

Housing after Reentry

HOUSING, HUMAN SERVICES, AND VETERANS COMMITTEE WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 7, 2021



Mission, Vision, and Values

DOC Mission

To improve public safety by positively changing lives

DOC Vision

Working together for safer communities

DOC Values

Cultivate an environment of integrity and trust

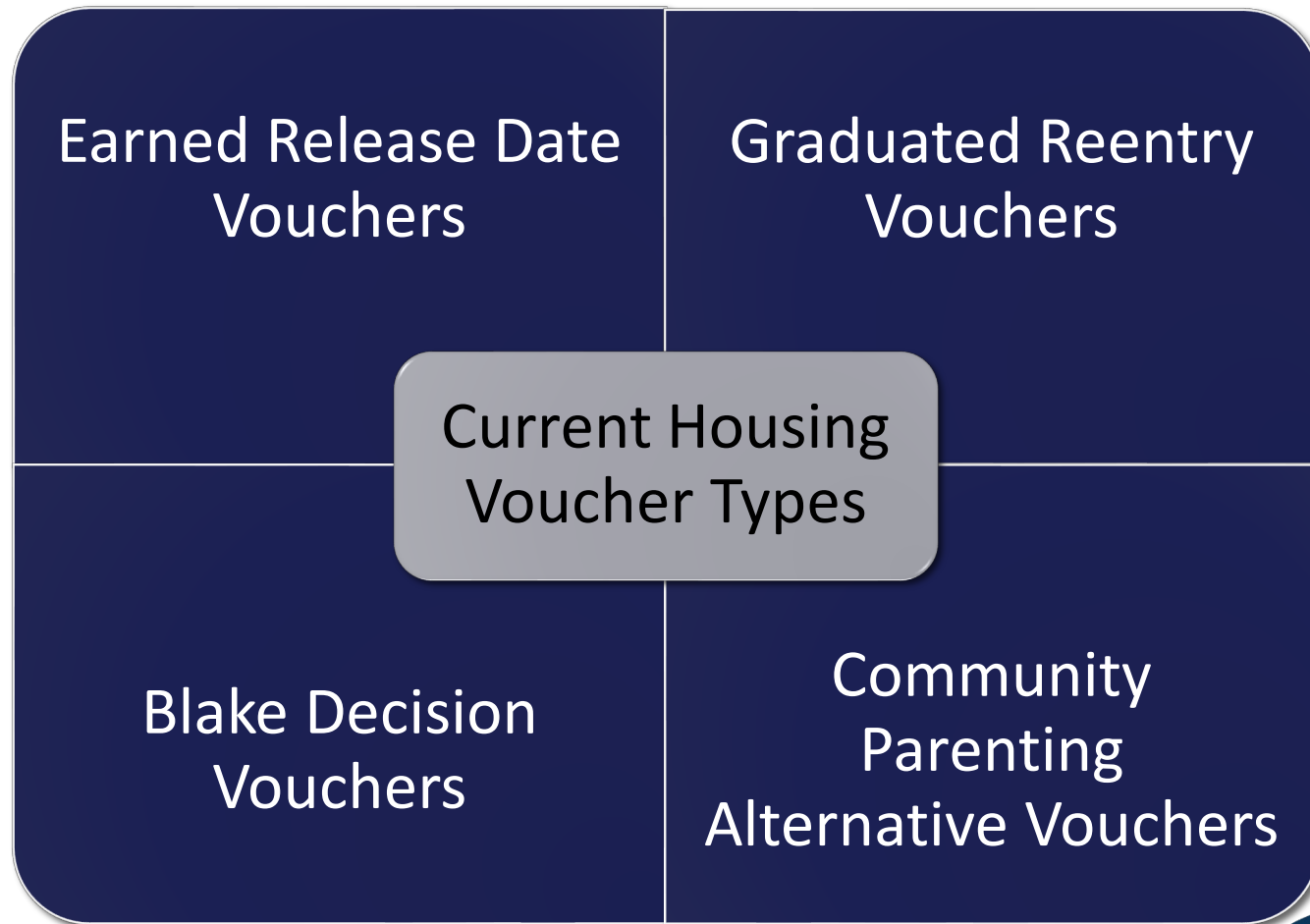
Respectful and inclusive interactions

People's safety

Positivity in words and actions

Supporting people's success

Voucher Types – Housing Program



Voucher Types – Housing Program

Earned Release Date (ERD) Housing Vouchers

Passed in 2009 under RCW 9.94A.729

- For individuals releasing in lieu of earned release time and require an approved release address
- Provides up to three months of housing vouchers
- Monthly voucher amount cannot exceed \$700

Eligibility Criteria-DOC Policy

- Within 30 days of ERD or has been found releasable
- Lack sufficient resources to secure an approvable release address
- Risk at remaining incarcerated past their ERD
- Willingness to participate in additional transitional support programming
- Will release immediately to community supervision
- Compliance with the custody facility plan and all facility rules

For FY 2020-2021

- Approximately 3300 individuals received an ERD Housing Voucher
- On average, an individual received two months of vouchers

Voucher Types – Housing Program

Graduated Reentry (GRE) Housing Vouchers

Established under RCW 9.94A.733

- Individuals placed on home detention as part of the GRE program must provide an approved residence and living arrangement
- If an address cannot be obtained, the department may issue rental vouchers
- Provides up to six months of housing vouchers
- Monthly voucher amount cannot exceed \$700

Eligibility Criteria

- Must have been accepted into the GRE program
- Maintain compliance with the requirements of the GRE program

For FY 2020-2021

- Approximately 995 GRE voucher payments were issued
- Approximately one third of GRE participants required housing voucher assistance

Voucher Types – Housing Program

Community Parenting Alternative (CPA) Housing Vouchers

Established under RCW 9.94A.6551

- Individuals placed on home detention as part of the CPA program must provide an approved residence and living arrangement
- If an address cannot be obtained, the department may issue rental vouchers
- Provides up to three months of housing vouchers
- Monthly voucher amount cannot exceed \$700

Eligibility Criteria

- Must have been accepted into the CPA program
- Maintain compliance with the requirements of the CPA program

For FY 2020-2021

- Approximately 186 CPA voucher payments were issued

Voucher Types – Housing Program

Blake Decision Housing Vouchers

Washington State Budget

- Provided limited housing assistance for individuals impacted by *State v. Blake*
- Provides up to three months of housing vouchers
- Monthly voucher amount cannot exceed \$700

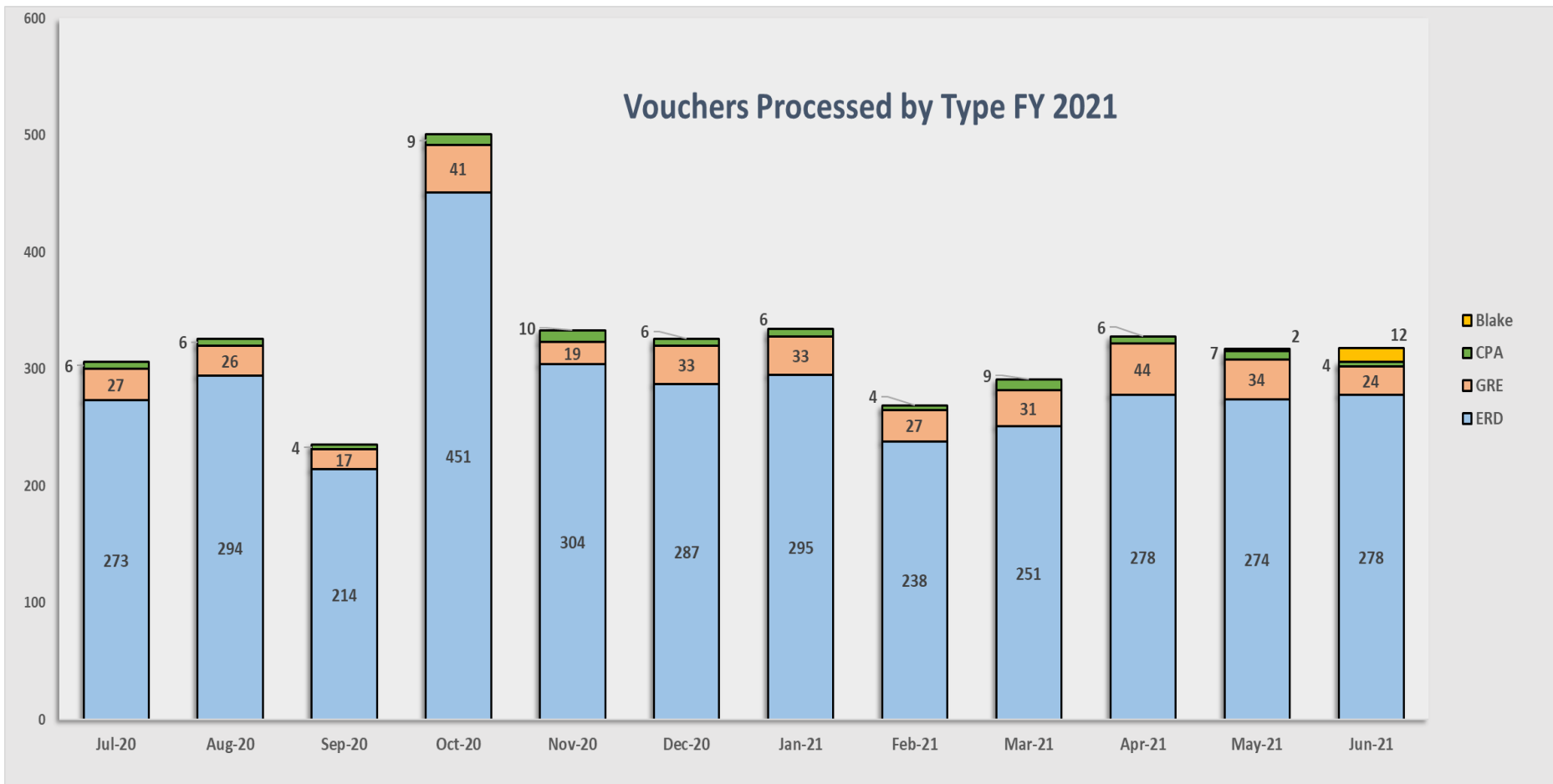
Eligibility Criteria

- Must have been impacted by the Blake decision

For 2022

- As of 9/29/21, a total of 97 Blake decision voucher payments have been issued

Voucher Types – Housing Program



Danielle Armbruster, Assistant Secretary

Current Work – Housing Program

Statewide Transitional Housing Directory (STHD)

- A list of housing providers who accept DOC housing vouchers
- Include non-profit organizations, faith-based groups, and individual landlords
- Approximately 600 residences are listed on the STHD

Regional Housing Specialists

- Assist staff in identifying housing resources
- Identify potential housing providers and provide an orientation packet
- Notify local governments about new placements on the STHD per RCW 72.09.285
- Assist housing providers in determining what populations they will house
- Assist other agencies in identifying housing resources

Challenges – Housing Program

Lack of funding and housing resources for individuals who do not fit the voucher criteria

- Jail releases
- Monetary releases to tolled causes/supervision,
- Max date releases

Lack of housing vendors or vacancies

- Vendors unable to establish new houses due to high housing costs
- Vendors selling properties due to the housing market
- Individuals remain in transitional housing due to lack of available housing
- Establishing new housing in some areas is difficult due to local responses

Individuals who are difficult to place

- Individuals with sex offenses, arson convictions, and mobility concerns

Housing stability post release

- Three months of the ERD Voucher

Questions?

Thank you!

