportunity Tax Credit.

Session 8 - March 13

Title: *Impact of Re-Entry Housing*

Presenters: Kara Nelson, Director Haven House; Venus Woods, Cook Inlet Tribal Council; Karl Soderstrom, Administrative Director of Fiend 2 Clean; and Brian Wilson, Director Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness

This session will begin with an update from the Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness on Coordinated Entry implementation, current work plans, and how re-entry efforts can intersect.

KEYNOTE & SESSION DESCRIPTION

Following this update will be three presentations on Alaska re-entry housing projects. Updates will provide overviews of recovery and re-entry housing, pilot projects, and what is happening "at the ground level."

Participants will increase their understanding of statewide housing coalition activities and housing first models/outcomes, increase understanding of current re-entry housing projects, and will have an opportunity to participate in a discussion on opportunities for re-entry coalitions and housing coalitions to partner in reducing recidivism.

Session 9 - March 13

Title: *Kenai Henu' Community Wellness Court ~ A report on the establishment of the first joint-jurisdiction State & Tribal felony DUI & Drug court in Alaska*

Presenter: Evelyn Huf, Kenaitze Tribal Court Judge; Anna Moran, State Superior Court Judge; Terri Telkamp, Project Coordinator; and Michelle Bartley, Statewide Therapeutic Courts Program Coordinator

Judge Anna Moran and Judge Evelyn Huf will provide the audience with a review of the origins and impetus for the establishment of the first diversionary wellness court in Kenai, Alaska. They will describe how this unique collaboration between the State of Alaska and the Kenaitze Indian Tribe offers high-risk, high-need felony criminal offenders who also have drug or alcohol addictions the opportunity to engage in an 18-month long Wellness Court program. The program combines the legal processes of the state court system with the less formal tribal court system and incorporates cultural and therapeutic resources to enhance the success of criminal offenders suffering with substance abuse issues.

Participants will have a better understanding of the benefits of State/Tribal collaboration in reducing recidivism, learn about the evidence-based practices that form the foundation of the program, and see how integrating healing cultural aspects into the legal process creates an atmosphere that promotes personal growth and accountability for participants

Session 10 - March 13

Title: *Culture Eats Strategy for Breakfast: Building a Long Term Movement for Change*

Presenter: Melissa Threadgill, Senior Policy Specialist, Crime & Justice Institute

This closing session will focus on how to create lasting systems change and making it stick. Implementing major systems reforms—as Alaska is doing—is hard. Results can be difficult to see at first, change can feel glacially slow, and opposition and resistance can be disheartening. Melissa will discuss the barriers states can face when trying to change systems and strategies for overcoming these barriers, as well as, developing concrete action steps to take because of lessons learned in this conference.