

- Project Title:** Prisoner Reentry Initiative - RE\$PECT
- Project Funding:** Grant funded by NJ Department of Corrections (DOC) through Federal Department of Justice
- Project Timeline:** October 1, 2007 – March 31, 2009
- Role of WRI:** Program Enhancement Evaluation
Data Collection and Analysis
Technical Assistance
- Program Goal:** Establish multidisciplinary advisory process to assist in reducing recidivism among non-violent state sentenced inmates by increasing their employability upon release. As such, implement and sustain a pre-release assessment, service transitional planning, post supervision, and community coordination model for these non-violent offenders.
- Products:** Process and Outcome Evaluation of the RE\$PECT program
Meeting evaluation instrument to analyze group communication and composition, as well as issue resolution
Survey/questionnaire/interview questions for RE\$PECT staff and participating inmates
Quarterly progress reports
Final evaluation project report

Project Description:

The Walter Rand Institute, acting as a sub-grantee for the NJ Department of Corrections, will design and implement outcome and process evaluations of the Prisoner Reentry Initiative, RE\$PECT. This initiative is designed to decrease recidivism among inmates released to Atlantic, Essex, Hudson, Union, and Passaic counties by providing employment opportunities and other key transitional services. WRI will collect data from DOC and the PRI staff pertaining to the process and implementation of the program. Based on this data, WRI will provide the DOC RE\$PECT team with ongoing technical assistance and will produce quarterly reports, as well as a final evaluation report. These reports will include best practices recommendations that will enable the DOC to better assist inmates in becoming employed upon their release.