Resettlement of girls and young women - An agenda for the new government

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Workshop overview

- Introduce Beyond Youth Custody (BYC) and Pecan Moving On
- Video
- Case study activity and feedback
Beyond Youth Custody (BYC)

• Beyond Youth Custody (BYC) is one of three England-wide learning and awareness projects funded under the Big Lottery Fund’s Youth in Focus (YIF) programme, which aims to support vulnerable young people through changes in their lives.

• BYC has been designed to challenge, advance, and promote better thinking in policy and practice for the effective resettlement of young people.

• BYC is a partnership led by Nacro along with three research and evaluation partners: ARCS (UK), University of Salford and the University of Bedfordshire.
The programme focuses on four main areas of work:

- **Research and evaluation.** Comparing and evaluating existing models of service delivery in order to base recommendations on best practice and effectiveness.

- **Practice improvement.** Supporting delivery by providing feedback to managers and practitioners on the key research findings as and when they emerge.

- **Communications and engagement.** Engaging relevant audiences by proactively communicating the programme’s progress and lessons learned.

- **Young people’s involvement.** Keeping young people at the heart of the programme and using their experience and views to shape the necessary changes.
Research from BYC\(^1\) – why consider girls and young women specifically

1. Young women have different pathways into offending than young men
2. Criminal justice responses compound young women’s problematic behaviour
3. Women’s ability to maintain positive relationships is damaged by custody
4. Vulnerabilities and mental health issues make prison life particularly arduous
5. Young women need an interpersonal focus to their resettlement support
6. The barriers to desistance from offending are different for young women

Gender-sensitive approach

Based on the specific needs and vulnerabilities of girls and young women, practice with this group needs to be shaped by three related gender-sensitive dimensions:

1. **Vulnerabilities** resulting from experiences of trauma and abuse should be addressed

2. **Relationships** are a critical focus, including abuse in past relationships, developing trust with professionals now, and promoting positive future relationships

3. **Empowerment** to make positive choices will counterbalance vulnerabilities and experiences of subordination
Under the same funding stream, the Big Lottery also funds 15 Youth in Focus (YIF) service delivery projects that support vulnerable young people through difficult changes in their lives.

The YIF projects are run across the country, work with different groups of young people and have different models of service delivery.

The Moving On programme run by Pecan is one of the Youth in Focus projects. Moving on is a one-to-one mentoring project which supports women through the transition from prison to community.

Watch the video to find out about Moving On...
Moving On video

http://vimeo.com/m/82555757
Workshop activity

Case studies and feedback
Sum up and thank you

If you would like anymore information, please either leave your details on the sheet provided or contact:

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