Dear Sir or Madam,

The Travis County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO) is honored to host the inaugural Vision Summit: Looking Toward the Future of Re-entry in Austin, TX from September 10-13, 2013. Considerable, positive reform is occurring all around the country and our agency is excited to support the efforts of re-entry advocates. We believe through enhanced communication, coordination and collaboration across vested parties that we can make our communities safer by reducing recidivism, improving re-entry outcomes and assisting those who return from jail and/or prison.

The mission of the Vision Summit is to awaken and ignite communities to attain a unified vision and thriving re-entry process that enables the incarcerated to amend their place in the world, by showcasing effective programs, listening to each other and networking to make future possibilities a reality today.

The goals of the Vision Summit are
- to host the premier summit in the country on re-entry by offering motivating, innovative, evidence-based workshops that encourage attendees to awaken and ignite their communities;
- to put TCSO on a national level by being a leader on the cutting edge of re-entry; and
- to create an on-going process year round, continuing collaboration and building the foundation for the future.

We anticipate hosting approximately 300 attendees from all over the country. The Vision Summit will be a highly educational, exciting and memorable event; top presenters in the field of re-entry will inspire our attendees to go back to their respective communities and create change.

We look forward to your attendance and thank you in advance for becoming part of the solution.

Best regards,

[Signature]

Greg Hamilton
Sheriff
2013 VISION SUMMIT
LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE OF RE-ENTRY

SEPTEMBER
10th-13th
HOLIDAY INN AUSTIN MIDTOWN
6000 MIDDLE FISKVILLE RD.
AUSTIN, TX 78752

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Diane Williams
President and Chief Executive Officer
Safer Foundation
Safer Foundation is one of the nation’s largest not-for-profit providers of employment placement and job readiness training exclusively targeting people with criminal records.

Mansfield Frazier
Executive Director
Neighborhood Solutions, Inc.
Mansfield Frazier is a writer, editor and publisher whose works focuses on social justice and prison issues. As an ex-offender, he shares his knowledge on numerous re-entry committees nationally.

DON’T MISS OUT ON SHARING WITH FELLOW COLLEAGUERS AND LEARN FROM LEADING EXPERTS IN THE AREA OF RE-ENTRY!

WWW.TCSHERIFF.ORG
TCSOReentrySummit@co.travis.tx.us

hosted by the TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE
2013 VISION SUMMIT
September 10-13, 2013  Holiday Inn Austin Midtown  Austin, TX
Hosted by the Travis County Sheriff’s Office

TENTATIVE AGENDA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
4:00 - 7:00pm  Registration
7:00 - 9:00pm  Evening Reception/Networking

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
7:30 - 8:00am  Registration
8:00 - 9:00am  Continental Breakfast/Exhibitor Hall open
9:00 - 9:30am  General Session
9:30 - 10:15am  Keynote Speaker: Mansfield Frazier, Executive Director, Neighborhood Solutions, Inc.
10:30 - 11:30am  Session I Workshops
11:30 - 1:00pm  Lunch - Goodwill & United Way presentation
1:00 - 5:00pm  Session II, III, IV Workshops

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
7:30 - 8:00am  Registration
8:00 - 9:00am  Continental Breakfast/Exhibitor Hall open
9:00 - 9:30am  General Session
9:30 - 10:15am  Keynote Speaker: Diane Williams, CEO, Safer Foundation
10:30 - 11:30am  Session V Workshops
11:30 - 1:00pm  Lunch - Speakers & video presentation
* Those who have registered for the JAIL TOUR will meet at the front lobby of the hotel at 12:45pm to board the bus for the Travis County Correctional Complex tour.
1:00 - 5:00pm  Session VI, VII, VIII Workshops

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
9:00 - 11:30am  General Session
   Closing Speaker
   Adjourn

Registration $225 before August 25; $250 from August 25-September 11
For more information on the re-entry conference and to register, please visit www.tcsheriff.org or you may email TCSOReentrySummit@co.travis.tx.us
TENTATIVE WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Addressing Behavioral Health Needs of Individuals Returning to the Community
Susan Stone, JD, MO, SAMSHA National GAINS Center
Focusing on recognition of behavioral health issues in re-entry populations and addressing those behavioral health needs. Finding community supports, medications, and housing for this population.

Building Community Bridges for Re-entry
Yolanda Lara, Director of Inmate Programs, Dallas County Sheriff Department
Margarita Sanchez, Asst. Director of Inmate Programs, Dallas County Sheriff Department
Demonstrate how Dallas County has fulfilled and exceeded its requirements by the Department of Justice. How to select appropriate evidence based re-entry programs including gender specific treatment for females with specific needs. Challenges with administrative & security personnel.

Building Self Advocacy Skills: Practical Attitudes, Practices and Behaviors
Deborah Jones, Academic Advisor: Enrollment Management, Austin Community College
Bethany Bell, Supervisor: Admissions & Records, Austin Community College
Assist participants in gaining necessary self-advocacy skills to become empowered. Identify strategies and techniques designed to promote self-advocacy skills in a non-threatening manner. Identify and prepare staff to serve as self-advocacy facilitators.

Creating a Community Heart for Families of the Incarcerated
Sari Waxler, Executive Director, Seedling Foundation
Falba Turner, Project Director, Seedling Foundation
Describe the elements of a successful process to induct volunteers into working on behalf of families of the incarcerated. List elements of schools and organizations designed to identify, welcome, and effectively serve inmate families and their children. Cite research linking family resilience to successful re-unification.

Community Safe Residential Re-entry for Former Sex Offenders
Jon Cordeiro, National Director, New Name Ministries
Concrete information related to sex offender re-entry issues. Why and how to work with sex offenders in re-entry. Access to resources to educate others and develop residential re-entry for former sex offenders.

De-Concentrating Prisoner Re-entry: Quasi-Experimental Results
David Kirk, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin
This workshop will present findings that answer the following question: If instead of concentrating ex-prisoners in geographic space, what would happen to subsequent recidivism and incarceration rates if ex-prisoners were dispersed across space? Findings reveal that an increase in the concentration of parolees in a neighborhood leads to a significant increase in the rate of admission to prison for neighborhood residents generally and the re-incarceration rate for former prisoners specifically.

Essential Components of a Successful Correctional Mental Health Reentry Program
Dr. Robert Powitzky, Director of Mental Health, Oklahoma Department of Corrections
Workshop will present lessons learned from implementation of the Oklahoma Collaborative Mental Health Re-entry Program, which received the 2012 Council of State Government's Innovation Award. Overview of mental illness and the criminal justice system and the five core components of a successful prison/jail mental health reentry program.

Evidence-Based Practices: A Framework for Application in the Criminal Justice System
Elaine Borakove, President, Justice Management Institute
Franklin Cruz, Senior Program Manager, Justice Management Institute
To deepen understanding of the most recent research on smarter sentencing and the application of risk, need, and responsivity principles to offender behavior modification and reintegration. What works in changing offender behavior during and after the adjudication phase of the criminal justice process.

Evidence-Based Practices: Turning Ideas into Action
Matt Moore, Director of Programs, GEO Community Service and Bob McCracken, Regional Director, Central GEO Group-Cornell Companies, Inc.
This presentation will help the audience understand the main principles of evidence-based practices in re-entry programs and directly tie specific activities that can be implemented at each of the eight levels of evidence-based practices. By turning theory into action, the audience can clearly see how they can implement and maintain a program that can reduce offender risk and recidivism effectively and quickly.
Evidence-Based Practices for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Administrative Segregation Offenders and Other Processes
Marvin Dunbar, Manager, Support Services, Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Steven Gaddis, Program Supervisor V, Texas Department of Criminal Justice
This workshop is part two of a two-session workshop presenting information about the programs provided by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) and the Rehabilitation Programs Division (RPD). SVORI, GRADE, and ASPP specialized programs designed to promote change in the behavior of offenders who are assigned to administrative segregation.

Evidence Based Practices for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Adult and Youthful Offender Populations
Joseph Bon-Jorno, Manager Sex Offender Rehabilitation Programs, Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Pam Carey, Manager III Operation, Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Information presented about the TDCJ, Rehabilitation Programs Division (RPD) Sex Offender Programs, Substance Abuse Programs, Youthful Offender and the Baby and Mother Bonding Initiative. This workshop is part one of a two-session workshop presenting information about the programs provided by TDCJ and RPD.

For Generating Lifelong Connections to Work through Pre & Post Re-entry Services
Roberto Perez, Jr, Master Mentor, Goodwill Industries of Central Texas
Vanessa Villanueva-Nnanna, Master Mentor, Goodwill Industries of Central Texas
The workshop will discuss Pre and Post Release re-entry planning, Retention and the wraparound employment services provided at the Travis County Correctional Complex by Goodwill Industries of Central Texas (GICT) and Group Peer Support (GPS), as well as in the community.

From the Real Re-entry Experts: Advocacy By for XOffenders
Jeri Jean Houchin, Administrative Director, Austin/Tarrant County Reentry Roundtable
The XOffenders’ Council (XOC) is a consumer driven “speakers’ bureau” of the Austin/Tarrant County Reentry Roundtable where successful former offenders help their peers become advocate leaders that promote strategies for public safety through successful reentry and reintegration. This member driven group of reentry experts engages formerly incarcerated men and women to effectively communicate the possibility of rehabilitation and self-sufficiency by taking an active role in advocating at local, and state levels for the development and implementation of policies and practices that directly and positively affect the re-entry population and their families.

How Far We’ve Come: Re-entry Policy in Texas
Dr. Ana Yanez-Correa, Executive Director, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition
Jorge Renaud, Policy Analyst, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition
The Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC) will discuss Texas re-entering population at both the state and county levels, including major barriers facing re-entering men and women, and the ramifications of failing to address their needs. This workshop focuses on the importance of re-entry policies. History of progress made through re-entry policies in Texas from 2005-2013 and where additional improvements are needed.

How to Support Faith Based Programs Inside County Jails
Reverend Charles Waller, Jr., Chaplain, Brazoria County Sheriff Office, Brazoria Detention Center
Building support for faith based programs inside jails; alleviating adversarial attitudes and knowing how to approach the parole support request.

Improving Public Safety through Community-Based Re-entry
Rebecca Sauter, Project Re-entry Director & Co-founder, Piedmont Triad Regional Council
Effective community-based programming and treatments are essential in breaking the cycle of criminal behavior and increasing community safety. Participants in this workshop will learn of Project Re-entry’s work on both sides of the fence to enhance community safety by reducing recidivism among the former offender population; increase offender accountability; and increase community and correctional capacity to assess offender needs and deliver effective and appropriate services.

I’m Free! Now What? 10 Steps to Reduce Recidivism
Karlton Harris, founder and president of Re-entry Consultants of America (RECOA)
Teaching a how-to application principle which focuses on prevention, intervention, and re-entry. The workshop addresses the problem while simultaneously providing the anecdote.

Performing Possibilities: Using Ensemble Theatre to Assist Women with Re-entry
Michelle Dahlenburg, Co-Artistic Director, Conspire Theatre
Katherine Craft, Co-Artistic Director, Conspire Theatre
Experience and learn techniques for using theater and creative writing as a tool for building positive communities, encouraging self-reflections, and facing real-life challenges. Learn the benefits of arts programming for ex-offenders.

Re-entry Coaching for County Jails Sessions - Part I & II
Dr. Skip Pilgrim, Inmate Program Coordinator, Collin County Sheriff Office
Participants will learn how to establish re-entry coaching programs in county jails. Participants will discover how re-entry coaching will work in any size facility and can be facilitated by volunteers. How to recruit, train and match coaches with pre-released inmates.
Restorative Justice Solutions for Successful Re-entry and Aftercare
Emmett Solomon, Chaplain, Restorative Justice Ministries Network
Bill Kleiber, Executive Director, Restorative Justice Ministries Network

Restorative Justice Ministries Network (RJMN) has decades of experience in helping individuals and family enjoy restored and purposeful lives. RJMN will present the Re-entry Solutions designed to help individuals and assist organizations in overcoming the barriers to successful re-entry.

Strategic Planning for Prisoner Re-entry (SPPR)
Angel Illarraza, Ph.D., NorthPointe Inc.

This workshop will provide an overview of the Strategic Planning for Prisoner Re-entry Framework. Building on the previous work of the National Institute of Corrections and the Re-entry Policy Council, this framework contains the best and most current thinking regarding the implementation of effective re-entry strategies.

The Financial Impact of Incarceration on Texas Families
Jennifer Erschabek, Executive Director, Texas Inmate Family Association (TIFA)

Defining and understanding the financial impact that incarceration brings to families of incarcerated loved ones, during and after incarceration.

The Life Coach Project: Reducing Recidivism, Strengthening Communities, Saving Dollars
Stephanie Hart, President, Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.

Identify main obstacles to success after release from prison and discuss the 4 YAP Model interventions. Identify key community partners that make a difference in the success or failure of a parolee’s re-integration and strategies to develop them. Gain knowledge of the program costs and how community collaborations can diffuse the cost of a re-entry program thereby enhancing the return on investment.

Travis County Veterans Court
Maria Canchola, Travis County Constable, Precinct 4
Susan Lewis, Assistant Veterans Service Officer, Travis County Health & Human Services-Veteran Services

Describe the process Travis County used to create a Veterans Court. Describing the history of why it was created and the results the court has seen since its inception.

Truth be Told Renovates Lives
Carol Waid, Program Director, Truth be Told
Elizabeth Wilkerson, Graduate of Truth be Told

Program using communication skills, community building, creativity, and care for self as transformational for women. Assisting graduates to continue their personal growth upon re-entry and hearing a testimony of a graduate.

Unlocking the Right DOORS to Reduce Recidivism: Are you Prepared? - Part I & II
Christina Melton Crain, President and CEO, DOORS

This workshop is divided into two sessions. First session covers understanding the mission/vision of the unique DOORS 501c3 re-entry non-profit and its collaborations and partnering with agencies that are helping make a difference. The second session covers how to assess, organize, and manage your re-entry client tool box and how your leadership style can make or break your outcomes both with clients and staff.

What Works? Creating a Successful Re-entry Program for Juvenile Offenders
Nathaniel Whitfield, Sr. RTO/Re-entry Specialist, Travis County Juvenile Probation Department (TCJPD)
Kristin Meurer, Sr. RTO/Re-entry Specialist, Travis County Juvenile Probation Department (TCJPD)

Discuss TCJPD's current re-entry program and the re-entry challenges that are unique to juvenile offenders, as well as provide an in-depth discussion of strategies that have worked with a targeted juvenile population.

What Works: Transition for the Real World
Suzanne McComas, Owner, ZZ Agency LLC

Comparison of the existing programs available for offenders, What is missing from current programming and what needs to be given to them as part of the exit plan to mitigate issues before they occur. THE ROUGH PATH will be explained in detail as a brand new approach to programming for offenders.

You Cant Do This Alone
Lt. Joe Morris, Jail Operations - PREP Program Administrator, Randall County Sheriff’s Office
Lyndal Waldrip, Program Coordinator, Randall County Sheriff’s Office

Administering and managing an effective jail re-entry program takes much more than a Sheriff and a staff that is committed to running a program. The community’s buy-in is a vital component that will affect the level of success of your program. One way to get your community involved is through developing relationships with other entities that directly address the needs of your program participants as well as the program itself. These partnerships can be as beneficial for other individuals or organizations as it is for the re-entry participants and program. In this presentation we will describe how these collaborations have made a huge difference in our ability to accomplish the goals and objectives of our program.
The Vision Summit host hotel is:
Holiday Inn Austin Midtown
6000 Middle Fiskville Rd.
Austin, Texas 78752

All daytime activities will take place at the host hotel (dinner is on your own).

This newly renovated hotel features: sleep number beds, wireless high speed internet throughout the hotel, outdoor swimming pool and courtyard as well as a full service fitness center.

A special rate of $85 for single and $105 for double per night (plus applicable taxes and local fees) has been reserved. Call to make your reservations at 888.300.6273, request the 2013 Vision Summit block to receive the special rate.

Hotel room block expires on August 25, so make your reservations early.

Attendees are responsible for accommodations, airfare and other travel associated incidental expenses.

Other hotels in the area:

Doubletree by Hilton Austin 1-800-997-5148
6505 North IH 35
Austin, TX 78752

Habitat Suites Austin 1-800-230-4134
500 Highland Mall Blvd.
Austin, TX 78752

Crowne Plaza Austin 1-800-997-5149
6211 North IH 35
Austin, TX 78752