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**Corrections Officials Reflect on Success of 5-Key Model
for Reentry During Second Chance Month**

Tallahassee, Fla. - Corrections officials from four states today are reflecting on the early success of the 5-Key Model for Reentry, a flagship research program created by The Florida State University's Institute for Justice Research and Development (FSU IJRD), during Second Chance month.

FSU IJRD's data-driven research in this area, the 5-Key Model for Reentry, is a randomized controlled trial delivered to individuals releasing from incarceration and back into their communities, providing research for the Safe Streets and Second Chances Initiative.

"The Florida Department of Corrections welcomed working with FSU IJRD to integrate the 5-Key Model for Reentry into our state's correctional programming," said Florida Department of Corrections Secretary Mark Inch. "Returning citizens need programming and support systems in place to equip them for success before entering their communities and rejoining their families."

"In Kentucky, we have seen that 5-Key Model participants that have returned to their communities upon release from incarceration have been better equipped to lead successful lives - from improving their interpersonal relationships, to dealing with stress and conflict - the skills gained through this reentry programming have been invaluable," said Kentucky Department of Corrections Commissioner Cookie Crews. "We are encouraged by the findings of this research, as well as the anecdotal confirmation provided by participants, and look forward to our continued partnership with FSU IJRD."

Second Chance Month, established in 2017 by the United States Congress, highlights the barriers to reentry after individuals release from incarceration.

"What the 5-Key Model has taught us, is that well-being is fundamental to reducing the likelihood of reincarceration," said Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Executive Deputy Secretary George M. Little. "The research and associated programming supplied by FSU IJRD fosters that well-being through a number of services and strategies for those releasing from incarceration and returning to society, making participants more ready to take on real-world challenges and lessening the likeliness they'll return to the justice system, and we are glad to work with FSU IJRD on this critical initiative."

"We are consistently examining how we can keep our focus on rehabilitation, not simply incarceration, so that upon release individuals can go into their communities and be successful; FSU IJRD's 5-Key Model for Reentry has provided that critical programming and helped participants achieve success after incarceration," said Texas Department of Criminal Justice

Executive Director, Bryan Collier. “It has also demonstrated to us that well-being during the reentry period ultimately lessens the probability of reincarceration, a vital factor in ensuring we are effectively utilizing our criminal justice system to protect our communities.”

Key preliminary findings from the 5-Key Model for Reentry show:

- Participants who received the 5-Key Model report fewer reincarceration events than those in the comparison group who were eligible to receive standard available services in their communities.
- Participants who received the 5-Key Model also reported higher levels of overall well-being, which was associated with a reduced likelihood of reincarceration.

“Data-backed research like the 5-Key Model is crucial to developing innovations that ultimately reduce unnecessary reliance on the criminal justice system and produce equity and prosperity across race, socioeconomic class and behavior health status,” said Carrie Pettus, PhD, MSW, founder and executive director of IJRD. “This critical research informing the Safe Streets and Second Chances Initiative is truly a launching pad to give participants a second chance, by promoting thriving individuals and families after release from incarceration while ensuring public health and safety.”

Early findings of the report can be found [here](#) and real-life testimony from program participants can be found [here](#).

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About the Institute for Justice Research and Development

The mission of the Institute for Justice Research and Development at Florida State University is to use science to improve lives, communities, and institutions by developing and researching innovations that reduce unnecessary reliance on the criminal justice system and by offering solutions that produce equity and prosperity across race, socioeconomic class, and behavioral health status. We believe achieving a justice system that is equitable and effective, promotes thriving individuals and families, and ensures public health and safety, is possible utilizing IJRD’s science-backed research and data-driven solutions. For more information on IJRD, please visit ijrd.csw.fsu.edu.