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Struggles and Strategies for Survival Beyond the Walls of Jail

Susan M. Halpin

*University of Massachusetts Medical School*

*Et al.*

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Welcome to the Webinar
Struggles and Strategies for Survival
Beyond the Walls of Jail
How To Connect to the Audio

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About Today’s Webinar

• **Closed captioning is available, click on the Captioning link in the Chat box**

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• Your feedback matters! Even if you are not receiving CE credit, please complete the evaluation.
Your Webinar Host

Susan Halpin, M.Ed.

susan.halpin@umassmed.edu

NNLM NER, Education & Outreach Coordinator
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, Massachusetts
Who is Joining Us Today?

Use the Chat Box
(“chat” to “all participants”)

Name?

Where are you located?

Have you watched “Beyond the Wall”?

What do you hope to learn today?
About National Library of Medicine (NLM)

https://www.nlm.nih.gov/

Physically, it is Bethesda, MD part of the NIH campus.

Largest biomedical library in the world.

One of the federal government’s largest providers of digital content.

The library is open to everyone.

**NL M’s mission**

*Advance the progress of medicine and improve public health by making biomedical information accessible to everyone.*
NLM Outreach Program

NLM Carries Out its Mission
Through the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM)

https://nnlm.gov/

- Nationwide network of health sciences libraries, public libraries & information centers
- Each region has a partnership with a regional medical library
- Outreach provided through
  - Free access to online health & medical resources
  - Free Training & Professional Development
  - Grant funding opportunities for your community

77,000 people received training from NNLM last year!
NLM Online Resources for Substance Use Disorder


https://medlineplus.gov/opioidabuseandaddictiontreatment.html
Looking for Programming Tools Related to Health and Wellness?

Consider borrowing one of our Graphic Medicine Book Club Kits featuring *Sobriety: A Graphic Novel!*

From the publisher…
“Through rich illustration and narrative, *Sobriety: A Graphic Novel* offers an inside look into recovery from the perspectives of five Twelve Step group members, each with a unique set of addictions, philosophies, struggles, and successes while working the Steps.”

To Request a Kit: [www.nnlm.gov/ner/kits](http://www.nnlm.gov/ner/kits)

For Questions or Information
Sarah Levin-Lederer at Sarah.LevinLederer@umassmed.edu
“If you continue doing what you’ve always done, you’ll continue getting what you’ve always gotten,” Diaz says repeatedly in the film. “Start doing something different and you’re gonna get a different result.”
Webinar Objectives

• Learn what “recidivism” is, and why 95% of people return to drugs and alcohol after release from prison and how substance use disorder relates to recidivism.

• Understand the barriers individuals face when returning to the community after incarceration and how those barriers might affect the success of their transition back into society.

• Learn what jails and prisons are doing to prepare individuals for re-entry into the community.

To Watch Beyond the Wall:
https://worldchannel.org/episode/beyond-wall/
Substance Use Disorder and Incarceration

In the United States, 11 million people are released from jail each year. An overwhelming majority have a history of substance abuse.

“No reentry program is going to go under the bridges and into the tent cities of the homeless looking for the guys who come out of jail and fall between the cracks. But if you are not willing to go to their places, they will end up back in jail.”
A Closer Look at SUD and Incarceration

65% of people in prisons and jails have substance abuse history
Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse

1 in 5 are locked up for drug offenses  Source: Prison Policy Initiative

Three quarters of those returning from prison have a history of substance use disorders.
Source: National Reentry Resource Center.

1 in 5 incarcerated people are locked up for a drug offense
Nonviolent drug offenses are a defining characteristic of the federal prison system, but play only a supporting role at the state and local levels.
Recidivism refers to a person’s relapse into criminal behavior, often after the person receives sanctions or undergoes intervention for a previous crime.

Recidivism is measured by criminal acts that resulted in re-arrest, reconviction or return to prison with or without a new sentence during a 3-year period following the prisoner’s release.

Source: National Institute of Justice
Facts About Recidivism in the U.S.

Incarceration in the US
- 2.3 Million incarcerated daily

11 Million cycle through local jails each year

Over 700,000 are released from prisons each year
- Within 3 years of release, about 2/3 of released prisoners are rearrested.
  *Source Prison Policy Initiative

- Of those prisoners who were rearrested, more than ½ were arrested by the end of the first year.
  *Source National Institute of Justice
Barriers to Successful Community Re-entry

Untreated Substance Use or Mental Health Disorders

Housing

Identifications

No health insurance

No Job, No License, No Transportation

Dealing with courts, probation, parole, DCF & fines

Dealing with family/friend issues

Needing clothing

Dealing with technology after years of incarceration.

Dealing with Stigma
Breaking Down the Barriers

Address emotional and physical needs

First-hand knowledge of obstacles and struggles

Recognize signs and symptoms of relapse

Connect those in need with community resources
What are Jails Doing to Prepare Inmates for Community Re-entry?

“You go into prison, you get a handbook on how to conduct yourself within that prison system. So here you are 2 years later — 3 years later — you get released. But you don’t get a handbook on how to live life.”

Billy Cabrera
How Can We Support Individuals Reentering the Community?

You can support organizations and initiatives that provide:

- In-prison education & vocational training
- Substance Use Disorder treatment (residential and outpatient) in prisons and in communities
- Transitional housing to give ex-prisoners structured living environments as they reenter.
- Financial assistance to help with basic necessities upon release.
Reentry Organizations & Resources in My State?

Reentry Services Directory

The Reentry Services Directory was developed by the National Reentry Resource Center (NRRC) to help individuals who have been incarcerated and their families find local reentry services. The NRRC has compiled a list of organizations and service providers who can address different reentry needs, including housing, employment, and family reunification.

To view available resources in your area, click on your state below.

To suggest additional resources or update information, please contact the NRRC helpline at info@nationalreentryresourcecenter.org or 1-877-332-1719. Hablamos español.

https://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc/reentry-services-directory/
NNLM NER Grant Recipient

Restorative Reentry Community Building Leadership Development

THRIVE Communities is a community-based response to the challenges faced by adults transitioning from incarceration. Designed to empower returning citizens and more deeply engage local community members in experiences of reentry, THRIVE cultivates genuine experiences of community that are inclusive of all men and women - defining people not by their experiential differences, but by the best parts of their character. When justice and wholeness replace cycles of incarceration and oppression, communities THRIVE.

LEARN MORE

https://www.thrivema.org/
New Documentary in the Works

New Project about “Angola” Builds on the previous films about Incarceration and Reentry

http://www.dhammabrothers.com/

https://beyondthewallfilm.com/
Questions for Louie?

PLEASE USE THE CHAT BOX.
Thank you Louie!

For MLA continuing education credit, you must complete a webinar evaluation.

We value your feedback, please help us continue to improve by completing the evaluation.

ldiaz@sdm.state.ma.us


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