From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Janet Wood</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 8:03:53 AM

From: Texas Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset.website@brightleafgroup.com>

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2024 9:25 PM

To: Sunset Advisory Commission <sunset@sunset.texas.gov>

Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Private/Before Publication)

Submitted on Mon, 11/11/2024 - 20:01

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Choose the agency that you would like to provide input about

Texas Department of Criminal Justice

Public Comments

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First Name

Mary

Last Name

Moran

Title

Executive Director

Organization you are affiliated with

On-Point Re-Entry Consortium, Inc

Email

mmoran@onpointreentry.org

City

Austin

State

Texas

Your Comments or Concerns

As the Executive Director of this nonprofit, I am in full agreement with the staff report and its recommendations. Additionally, I strongly advocate for improved communication and collaboration with community reentry providers to ensure seamless continuity of services.

To better serve and prepare individuals for reintegration into our community, we are offering our services to TDCJ free of charge. Our goal is to work in unison to support these individuals effectively. However, despite our efforts over the past year and a half, we have faced challenges in gaining access to the Travis State Jail here in Austin.

We propose delivering a two-part series focusing on changing mindsets. This program emphasizes that reentry success is not solely about finding employment but also about maintaining it. Our sessions will cover critical topics such as attitude, work ethic, and the importance of self-belief.

We are committed to making a positive impact and look forward to the opportunity to collaborate more closely with TDCJ and other community reentry providers

Your Proposed Solution

I propose that the Chaplain or the Reentry Case Manager at the TDCJ facility organize a monthly meeting with nonprofits interested in conducting workshops. These meetings should cover the following points to ensure clarity and mutual understanding:

Expectations and Involvement: Clearly outline what is involved in conducting workshops, including the roles and responsibilities of both parties.

Documentation and Impact: Emphasize the importance of documenting services and measuring the impact of workshops on inmates.

Coordinated Scheduling: Develop a comprehensive calendar of all nonprofit training dates to streamline efforts and minimize additional work for TDCJ staff.

Dedicated Support: Assign a dedicated guard to assist nonprofits, ensuring they have access to their classrooms without disruption.

Furthermore, it is essential to allow community organizations to conduct workshops and prepare inmates for reentry. Building strong rapport with these organizations and recognizing the value of their work is crucial for the inmates' successful reintegration.

By fostering better communication and collaboration with community reentry providers, we can enhance the continuity of services and provide inmates with the necessary tools for successful reentry.

Thank you for considering this proposal. I believe that these steps will significantly improve our reentry programs and better serve our community

My Comments Will Be Made Public