



The MPRI Statewide Implementation Plan: A Three-Step Approach

The Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI) will be implemented statewide in a three-step approach with the goal of having the entire state involved in the MPRI Model by September 30, 2007.

The Implementation Plan describes:

- The three-step approach to implementation.
- The activities that will occur in each Pilot Site as part of MPRI and describes how JEHT Foundation funds will be blended with Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) funds to form a comprehensive and seamless funding strategy that will enable effective implementation.
- The roles and responsibilities of the three organizations involved in planning and coordinating the implementation of MPRI: Public Policy Associates (PPA), PPA's non-profit partner, the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency (MCCD), and the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC).

The first eight Pilot Sites were selected because those communities had begun community coordination and re-entry planning with their own resources. These first sites include 7 of the 14 urban counties that account for 75% of all prison releases each year. The remaining urban counties will be included in the second wave of Pilot Sites beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2006.

The goal is to ensure that all 14 urban counties are fully operational before the end of Fiscal Year 2006 with some evidence collected that demonstrates the effectiveness of the MPRI in reducing recidivism across a broad base of communities.

STEP ONE: Fiscal Year 2005

In FY2005, the MPRI implemented the Model in 8 pilot jurisdictions covering 16 counties. Eight Community Coordinators were hired—one Coordinator per site. These 16 counties have over 3,500 citizens in prison that will be reviewed for parole in the next 12 months. The first 8 Pilot Sites began implementation with varying degrees of readiness. The goal of our implementation plan was to have all of the first 8 sites operational before the end of FY2005. The following are the counties involved in the first 8 sites:

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| ■ Wayne County* | ■ Kalamazoo County* |
| ■ Kent County* | ■ Ingham County* |
| ■ Genesee County* | ■ Berrien County * |
| ■ Macomb County* | ■ 9-County Rural Region |

STEP TWO: Fiscal Year 2006

In FY2006, an additional seven Pilot Sites will be targeted. One Coordinator per site is required to organize these sites. These seven sites will include the remaining seven urban counties. Fifteen total Community Coordinators will be employed in FY 2006. The first eight Community Coordinators will remain in their original sites. Beginning in January 2006, the costs for the first eight Community Coordinators will be fully funded by MDOC funds.

- Oakland County*
- Muskegon County*
- Jackson County*
- Saginaw County*ⁱ
- Washtenaw County*
- St. Clair County*
- Calhoun County*

STEP THREE: Fiscal Year 2007

In FY2007, the remaining rural counties will be added as the final step of statewide implementation. The numbers of prisoners returning to these jurisdictions are low and the existing capabilities in each jurisdiction are comparatively strong. Four Community Coordinators will be required to organize all remaining rural counties; thus, each will cover multiple jurisdictions. Beginning in October 2006 (the start of FY2007), MDOC will fully fund the costs of the 14 previously hired Community Coordinators. JEHT Foundation funds would be used beginning in January 2007 to fund the four remaining Community Coordinators. MDOC would cover the costs of all Community Coordinators (total of 18) beginning in October 2007. Funding for the Community Coordinators would continue indefinitely by MDOC or other funding sources.

A Pilot Site will be considered fully operational when it is involved in all three phases of the MPRI Model that includes all four types of Transition Accountability Plans (TAPs) for as many offenders as the Pilot Site can handle. Over time, increasing numbers of inmates will be identified in the MPRI Getting Ready Phase so that increasing numbers of inmates will be fully engaged in the MPRI Model. It is expected to take several years for all inmates to be fully engaged in the process.

At each step of the implementation process, each of the Pilot Sites will be involved in extensive training in Evidence-Based Practices, the development of specific performance measures for increased parolee success, and the development of Comprehensive ReEntry Plans.

As previously stated, the vehicle for permanent funding for local community coordination is the local Comprehensive ReEntry Plan that will specify each Pilot Site's plans to increase parolee success through improved policies, processes, and programs as a result of carefully planned use of the many assets already in the community, the identification and breaking of barriers that hinder parolee success, and the identification and funding of the gaps in services. These gaps in services will undoubtedly revolve around the issues of housing, employment, and services.

The Role of Public Policy Associates

Because of PPA's extensive experience facilitating systems change, its intimate knowledge of the MPRI, and direct affiliation with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) as the site of the NIC Michigan State Coordinator, PPA is the project manager and operational administrator of the MPRI implementation process. PPA's five main responsibilities include:

- Strategic policy planning in collaboration with MPRI.
- Training, facilitation, oversight, and fiduciary responsibilities of statewide MPRI implementation.
- Provision of technical assistance as needed to avoid problems, overcome challenges, and ensure the knowledge necessary to learn from this historic process is captured for future utilization.
- Obtaining communications expertise and implementing the communications strategic plan.
- Coordinating the evaluation (to be funded separately).

The Role of the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency (MCCD)

MCCD has been involved in the MPRI since its inception and has proven to be a valuable planning partner. The agency's historic context for work in the justice arena is unmatched in the state and, with its long history of effective management, provides an essential resource to the implementation process. Their primary role, in addition to continued planning as a member of the Executive Management Team, is on the management and coordination of the Community Coordinators hired with JEHT Foundation funds until such time that State dollars are available to continue the essential and continual work of community coordination.

The Role of the Michigan Department of Corrections

MDOC is inextricably connected to every aspect of the MPRI. MDOC's Policy and Strategic Planning Administration has been charged with the operational success of the MPRI, and Dennis Schrantz, Deputy Director of the Administration, serves on the State Policy Team as the MPRI Manager and chairs the Executive Management Team. In order to support the efforts of implementing the MPRI Model and provide stewardship for the dramatic systems-change process involved with the Initiative, Patricia L. Caruso, MDOC Director, formed an Office of Offender ReEntry within the Administration and approved a staffing structure that includes Community Liaison positions to work closely with PPA and MCCD and the local Community Coordinators.

The purpose of the Office of Offender ReEntry is to manage and staff the MPRI. The three areas of responsibilities include establishing a systemwide, milieu shift within the MDOC, strategic planning for MPRI, and forming partnerships with other agencies to ensure effective collaboration on MPRI. The other offices under the Policy and Strategic Planning Administration are fully engaged in the MPRI. Both the Office of Research and Planning and the Office of Policy and Hearings have been completely re-structured to allow for not only maximum participation in MPRI planning but also to allow for the management and oversight of the evaluation of the Initiative and the development and implementation of new and adapted policies within the MDOC that will ensure that the elements of the MPRI that affect the Department are permanent.

ⁱ Funding has not yet been identified for the seventh Community Coordinator.