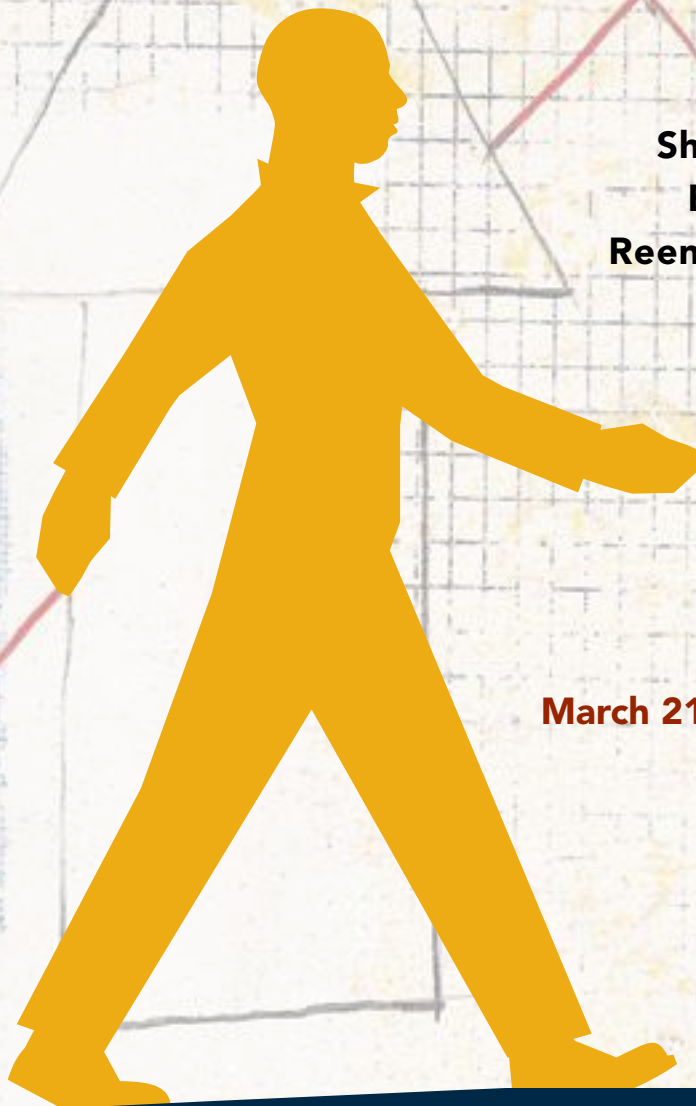


How It's Working

**Sharing Lessons for
Effective Prisoner
Reentry/Resettlement**

**The Third Annual
Ready4Work
Conference and
Workshop**

**March 21 – March 24, 2006
Houston, Texas**



Who Should Attend?

- Ready4Work Site and Program Staff
- United States (US) and United Kingdom (UK) Reentry/Resettlement Practitioners, Policymakers and Stakeholders:
 - Faith and Community-Based Organizations
 - National, State and Local Government Officials
 - Corrections Departments
 - Employers and Business Leaders

What is Ready4Work?

Ready4Work: An Ex-Prisoner, Community and Faith Initiative (R4W) brings together the justice, government, business, faith and community sectors to deliver employment and other reentry services to young adults and juveniles returning from incarceration and detention. Funded by the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA), the US Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Ford Foundation, the R4W initiative began in Spring 2003 and will end in August 2006. In 14 cities across the US, 17 lead organizations have built effective partnerships to deliver services, both before and after release.

By providing these young men, women and youth, ages 14 through 34, with job readiness training, job placement services, case management (and related referrals for services), educational support and mentoring, R4W aims to foster their successful reintegration into communities and their long-term attachment to the labor market—with the ultimate goal of reducing recidivism.

What is the R4W Conference About?

R4W program, research and operations staff have gained valuable experience and learned many lessons about employment, employers, job retention, mentoring and the delivery of other services to former prisoners and juvenile offenders. This conference provides the opportunity to share these lessons across R4W sites and beyond. Public/Private Ventures (P/PV) will disseminate findings from the intensive data collection and analysis efforts conducted at R4W sites over the last two and a half years. Conference attendees will engage in open discussions about what actually works and doesn't work in supporting and servicing the ex-prisoner population. The conference will be practical, interactive and participatory, and will benefit the broad body of stakeholders we hope will join us for this important event.

Why a US-UK Focus?

After promising early results emerged from the R4W initiative, P/PV and the UK Government began a dialogue about effective practices in the reentry field. In September 2005, David Blunkett, now former Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in the UK, visited the Chicago R4W site to gain an understanding of reentry/resettlement programming being implemented in the US, and to see what lessons might be learned from US experiences when considering the wider welfare reform agenda in the UK. Employment and support for ex-prisoners is clearly an important issue on both sides of the Atlantic. In December 2005, the Home Secretary, Education Secretary and new Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, John Hutton, released a "Green Paper" on "Reducing Re-Offending through Skills and Employment." The paper sets out the UK's proposed plans for increasing skill levels and improving job outcomes for ex-prisoners and, together with the Government's larger five-year strategy, demonstrates a clear commitment to addressing reentry/resettlement in the UK.



Ready4Work

is an initiative of Public/Private Ventures, a national nonprofit organization

whose mission is to improve the effectiveness of social policies, programs and community initiatives, especially as they affect youth and young adults.

Tentative Agenda:

Tuesday, March 21

- Welcome Lunch and Plenary Session
- Setting the Scene: A Comparative Look at Incarceration, Recidivism and Reentry/Resettlement in the US and UK
- Forging Links: Bringing Together Justice, Government, Faith, Business and Community as Effective Partners
- Dinner

Wednesday, March 22

- Networking Breakfast
- Getting in Before Getting Out: Strategies for Program Recruitment and Retention
- Who We Serve: A Profile of R4W Participants
- WORKSHOP: Financial Sustainability: Seeking, Getting and Maintaining Program Support
- WORKSHOP: Performance-Based Contracts: Getting the Most Out of Service Providers
- WORKSHOP: Mentoring Former Prisoners and Juvenile Offenders—Does it Work?
- WORKSHOP: Mastering the Art of Case Management
- Dinner (Off Site)

Thursday, March 23

- Networking Breakfast
- Employer as Client: Successful Engagement with the Business Community
- WORKSHOP: Staying Power: Supporting Job Retention and Advancement
- WORKSHOP: Skills for Life: Developing Skills and Action Plans
- Lunch
- Site Visits with Houston's Moving Forward Ready4Work Team
- Free Evening

Friday, March 24

- Working Breakfast: Feedback on Site Visits
- WORKSHOP: Remembering the Family: Support Services for Children and Families of Incarcerated People
- Health and Welfare: Public Education and Service Delivery for Ex-Prisoners with HIV/AIDS
- WORKSHOP: Where We Go From Here: Winding Down, Gearing Up and Carrying On Our Reentry/Resettlement Efforts
- Closing Lunch

Note: The event will finish at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 24. Guests are asked to stay for the duration of the event, including the closing lunch. Flights to depart Houston that evening should be booked for no earlier than 5:30 p.m.

Registration Guidelines:

Ready4Work Adult and Juvenile Sites

We require that three staff from each site, including the executive director, attend this event. Each adult site is required to bring one adult participant who will attend for the duration. P/PV will pay travel expenses for all under this grouping.

UK Delegates

In order to continue the US-UK dialogue about reentry/resettlement and offer a unique learning and exchange opportunity, P/PV is making 40 spaces available for UK delegates.

FEE: \$1200 per person for registrations received before January 31, 2006; \$1500 per person for registrations after January 31. The registration fee covers accommodations, meals and travel while at the conference (including airport transfers with a local shuttle service). This fee does not include air travel, which may be booked either through Continental Airlines, our R4W Conference travel partner (see instructions on next page), or through other airlines. The full fee will be required at the time of registration and is refundable until February 28, 2006.

US Delegates (Non-R4W Staff)

P/PV is also pleased to reserve an additional 25 spaces for other interested stakeholders across the US.

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Registration

Each attendee must complete an online registration form NO LATER THAN February 28, 2006. For more information or to register, please visit our website (www.ppv.org) and go to the Community and Faith section.

Please note that late registrations may not be accepted, and spaces will be subject to availability.

If you have questions about this event, please contact:

US Inquiries:

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215-557-4419

UK Inquiries:

Sandra Tucker, DWP/National Employment Panel
020-7340-4290

Travel

As P/PV's official travel partner for this event, Continental Airlines has offered discounted airfare for travel to and from Houston.

- For special zone fares or discounts of 2 to 18 percent off published fares, book your travel at www.continental.com and enter ZRY3VSE5R5 in the offer code box.
- If you cannot book online, then quote Z Code ZRY3 and Agreement Code VSE5R5 when booking through your local travel agent and receive a discount of up to 15 percent or the equivalent zone fare.
- Ready4Work site staff (and others who have their travel expenses covered by P/PV) should call Continental MeetingWorks at 800-468-7022 for reservations (0845 607 6760 in the UK), quoting Z Code ZRY3 and Agreement Code VSE5R5.

Ready4Work is funded by the US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, the US Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Ford Foundation and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.



Public/Private Ventures is a national nonprofit organization that seeks to improve the effectiveness of social policies and programs. P/PV designs, tests and studies initiatives that increase supports, skills and opportunities of residents of low-income communities; works with policymakers to see that the lessons and evidence produced are reflected in policy; and provides training, technical assistance and learning opportunities to practitioners based on documented effective practices.

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