

INSIGHT GARDEN PROGRAM

BSCC Presentation

October 8, 2019

INSIGHT
GARDEN
PROGRAM



Mission

IGP facilitates an innovative curriculum with vocational and landscaping training so people in prison can reconnect to self, community and the natural world.

This “inner” and “outer” gardening approach transforms lives, ends ongoing cycles of incarceration, and creates safer communities.



Curriculum

Four “Arcs” of Learning



1. Environmental Education,
reconnection to nature



2. Vocational training in
gardens



3. “Inner Gardening” –
building emotional
intelligence



4. Readiness for successful
leadership and/or reentry

Where We Are Today

California

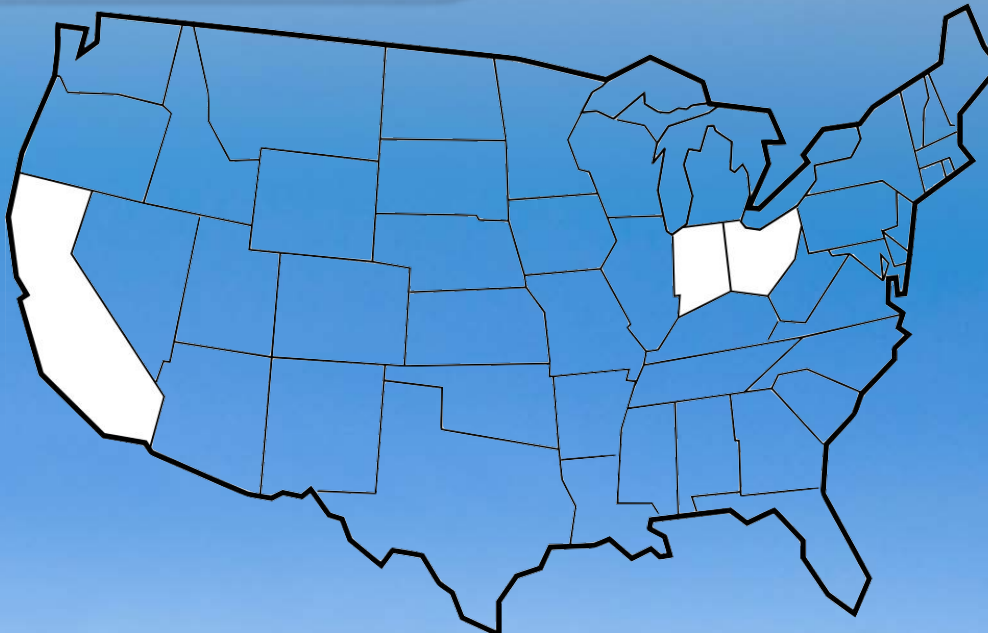
San Quentin State Prison
CA State Prison-Solano
CA Medical Facility-Solano
CA Health Care Facility-Stockton
CA State Prison-LA County
Central California Women's Facility
Folsom Women's Facility
CA State Prison – Avenal
O.H. Close Youth Correctional Facility
California Institute for Women (2019)
Mule Creek State Prison (2019)

Indiana

Logansport Juvenile Facility (Boys)
LaPorte Juvenile Correctional Facility (Girls)

Ohio

Noble Correctional Institution



IGP Assessments

Ground and Grow forms



Transition Plan

The first thing to do when putting together your re-entry plan is to take inventory of the services you will need. A successful transition depends on making sure your basic needs are met. Since no one knows your needs better than you do, it is important to be very clear about what you need and what is available to you. Here is an overview of your re-entry plan and a checklist to provide us with information to help you best meet your needs.

Name _____ Facility _____

Expected Release Date _____

Do you expect to be released on (choose one): ☐ Parole **OR** ☐ Probation (through AB109)

County and City returning to: _____

Have you ever lived in this county/city? _____

Contact info for your parole agent: Name _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Terms and Conditions we need to be aware of: _____

What is your Re-entry plan?

Top 3 Re-entry needs:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Are you a Veteran?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Interested in LGBTQ+ resources?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Preferred Language: _____

Employment/Education

What is your Current Education Level _____

What are your skills and/or job certifications? _____

Please check boxes for education and employment training you are interested in:

☐ Continuing Education (GED/College) _____

☐ Job Training Programs _____

☐ Certification Programs _____

Check boxes below for what you need and list any questions you may have below:

Identification

☐ California Photo ID _____

☐ Driver's License _____

☐ Social Security Card _____

☐ Birth Certificate _____

Housing

☐ Emergency Shelter _____

☐ Transitional Housing _____

☐ Residential Treatment Program _____

☐ Other _____

Benefits

☐ CalFresh (Food Stamps) _____

☐ Supplemental Security Income (if 65 years of age or blind or disabled) _____

☐ Veteran's Benefits _____

Health/Wellness

☐ Medical Insurance or Medi-Cal _____

☐ Mental Health Services/Counseling _____

☐ Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment _____

☐ Disability Services _____

Other Concerns or Ideas

Research for people leaving SQ, ASP and CCWF pre-release



- IGP tracking of pt. needs
- Resource list kept to date for key counties
- IGP staff produce memo with key contracts info. etc
- Memo shared with pts

Bringing In Employers & Service Providers

- IGP brings in employers, service providers and formerly incarcerated leaders to visit groups
- Visitors in 2019 include Bonafide, Rising Sun Opportunity Center, Rubicon, Project Rebound, CALA Resteraunt, Ella Baker, Grid Alternatives, Planting Justice etc.





Part-time Navigators who are Formerly Incarcerated (Fresno & Bay Area)

Two Part time navigators will be hired in the BAY and Fresno

Gate Pick-Up & Warm Meals

- San Quentin
- Central California Women's Facility
- Avenal State Prison



Phone Support Post-Release

- Contact with IGP alumni who parole and or go out on probation within 24 hours
- Contact with Alumni who are out for 6 months or more to check in
- Regular phone support to IGP alumni in the Bay Area and Fresno to connect people to trusted services and providers



Referrals to Partners

- Housing
- Employment
- Services





IGP in the community

Providing service at the Healthy Hearts Institute in Antioch



Five Core Elements of our Work

Insight Garden is more than just a gardening program! Our in-depth and year long curriculum is grounded in the following elements:

- 1. Cultivating Environmental Literacy and Justice**
- 2. Strengthening of Workforce Development Skills**
- 3. Promoting Assets-Based Learning**
- 4. Creating Community Connections**
- 5. Supporting Health & Wellness**



Bridging Connections for Successful Reentry

In Prison

IGP is the only program that provides hands-on, green sector training in CA prisons.



In Communities

IGP ensures that program graduates have the connections and support necessary for success.

Bridging our Mission

IGP graduates become environmental stewards in their own communities and get employed in the green sector.



Research & Impact



Cultural Impact

Cutlivate Diversity: all ethnic groups interact in prison garden without fearing retribution from others on the prison yard



Environmental Impact

Environmental Education +
Gardening
=
Ecoliteracy and
Improved Values



Economic Impact

- **Reduced recidivism**
- Increased public safety
- Taxpayer savings





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