

**UNIVERSITY OF WI-EXTENSION
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
FAMILY LIVING PROGRAMS**

***TRANSITIONING JAIL INMATES
BACK TO COMMUNITY:
WHY FAMILY MATTERS***

June 2, 2011



OUR MISSION

The Wisconsin Idea --

- ❖ Cooperative Extension extends University knowledge and resources to people *where they live and work.*



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Partners in Education

- ◎ Wisconsin Counties: county-based educators
- ◎ University of Wisconsin: campus-based specialists
- ◎ USDA, National Institute on Food and Agriculture

COUNTY AND CAMPUS PARTNERSHIP

County educators...

- ⊙ Assess and understand local needs
- ⊙ Apply research-based information to priority family issues
- ⊙ Teach and evaluate
- ⊙ Identify new research topics

Campus specialists...

- ⊙ Collaborate with county faculty and staff
- ⊙ Bring access to research
- ⊙ Provide new knowledge
- ⊙ Apply research and knowledge to local needs



FOCUS AREAS

- ① Family Living Programs
- ① 4-H & Youth Development
- ① Agriculture & Natural Resources
- ① Community Natural Resource and Economic Development

FAMILY LIVING PROGRAMS

Our Strategy

- ◎ *Strength-based Family Systems –*
 - ◎ *Incarceration and reentry affect the family **and** its members*
 - ◎ *Traditional and non traditional family sources of positive support*
 - ◎ *Goals re: family well-being and self-sufficiency*

FAMILY LIVING PROGRAMS

Correctional System Audiences (one of many possible audiences)

- ◎ *Jail inmates* (sometimes prison populations)
- ◎ Probation and parole
- ◎ Huber
- ◎ Drug court clients
- ◎ *Families of incarcerated* (caregivers, partners, parents, children)
- ◎ Jail staff



MAKING AN INFORMED DECISION

- ③ Programming priorities
- ③ Educator skill, comfort level and safety concerns
- ③ Educational resources and research
- ③ Local support and partners



OUR APPROACH

Education is one part of a **comprehensive system-wide approach** to addressing the needs of jail inmate and other correctional system populations

and

Family Living's educational role is **one**
part of the education component.



CHALLENGES

- ⊙ Finding research-based curricula for jail populations (*“...rigorous evaluations of what works in the arenas of prisoner reentry and working with families affected by incarceration are notoriously scarce.”*)
- ⊙ Consistency in learner groups (new group every week)
- ⊙ Long-term evaluation
- ⊙ Garnering equal buy-in from other providers so comprehensive array of support is provided

OPPORTUNITIES

- ③ Research shows that family is one of the keys to successful reintegration
- ③ Increasing amount of research specific to jail inmate reentry and growing number of evidence-based programs and practices to draw from
- ③ Public value = lower reoffending, increased cost savings (incarceration +) , enhanced quality of life (former inmate+), improved jail safety



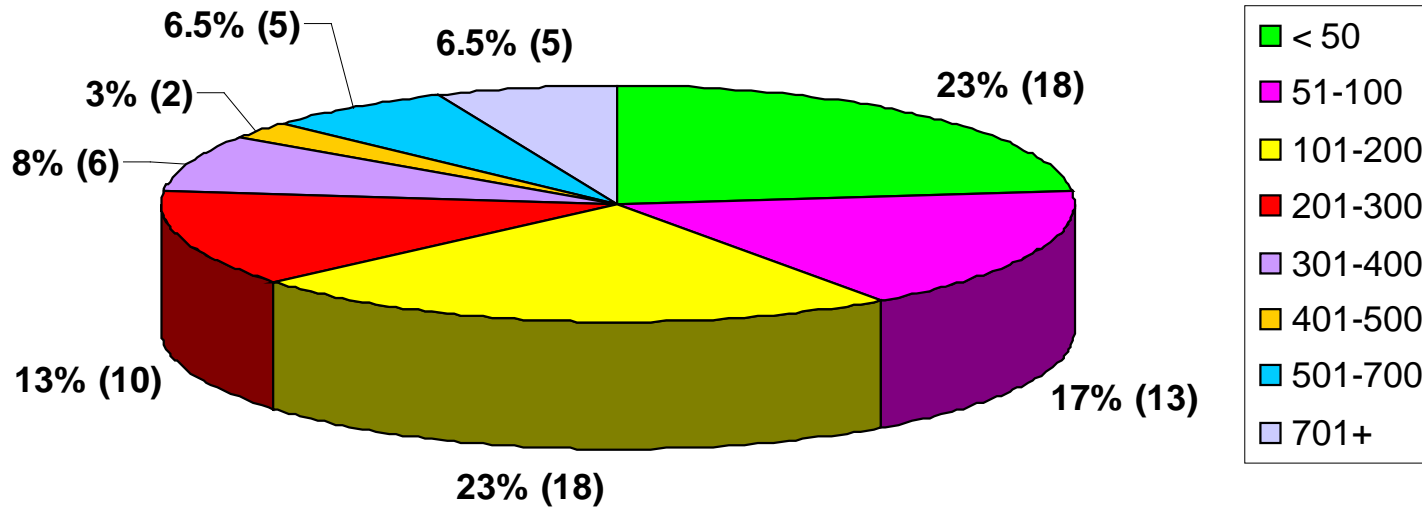
Transitioning Jail Inmates Back to Community: Why Family Matters

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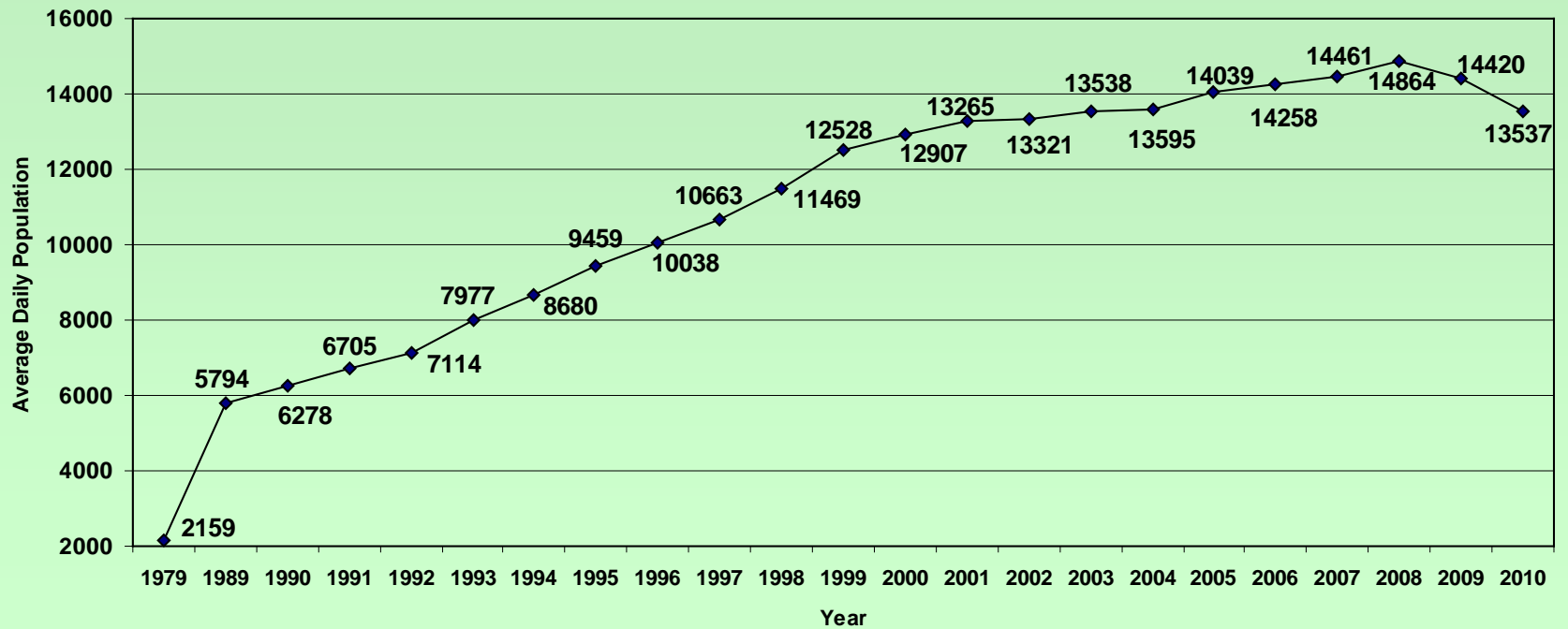
Marty Ordinans
Office of Detention Facilities
Department of Corrections

Wisconsin Jails – 2010

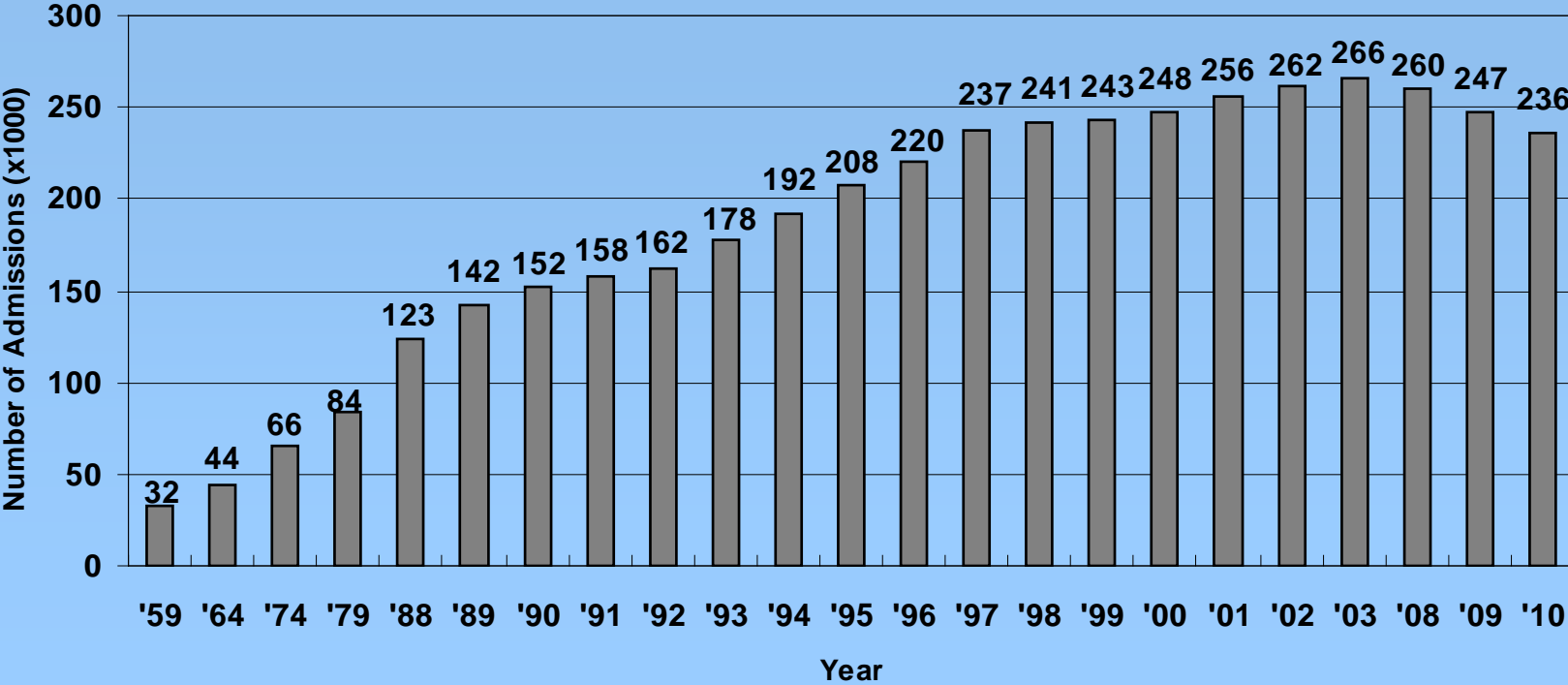
Distribution by Rated Capacity



Wisconsin County Jails Average Daily Populations 1979-2010



Wisconsin County Jail Admissions 1959-2010



County Jail Populations – Male vs. Female 2004-2010

Year	% Male	% Female
2004	88.54	11.45
2005	88.05	11.94
2006	87.86	12.13
2007	88.14	11.86
2008	88.47	11.52
2009	89.13	10.86
2010	88.73	11.26

In 2010, Wisconsin county jails reported that approximately 89% of their population was male and 11% female. Comparatively, the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics reported that, nationwide, males comprised 87.74% and females comprised 12.25% of county jail populations in mid-year 2009.

Jail Programs

Tier 1

➤ Education

- GED/HSED

➤ Substance Abuse Treatment

- AA/NA

➤ Religion

- Worship Services
- Bible Study
- Pastoral Visits

Jail Programs (continued)

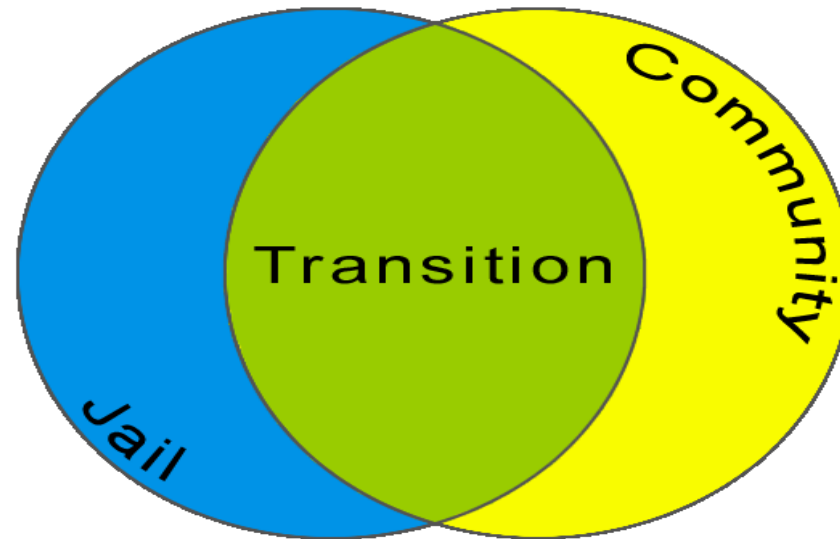
Tier 2

- Employability Skills
- Anger Management
- Domestic Abuse
- Money Management
- Parenting

Challenges

- Short-term Incarceration
- Internal Ownership
- Community Awareness and Education
- Funding
- External Partners
- Silos
- Volunteers
- Mental Health

Transition from Jail to Community



Implementation Toolkit

www.jailtransition.com/toolkit



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF CORRECTIONS**

THE URBAN INSTITUTE

Justice Policy Center

