

# PROGRAMS, TREATMENT AND RE-ENTRY

May 2021



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY &  
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Carolyn J. Scruggs, Assistant Secretary



# Project C.H.O.I.C.E

## Changing Horizons and Opportunities with Individualized Community Engagement

**Mission:** The Social Work and Re-entry Services Unit provides treatment, programming, and comprehensive pre-release planning for returning citizens under the care, custody, and supervision of the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services. This is accomplished by providing effective treatment, implementing evidence-based programs, and coordinating linkages to community-based services that address each individual's risks and unique needs by changing their horizon and creating opportunity for community engagement.

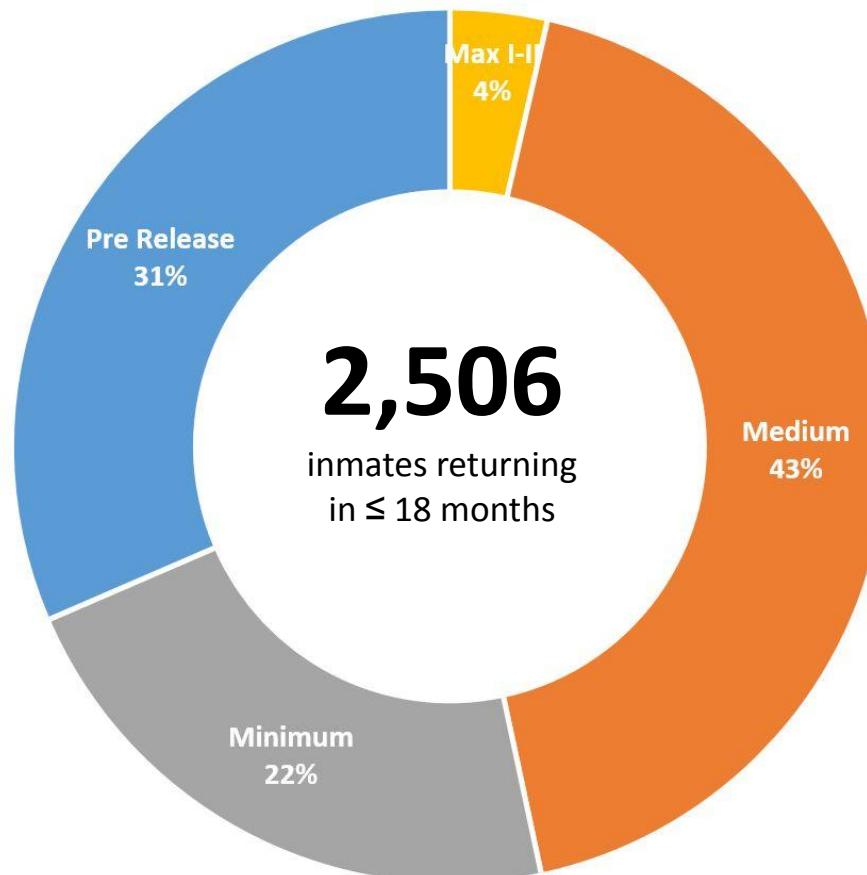
**Vision:** The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services Social Work and Re-entry Services Unit will be a leader in innovative best practices that will increase public safety, reduce recidivism, and promote healthy communities through targeted treatment with comprehensive re-entry programming and services supported by collaborative interagency relationships and the expansion of community-based partnerships.



# Custodial Population

## DPSCS Re-entry Population

Re-entry services are provided to inmates across all facilities and security levels.





# FY 2020 Releases

## Releases by Home Plan County



In FY 2020 **4,772** individuals returned to the community from DOC custody based on home plans completed.

In FY 2020 **4,108** of those individuals (**86%**) will be returning from DOC custody to counties with no local reentry agreement.

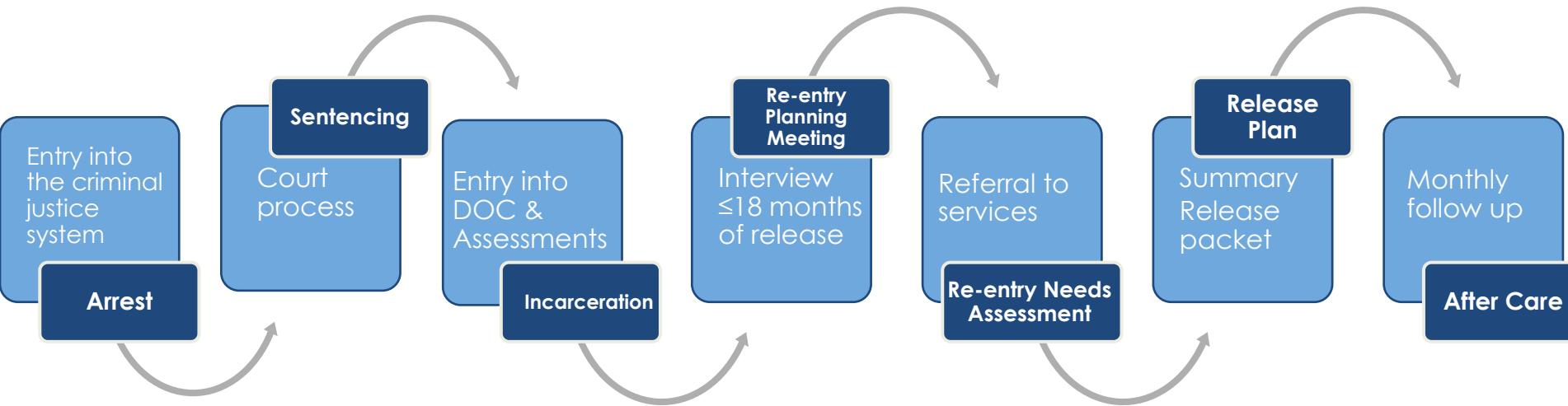


## FY 2020 Releases

County	Release Rank	Returning Citizens	Percent of All Releases
Allegany	15	58	1.22%
Anne Arundel	4	217	4.55%
Baltimore	2	695	14.56%
Baltimore City	1	1,992	41.74%
Calvert	16	56	1.17%
Caroline	20	41	0.86%
Carroll	18	44	0.92%
Cecil	9	99	2.07%
Charles	10	83	1.74%
Dorchester	13	65	1.36%
Frederick	11	80	1.68%
Garrett	24	13	0.27%
Harford	6	190	3.98%
Howard	14	60	1.26%
Kent	23	28	0.59%
Montgomery	8	129	2.70%
Prince George's	3	348	7.29%
Queen Anne's	21	30	0.63%
Somerset	18	44	0.92%
St. Mary's	17	51	1.07%
Talbot	22	29	0.61%
Washington	7	146	3.06%
Wicomico	5	195	4.09%
Worcester	12	79	1.66%



# DPSCS Re-entry Process



# SUCCESSFUL RE-ENTRY

- Reconnects families
- Connects the inmate with unique community resources
- Provides opportunity to build and maintain skills needed to sustain successful community relationships
- Qualifies candidates entering the workforce to support economic growth



# 2021 Re-entry Snapshot

## January - April 2021

**549** inmates released state-wide

**92%** received re-entry planning services

**75%** needed additional re-entry and social work support services

**32%** were connected to a re-entry navigator to provide job readiness

**38%** received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) upon release

### Re-entry Services Provided:

- Medicaid enrollment
- 60-day supply of medication
- Identification documents (MVA, SS)
- Community health referral
- Behavioral health referral
- Community mental health referral
- Social Security application SSI/SSDI
- SNAP enrollment
- Employment & career placement services
- Housing assistance
- Financial literacy training
- Mediation services



# Education & Job Readiness

## Library Services

**78,502** patron visits for library services

Provides information, research, recreational reading services, and Legal Assistance to State Institutions (LASI)

## Inmate Education

**19** schools in Department of Labor partnership

**3,544** students served in 2020-21

**186** GEDs awarded in 2020-21

Includes Adult Basic Education (ABE), GED Preparation, ESL and Special Education



## American Job Centers

Re-entry navigators are located in 5 local American Job Centers linking returning citizens to referral services, employment resources, employment assistance, job readiness, job placement retention, and barrier removal.

## Post-Secondary Programs

Partnership with MD Higher Education Commission and 4 Maryland University partners

The Second Chance Pell grant program continues institutional coursework with enrollment in local colleges and universities in degree programs.

## Education During Re-entry

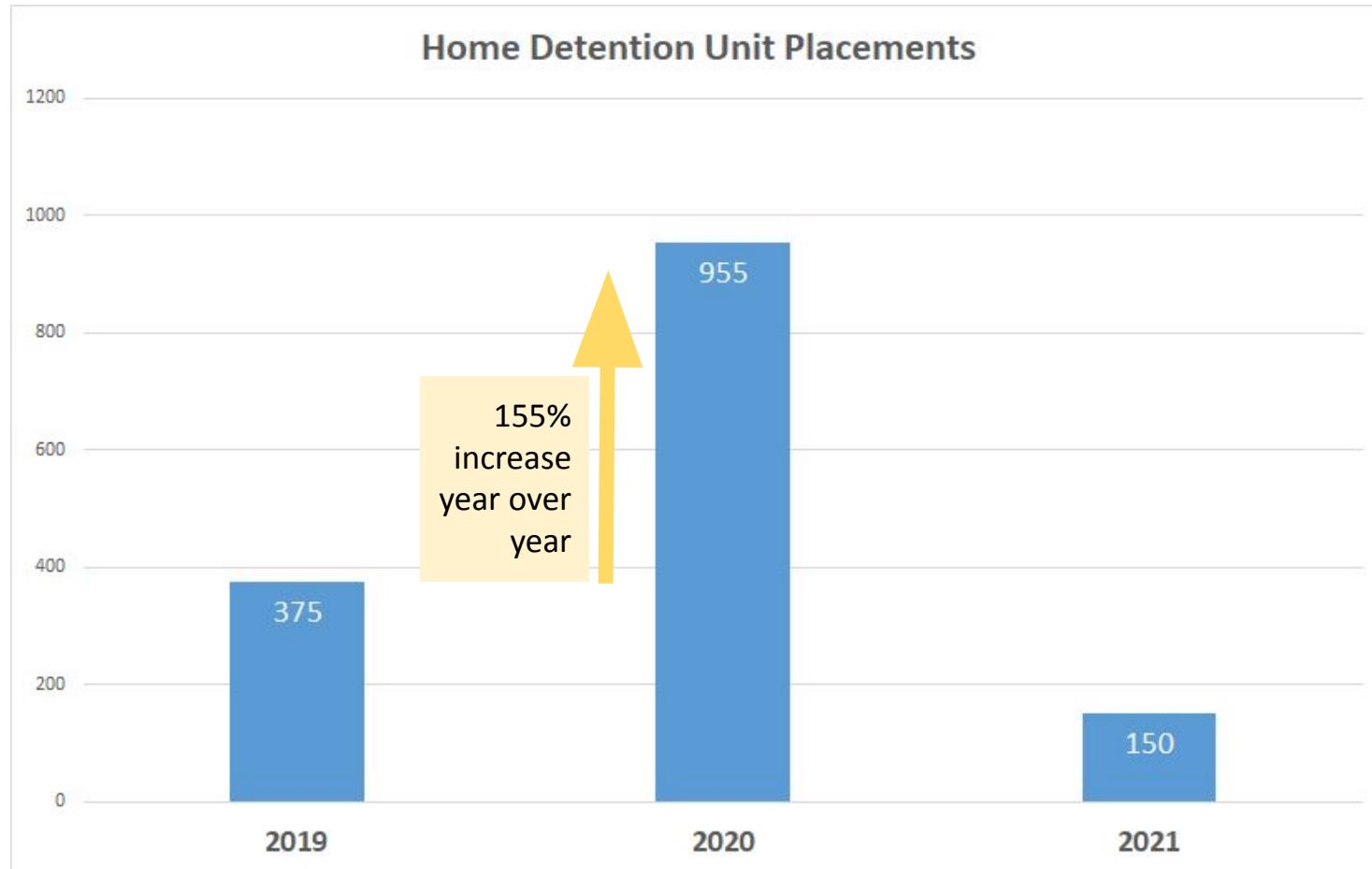
Education assists with the preparation for and ability to reintegrate into society, to become productive, stable and self-sufficient individuals.

Education is a vital component for workforce development skills and the application of acquired skills toward job obtainment.

DPS CS focuses efforts on certificate-oriented programs for correctional education and workforce development programs to prepare returning citizens for competitive environments.



# Community Placements



**Placements onto the Home Detention Unit expanded in 2020 into new counties.**



# Community-Based Partnerships

Over 70 Community-based partners who provide services to the inmate population



Goodwill Industries - an employment readiness course run to prepare returning citizens for post-incarceration employment.



Easterseals - connects incarcerated veterans with appropriate employment and life skills support to transition from correctional facilities into the community through their Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) and Incarcerated Veterans Training program.



Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office - provides rehabilitative services (counseling, mentoring, and problem-solving skills) to emerging adults who will be returning to Prince George's County or the immediate surrounding area upon release from incarceration.



**COMMUNITY MEDIATION MARYLAND**  
*your conflict, your solutions*

Community Mediation Maryland - provides mediation and reunification services to resolve interpersonal disputes between the inmate and family or friends.



# Educational Partnerships

DPSCS in Partnership with the Dept. Of Labor: Correctional Education Program

School Year 2019 - 2020 (Approximately):

- **19** schools provided service
- **387** students a GED (2019) and 187 students (2020)
- **2,700** students were serviced per day
- **8,300** students were serviced per year
- **402** students received Occupational Certificates
- **1,483** students completed transition courses
- **78,502** patron visits for library services





# Mental Health Programs and Services

- The Department operates prisons across the State of Maryland and a pretrial complex in Baltimore City.
- All inmates and detainees receive a suicide risk evaluation upon commitment to the Baltimore City Pretrial Complex and the Division of Correction system-within 24 hours of commitment.
- All inmates/detainees receive a 7 day mental health follow-up whether they have mental health issues or not.
- On average there are approximately 5100 mentally ill people in the Department system per month.



# Mental Health Programs and Services

- Patuxent Step Down and Transition Program
  - Step Down program have inmates participating in individual and group therapy to prepare their return to general population at their maintaining institution.
  - Step Down also accepts inmates getting ready to be released
  - Transition program provides release planning services –these inmates are within 18 months of release back into the community
  - Transitional program does groups, arranges for community providers/services to come into the institution to meet with the inmates.
- Prison and Pretrial Services - services offered include:
  - Crisis intervention
  - Individual therapy
  - Group therapy
  - Psychiatric Services-medication management
  - Psychoeducational groups



# Evidence-Based Re-entry

"Research indicates that inmates who participate in correctional education programs are 43 percent less likely to re-enter prison." (American Psychological Association, 2018).

"Every individual has unique needs when they return to the community. Similarly, the communities to which they return have specific needs they are able to address." (National Institute of Justice, 2019)

"Evidence-based re-entry policies and programs that have been enacted in recent years have been shown to improve outcomes for people released from prison." (Pew, 2018)