



Blue Ribbon Commission Presentation

**Restoring People! Rebuilding
Community! Reshaping the Nation!**

www.lareentry.org

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Presented by

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Founder and
Executive Director,
LARRRP***



OVERVIEW

- Program Implementation
- Program Successes
- CBO experience working with County on AB 109, Prop 47 (e.g. successes, challenges, opportunities for enhancement)
- Gaps in Services
- Opportunities

AB109

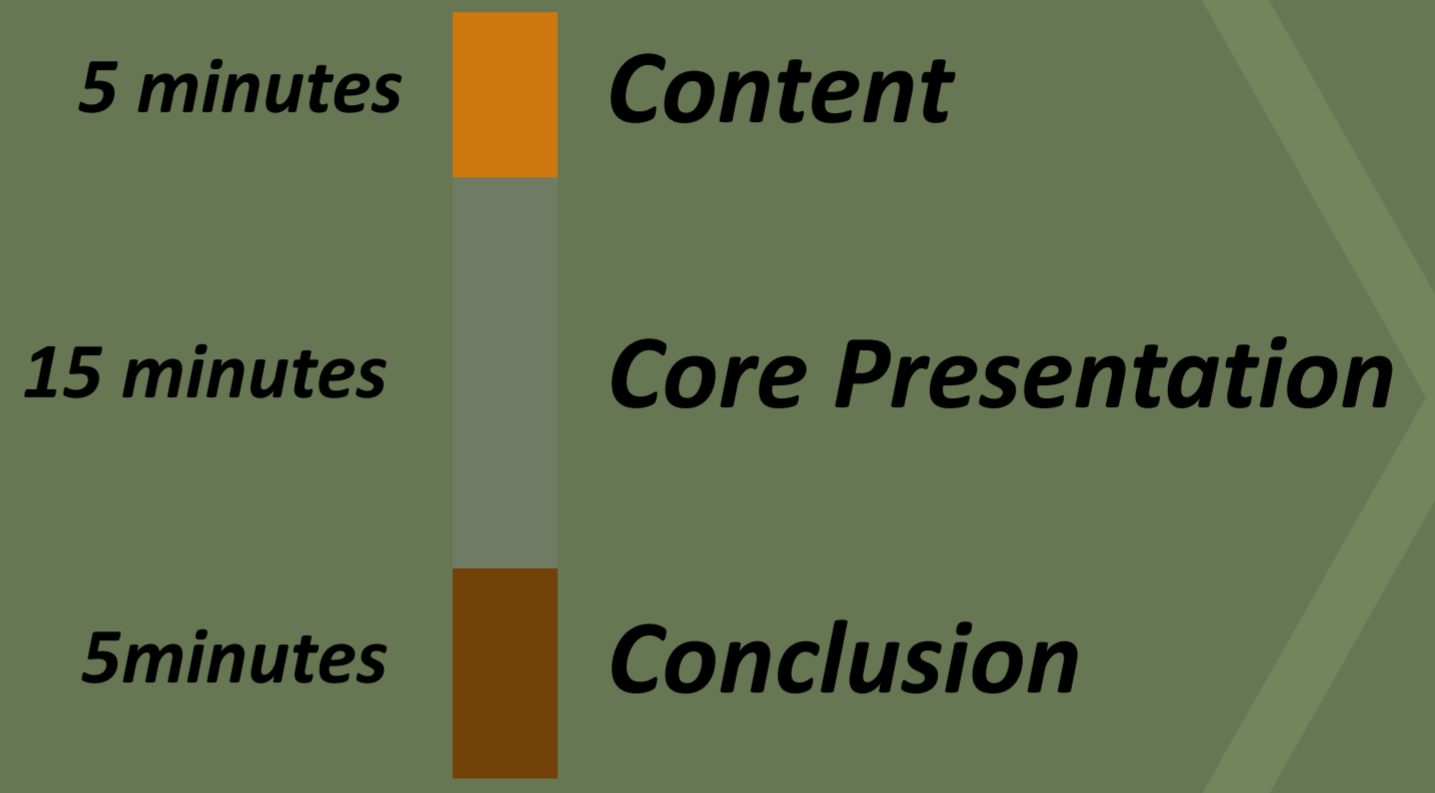
Prop 47

Prop 57

Prop 64

CONTENT

- 1 ABOUT AB109 & 47
- 2 PRIORITIES
- 3 CRIMES
- 4 SERVICES
- 5 PROCESS
- 6 CONTRACTING
- 7 STATISTICS
- 8 CASE STUDY
- 9 QUESTIONS



“Focus on collaboration instead of competition”

NOTE

Prop. 57

AB109

Prop. 47

Prop. 64

ABOUT AB109

AB 109 allows non-violent, non-serious, and non-sex offenders to serve their sentence in county jails instead of state prisons. However, counties can contract back with the State to house local offenders.

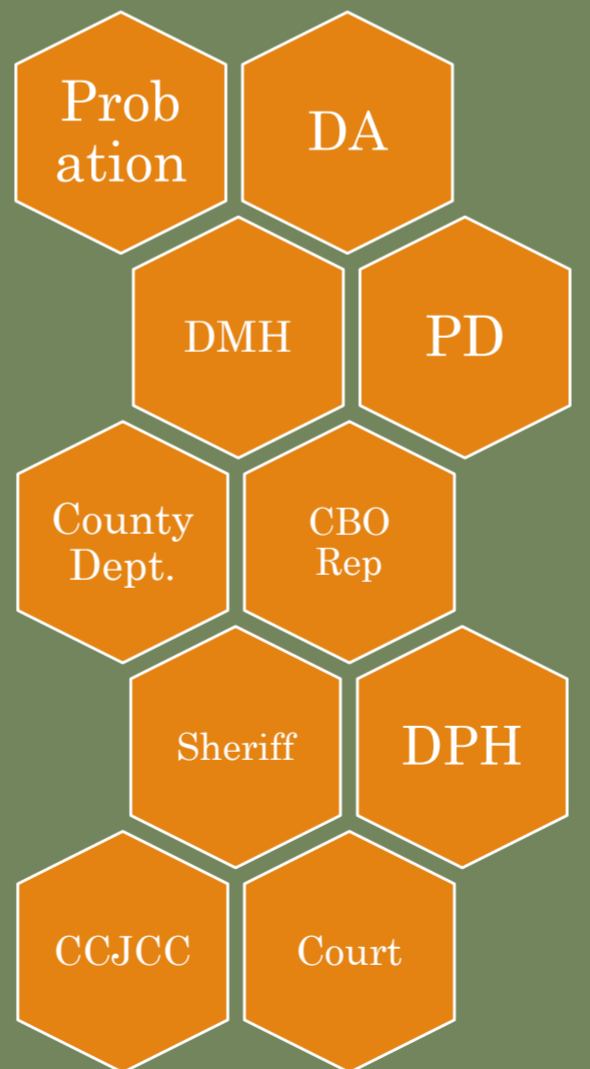
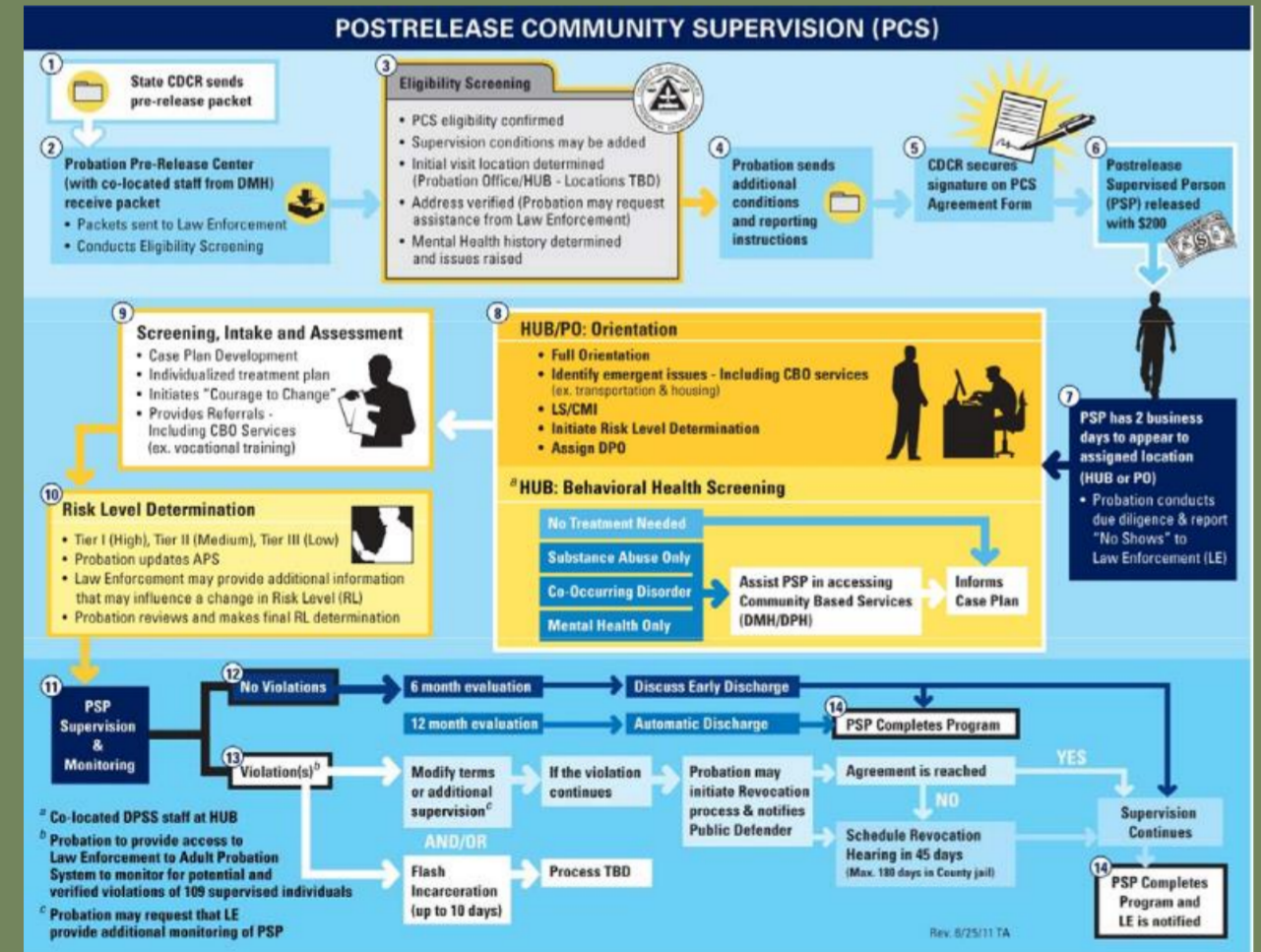


« Programs not Prisons »

STRATEGY

MANAGEMENT

FUNDING



Public Safety Realignment Team

ABOUT Prop.47

Proposition 47 implemented three broad changes to felony sentencing laws. First, it reclassified certain theft and drug possession offenses from felonies to misdemeanors. Second, it authorizes defendants currently serving sentences for felony offenses that would have qualified as misdemeanors under the proposition to petition courts for resentencing under the new misdemeanor provisions. Third, it authorizes defendants who have completed their sentences for felony convictions that would have qualified as misdemeanors under the proposition to apply to reclassify those convictions to misdemeanors.

Prop. 57

AB109

Prop. 47

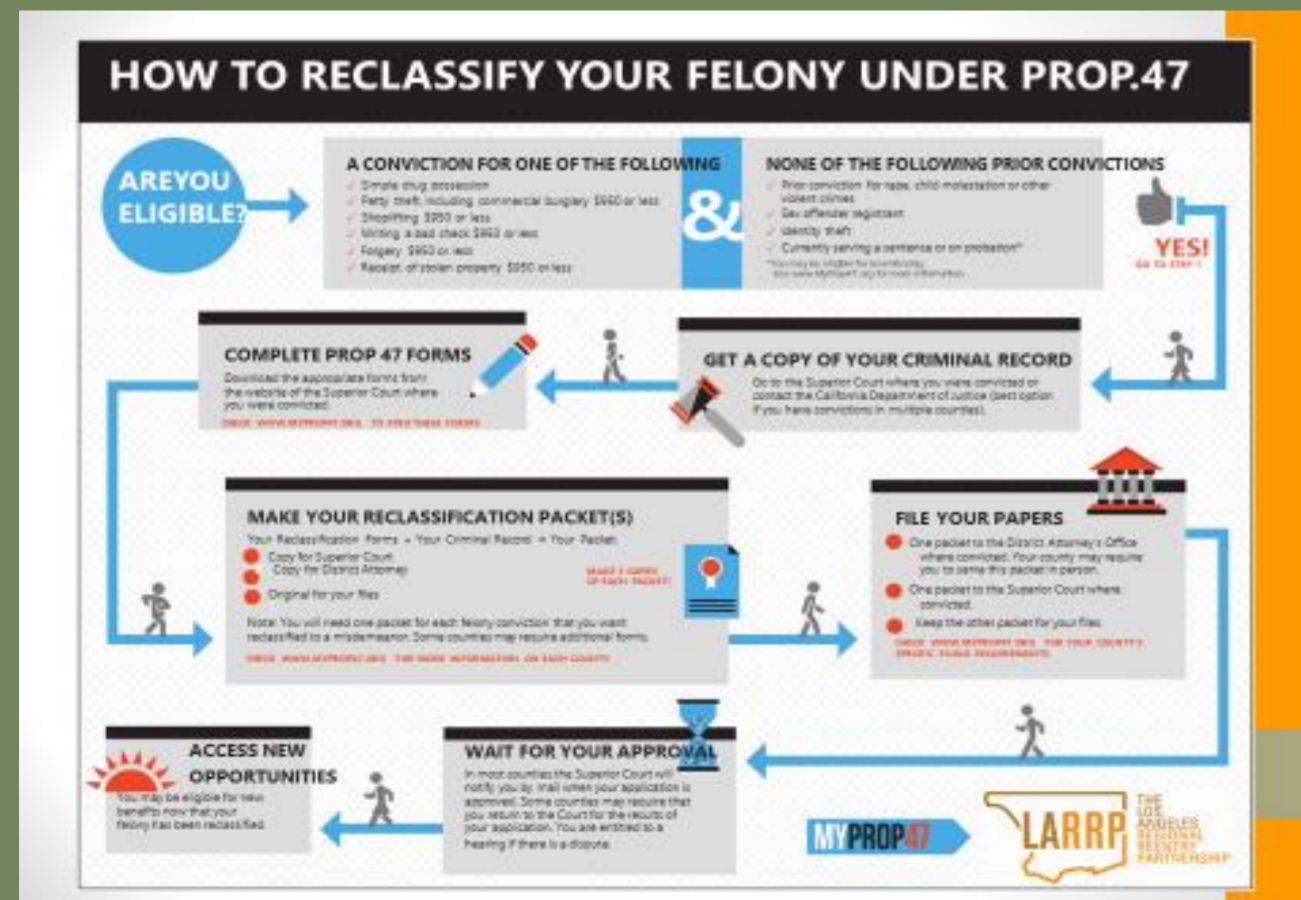
Prop. 64



STRATEGY

MANAGEMENT

FUNDING



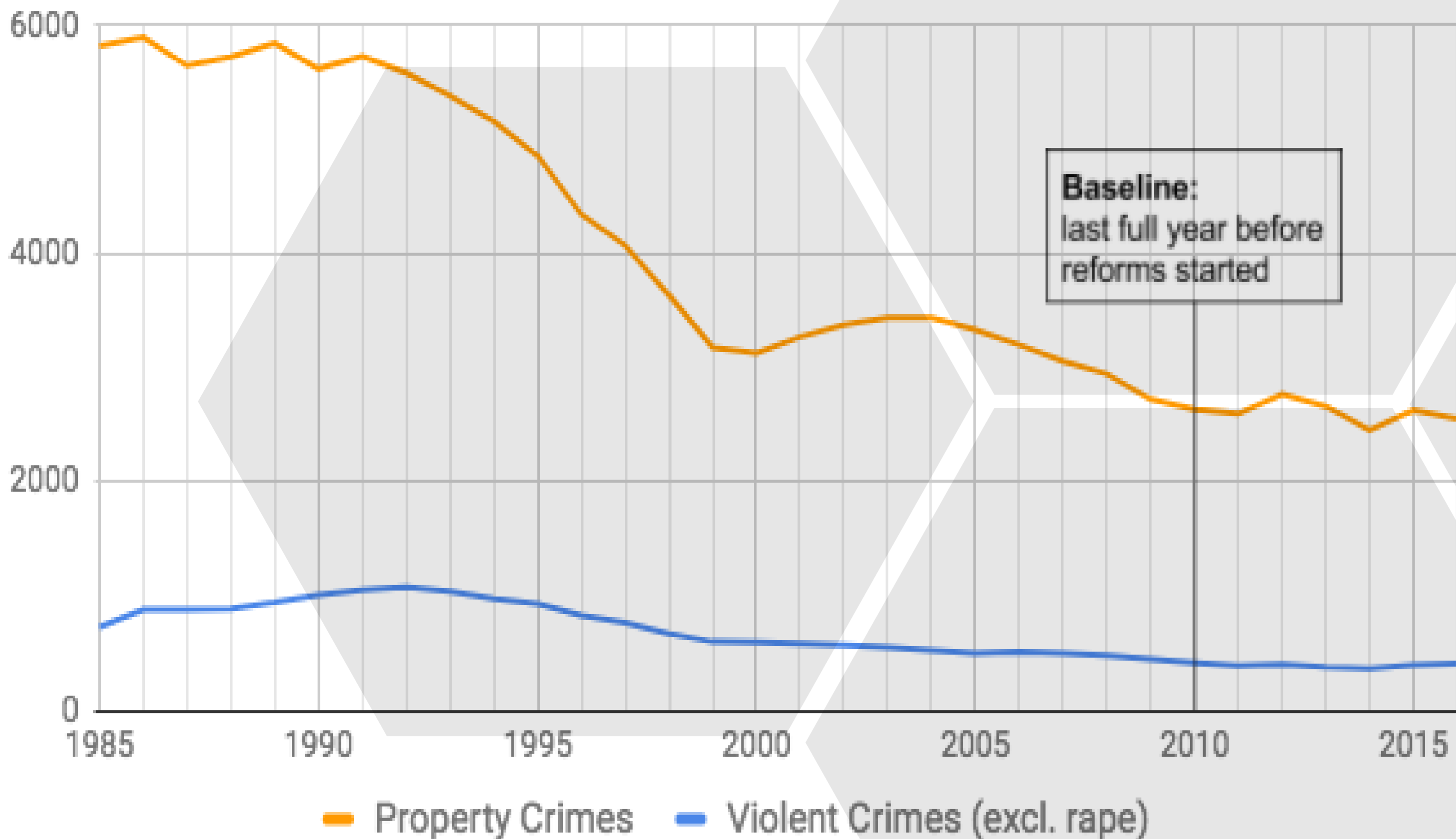
INVESTING IN PEOPLE NOT PRISONS

PEOPLE

By **RETHINKING** our criminal justice system from the lens of seeing individuals as people, not probationers, prisoners, or parolees, we can increase the number of **RESTORED** individuals that can become productive, **RESPONSIBLE** and contributing members of society as **RETURNING** citizens.

California crimes reported to police

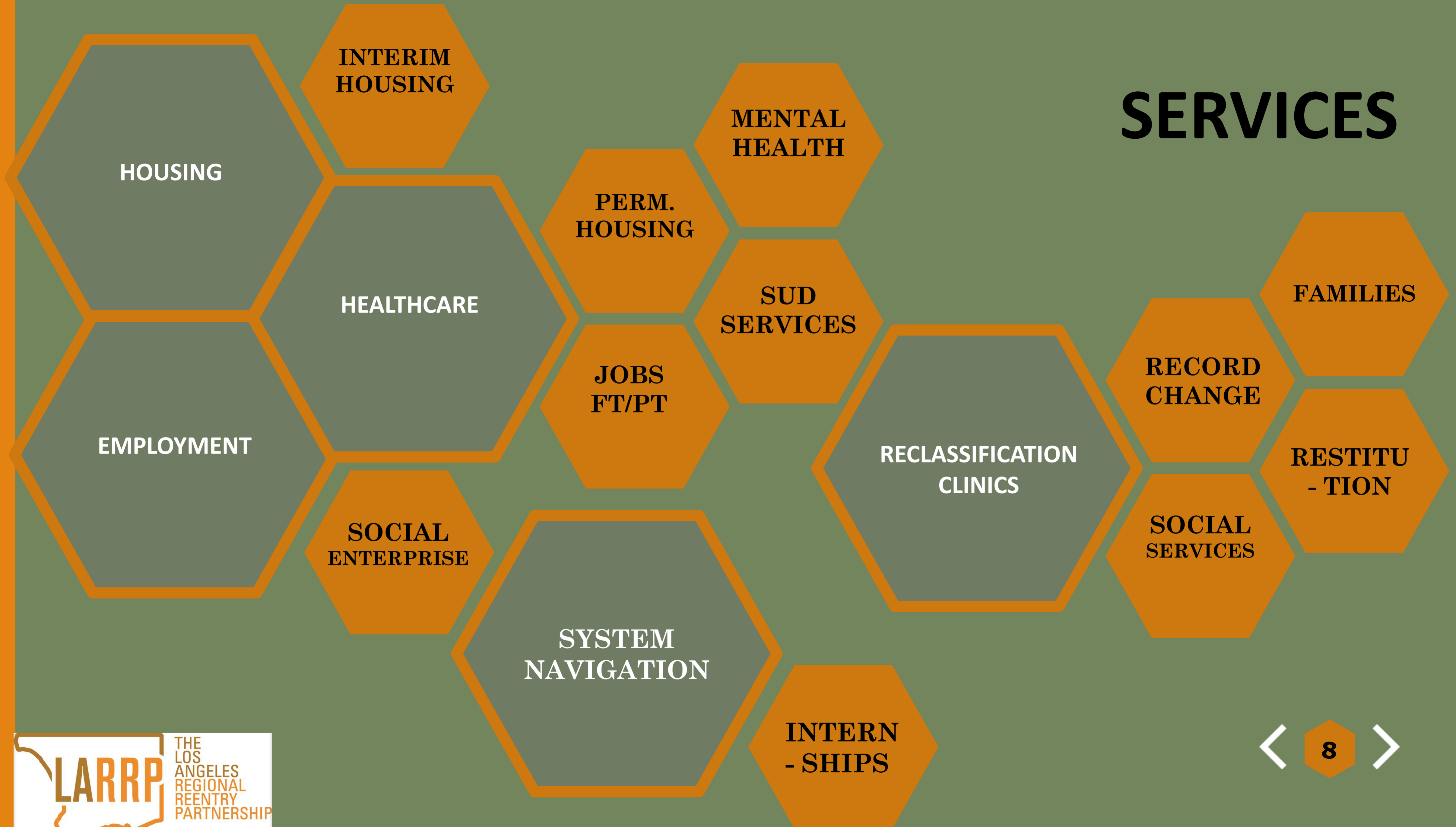
Rate per 100,000 population



CRIMES

FACT: The DOF and DOJ in California reports that property crimes are down since the justice reform era.

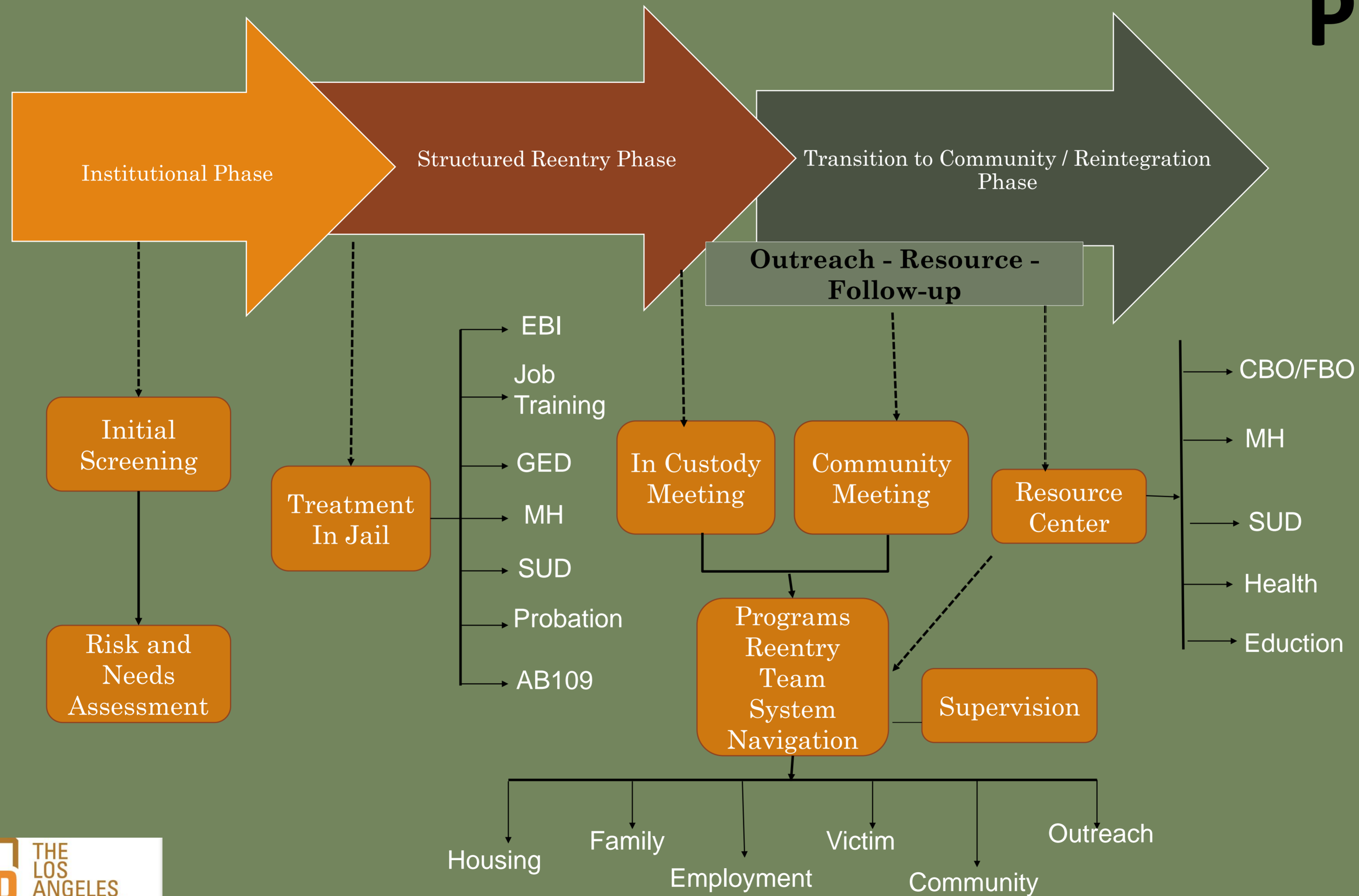
SERVICES



A Transition from Jail to Community Model

LARRP's Reentry Vision for LA County

PROCESS



SYSTEMS WORKING TOGETHER



We can adopt a mindset of viewing safety as a Public Health framework that allows our Health and Safety Delivery Systems to work more efficiently together so that their aligned aim is focused at satisfying our community member’s needs.

We can prioritize preventive health as a critical strategic focus to our finding appropriate placements for our returning community members.

We can allow our health and data systems to work in conjunction so that promoting healthy communities and healthy people and their families become the priority.

SHIFTING TO A PUBLIC HEALTH FRAMEWORK



EDUCATION VS. INCARCERATION

FROM INSTITUTIONALIZED JUSTICE TO COMMUNITY JUSTICE

FROM CORRECTIONS-CENTERED REENTRY TO COMMUNITY-CENTERED REENTRY

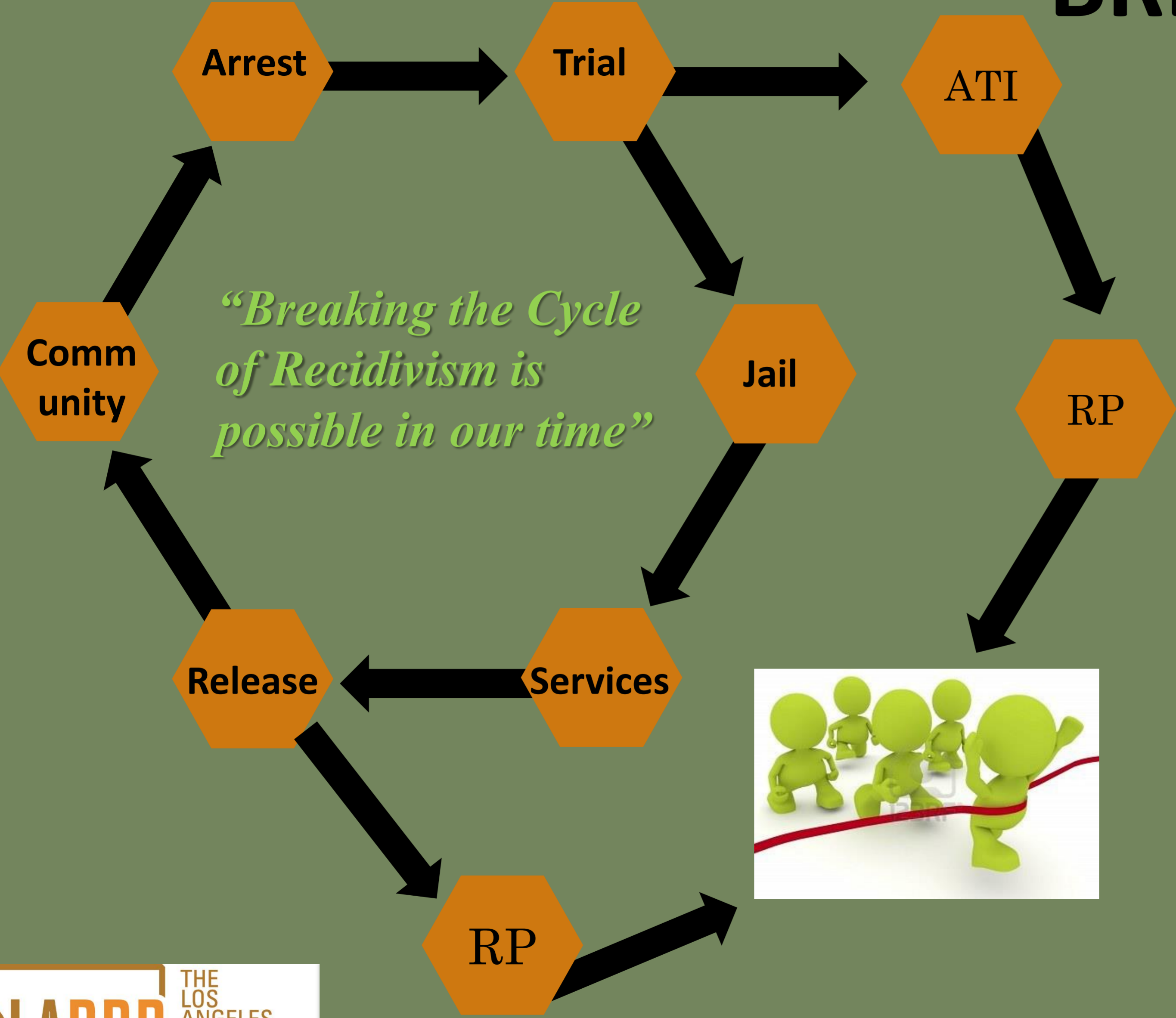
FROM DEFICIT-BASED PLANNING TO STRENGTHS-BASED PLANNING

USING ASSESSMENTS & DATA COMBINED WITH COMPASSION & DIGNITY

ADDRESSING COMPLEX NEEDS WITH INDIVIDUALIZED SOLUTIONS

What are we measuring?

BREAKING THE CYCLE



Frequently, punishments other than prison or jail time place serious demands on offenders and provide them with intensive court and community supervision. Just because a certain punishment does not involve time in prison or jail, does not mean it is “soft on crime” or a “slap on the wrist.” Alternatives to incarceration (ATI) can repair harms suffered by victims, provide benefits to the community, treat the drug-addicted or mentally ill, and rehabilitate offenders. Alternatives can also reduce prison and jail costs and prevent additional crimes in the future. Before we can maximize the benefits of alternatives to incarceration, however, we must repeal mandatory minimums and give courts the power to use cost-effective, recidivism-reducing sentencing options instead.



* RP = Reentry Programs

1 HEALTH

A COMBINED FOCUS

Taking a comprehensive perspective on “health,” allows us to focus on the influence that physical health conditions, mental illness, and substance abuse have on the reentry process. There is much empirical evidence that demonstrates how returning community members with these health conditions face distinct challenges with regard to finding housing and employment, reconnecting with family members, abstaining from substance use and crime, and avoiding a return to prison.

2 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Cognitive behavioral programs help people who have committed crimes identify how their thinking patterns influence their feelings, which in turn influence their actions. These programs include structured social learning components where new skills, behaviors, and attitudes are consistently reinforced. Cognitive behavioral programs that target areas such as attitudes, values, and beliefs have a high likelihood of positively influencing future behavior, including a person’s choice of peers, whether he or she abuses substances, and his or her interactions with family. Most effective cognitive behavioral programs are action-oriented and often include components for people to practice skills through role-play with a trained instructor.

3 HOUSING

Securing housing is one of the most immediate challenges individuals leaving jail or prison face upon their release. Research has shown that the types of living arrangements and neighborhoods to which exiting prisoners return are often related to the likelihood that they will recidivate and return to prison. While many of the formerly incarcerated stay with family members - at least early on, others are confronted by limited housing options. This is especially true for those with mental health or substance abuse problems. Obtaining housing is complicated by a host of factors, including the scarcity of affordable and available housing, legal barriers and regulations, landlords’ prejudices against formerly incarcerated individuals, and strict eligibility requirements for federally subsidized housing.



KEY FEATURES



FIXING WHAT'S NOT WORKING

- Navigation • Law Enforcement Messaging
- Capacitation • Silos



IMPROVING ON WHAT'S ALREADY WORKING

- H4H • Legislation and Reform Ballot Initiatives
- L.E.A.D. • Transparency • ODR
- SB678 Community Advisory Committee



LOOKING FORWARD TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES

- Collaboration
- Capacitation
- Regional System Change

ADDITIONAL JUSTICE REFORM OPPORTUNITIES ACCROSS THE STATE AT A GLANCE

While we have many successes, we have a long way to go to get the job done in our time.

DATA



3/4

42 out of 58 counties in California report *using some form of a pretrial risk assessment tool.*



1/2

The first drug market intervention reduced crime by 57% over four years, shuttering the open-air drug markets in the neighborhood for good.



2/5

On average, over 60% of California's jail population is awaiting trial or sentencing.



1/5

Over 4 million Californians (17%) have suspended driver's licenses for failing to appear or because they cannot pay fines and fees.



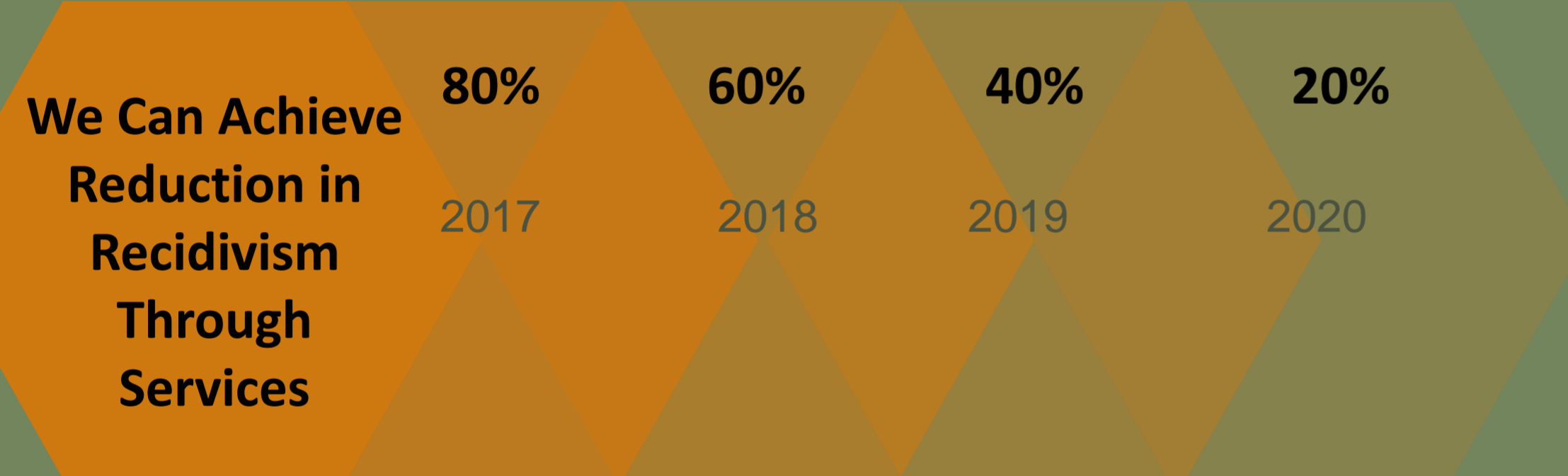
3/4

Over 8 million Californians are living with convictions California has more than 4800 restrictions for people with felony convictions: 58% are job-related and 73% are lifetime bans.

WHY ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION (ATI) WORKS?

STAYING THE COURSE

All indications show that if we don't reverse our course and we **keep our focus on alternatives** to incarceration, we can and will reduce recidivism in Los Angeles County.



They give courts and law enforcement more options. Each defendant and crime is unique, and prison or jail time may not always be the most effective response. If the criminal justice system has options other than incarceration, they can better tailor humane and effective response that fits the defendants and the crime, protects the public, and provides rehabilitation.

They save taxpayers money. It costs over \$71,000 to keep one person in California State prison. Alternatives to incarceration are cheaper, help prevent prison and jail overcrowding, and save taxpayers millions.

They strengthen families and communities. Prison or jail time separates the defendant from his or her spouse and children, sometimes for decades at a time. Alternatives to incarceration keep people with their families, in their neighborhoods and jobs, and allow them to earn money, pay taxes, and contribute to their communities.

They protect the public by reducing crime. Over 40% of all people leaving prison will reoffend and be back in prison within three years of their release. Alternatives to jail / prison are proven to confront the underlying causes of crime (i.e., drug addiction and mental illness) and help prevent defendants from committing new crimes.

The public supports alternatives to incarceration. Eight in ten (77%) adults believe that alternatives to incarceration (probation, restitution, community service, and/or rehabilitative services) are the most appropriate sentence for nonviolent, non-serious defendants and that prison or jail are appropriate only if these alternatives fail.



SECTION II: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE ?

KEY QUESTIONS



- 1 Why Look For Alternatives to Incarceration?
- 2 What Program Type is Needed?
- 3 Where Do We Have Opportunities?
- 4 How Good Is Our Program Quality?
- 5 When Do We Need to Scale Successes?
- 6 Who Is The Target Population?

CASE STUDY

Massachusetts Dept. Of Correction (DOC)

A group of criminal justice, mental health and community health professionals came together to develop the Worcester Initiative for Support Reentry (WISR) to address reentry barriers.

Date:
2011-2016

WISR

WISR MODEL

Pre-release services began 30-90 days before participants' return to the community and included comprehensive assessments and transitional treatment planning. Upon release from incarceration, WISR provided intensive case management services to support participants with housing, healthcare, employment and other key needs.

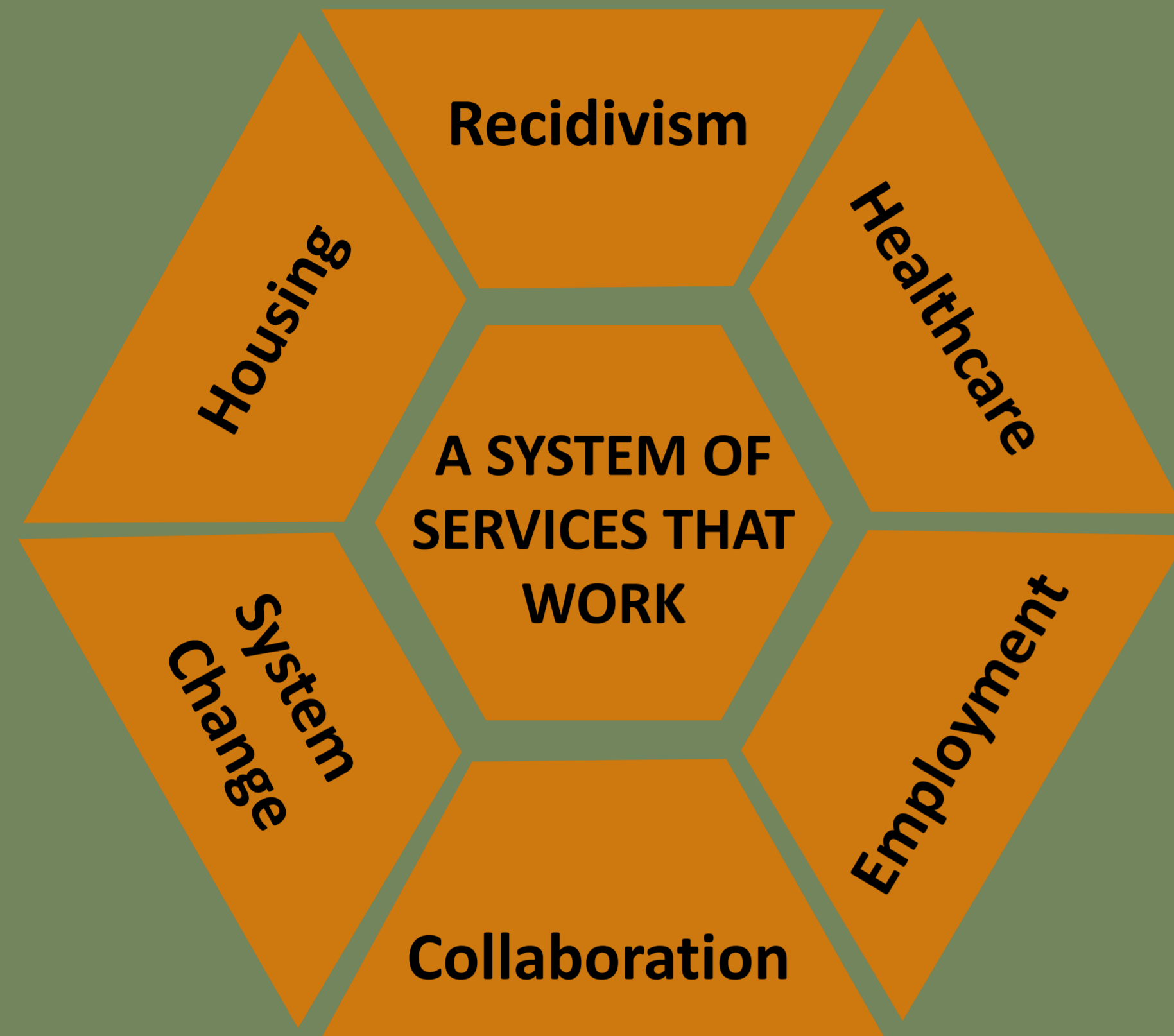
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

WISR provided post-release reentry services to 152 men over a 4 ½ year period, ages 19-57 with an average age of 30.8 years. 58% participants of color (POC), with 27% Hispanic, 20% Black, and 9% multi-racial.

CLIENT-CENTERED APPROACH

WISR created service plans tailored to each individual, which allowed for individual success regardless of race/ethnicity. 3 years post-release, WISR participants of color were less likely than white participants to be reincarcerated.

CASE STUDY (1)



Recidivism – At the end of the 3 year period, there was a 47% reduction in recidivism relative to a historical comparison group. This reduction in recidivism yielded a return on investment (ROI) of 59%, based on a 1 year incarceration cost in Massachusetts.

Housing – Nearly all participants (96%) were housed immediately upon release. The share of participants renting their own apartments increased from 10% immediately post-released to 26% at the end of the evaluation period.

Healthcare – 97% enrolled in Mass Health insurance. Of those needing primary care, 94% were seen. 93% referred to substance abuse treatment accessed care, and 75% referred to mental health accessed services.

Employment – Among 152 participants released, 62% became employed post-release. Of those employed post-released, nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ (71%) remained employed.

System Change/Collaboration – The WISR model successfully engaged partners and law enforcement to build a collaborative, cohesive healthcare approach to address post-release reentry into the community.



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THANK YOU !