**DYS Initiative:** Reentry

**Focus:** Identified gang members returning to the Cleveland area

**DYS Partnership:** The United States Attorney General’s program ~ *The Cleveland Gang Initiative*

**Strategy:** A new pilot program in the Cleveland region will target high impact adult and juvenile gang members with a history of violence, who pose a risk to the community, and are returning to Cleveland after a period of incarceration.

**Purpose:** To increase public safety by reducing recidivism rates through the use of vouchers, mentors, and community organizations for the delivery of services and treatment.

**Program Design:**
The services begin to selected DYS youth two to three months prior to their release and then for six months after release.

Elements include:
- **Pre-release** services that assist DYS youth’s preparation for return to the Cleveland area.

- **Post-release** services based in the local community providing support, linkage, advocacy, and monitoring for participants.

- Accountability mechanisms created through a collaborative approach with involvement from the courts, law enforcement, probation/parole, volunteers, and local citizens.

- A training regiment for service providers and volunteers that supports a unified philosophy and methodology based in evidenced based practices.