Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative

Creating safer neighborhoods and better citizens

2008 Progress Report
A look at our process, development and potential
“Michigan has shown exceptional leadership in the area of prisoner re-entry. From the start, the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative has drawn on the best ideas from research and practice with a clear mission to protect the public and create better citizens. The MPRI also deserves high marks for reaching out to community partners and national experts alike for feedback along the way. That level of openness and transparency is rare — and commendable.”

Amy Solomon
Senior Research Associate
The Urban Institute
Washington, DC
“I thrived on putting people in prison. But we can’t keep this cycle going. We’ve got to stop this revolving door. Let’s give them every tool we can, so they don’t come back.”

Lt. Ralph Mason
Grand Rapids Police Department
“If it wasn’t for the MPRI, I think I might have gotten in trouble. They were there for me from the beginning, helping me get a job, helping me and my wife with the rent, getting me clothes. They went above and beyond.”

MPRI participant released from prison in July 2007 after serving 29 years
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“More than 95% of Michigan’s 51,000 inmates will eventually get out. Making sure more of them stay out is one of the smartest investments the state can make.”

Detroit Free Press, June 25, 2007
Five years ago, Michigan’s corrections crisis became a major public policy issue. The prison population was growing rapidly, as were the costs to taxpayers. Thousands of prisoners were returning to their communities on parole or after completing sentences—with unacceptable and sometimes dangerous results: nearly half were back in prison within two years. Michigan was investing in Corrections at the expense of priorities such as education, health care and economic development.

Today, the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative is transforming corrections practices and policies. It is based on the indisputable premise that Michigan must do better at reducing crime. Public safety, not to mention fiscal responsibility, demands it. The MPRI is an ambitious, nationally lauded effort that assesses offenders’ needs and risk factors early, provides needed services from education to substance abuse treatment, develops accountability plans and follows through with both coordinated support and enhanced supervision when prisoners return to their communities. Through the MPRI, Michigan has become a national leader in establishing a comprehensive community re-entry strategy that begins the first day of prisoners’ sentences and provides seamless services that continue until prisoners are discharged from parole and even beyond.

The Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative is transforming corrections practices and policies. It is based on the indisputable premise that Michigan must do better at reducing crime.

The MPRI is a collaborative effort administered through a public-private partnership of state departments, including the Department of Corrections, Public Policy Associates Inc. and the Michigan Council on Crime & Delinquency. It has been developed using the best evidence-based research, the hard work and innovation of the state government work force and the enthusiasm and talents of community groups that have become vital partners in a united effort to protect neighborhoods, maximize taxpayer dollars and foster better citizenship.
The task is enormous – and so is the progress. Last year, more than 8,000 prisoners – those who have a moderate or high risk of returning to prison – worked with parole agents and community teams to develop Transition Accountability Plans that lay out a path to success. Community organizations have stepped up in unprecedented ways – reaching in to the prisons and out in their neighborhoods to help with housing, employment and other issues. A national advisory panel, convened to provide oversight and expertise from leading experts, has commended Michigan for its ground-breaking work in re-entry reform.

Early changes in return-to-prison rates are encouraging, to say the least. Since the MPRI was launched, the fraction of parolees returning to prison within two years has dropped from 48 percent to 36 percent – a 26 percent drop. The extent to which the MPRI has contributed to the result is unclear, but it is precisely the result hoped for when the MPRI was launched.

There is much work to be done, and the MPRI will evolve and improve in response to research and experience. The MPRI is a seismic shift that will take several more years to implement. But the Michigan Department of Corrections and its public and private partners are up to the challenge of developing smart, effective programs that help returning prisoners succeed. This status report indicates how far Michigan has come as well as the plans for moving forward.

Patricia L. Caruso, Director
Michigan Department of Corrections

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Elizabeth Arnovits, Executive Director
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GOALS OF THE MPRI

Public safety is at the heart of the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI). Michigan is tough on crime, and the MPRI doesn't change that. Rather, it tackles head on the reality that more than 90 percent of prisoners eventually return to the community, either on parole or after serving their complete sentences. Last year, nearly 12,500 prisoners were released. How they behave has a huge effect on crime and the safety of the general public.

The MPRI’s mission is to give all prisoners the tools they need to become working, honest citizens when they return home. Policies, procedures and services are all aimed at reducing the number of crimes and number of victims.

The MPRI does that by providing individually tailored plans of services and supervision — delivered through state and local collaboration. The plans are carried out throughout prisoners’ time in prison and continue through their transition, reintegration and aftercare in the community.

The MPRI recognizes that no approach will eliminate crime altogether; it goes without saying that some people who have committed crimes in the past will commit them again. But chronically high recidivism rates make it starkly clear that incarceration alone is inadequate. The MPRI is built on two decades of research and incorporates evidence-based practices that have reduced recidivism.

Policies, procedures and services are all aimed at reducing the number of crimes and number of victims.

Michigan has participated in the National Institute of Corrections’ Transition from Prison to the Community (TPC) Initiative since 2003. It has also received assistance from the institute’s Cooperative Agreement Partner, the Center for Effective Public Policy, as well as from the National Governors Association.
The MPRI has benefited from substantial grants from the JEHT Foundation, assistance from the Hudson-Webber Foundation and research by Michigan State University, Wayne State University and the University of Michigan.

Although some of the benefits are already being felt, the MPRI is a massive systems change that will take many years to fully implement. It shifts from a philosophy of simply protecting the public during incarceration to a longer-term view of protecting the public by preparing prisoners for life after incarceration. The 16,000 employees in the Department of Corrections are being retrained, and programs are being revamped. Community groups have enthusiastically signed on as partners to the MPRI because it protects their neighborhoods, reduces crime and creates better citizens. Prisoners are being offered a hand up to a better life by a prison system and community teams committed to helping them succeed, but prisoners know they will be held accountable for their actions.
“As a society, we have to decide ....”

Jeriel Heard

Chief of Jails, Wayne County Sheriff’s Department

The Wayne County Sheriff’s Office works closely with the Department of Corrections to implement the MPRI. Parolees who fail to meet their obligations are arrested quickly and returned to jail, where an evaluation is made about whether there was a deficiency in the accountability or treatment plans.

Heard says many parolees started criminal careers so young they didn’t know any better and don’t know how to live any other way.

“We have to work very hard to give them the tools and the resources to adapt and acquire new behaviors,” said Heard, who has been in law enforcement since 1975. “As a society, we have to decide whether we want to invest in crime reduction by investing even in those who have committed crimes or become ostrich-like and stick our heads in the sand and ignore the problem and hope it goes away.”
WHY THE MPRI

Prior to the MPRI, the state faced typical challenges in providing coordinated support for prisoners. There was little programming aimed at addressing prisoners’ risk factors, and insufficient planning and assistance for them as they returned home. Parolees were given a bus ticket from prison and an appointment with their parole agent. Too often housing ended up being a community’s homeless shelter. Job-search assistance was often minimal. Parolees had a difficult time even obtaining a state ID card.

“Nobody helped them with their job skills. Nobody helped them fine-tune their ability to apply for a position, or to find employment,” said Berrien County Sheriff Paul Bailey, a strong MPRI supporter. Employers steered clear, especially in a tight labor market, and why not? The underlying risk factors that led to criminal behavior in the first place – issues such as poor impulse control, insufficient education and substance abuse — were largely unaddressed. The results were all too predictable: Nearly half (48 percent) returned to prison within two years.

The failure to prepare prisoners for success contributed not only to more crime, but to costly prison expansion that commanded billions of dollars from taxpayers and diverted precious resources from other important priorities, such as universities, public schools and health care. (See Figure 1.)

“The number one goal of the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative is to reduce crime. Everything we do is geared toward achieving that goal.”

Dennis Schrantz
Deputy Director, Michigan Department of Corrections
Lawmakers were under relentless pressure to construct new prisons. Michigan’s prison population grew by an average of 1,925 prisoners a year from 1984 until 2002. In 2008, the state will spend more than $2 billion on corrections. The exploding costs have, among other things, made less money available for universities (See Figure 2), and led directly to higher tuition costs for students and families. The $33 million annual cost of the MPRI is a small sliver of the Corrections budget. But it is a vital one that helps plan and implement an expansive systems change that will reduce prison costs in the long run in addition to reducing crime.

**Figure 1: Percentage of General Fund Budget Spent on Corrections**

The growth in the Corrections budget has far outpaced other priorities, including higher education.

“Mass incarceration has created economic and human costs the nation can no longer afford. Michigan spends $2 billion a year on corrections, or 20% of its general fund. It is one of four states spending more on corrections than higher education.”

*Detroit Free Press, July 13, 2008*

**Figure 2: Corrections Spending Compared to Higher Education**

*FIGURES IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS*

Source: Senate Fiscal Agency
THE PROCESS

The MPRI is now much more than just an initiative; it is a sweeping restructuring of Michigan’s corrections policies and practices that is already affecting 60 percent of parolees leaving prison. The MPRI model has been built in three phases to create smooth transitions.

Phase One: Getting Ready

Now in the training and implementation stage, the first phase of the MPRI starts with a comprehensive assessment of prisoners’ risks, needs and strengths taken at the reception center at the beginning of a prison sentence. A Transition Accountability Plan is developed so that relevant programming is provided. Prisoners know what help they can expect and what is expected of them. The TAP is modified as the prisoners’ needs and circumstances change. Prisoners’ success in adhering to the plans ultimately has a major bearing on Parole Board decisions.

“The U.S. Attorney’s Office is partnering with the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative to enhance current efforts aimed at rooting out crime in southeast Michigan.”

Robert Pokey
Law Enforcement Coordination Specialist
U.S. Department of Justice
Phase Two: Going Home

About two months before the target release date, MPRI prisoners are transferred to one of 14 in-reach centers — prisons closer to home. A community transition team meets with the prisoners either in person or by videoconference to begin planning for their release. Assistance is provided in developing a strategy for securing employment or the training necessary to become employable upon release. Prisoners are given help in finding housing or gaining access to substance abuse services or anger management therapy. With the parole agent serving as the primary case manager, the team works with the prisoner to put the support programs in place and updates the Transition Accountability Plan. The parole agent spells out a graduated series of sanctions for misbehavior. On the day they are released, the returning prisoners have a blueprint for success, a network of supporters, and a set of appointments and expectations for their first days in the community.

Phase Three: Staying Home

The local teams that began working with offenders at in-reach centers continue their involvement, while parole agents and law enforcement officials provide heightened supervision to protect neighborhoods and citizens. As soon as MPRI prisoners are released, they begin to follow their Transition Accountability Plans in the community.

Immediate Impact

Recognizing that the MPRI is an expansive, multi-year commitment, planners are rolling it out with a strategy designed to have the most immediate impact on public safety. It was launched first with Phases Two and Three — addressing the prisoners whose release is imminent. That approach also takes advantage of nimble local organizations that are enthusiastic about the MPRI and eager to strengthen their neighborhoods by helping parolees find work and housing, re-unite with families, overcome addiction: in short, become better citizens.
At the same time, the Michigan Department of Corrections is aggressively moving forward with Phase One. Thousands of Corrections staff are being retrained, and an overhaul of prison programming is under way. Corrections officials are identifying gaps in programming and are developing plans for a comprehensive system of evidence-based programming. The new programs will be implemented in the spring of 2009.
“We all know that for a lot of the different crimes that took place, the guys didn’t do it for fun, they did it to make ends meet.”

Mario Dewberry
Special Initiatives Coordinator, Wayne County MPRI

The Wayne County MPRI helps parolees get the services they need to become viable members of the community. That can be in job training through Goodwill, mentoring through Second Ebenezer Church or health care for their children through the Department of Community Health.

The MPRI Clothing Closet is housed in the same building as a Detroit Police Department mini-station, and many of the clothes parolees will wear to work have been donated by police officers or parole agents. The parolees get a chance to interact with police officers in a positive setting.

“When the parolees initially see the blue suit and silver badge, they say, ‘Hey, what is this?’” Dewberry says. “But then the officers walk up and shake their hands and say, ‘How are you doing, what can we do to assist’ and that type of thing.

“They get to see that the police officers are real people, that they do take the position of protecting the community.”
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Michigan’s approach to prisoner re-entry is ambitious, broad and transformational. The MPRI represents a new way of doing business that affects prisoners, Corrections staff and many public and private agencies statewide. Because of that, experts say it will take many years to implement and many more years to see the full benefits and assess the impact on crime.

Even as the more robust evaluation is implemented, it is possible to identify substantial improvement in parole success. The MPRI aimed to reduce the number of former prisoners returning to prison, and that is exactly what has occurred in recent years.

Michigan has committed itself to an important, open, transparent evaluation approach as it works to better understand the impact of the various components of the MPRI on return-to-prison rates and public safety. That was highlighted by a day-long meeting in April of the MPRI Evaluation Advisory Council, composed of leading researchers, policy people and practitioners willing to assist with the ongoing evaluation.

Even as the more robust evaluation is implemented, it is possible to identify substantial improvement in parole success. The MPRI aimed to reduce the number of former prisoners returning to prison, and that is exactly what has occurred in recent years. While the contribution of the MPRI to this change is the subject of this evaluation, nearly 500 fewer prisoners have returned to prison than would have been expected prior to the MPRI.

While the MPRI is clearly a work in progress, it has already created a more orderly system of release from prison in which parolees know what to expect and where they can get community help in securing services and finding jobs. One small, smart and telling change: Prisoners are paroled in the middle of the week instead of on Fridays. That has meant parolees meet with their parole agents sooner and begin to carry out their Transition Accountability Plans (TAPs) immediately, lessening the chances they will return to old, destructive patterns.
Enhanced Services and Support

The MPRI zeroes in on the most common barriers offenders face in turning their lives around to become valued members of the community upon their return. It offers a wide range of training and supervision, beginning with a person’s entry into prison and continuing upon his or her release. Programming addresses the following areas:

• Workforce development
• Transportation
• Substance abuse treatment
• Safe, affordable, accessible housing
• Math and reading skills
• Family support and domestic violence prevention
• Victim support
• Health care
• Life skills
• Mentoring

“If we want these people to succeed and to keep them from coming back to prison, we have to have a better idea of how to get them ready. We have a lot of work to do, but we certainly have made an impact so far.”

Stephen Robinson
Parole and Probation Supervisor for Ingham and Clinton counties
“It’s an opportunity to not have to return to crime and instead see success.”

Doug Stites
CEO, Capital Area Michigan Works!

Stites knows that nearly all of the felons sent to prison from the Lansing area will end up coming back to the community. And that the community will be safer if they can enter the world of work rather than re-enter the world of crime.

Capital Area Michigan Works! helps parolees find jobs by donating clothes, providing bus tokens and helping with resumes and job searches. If they are making an honest effort and still can’t find work, the agency can put them in a short-term workforce program at Peckham Industries, providing minimum-wage jobs and building a much-needed work history.

Stites says it will take four to five years to measure the success of the MPRI, but the early data indicate “it’s moving in the right direction.”

“Intuitively, the MPRI makes sense. If this guy or gal makes the connection, gets the job, gets stable, moves on, he doesn’t return to crime,” Stites says.
The MPRI recognizes that community members are integral stakeholders in re-entry, and local public and private agencies are vital partners in the process. Research has shown that successful re-entry incorporates the support of family and human service agencies while focusing on a post-release structure of prisoner supervision and accountability. Community steering teams help identify gaps in local services, and they are able to apply for MPRI funds to meet their unique needs.

Service providers, employers, community colleges and other educational institutions collaborate to help returning prisoners find jobs or develop the skills they need to acquire employment. They help parolees search for jobs, write resumes, prepare for interviews and develop work habits necessary for success.

“There are a lot of government organizations, a lot of community foundations and a lot of service providers all the way down to grassroots nonprofit organizations that all have a role to play in assisting an individual who comes home, stay home,” said Mario Dewberry, who works for the Wayne County MPRI. “If you’re willing to take advantage of the services that are provided, you have no reason not to succeed.”

Across the state, communities are tailoring the MPRI to meet their needs, gaps and barriers.

**Employment**

Finding jobs and maintaining them is critical to the success of parolees returning to their communities and is reflected in each phase of the MPRI model. Barriers to employment, including inadequate education, skills and substance abuse, are identified early, as are strengths that could create a path to employment. Prison programs are being revamped to more effectively prepare prisoners for the world of work.

Jobs specialists are key players on the in-reach teams that plan and provide services to returning prisoners. Before MPRI parolees are released, they are linked with an employer or a jobs agency to help them find gainful employment.
“Fewer victims, that’s what the MPRI is all about.”

Paul Bailey
Berrien County Sheriff

At any given time, about 500 parolees are living in Berrien County. Sheriff Paul Bailey knows that parolees need help to fine-tune their skills, find jobs, and get stable housing and address substance abuse issues so that they don’t return to a life of crime.

The sheriff’s office is also teaming up with parole agents to “put some teeth into the MPRI” and enhance public safety.

“We have a contract with the MPRI for our deputies to partner with the parole agent to check on the parolees. We make house visits,” Bailey says. “It sends a message to the people on parole that they don’t know when their parole agent is going to show up with a deputy, checking to see that they are doing what they are supposed to do.”
The team makes sure returning prisoners have appropriate clothing and a transportation strategy to get to and from work, school, training programs or job interviews. MPRI community coordinators recruit businesses and offer incentives to encourage them to give ex-offenders a second chance.

Each MPRI Steering Team develops a system that matches community needs and services. In the Lansing area, for instance, the Steering Team created a process to move parolees toward success who make an honest effort to find jobs but cannot. After 90 days, they are placed with Peckham Inc., a unique business and human services organization that primarily provides employment and support for people who have disabilities or other barriers to employment. When parolees leave, they have a work history on which to build.

Collaboration
The MPRI has led to unprecedented collaboration, cooperation and teamwork. Law enforcement is working more closely with Corrections than ever before. New partnerships have been created among five state departments: Corrections, Education, Human Services, Labor and Economic Growth, Community Health, and agencies like Michigan State Housing Development Authority and the Governor's Office of Faith and Community Based Initiatives. Community groups, benefiting from MPRI funds, are working with Corrections and with each other. Faith-based groups are working with jobs agencies, housing specialists and substance abuse programs to develop and carry out plans tailored to the individual needs of returning prisoners.

Enthusiasm at the local level has been overwhelming – community groups are working together as never before on issues such as employment, housing and transportation and they are assisting in building community awareness, support and participation. MPRI Steering Teams and Community Coordinators are reaching out to communities through public awareness and education campaigns.

Local steering teams are able to assess the strengths and weaknesses of their community support networks and
obtain MPRI funding to fill in the gaps. They are also starting to collect data to evaluate how effectively services are being delivered.

**Housing**
Finding safe, stable and affordable housing is critical to parolees’ successful re-entry. The MPRI has worked in partnership with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, as well as other public and private agencies. Housing specialists play an important role on the support teams working with the returning prisoners.

**Meeting Challenges**
The MPRI includes services designed to assist returning prisoners who have special needs. Those include youths, the medically fragile and those with mental health issues. Before the MPRI Mental Health Demonstration Project was launched two years ago, the Parole Board was reluctant to grant parole to many prisoners with a history of mental illness, knowing that the services were often inadequate for them upon release. Those who were paroled often ended up homeless, broke, and off their medications – and ultimately back in prison nearly three times faster than other parolees.

“They gave me a bus pass, some help getting a resume, and they started giving me the necessary tools to get my life in order to be a productive citizen. They found a job. I’ve never missed a day. I’ve never been late.”

MPRI participant in Washtenaw County
Now, care coordinators across the state develop plans for release with a specific focus on mental health issues. The former prisoners are transported from prison to the parole office, making sure they have a 30-day supply of their medications. “The two biggest things we pay for are housing and medication. Medication is a huge issue. If there’s nothing in the community to ensure they continue their medication, that’s usually a recipe for disaster,” said Betsy Hardwick, the administrator of the project.

Less than 10 percent of returning prisoners who have been part of the Mental Health Demonstration Project have gone back to prison. “So far, what we’re doing really does seem to be working in terms of keeping people in the community and preventing them from committing more crimes,” Hardwick said.

“As a taxpayer I would prefer my dollars be invested in efforts like the MPRI that try to help individuals become contributors to society rather than a threat to my family and community.”

Jeriel Heard  
Chief of Jails, Wayne County Sheriff’s Office
Going statewide
The MPRI has been implemented in stages geographically, expanding thoughtfully but aggressively over a three-year period. It began with the establishment of eight pilot sites in calendar year 2005. An additional seven sites were implemented in calendar year 2006.

During calendar year 2007, these 15 sites were expanded to include neighboring counties, and three more sites were established. As a result, the MPRI is now operating in all 83 Michigan counties, which are organized into 18 regions.

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<th>Implementation Year</th>
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**Enhanced Supervision and Accountability**

In keeping with its core goal of improving public safety, the MPRI has created increased cooperation and collaboration between Corrections and law enforcement personnel. The message to parolees: Take advantage of the services available and stay out of trouble so you don’t come back.

**Law Enforcement**

One great innovation with law enforcement is in Wayne County where the U.S. Department of Justice uses the MPRI to enhance Project Safe Neighborhoods, a federal gun violence reduction program. The agency gathers large groups of former prisoners for “face-to-face” meetings. It warns them that another gun crime will mean a long federal prison term in a remote state. And then it offers the MPRI services to steer them to a path of success, and testimonials

“We know we are on the right track.”

“We know we are making a difference. So far, we have seen nearly 500 fewer people come back to prison because they are succeeding on parole in their communities. We know we are on the right track. If we reduce the risks of our prisoner population and our parolee population, we are going to see fewer crimes committed by them.”

Le’Ann Duran  
*Manager, Office of Offender ReEntry*  
*Michigan Department of Corrections*
from those who have taken advantage of the services to reshape their lives. “By the time they leave, they see that there’s a lot of positive things that are available to them,” said Robert Pokey, law enforcement coordination specialist for the Department of Justice.

**Smart monitoring**

In many communities, parole agents check on parolees at their places of work rather than require the parolees to take time off to report in. That gives agents a chance to observe parolees in their real-life settings and doesn’t interrupt employment, one of the key factors in determining whether parolees succeed.

“If returning prisoners don’t get support and assistance, then they will revert to what they are comfortable doing, and if they are comfortable committing crimes, then of course the public is again put at risk.”

**Bob Brown**  
*Former Director*  
*Michigan Department of Corrections*
“I see some great things going on. We are changing people’s lives.”

Yvonne Jackson
MPRI coordinator for Kent and Allegan counties

A few years ago, parolees released to Kent and Allegan counties were given a bus ticket back from prison. But there were few if any services. They could sign out of community corrections centers to look for work, but were on their own to find it.

Now, planning for re-entry starts with a two-hour risk assessment about two months before their release. A transition team led by the parole agent and representing various service agencies uses the assessment as it plans for the prisoner’s release.

Parolees with high violence risks are sent to anger management programs. They get help with housing, transportation and, especially, jobs.

“We have put a lot of money and time and effort into employment for these guys because we really feel it’s one of the key factors to keeping them out of prison,” Jackson says.
CONCLUSION

It has been nearly five years since the planning for the MPRI began, and Michigan is moving rapidly yet thoughtfully in transforming its approach to corrections. Already, 60 percent of new parolees are being touched by the MPRI process. Every offender entering prison is being assessed to determine his or her strengths, risks and needs. The influence and impact will grow as Phase One is fully implemented and as the model evolves and improves in response to research and experience.

Stephen Robinson, parole and probation supervisor for Ingham and Clinton counties, said there is no doubt that the MPRI is hugely important in preventing ex-offenders from returning to crime. “I can recall cases where, when I worked in the prison, seeing a guy that was paroling that day, and my first thought was, I’d see him (back in prison) in a couple of weeks. He just wasn’t ready,” he said. “I think we have a lot of work to do, but I think we certainly have made an impact so far.”

The MPRI’s public and private partners are committed to doing the necessary work to improve Michigan’s prisoner re-entry initiative as it moves forward. Gov. Jennifer Granholm recently appointed the heads of seven state departments and agencies to the MPRI advisory council, created to ensure coordinated efforts to give prisoners the tools they need to succeed. Through smart programs and effective collaboration, state and local agencies will make even greater strides in protecting communities and creating better citizens.

It is important to remember what the MPRI is, and what it is not. It is not a silver bullet for ending crime or a quick fix for reducing the prison population. What it is, rather, is a comprehensive community approach to re-entry that provides the tools to give all returning prisoners a chance to succeed in the community. The good news is, it’s clear that more parolees are succeeding than before the MPRI was launched. And that offers hope for safer communities, less crime and more productive citizens who have been given a new chance and a helping hand.
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The Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative is a statewide collaborative effort administered through a public and private partnership. Public sector partners include the Michigan Departments of Corrections, Labor and Economic Growth, Community Health, Human Services, and Education, as well as the Michigan State Housing Development Authority and the Governor’s Office of Community and Faith-Based Initiatives. Private sector partners include Public Policy Associates, Inc. and the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency.

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