Monday May 17, 2010

Keynote Address:

Funding What Works: How Washington State ties funding to positive program outcomes

Steve Aos: Assistant Director of the Washington State Institute for Public Policy

The Address will share findings and discuss his groundbreaking cost benefit study in which he identified evidence-based public policy options that can effectively reduce crime, estimated the benefits and costs associated with these options and projected how investing in these options could decrease incarceration, save taxpayer dollars, and lower recidivism rates.

Morning General Session:

The Giant that Never Woke: Parole Authorities as the Lynchpin to Evidence-based Practices and Prisoner Reentry

Presenter: Mario Paparozzi, Department Chair, Sociology and Criminal Justice Department, UNC-Pembroke.

This presentation is based on a recent journal article wherein he argues that discretionary parole is a key component in successful prisoner reentry and board members must be much more knowledgeable of correctional practice, evidence-based practices, etc. to improve outcomes.

Grab and go Lunch with Spectrum Health Systems

Afternoon Concurrent Workshops:

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and APAI: Building an effective partnership to track performance and inform the public

Presenters: Bill Sabol PhD, Chief of Corrections Statistics and Lauren Glaze, Statistician

This session will provide a brief review of BJS initiatives and engage participants in a conversation about what information is most critical to APAI member states, how it should be presented, and how BJS can help in its collection and dissemination.
Sex offenders and Electronic Monitoring: What do we really know about its efficacy and effect on public safety

Presenter: Brian Payne PhD, Chair, Department of Criminal Justice, Georgia State University

Electronic monitoring, especially through GPS, has fast become a requirement to enhance supervision and monitoring of sex offenders. What have we gained in the level of supervision effectiveness or improvements in public safety? This session will review what we know, what we do not know and what we can practically expect from the use of EM.

Profiling Serial Offenders

Presenter: Lydia Pozzato, FBI Behavior Specialist

What goes into creating a profile that describes a group of offenders? Can this information be used by paroling authorities to make more informative decisions or for enhanced supervision in the community?

What is CrimeStoppers and How Does it Work

Presenter: Demery R. Bishop, Director, CrimeStoppers of Savannah/ Chatham County

CrimeStoppers is a 24/7 anonymous telephone/web/texting crime tip service. The program allows individual citizens to provide information anonymously concerning a crime that has occurred or is planned without compromising the caller's identity. Police solve many crimes but they simply cannot solve all of them without the help and assistance of local citizens. CrimeStoppers works together with the community, media and law enforcement in "all-out" effort to solve and/or prevent crimes.

Afternoon General Session

International Perspective on Parole

Presenter: Fredrick Chilukutu, Chairperson of the National Parole Board of Zambia and others to be announced.

Various representatives of paroling authorities throughout the world will present on their parole system and focus on if and how they use evidence-based practice sand risk assessment tools.

Tuesday May 18, 2010

Morning General Sessions

Program Evaluation Illuminates the Good and the Bad but Tells Us What Works

Presenter: Ed Latessa PhD, Chair, Criminal Justice Department, University of Cincinnati

New evaluation data from offender programs in Ohio reinforces the strong evidence that reductions in recidivism can be achieved by matching offender risk and needs with program type and intensity. Dr. Latessa tells us what that means to practitioners in the field.
Parole Board Performance Measures Promote Transparency

**Presenters:** Marie-France Pelletier, Executive Vice-Chairperson, National Parole Board, Canada; Garland Hunt, Board Member, Georgia Board of Pardons and Parole; and others to be announced.

In the past, parole boards and releasing authorities have been accused, some would say justifiably, of staying hidden from view and afraid to embrace meaningful measures of accountability or performance. Many parole authorities have addressed this critique in differing ways, but with the goal of being more open and transparent. Presenters will discuss how they made this transition, what information they are sharing and some of the expected and surprising effects it has had on their agencies during lean budget years.

Afternoon General Session

*The strong partnership between the National Parole Resource Center, National Institute of Corrections, and Public Safety Performance Project at the Pew Center on the States*

**Presenters:** Peggy Burke, Center for Effective Public Policy (CEPP) and the National Parole Resource Center (NPRC); Cathy Banks, National Institute of Corrections; Adam Gelb, Director, Criminal Justice Performance Project, Pew Center on the States; and Amy Solomon, Senior Research Associate, The Urban Institute.

These four important leadership groups in criminal justice will provide a broad overview of their initiatives and, most importantly, describe how they intersect and work together. Concurrent sessions to follow will allow each group to further elaborate on its goals and strategies.

Afternoon Concurrent Workshops

*National Institute of Corrections collaborations with APAI and the New Parole Board member training*

**Presenter:** Cathy Banks, National Institute of Corrections

This session will address the *Orientation for New Parole Members* training curriculum that was developed in collaboration with APAI, scheduled to be presented in July 2010.

*National Parole Resource Center - addressing the urgent needs of Parole Boards*

**Presenter:** Peggy Burke, Center for Effective Public Policy (CEPP) and Amy Solomon, Urban Institute

This session will present a discussion about the goals of the recently funded National Parole Resource Center along with a conversation about the urgent needs of parole boards.

*Pew Center on the States Public Safety Performance Project*

**Presenter:** Adam Gelb, Director, Public Safety Performance Project – Pew Center on the States and other to be announced.

The Policy Framework to Strengthen Community Corrections, established by Pew is well documented and grounded in evidence-based practice. This session will allow time to review the Framework closely and how Pew can help states examine if their practices align with the Framework.
The NIJ Bureau of Justice Assistance Collaborations and Partnerships With the Criminal Justice Community

**Presenters:** Gary Dennis, Senior Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance and others to be announced.

The speakers in this session will highlight innovations helpful to parole authorities that were created through BJA funding and are therefore available without cost.

**Sex Offenders and How to Manage Them Effectively in the Community**

**Presenter:** Franca Cortoni, PhD, School of Criminology, University of Montreal

Dr. Cortoni has just completed research and a book on female sex offenders. She will discuss her findings. Her session will include a discussion of the need for different approaches to managing male and female sex offenders.

**Crime Victims: Maintaining the lines of communication**

**Presenters:** Harvey Cenaiko, Chairperson, National Parole Board, Canada and others to be announced

Parole boards recognize the vital role they serve in the justice system, attending to the needs and concerns of crime victims. No group is more important to parole board members and boards strive to improve the lines of communication with them. This session will spotlight successful strategies and partnerships boards are using to stay in touch and understand this important constituency and address ethical questions that may arise when work with victims.

**Risk/ Needs Instruments: From theory to practice -How do they work and can I trust them**

**Presenter:** Chris Lowenkamp, PhD –US Probation

Building upon the general session presented by Dr. Latessa, this session will explore the workings of risk assessment instruments, specifically how they are able to predict risk to re-offend and how they identify offender needs that are associated with risk.