Objectives

United States:
• State and federal correctional authorities in the United States held an estimated 2.3 million prisoners at the end of 2018

Philadelphia:
• From 2015 to 2017, Philadelphia released 20% of its prison population
• From 2005 to 2014, an estimated 68% of released prisoners were re-arrested within 3 years, 79% within 6 years, and 83% within 9 years

According to the American Psychology Association
• Inmates face a variety of challenges that affect their ability to become productive members of society once they leave confinement

Reentry Programs:
• Evidence has shown that reentry policies and programs that were enacted in recent years have improved outcomes for people released from prison, and reduced recidivism in the United States
• Connecting prisoners and stakeholders to resources will give them the opportunity to become productive members of society

Process Plan

Assessment
• Reviewing PDP discharge packet and assessing resources
• Made sure the organizations listed are active and willing to accept newly released individuals by calling services, checking their website, confirming locations and phone numbers

Improvement
• Creating an efficient way to access resources by providing brief descriptions, direct links, addresses, phone numbers, map locator, and by using plain language
• Organizing information with as few words as possible, breaking complex information into understandable chunks, and using simple language and defining technical terms

Development
• Organizing the resources by category: Housing, Employment, Education, Healthcare, Mental Health, Substance Use, Veteran, LGBTQ, Faith-Based, Domestic Violence, Legal, Food
• Publishing the site to Weebly

Implementation

• Implementation of the Philadelphia Reentry Services Website has created one source of information that contains a multitude of resources that assists with the transition from incarceration to society
• Anyone who is looking for assistance with any of the services provided will benefit from this website
• Thomas Jefferson University is funding this website for one year (April 2019-April 2020)
• The Institute of Community Justice (ICJ), a non-profit organization addressing the lasting effects of mass imprisonment on those most affected, has agreed to fund the site from April 2020 – indefinitely
• The ICJ has also agreed to share with their clients, maintain and sustain the website, and make any changes as they see fit

Next Steps
• Follow up with the Institute of Community Justice as needed
• Receive feedback from the stakeholder population
• Make changes as feedback comes in

Limitations
• Site limitations prevented implementation of some desired tools, such as:
  ➢ Language options
  ➢ Placement of graphics

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