



Prisons Evolving as Connected Communities (PEaCC)

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PEaCC Overview

Use-Inspired Research

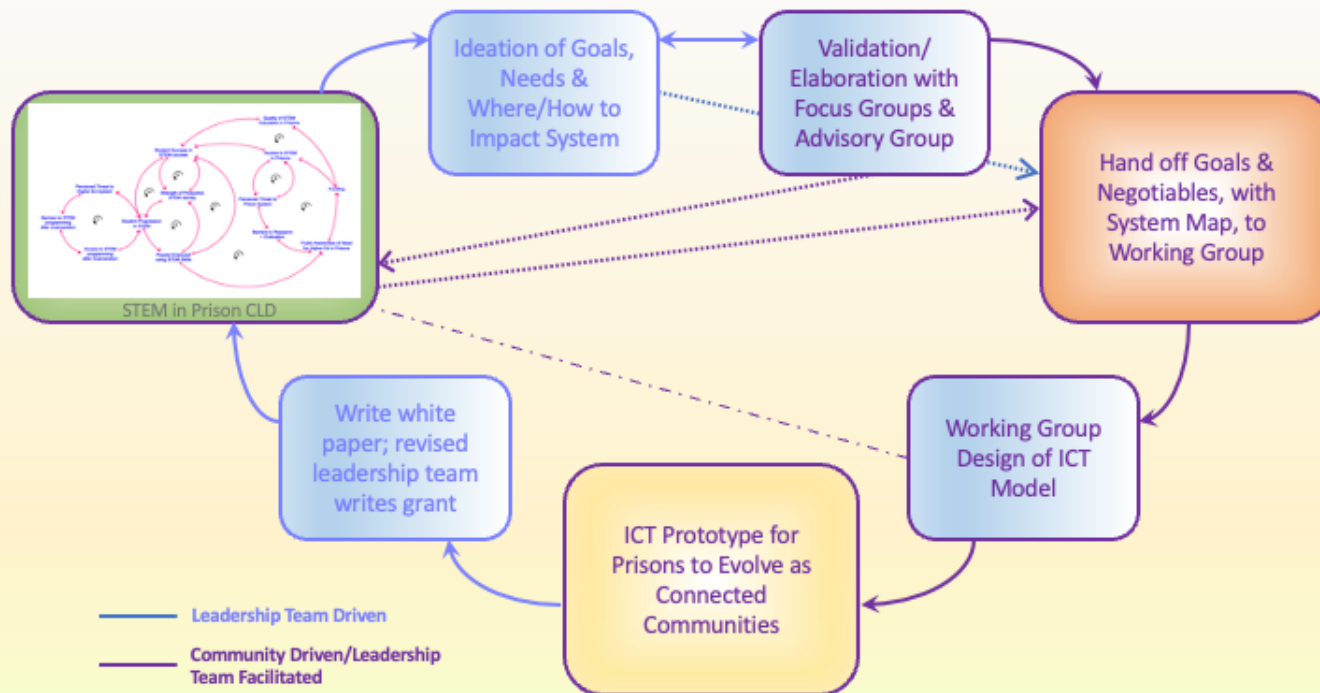
1. **Problem:** the digital disconnection of incarcerated people from all community and family (even community inside prison) decreasing well-being and safety for all stakeholders. Current **Information and Communication Technology (ICT)** is often predatory in nature.
2. Directly impacted people are included at all project levels to ensure a model grounded in humane mental models. The majority of incarcerated people are from underrepresented groups.
3. The PEaCC “geographically bounded region” is unique; it is a prison with its surrounding “community”, not a city.

Planning Grant Activities

1. Leadership team building and project resetting due to staff changes
2. Meetings to make sense of and discuss data and CLDs from previous project to identify key implications for PEaCC, as well as tiered communication model
3. Early Ideation of current and desired system goals (positive and negative) and which need to be addressed in ICT model & what are the resulting must haves for the working group
4. Validate/elaborate ideation through 8 focus groups & community discussion; 4 completed
5. Dissemination of Findings
6. Advisory board critique #1
7. Working Group develops ICT prototype for prisons
8. Prepare public white paper & full grant proposal

PEaCC Overview

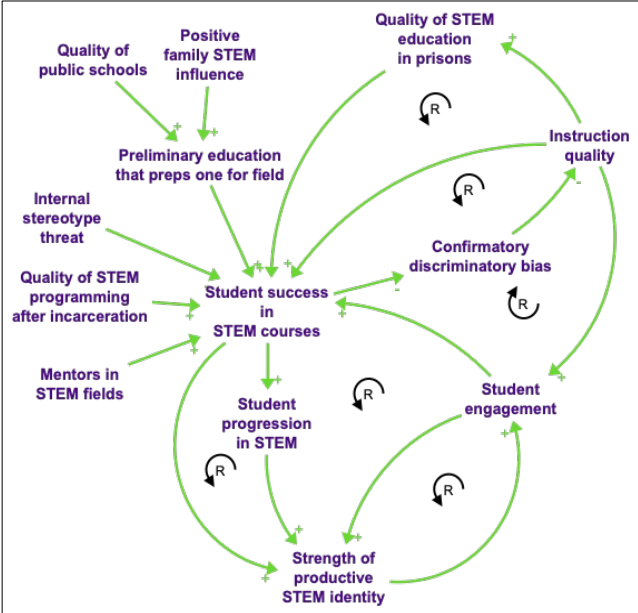
Project Schematic- Start & End @ System



Project Vision for Full IRG

1. Build and pilot a flexible/modular ICT model for prisons, grounded in human dignity, to support whole person-wellbeing & community development within and across prison walls in 3 prisons in diverse US locations (rural Northeast, urban Midwest & one with a high concentration of indigenous and Latinx populations).
2. We need to collect the corpus of communications from these regions to allow the machine learning for the AI privacy and scanning protocols to monitor and flag communications with residents and staff of the facilities.

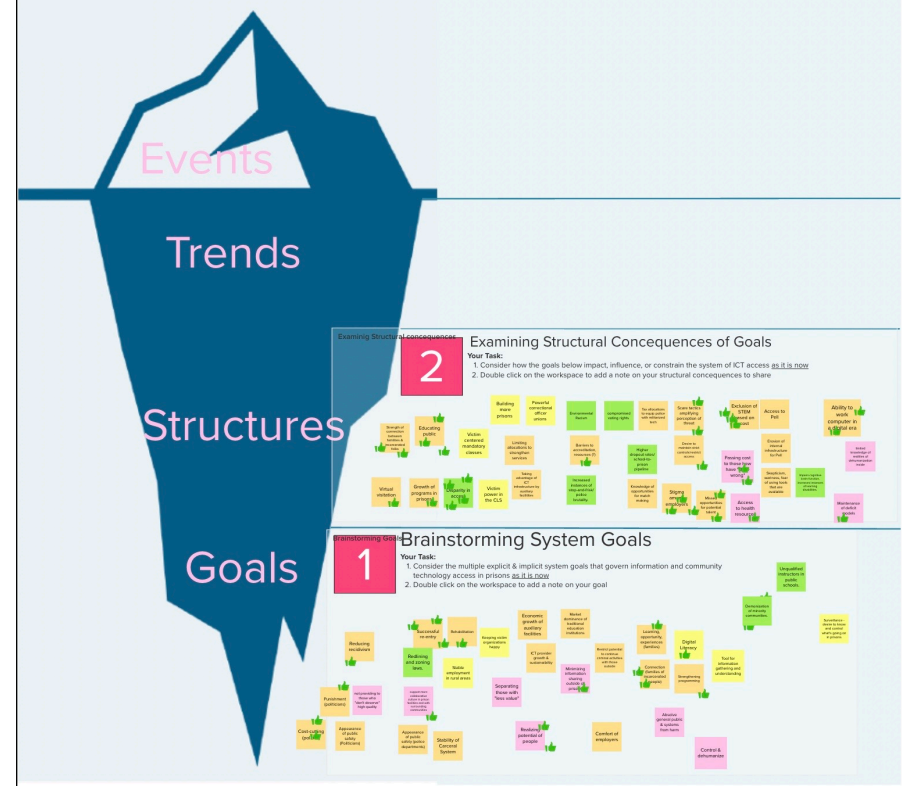
In system dynamics, informal causal maps and formal models ... are used to “uncover and understand endogenous sources of system behavior” (Richardson, 2011, p. 241) ... The maps produced around **STEM in Prison** implicated prison ICT infrastructure in **all 9 dominant feedback loops** and **9 of 13 subsystems**



PEaCC Update

We propose creating a hybrid communication filtering system using AI/ML to monitor information flow between the inside and outside world and identify messages for further review.

Tier	Examples
Fully Private Privileged Pairs/small groups-	Communications with lawyers, healthcare professionals, data sharing for research internship- previously identified
Semi-Private Personal Pairs & Small Groups	Family, friends, professors, re-entry support, potential employers – previously identified
Public Internet activity, specific to policy or crime, any personal communications where other person not (?) approved	Internet activity, web-forms, any communication to non-identified person



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Priorities/Must Haves for Working Groups

Your Task:
 1. Review the Goals, systems, structures, and prioritization votes
 2. Review how these goals & consequences play out in the systems map
 3. Propose "must haves" for features of working groups

Human Resources	Technology	Partnerships & institutional relationships	Programs & Participation	Infrastructure	Instruction
- Account for health needs of people inside - Ex: --Alternative tele-health options - IT capabilities to interface with health providers to increase health access - Potential: Engagement with officer unions - partnership/dialogue (??) --Argument for engagement- program can help support the mission of corrections officers	Capability to differentiate types of communication to promote freedom & privacy. Ex: - 3 tiers/ priorities/ differentiation for communications - -- Privileged -- Specific communications (no privacy restrictions) -- Learning/broad consumption Above requires: - Technology & engagement for socialization of framework	Capability for state & Federal prisons to connect with service providers: - Ability to connect, make different partnerships/ relationships possible with other institutions (employers, other organizations) - Allow states to choose partners; not just one service provider	Explicit management of cost - -- For incarcerated folks Narrative management for employers, corrections officers -- Talking points -- Looping in individuals directly impacted - folks who can speak to/frame these issues. -- Identify who & how concerns are being addressed Ex: advocate recruitment for buy-in; rapid evidence development Additional examples: -- Offering opportunities for children of corrections officers Build in case study/explicit evaluation studies Countering oppositional narratives (community/political)	- Engage with concerns about monopolies in tech - one service provider on how to make accessible/equitable -- Apple TV analogy - generic platform infrastructure layer enabling an application layer (apps) for specific and individualized services. -- Modularity/adaptability to new domains, such as different institutions, municipalities, states, etc. -- Investigate the trade-offs between single monolithic provider of infrastructure vs. multi-provider systems (e.g., Apple TV analogy) - Connecting with existing consortiums/consortium - feeding into other folks	Priorities for instruction approach, platform: - Teaching practices/ pedagogy - Learning from styles, capabilities/priorities of learners - Explicitly prioritize people with learning disabilities

PEaCC Evolution

From DoC & Previously Incarcerated Leaders, we learned:

Safety and security are not synonymous; we need a causal loop diagram to illustrate system of safety, which includes personal safety and well-being of all people, to help illustrate how deprivation and exclusion actually decrease safety for all and community inclusion, access and opportunity increase safety for all.

From Family Focus Group, we learned:

Contrary to our expectations, cost is not the primary issue with information and communications technology that family members report. Rather, they find the quality of network connections and extremely limited time windows to be the greatest barriers they face in staying connected.

From Re-entry Focus Group, we learned:

Reentry providers report a key benefit of increasing technology in correctional facilities as a way to increase transparency in prison practices thereby improving the safety of people in custody.

From Previously Incarcerated Focus Group, we learned:

Some key issues that incarcerated people face with readjusting to modern technology upon release are that the available equipment for those incarcerated is dated, and only provided for a short time. For instance, a Microsoft Word class lasts for only 3 months and upon completion the program cannot be accessed again. For those who take such classes years before release the gained knowledge is largely lost.