

**The National
Evaluation and
Technical
Assistance Center**
for the
Education of Children and Youth
Who Are Neglected, Delinquent
or At-Risk (NDTAC)

**Making a Way from No Way
Dwayne Betts**

www.neglected-delinquent.org

LIFE AFTER PRISON BEGAN THE MOMENT I WAS ARRESTED

I kept in mind that:

- my worth cannot be based on one egregious act
- education opens up the world of possibilities

Suggestions

- ✓ Begin transition planning from the day of entry
- ✓ Provide wraparound services to youth

THERE IS ALWAYS A PROGRAM

I created a program
– using available
resources (e.g. the
library) when no
programs existed

Suggestions

- ✓ Ensure that there are adequate resources and materials for youth (even when there is a lack of available programs)
- ✓ Empower youth by enabling them to create or inform their own program based on their needs

LEARNING TO BECOME A RESPONSIBLE ADULT

Conversations based
on my new
knowledge, gained
through study,
writing and reading,
transformed my
views and
perceptions

Suggestions

- ✓ Provide youth with clear options and opportunities
- ✓ Support youth in becoming life-long learners
- ✓ Actively engage youth

PLANNING AND VISION

Beyond gaining knowledge, clearly established goals were critical to my success

Suggestions

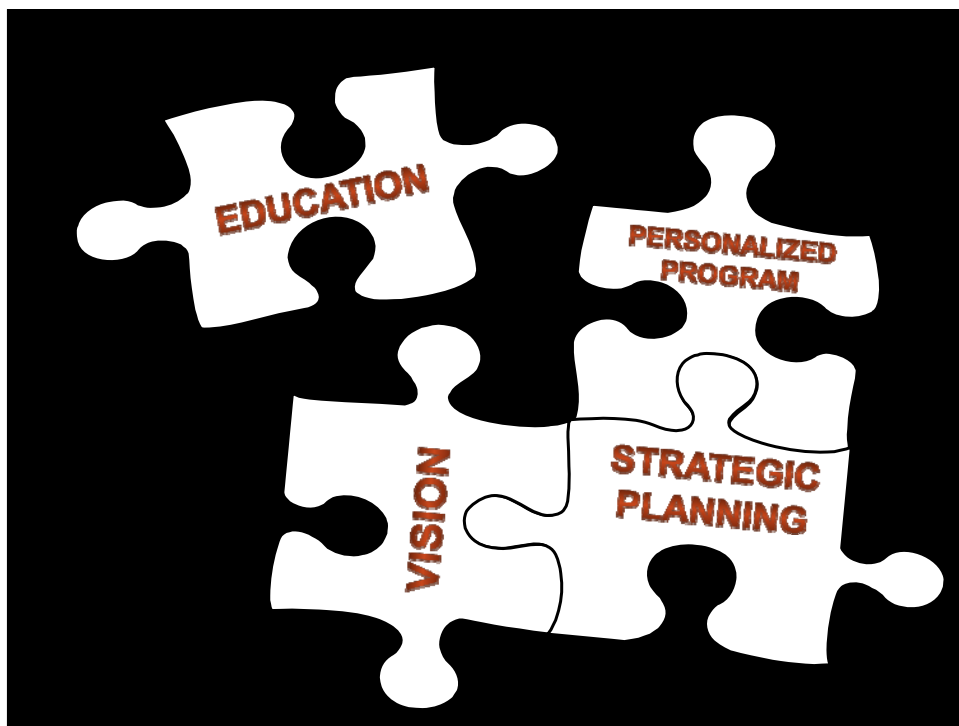
- ✓ Work with youth to document their short- and long-term goals
- ✓ Provide an opportunity for youth to “re-establish” themselves
- ✓ Provide supports youth need to be successful

EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY

- Continued learning
- Teaching others
- Postsecondary opportunities

Suggestions

- ✓ Expand the continuum of educational opportunities
- ✓ Educational opportunities must be adequately funded
- ✓ Educational opportunities must be relevant



Contact Information

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