Introduction

In 2009, the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) implemented the Transition from Prison to Community (TPC) initiative. TPC helps offenders transition from prison to communities, thereby increasing public safety, reducing recidivism and new victimization, and making better use of scarce resources in correctional facilities and communities. The overarching goals of TPC are for released offenders to remain arrest-free over the long term, and to become self-sufficient members of their communities.

Objectives

The objectives of TPC include:
- Utilize valid risk/needs assessments
- Develop and implement seamless case plans
- Identify and target effective interventions
- Collaborate with stakeholders

Scope

The TPC philosophy is embedded in:
- DOC policies, instructions, division directives, and operating guidelines
- Hiring and performance review practices
- Employee development activities
- Engagement of external organizations
- Unified divisional practices which focus on changing offender behavior

Values
- Shared responsibility for offender change
- Empower staff to effect positive offender change
- Staff commitment to offender change
- Every staff role has purpose in the TPC philosophy

Need

- Virtually all offenders will return to society
- Current research demonstrates that:
  - 34% of offenders will be convicted of a new felony-level crime
  - 26% of offenders will be re-incarcerated for a new felony
- Society bears the cost when offenders do not succeed upon release

Progress

The DOC has made tremendous progress in its implementation of TPC. The department and stakeholders continue to make strides to embed the TPC philosophy into programs within institutions, throughout community corrections, and with community partners.