

Hospitals & Institutions (H&I) / Corrections – Sat., March 3, 2018

LIST OF TOPICS

1. Has anyone had success using JPAY? How does it work?
2. How to direct on release?
3. How do we deal with red tape and not get discouraged?
4. How do other areas reach out to Native American Populations?

1. Has anyone had success using J-pay and how has it worked?

- JPAY is a method for reaching inmates (education)
- This sounds good and perhaps you should contact GSO?
- AA has used “Pole” and other systems to hold secure on-line meetings
- Big Book and 12 and 12 are available on JPAY

2. How to direct inmates upon release?

- Bridging the Gap and Contact Upon Release are programs designed to provide that type of 12th step work
- Each facility has its own rules on the use of and availability of programs
- Pre-Release contact in Washington
- Corrections Correspondence (a flyer was provided {draft} that helps define relationship between GSO and H & I (attached diagram))
- Very few inmates receive corrections correspondence. Corrections correspondence ensures that the writer is geographically three states away – use form FF-73. Contact Corrections desk at GSO 212-870-3085 corrections@aa.org
- PI sends these forms out to professional

Contact upon Release suggests meeting and Pre-Release contact. There was some confusion within the group as H & I includes Hospitals but this round table only addresses Institutions.

- Panel participants should not have outside contact with inmates after release. It is a violation of the agreement between General Service and the facility.
- Many districts / areas have “Bridging the Gap” chair and committee rather than H&I.

- Some other areas do not have H& I but Corrections and Treatment. These differences make it hard to make bridges. The processes are not consistent.
- - ARC Anti Recidivism Coalition may be a resource for special inmates that have been institutionalized. (Program teaches life skills, job skills, etc.,)

3. How to deal with prison red tape without getting discouraged?

- Application took 8 weeks to fill out and includes many federal agencies
- Director of corrections stated that we have to live by their rules. What to do? Fill out the paperwork and wait.
- Workshops inviting facility directors and other stakeholders to participate.
- Work with people interested and hold them up while going through the process
- Finding qualified people is a problem everywhere
- Remember our primary purpose
- Be willing to go to any length
- We cannot give out telephone numbers or personal information

4. How do other Areas reach Native American Inmates?

- There are people who are involved but it is hard to reach tribal elders
- some areas have been invited to AA meetings on the Reservations
- Red Road meetings invite AA to attend
- We may not make a lot of progress but we will stay sober
- In Nevada they want outside participation but it takes participation on another level first. Go to the sweats, go to the pow wows. Meet them where they live.
- Prison home groups should perhaps conduct a group inventory. Let them evaluate themselves.
- Wellbriety, Medicine Wheel, White Bison
- Area 08 is having a local forum on remote communities hosted by the Native America Community.