Transition & Reintegration

Everyone leaves . . .
Nationally . . .

- 2009 US Census: 94,875 youth under the age of 21 in 3,257 publicly and privately owned institutions.

(2009 US Census; Tannis, 2014; Read & O’Cummings, 2011; Snyder and Sickmund, 2006)

Meaning . . .

Roughly 100,000 youth need quality transition programs and reintegration plans
Transition & Reintegration

- Providing effective transition services and supporting quality reintegration plans means ending/slowing the "revolving door" of recidivism & recommitment,

"revolving door" of recidivism & recommitment,
The PIPELINE TO PRISON
Transition & Reintegration

• Multiple transitions & reintegration
• Each brings anxiety and questions
• Delicate and integral process
• Connects professionals and care givers
• Assist youth in acquiring skills and confidence

The struggle for youth is too many transitions.
Multiple Transitions & Reintegrations

Family  School  Community  Employment
Effective Transition & Reintegration Planning

- More anxiety
- High recidivism rates
- Lack appropriate coping & corrective behaviors
- Stressful family/personal situations

Transition “Out” Looks Like…

- A seamless connection
- Family/School/Community culture integration
- Parent/Administrative and teacher/Mentor advocacy
- Personalized learning and planning
- Youth input
- Communication with teachers and staff

*Follow through; follow up; and follow the trail…*
Best Practice

- Transition specialist “In” and Transition Team “Out”
- Eliminate labels, red flags, ease adult anxiety
- Connect adults on both sides of transition process
- Speak same language

*Just like with our own children…*

Some level of hand-holding or emotional connections necessary.
Potential Problems

- Deep rooted negative habits, practices, social and family connections
- Unrealistic expectations of transition without misstep
- How schools, families, communities handle error
  - Lack of patience or flexibility
  - No creativity in problem solving
  - Passive acceptance of labeling
- When the honeymoon is over
- Not enough chances
Transition & Reintegration Gaps

Access

Cooperation/Collaboration

Communication

Alternatives
Transition/Reintegration Example

- Job Skills – KCJH Detention
- Jr. Chef – KRESA EFE ILC
- Culinary Arts Program – KVCC
- Employment – Downtown Restaurant Grp.
Transition’s Key Message

“We value you.
We care about you.
We welcome you to our
family, school, community and
we want to help you be successful.”