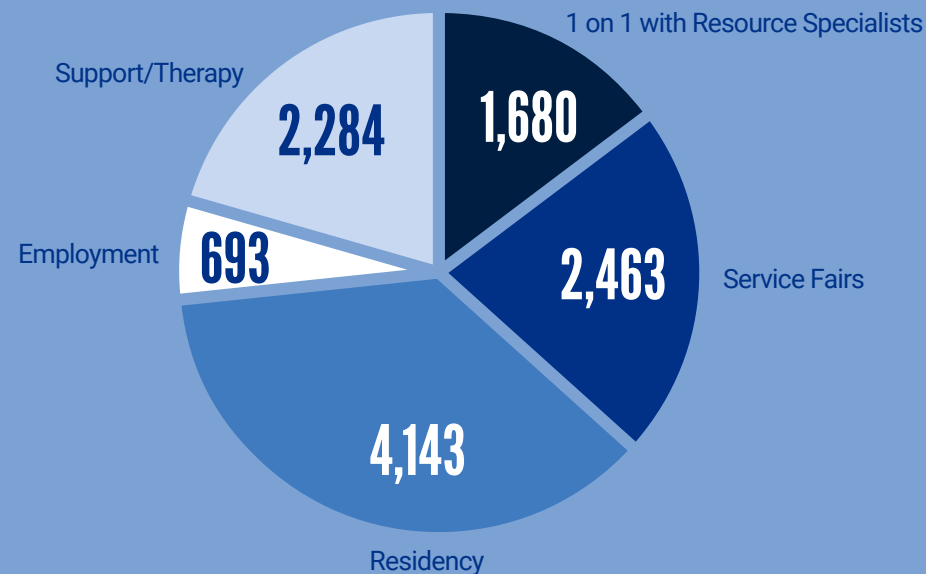


It's Working!

Since 2006, 7,900 individuals have participated in Journey Home with a 90% success rate!



The Journey Home Initiative is adding a new education strategy to its work of helping returning citizens reintegrate back into the community.

Returning citizens from our prison systems will have an opportunity to RESET their lives.

Studies with returning citizens have found that those with close ties to family members, including spouses or intimate partners, report higher levels of optimism, confidence, financial and emotional support, and intent to desist from future criminal activity (Burnett, 2004; Nelson, Dees, & Allen, 2011; Naser & Visher, 2006). Since 2006, the Journey Home program has helped returning citizens reintegrate successfully back into our community.



Why this matters:

In Dane County, between 300 to 700 individuals return from prison to Dane County every year. Within two years of release, 19% of those individuals return to prison. This rate is greatly reduced from the 66% return to prison rate we saw in 2003 when we began looking at this data. In addition to reducing the re-incarceration rate, helping returning citizens is important for the following reasons.

- Returning citizens who fail to successfully reintegrate with the community are likely to violate rules or commit new crimes. This threatens the peace and safety of our community.
- Without employment, returning citizens cannot make it — find housing, reunify with their family, or become productive members of the community.
- Families suffer when the primary wage earner is not able to find employment. Children of returning citizens are likely to become incarcerated, too.
- When returning citizens re-offend, taxpayers pay not only the cost of re-incarceration (the average cost to the state is around \$30,000 annually per person), but also increased supports needed for families.
- Children of incarcerated parents experience higher infant mortality, childhood health problems, cognitive and academic problems, externalizing behavior problems (especially aggression), internalizing behavior problems, additional adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and poor mental and physical health in adulthood.

For more details, please see the full Journey Home Mobilization Plan and Appendices available at www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/mobilization-plans

For more information, please contact:

Angela Jones, Community Impact Director – Income, United Way of Dane County

Angela.Jones@uwdc.org



The power of many. Working for all.

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Continue the conversation with us

JOURNEY HOME:

A RESET for Returning Citizens



The power of many. Working for all.

Journey Home provides holistic, evidence-based strategies to help returning citizens and their families

Our Goal: To maintain a 10% or less yearly re-incarceration rate for Journey Home participants, and a 20% re-incarceration rate three years after release. Currently the re-incarceration rate for Dane County is 39% (three years after release).

When returning citizens are released from prison, they face multiple obstacles to employment, education and housing. Even with the best intentions and plans, returning citizens are at risk of re-incarceration if they are unable to get on a positive life track.

Since 2006, our focus has been on helping individuals get the support they need to stay out of prison and establish productive, crime-free lives in the community, neighborhood and families to which they've rightfully returned. We believe we can break the cycle of re-incarceration by empowering men and women with the right resources so they can successfully reintegrate with their families and our community.

In 2018-2019, United Way and community partners again researched best practices, listened to the community and evaluated strategies for reducing re-incarceration in Dane County. We confirmed that our model, Journey Home, is working to effectively connect ex-offenders and families with community resources to reduce the re-incarceration rate.



The Journey Home [Initiative] is part of the community network designed to help individuals prepare for reentry, navigate resources, and find stability. All of these elements support retention and advancement in education and employment which contributes to [a] stronger, more vibrant local economy and community.

– Seth Lenz, Associate Director, Workforce Development Board of South Central Wisconsin

NEW FOR 2019: In the Journey Home Initiative, returning citizens have an opportunity to RESET their lives



Our Strategies

- Residency** – Resource Specialists work with individuals to find housing that meets their needs.
- Employment** – Provide screening, employment training, placement and act as a liaison between the returning citizen and their employer.
- Support** – Circle of Support is one of the programs available for returning citizens to access for support.
- Education** – Increase educational attainment and parenting skills through evidence-informed programming.
- Treatment** – Resource Specialists work closely with community agencies to identify mental health and AODA resources for ex-offenders.

Education is Critical

Community Awareness and Education

Build awareness and educate the public about individuals who are returning to the community.

Achieve Educational Goals

Assist Journey Home clients in determining an educational goal and provide a clear pathway for individuals to achieve HSED, GED or other credentials.



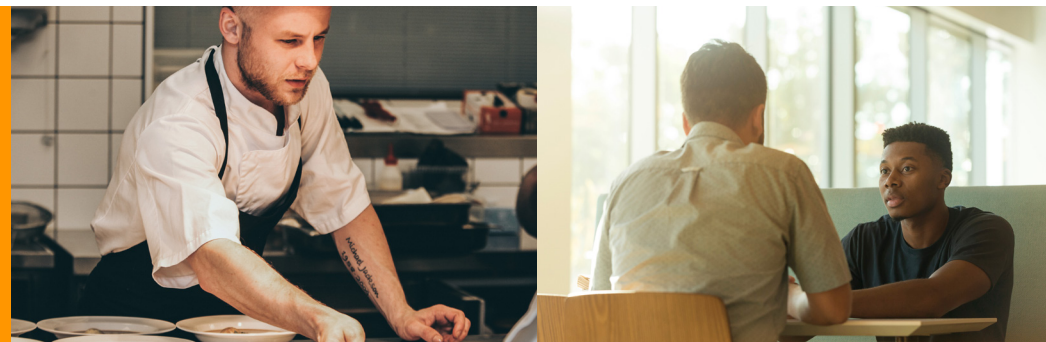
Support Successful Parenting

Research demonstrates that connection to families and children provides a level of stability, increasing the likelihood that returning citizens will not re-offend. The Parenting Inside Out Curriculum, developed by Dr. Mark Eddy, is evidence-based curriculum successfully being implemented in thirty-three states. The curriculum includes outcomes that complement our Journey Home strategies.

Parenting Inside Out (PIO)

The PIO Curriculum is an evidence-informed, cognitive behavioral parent management training (PMT), focused on improving parenting roles, skills and behaviors. PIO is strength-based, putting parents in the role of being the expert of their own child while offering new parenting tools to improve and increase parenting skills which aid in reconnecting the parent to their child during and after release.

We are excited about adding this new curriculum to the activities of Journey Home. PIO helps multiple systems to work together to help better the lives of children who have incarcerated parents. The partners on this new curriculum are: The Dane County Jail, Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Madison-area Urban Ministry, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dr. Mark Eddy and United Way of Dane County.



We know that reuniting parents with their children is a positive indicator of success post release from prison, adding Parenting Inside Out to the education services array in the Journey Home [Initiative] will help facilitate a smoother reunification process for the entire family.

– Linda Ketcham, Executive Director, Madison-area Urban Ministry