



ROCK STREET PROJECT

(Pilot Child Support Arrearage Project)

- Participants- justice/court involved non-custodial parents
- Individuals are either unemployed or Underemployed



Multi-Agency Collaborative Effort

- Massachusetts Department of Revenue(DOR)
- Massachusetts Probation in Bristol County
Probate Court
- Executive Office of Labor & Workforce
Development (EOLWD)
Department of Career Services (DCS)
Fall River Career Center



Project Objective

- To assist noncustodial parents (who are in arrears on their child support) with finding a job

Current Success Rate

- 53% of Pilot's Participants have found employment
- 95 participants served
- \$12.62 average hourly wage

Agency Roles

Department of Revenue

- Identify a DOR contact person
- Identify participants
- Obtain order of the Court
- Establish 6 week Case review
- Can exempt participants from enforcement Actions
- Provide referral form to Probation Dept.



Probation Department

- Identify contact person for Probation
- Meet participant on day order issued by Judge
- Review program participation and nonparticipation actions
- Contact DCS Project Representative with participant name and contact information.



Department of Career Services (Fall River Career Center)

- Identify Career Center Liaisons to coordinate efforts
- Attend each “Blocktime” at Court to explain program to participants
- Hold Career Center seminar for all participants
- Schedule one-on-one appointment for job search
- Provide DOR & Probations with activities report
- Provide feedback regarding level of participation



Project Summary

- Pilot allowed agencies to tweak referral process (identified what worked and what didn't)
- Key to participation is center staff member attitude (trust and non threatening)
- Key to success is mutual respect among agency staff and working together
- Ability to identify main barrier for reemployment (Revocation of license, not CORI issues)



Future Possibilities

- Regional collaboration/coordination
 - Involve WDB's in the region
 - Involve Agencies serving population in MOU's
- Exploring resources to continue
 - State Agencies/Grants