

**Back on Track:  
A Collaborative, Integrated Program  
To Improve Individual Lives and Enhance Public Safety**

A Deferred Entry of Judgment reentry initiative focused on first-time, low-level drug offenders, **Back on Track** provides a proven alternative to a costly and unproductive cycle of incarceration, under-employment, family dysfunction, and repeated criminal behavior. Back on Track serves as a constructive alternative for young people, ages 18-24, who have no history of violence, gun possession, or gang involvement, and who face a difficult case with likely jail time.

A unique public/private partnership of public, private, governmental and criminal justice agencies, Back on Track addresses the multiple factors that contribute to a costly and destructive cycle of drug use, drug sales, and incarceration. Back on Track improves public safety, reduces public cost, and improves outcomes for at-risk young people.

Combining strict accountability and close supervision, Back on Track allows eligible young people to avoid incarceration while engaging in a comprehensive and individualized program of educational support, employment training, life-skills development, restorative community service, and behavioral health treatment.

A collaboration of Family Service Agency of San Francisco, Goodwill Industries, the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, and the Probation department, Back on Track is estimated to annually save the city \$2 million in jail costs, alone.

In this 12-month program, and under close supervision of the courts, case managers, therapists, and career and education advisors, participants plead guilty to their offense, address the Court, and agree to follow all terms and agreements of the program. Following this plea agreement, the Court defers entering judgment, pending the client's progress in and completion of the program.

As part of the program, clients work with case managers, probation officers, and other partners to develop Personal Responsibility Plans outlining goals for multiple areas of their lives, including education, vocation, housing, behavior management, substance abuse and mental health treatment, financial management, parenting issues, and family dynamic.

Each week, clients meet with their case managers and career advisors to assess their progress towards these goals, receiving unparalleled support coupled with clear expectations and defined consequences. Every two weeks, they appear before a Back on Track judge to review their progress. During the year, they must also complete 120 hours of restorative community service.

At the end of the 12-month program, if the client has fulfilled the established goals and has not been rearrested, the District Attorney dismisses the original case and the Deferred Entry of Judgment is lifted.