National Offender Management Service

European Union
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Investing in jobs and skills

NOMS CFO Round 3 Event.
PEN PICTURE TEMPLATE

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Background

Pact is a national charity with over 100 years experience in supporting prisoners, offenders and their familie to maintain, strengthen and build their relationships to improve lives and reduce reoffending.

Our services are aimed at those who are least engaged in society. Pact is currently working in c50 prisons (all categories) and directly for 4 Probation Trust areas across England & Wales including being the nationc Framework Provider for Family Engagement Workers in prison, which incorporates services in most of the women's prisons and a large proportion of YOIs nationally. Well over half our staff are prison based, bringing significant organisational understanding of how to work in prisons, and our management team has considerable operational experience of the prior NOMS ESF programmes in Prime and Subcontractor roles. Pact is cleared to process prison based security clearances for our staff to assist with mobilisation.

Our services can be broken down into:

1) Case Management/ Key Working: Support in prison, Through The Gate and in the community focused on improving engagement, sequencing of interventions and support, planning and preparing for resettlement by overcoming barriers, and developing and rebuilding relationships with family, friends and professionals to support integration in society. Services integrate closely with Visitors' Centres, and mainstream provision such as Troubled Families, OLASS and Work Programme.

2) Family Relationship Courses: in prison and in the community. These focus on the offender and their partner (Building Stronger Families/Let's Talk), parent (Building Bridges/Can We Talk) child (Time to Connect) and community (Within My Reach). Currently short, focused interventions, we are currently exploring accreditation of these programmes to enable delivery as a core progression measure or a learning outcome.

3) Mentoring and Volunteering Programmes: Pact (Approved Provider Standard accredited through the Mentoring and Befriending Network) has three core programmes: (1) JustPeople - providing individuall focussed interventions for offenders TTG and in the community; (2) Family Mentoring - as part of early intervention, SAR and resettlement planning for male and female adult offenders, in partnership with Probation Trusts/ CRCs, and young offenders providing mentoring alongside Youth Offending Teams; (3) Basic Caring Communities - providing a team of four volunteers supporting one offender where there are few or no family relationships and a high risk of reoffending.

4) Visits Support Services: running Visitors' Centres, booking Lines, provision of Play Services and management of tea bars (Pact Lunch).

5) Telephone Helpline: Pact has a helpline for our service users to offer practical support and advice post

Court and to link them to our services in prison and in the community. This also includes a sex offender specific service for HMP Littlehey in the East of England.
6) Courts: staff and volunteers based across 17 London Courts to provide early signposting and interventior to offenders and their families into Pact services.

Objective

1) To develop a supply chain for Pact to bid as a prime contractor in 2 or 3 regions – Pact is particularly interested in talking to organisations with experience delivering skills, housing or employment support to offenders, as well as specialist organisations with whom we can develop locally focussed projects to meet identified needs of priority groups identified by the customer.

2) To work as a subcontractor in all of the regions making up the proposed NOMS ESF Round 3 programme delivering any or all of; Case Management, Mentoring Programmes, Family Support Interventions (accredited and non accredited) or Specialist Support Projects in custody and/ or the community.

Interests

Prisoners, their families and communities: Pact is currently delivering services in c50 prisons and directly in 4 probation trust areas, including Case Management, Training, Mentoring and servicing helplines. We are fully committed to continuing to build on this presence and delivering high quality interventions that benefit and change the lives of offenders, their families and communities.

Mentoring: Pact currently has over 400 volunteers nationally and provides community based mentoring and volunteering programmes across the North West, South West, Yorkshire and Humber, South East and London. Services are Approved Provider Standard accredited through the Mentoring and Befriending Network.

Children and Families: Pact can offer an integrated in prison, TTG and community offer for the children anc families pathways including case management, relationship interventions, Family Conferencing and Mediation and one to one and group support. This also includes strong links with social care teams, Troubled Families and other community based services.

Family focussed Relationship Interventions including accredited training: a raft of relationship focused training programmes aimed at building relationships with parents, partners and children as well as to help break patterns of negative relationships and family breakdown and understand how to build a positive relationship.

Women Offenders: Pact is currently running prison, TTG and community based services for women offenders and is mobilising provision across the women's estate focusing on case management in prison. This is particularly important in that family ties improve self worth and having something to change for thereby increasing positivity and a likelihood of change as well as decreasing pressure on accommodation due to increased numbers of offenders returning home/remaining at home. MoJ data also shows that family and friends are the biggest determinate in successfully securing employment.

Youth Offending: Pact is working in 6 YOIs nationally providing case management and Relationship interventions. We are also piloting work through Cabinet Office funding with Wakefield YOT to provide relationship interventions linked to family mentoring for young offenders as part of early intervention, SAR and post-custody. Initial findings show it reduces aggressive behaviour, improves integration and engagement in services and reduces the number of young people going into care/becoming homeless due to family breakdown.

Area of Delivery

We currently deliver services to offenders and ex-offenders across 8 of the 9 NOMS ESF regions and have existing infrastructure to build upon in order to successfully develop, mobilise and execute delivery of any of our transferrable models. We are keen to explore opportunities to work with potential Prime or Sub-Contractor Partners, with aspirations of delivering the NOMS ESF programme in any of the 9 regions.