# Cooperation agreement on the integration of prisoners and people in preventive detention in Germany

(State of Baden-Württemberg)

**Interagency Cooperation Workshop** 

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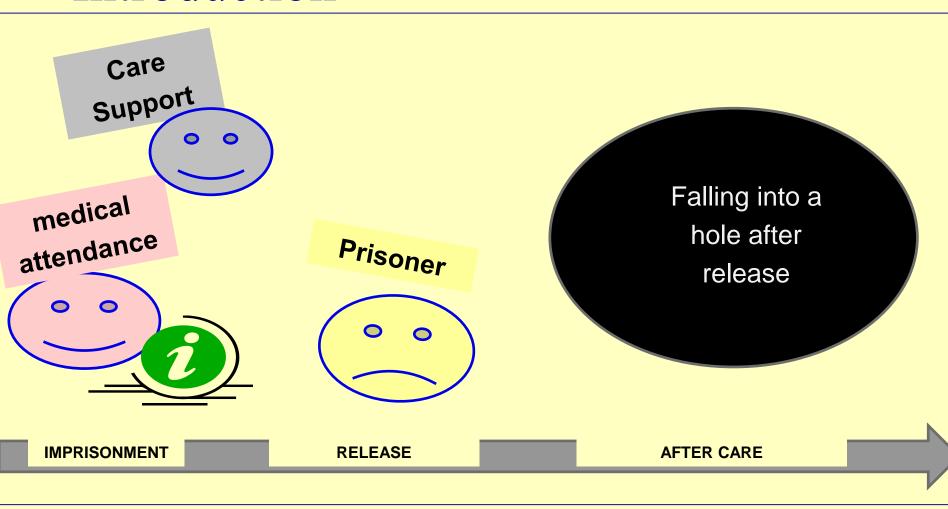
**BARCELONA** 







#### Introduction





# Efforts of resocialization in the "prison regime" (1)

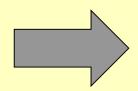
- Bundling the competences of prison regime and probation service in one department in the ministry of justice
- New conception of the preparation of release between the probation service and the social service in the prison regime
- Law for the release management



# Efforts of resocialization in the "prison regime" (2)

Release management projects in private sponsorship

- after care project "Chance",
- project "ZAP",
- debt counselling,
- drug advice,
- school and vocational education,
- "parents child project",
- project "work instead of going to jail"



effective and good cooperation between prison regime, probation service and private organisations





MINISTERIUM DER JUSTIZ UND FÜR EUROPA





























#### What was missing?

Obligatory and state-wide cooperation and networking with further institutions involved in the social reintegration process.





#### Initial considerations

- Early involvement of other institutions necessary for a successful reintegration
- Networking and cooperation of available offers of help
- Guarantee of an "interlinked preparation for release"



#### Frameworks and targets



Legal requirements



Target group: all people about to be released in the Baden – Württemberg prison regime



Target: release in secured conditions



#### Main focus of the cooperation agreement

financial protection local networking lemployment debt



## Content of the cooperation agreement (1)

communication

designation of permanent contact persons

local networking

local meetings and local cooperation



## Content of the cooperation agreement (2)

employment

- range of services of the local employment agency
- initiation of mediation activities
- personal advice in prison
- consulting of the prison organisation



## Content of the cooperation agreement (3)

# financial protection

- preparation of an application for benefits in prison
- arrangement of a meeting after release
- prompt notice of performance



## Content of the cooperation agreement (4)

#### housing

- target: keeping their home in case of short imprisonment
- notice of performance in prison

debt

- cooperation with debt counselling
- a new project created!



# Excursus: project debt counselling in prison regime

- special risk of relapse
- competence: basic social care in the prison
- in difficult cases: support from the new project
- project is promoted by the Assistance for Former Offenders "Straffälligenhilfe"
- state-wide in Baden-Württemberg since January, 1 2018



#### Realisation of the cooperation agreement

- conclusion of the agreement: December 2016
- beginning with over 200 peoples on 8 March 2017
- designation of permanent contact persons done; list in the internet
- constant meetings with local cooperation partners;
  partially local contracts
- 2 meetings of a state-wide steering group
- beginning evaluation



#### Evaluation

#### Steps

1st step: online interview of all partners

2<sup>nd</sup> step: experts -interviews

3<sup>rd</sup> step: interview with prisoners

1st and 2nd step are completed

- Interim result: Cooperation has proved to be very useful
  - ➤ Substantial improvements in many areas
  - Further need for improvement for example: faster information flow, more personal contact and networking; standardisation of process flows



#### First results of the evaluation

93% contact person is known

(only 62 % before)

• 40% effectiveness and removing

bureaucratic barriers

88% cooperation agreement makes sense



# Thank you for your interest

