The Roadmap to Reentry identifies five evidence-based principles guiding federal efforts to improve the correctional practices and programs that govern the lives of those who will seek to reenter society after incarceration. The Department of Justice holds the view that “reentry begins Day 1.” And, just as important, the Department’s involvement does not end at the prison gates. As such, these corrections principles span the cycle of custody and beyond: from intake, to incarceration, through to release. The principles are as follows:

**PRINCIPLE I**
Upon incarceration, every inmate should be provided an individualized reentry plan tailored to his or her risk of recidivism and programmatic needs.

**DOJ ACTIONS:**
- The Department is enhancing the BOP’s risk and needs assessment tools to inform development of reentry plans tailored to specific criminogenic needs of each incarcerated individual.

**PRINCIPLE II**
While incarcerated, each inmate should be provided education, employment training, life skills, substance abuse, mental health, and other programs that target their criminogenic needs and maximize their likelihood of success upon release.

**DOJ ACTIONS:**
- The Department, through BOP, has launched an effort to assess its education programs, life-skills programs and job-skills programs to ensure that those programs are evidence-based and targeted to the criminogenic needs of inmates.

**PRINCIPLE III**
While incarcerated, each inmate should be provided the resources and opportunity to build and maintain family relationships, strengthening the support system available to them upon release.

**DOJ ACTIONS:**
- The Department is enhancing the number and types of opportunities available for people in federal prisons to strengthen family relationships during their terms of incarceration.

**PRINCIPLE IV**
During transition back to the community, halfway houses and supervised release programs should ensure individualized continuity of care for returning citizens.

**DOJ ACTIONS:**
- To ensure that RRCs fulfill their vital role in the reentry process, the Department is assessing and evaluating the RRC model to develop improvements that provide residents enhanced reentry support.

**PRINCIPLE V**
Before leaving custody, every person should be provided comprehensive reentry-related information and access to resources necessary to succeed in the community.

**DOJ ACTIONS:**
- The Department is developing reentry-specific tools and support services to help returning citizens succeed after leaving federal custody.

Justice.gov/reentry