

AB 236 Implementation Update

Nevada Sentencing Commission Meeting
August 24, 2022

Presentation Overview

- Background and AB 236 Goals
- Status of AB 236 Implementation
- Next Steps

About the Crime and Justice Institute

- The Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) bridges the gap between research and practice with data-driven solutions that drive bold, transformative improvements in adult and youth justice systems
 - In Nevada, CJI is providing technical assistance to help implement the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) legislation Assembly Bill 236 (2019) (AB 236)
- JRI technical assistance is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance within the Dept. of Justice's Office of Justice Programs

Background and AB 236 Goals

Background of AB 236 (2019)

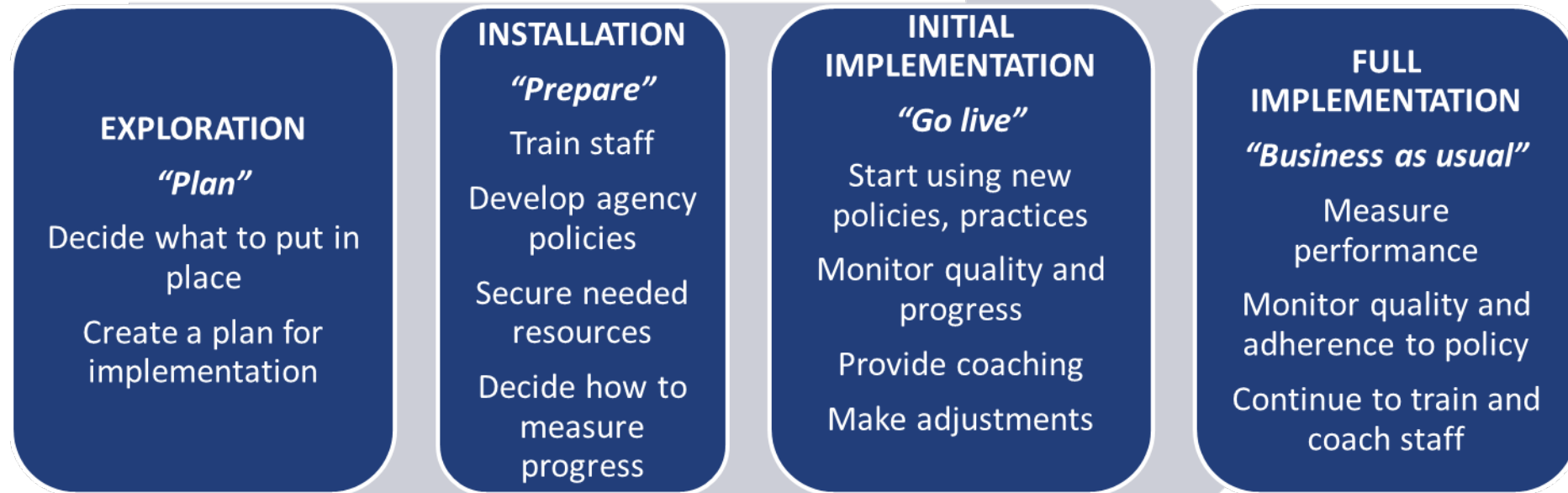
- The Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice conducted an extensive review of data and research
 - Released a report of findings and recommendations in January 2019
- AB 236 was drafted based on these recommendations
- Legislation passed in June 2019 and the majority of changes became effective in July 2020

Goals of AB 236 (2019)

- Focus prison resources on those who have committed serious and violent offenses
- Improvements to community supervision
- Strengthen behavioral health responses
- Minimize barriers to reentry
- Sustain the criminal justice reforms

Implementation Status

Implementation Stages



Goals of AB 236 (2019)

- Focus prison resources
- Improvements to community supervision
- Strengthen behavioral health responses
- Minimize barriers to reentry
- Sustain the criminal justice reforms

Goal: Focus Prison Resources on Those Who Have Committed Serious and Violent Offenses

- Restructures penalties for drug offenses based on weight and substance
- Made changes to the habitual criminal statute
- Raised the felony theft threshold
- Distinguishes penalties for burglary offenses based on location (i.e. motor vehicles, retail stores, outbuildings, and residences)
- Made changes to medical release

Implementation Update: Administrative Office of the Courts

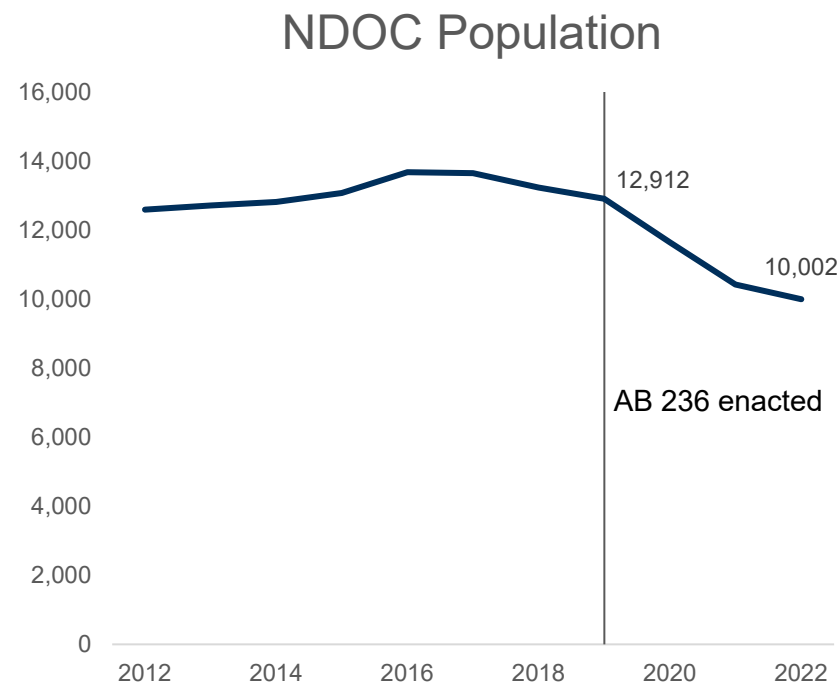
Implementation Update: Board of Parole Commissioners

Goal 1 Outcomes

NDOC population dropped from 12,912 in July, 2019 to 10,002 in July, 2022

NDOC admissions have declined

NDOC releases have declined



Goals of AB 236 (2019)

- Focus prison resources
- **Improvements to community supervision**
- Strengthen behavioral health responses
- Minimize barriers to reentry
- Sustain the criminal justice reforms

Goal: Improvements to Community Supervision

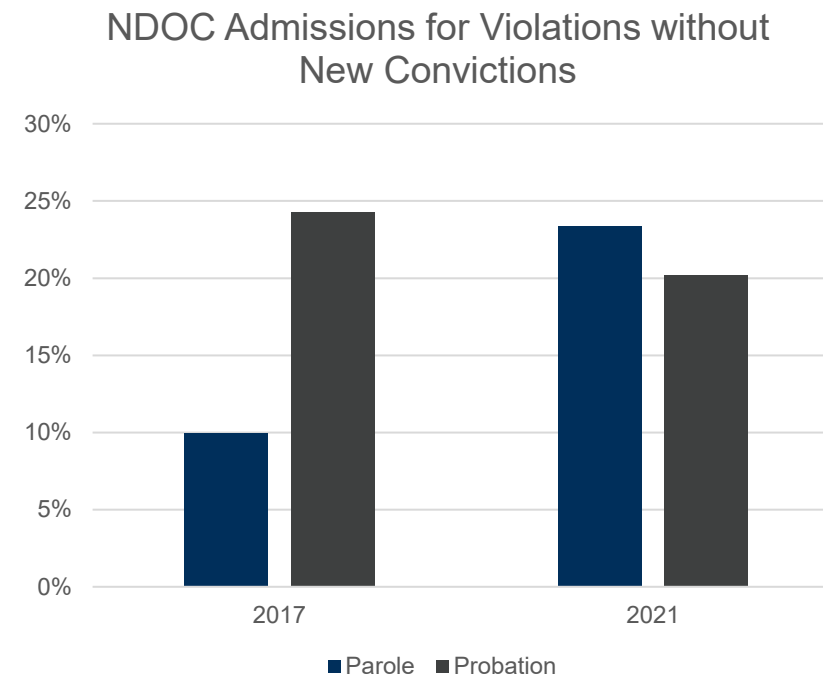
- Requires training in evidence-based practices
- Establishes a system of graduated sanctions and revocation caps for responding to technical violations
- Requires the use of a risk and needs assessment
- Requires the use of case plans
- Reduces probation terms by tailoring to offense categories

Implementation Update: Nevada Parole and Probation

Goal 2 Outcomes

NDOC admissions for probation violations with no new convictions dropped between 2017-2021

NDOC admissions for parole violations with no new convictions increased in that same period



Goals of AB 236 (2019)

- Focus prison resources
- Improvements to community supervision
- Strengthen behavioral health responses**
- Minimize barriers to reentry
- Sustain the criminal justice reforms

Goal: Strengthen Behavioral Health Responses

- Expanded eligibility for specialty courts
- Requires training on interaction with those with behavioral health needs
- Standardizes crisis intervention training for law enforcement
- Creates a behavioral health field response grant program

Implementation Update: Peace Officer Standards and Training

Implementation Update: Virtual Crisis Care

Goals of AB 236 (2019)

- Focus prison resources
- Improvements to community supervision
- Strengthen behavioral health responses
- Minimize barriers to reentry**
- Sustain the criminal justice reforms

Goal: Minimizing Barriers to Reentry

- Requires NDOC to develop a reentry plan for individuals prior to release
- Ensures every releasing individual has certain essential items

Implementation Update: Nevada Department of Corrections

Goals of AB 236 (2019)

- Focus prison resources
- Improvements to community supervision
- Strengthen behavioral health responses
- Minimize barriers to reentry
- Sustain the criminal justice reforms

Goal: Sustaining the Reforms

- Requires ongoing criminal justice data collection and analysis
- Requires the calculation of averted costs and prioritizes reinvestment in reentry, behavioral health, and transitional housing
- Establishes a local coordinating council to report on community needs and identify grant opportunities for local agencies

Implementation Update: Nevada Department of Sentencing Policy

Goal 5 Outcomes

- The Nevada Sentencing Commission and the Department of Sentencing Policy have released reports as required by AB 236
- The Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council has been created and is meeting

Next Steps

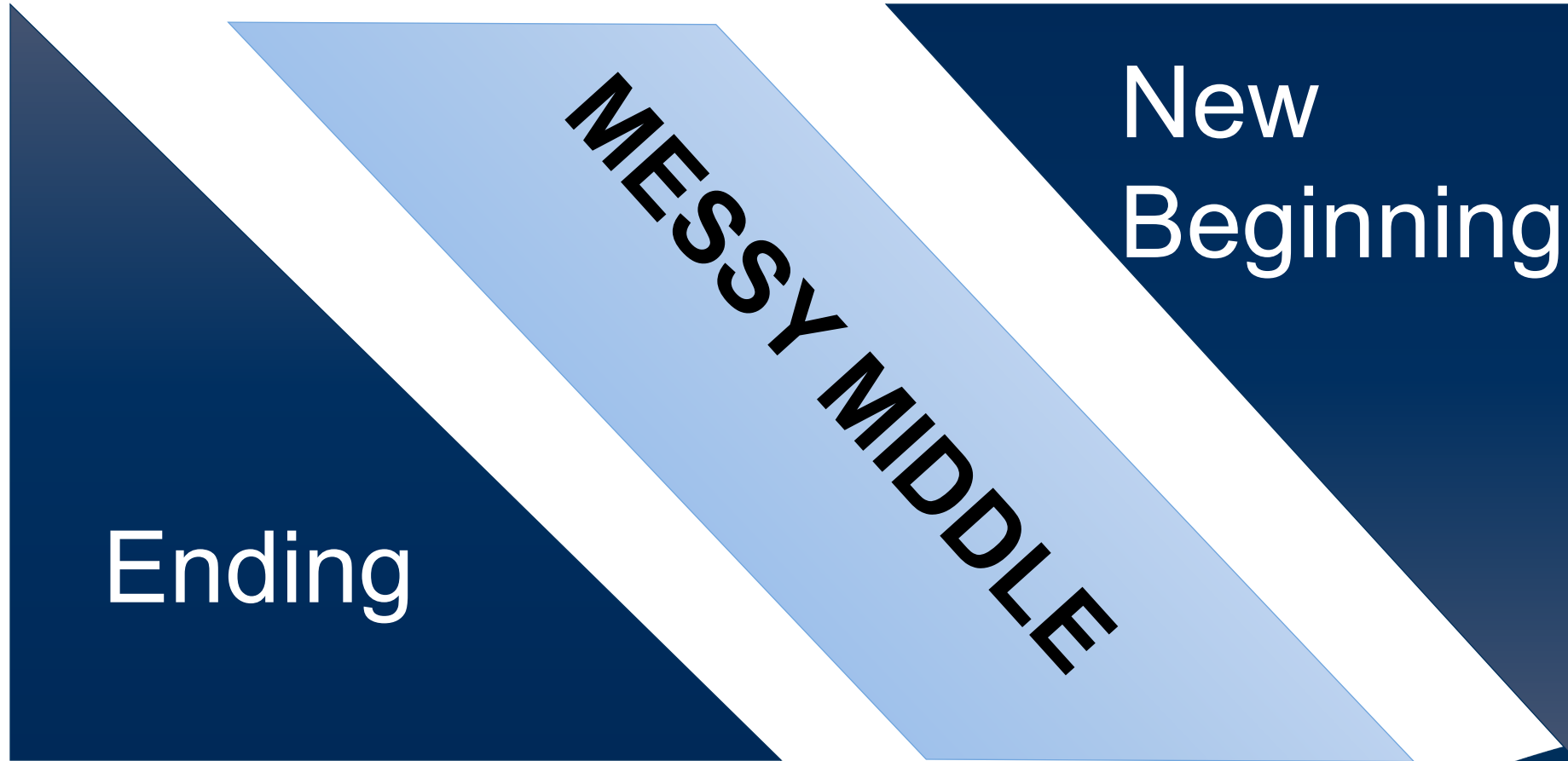
Next Steps

- Cross-agency collaboration
- Oversight and data tracking
- Sustainability planning

Implementation Stages



Adapted from the National Implementation Research Network



Questions?

Valerie Meade vmeade@cjinstitute.org
Abigail Strait astrait@cjinstitute.org

This project was supported by Grant No. 2015-ZB-BX-K002 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.