



Iowa Board of Parole Strategic Planning FY 2015 and Beyond

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I. Introduction

The Iowa Board of Parole recently undertook a strategic planning exercise to identify areas of focus for future development of the Board and its members.

II. Mission Statement

To enhance overall public safety by making evidence-based and informed parole decisions for the successful re-entry of offenders back into the community to become productive and responsible citizens.

III. Goals

- Utilize evidence-based practices in the decision-making process
- Promote supervised release at the appropriate time and level
- Enhance a collaborative working relationship with all stakeholders in the criminal justice system
- Foster a deliberation system that respects the interest of the public, victims and offenders
- Be fiscally responsible to the taxpayers of Iowa.
- Be vigilant in acquisition of knowledge and process improvement
- Become a nationally recognized leader among paroling authorities

IV. Strategic Priority--Reduce recidivism while managing the prison population through:

A. Training and Professional Development

- i. Utilize the collective wisdom and resources of the Association of Paroling Authorities International, including participation in the APAI Annual Training Conference.
- ii. Participate in annual facility and field location visits to gain understanding of the role of each facility and field location and to facilitate open an active communication across agency boundaries.
- iii. Research intervention programs utilized by states similar to Iowa and explore if those programs would be beneficial to our offender population.
- iv. Continue the practice of including an educational component in each business meetings to learn about and remain up to date on current practices, research, data and legislation that affects paroling activities.

B. Analysis and Data Sophistication

- i. Research and evaluate recidivism rates and identify patterns.
- ii. Research and evaluate revocation activity to identify patterns.
- iii. Evaluate and update Board Performance Measures.
- iv. Evaluate and continue to develop evidence based policies and practices.

C. Stakeholder Outreach

- i. Improve public outreach and education through further development of the Board's website.
- ii. Enhance partnership with Department of Corrections policy makers.
- iii. Enhance partnership with the Community Based Corrections system.
- iv. Enhance the notification system for registered victims.
- v. Develop notification procedures for interested parties.
- vi. Seek opportunities to address stakeholders and provide public education.

D. Population Review Program

- i. Develop and enhance the Board's methods for identifying cases to review via periodic internal reviews of the prison population.
- ii. Research target populations designed to identify potential candidates for release.
- iii. Improve public safety by ensuring release candidates are reviewed at the appropriate time.
- iv. Research and evaluate alternatives to traditional revocation.