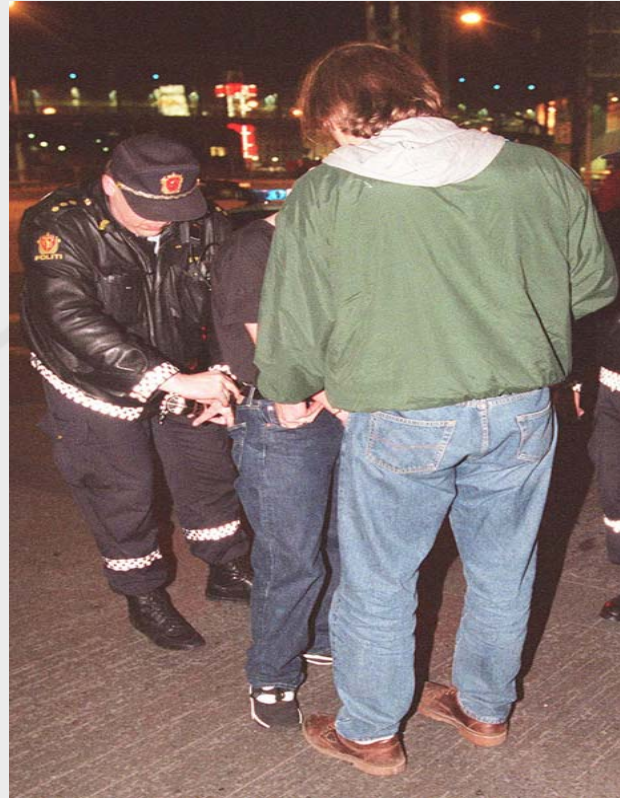




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TOG – efforts to help re-offenders

Housing re- offenders on probation



Kriminalomsorgens sentrale forvaltning



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TOG- efforts to help re-offenders

- TOG is a cooperation-project between Oslo prison and Oslo probation office
- Probation and prison co-operation to reduce recidivism
- A unit in Oslo prison is organized with only re-offenders who want to end their criminal career
- TOG- will provide the re-offenders with necessary skills so they will be able to start ordinary lives
- A personal officer and a senior executive officer work with the inmate while he is in prison and also while he is released on probation
- Our main target group
 - have more than two previous convictions
 - are inmates who normally would be denied release on parole
 - are men from the city of Oslo
 - are motivated to change lifestyle
- The re-offenders get help to change their lifestyles and help to end their criminal careers
- Inmates who join TOG have often many social problems.
- Many of them has low fare, physical sickness, homelessness, drugproblems, few non criminal friends, psychic problems



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TOG- efforts to help re-offenders

- TOG applied for monetary help from the housing bank 31.08.05, we recieved half a million Norwegian kroner
- Background for the applications was the Government`s strategy for housing
- One of the goals in the strategy is noone shall have to spend time in temporary accomodiation upon realease from prison.
- The purpose for the housing project in TOG was:
 - to make sure that TOG developed methods so the inmates will get an appropriate house and be able to keep their homes .
 - ensure re-offenders in TOG do not become homeless
- I got the assignment and started working 01.04.2006
- In these days we have recieved another half million Norwegian kroner for another year to settle the project



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Housing offenders on probation

The project`s aim:

- All re-offenders who are released from our unit shall have proper housing
- Provide activities of daily living both in prison and after release
- Establish cooperation between the government services that are responsible for housing homeless
- Develop a method to train the re-offenders to take care of and keep their homes
- The projectleader shall provide knowledge about housing to the other participants in TOG



Strategy for housing

- One month before release all TOG inmates shall have appropriate housing
- All who need training in living in their own flat will get it
- Provide a permanent home before the social service withdraw
- Cooperation with other departments are important to achive an appropriate and peramanent home
- TOG inmates have leave of absence to furniture their homes, participate in cultural activities to adapt to a life outside the prison.



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Individual plan – a project in TOG

Every re-offender that have a need for long-term and co-ordinated services, are entitled to have an individual plan. This is established in the Health and Social Services regulations.

Individual plan is an important basic document that will contribute to more comprehensive and continuous service and it is a tool for co-operation between various service providers and the re-offender.

The plan should be concrete, with clear specifications of deadlines for the implementation of different measures.



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Individual plan – a tool for cooperation

It must be ensured that there is one co-ordinator providing overall responsibility to follow up the re-offenders needs. This service provider is often called a co-ordinator.

TOG often takes the initiative together with the re-offender in asking for an individuell plan.

In addition to the health- and social services the plan can be given from the National Service for Social Insurance, the Norwegian Public Employment Service (today; one office) and educational institutions.

An individual plan is a superior plan.

Individuell plan is a most important document when housing re-offenders. The plan helps us mapping the re-offender different needs. These may be how and when to pay the bills, making food, going to the psychiatrist, the doctor, having visits at home, taking good care of the home etc.



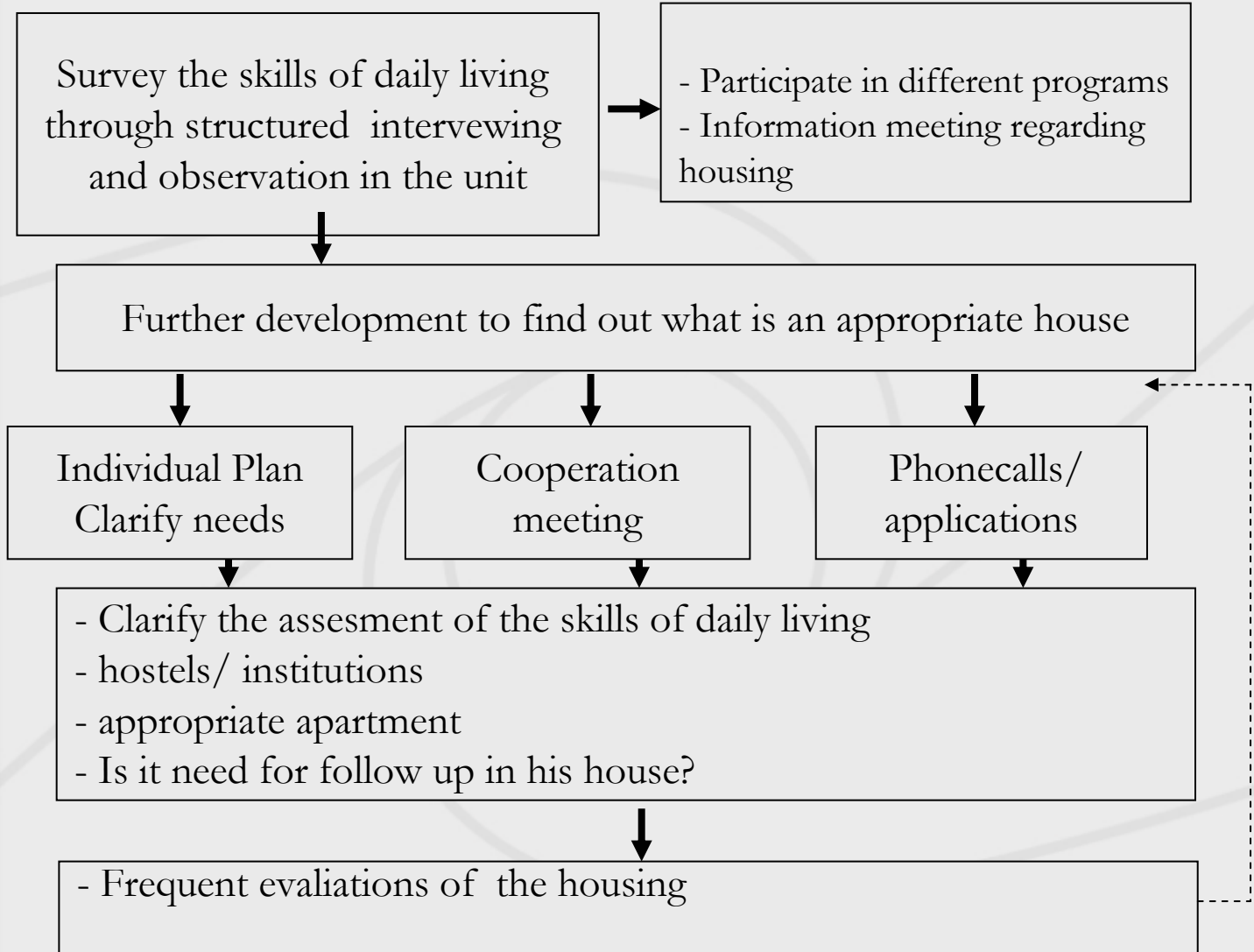
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Cooperation group

- The inmate decides the participants in his cooperation group
 - TOG belief that the individual can make decisions in their own lives
 - The inmate decides the subjects for the meeting
 - The inmate decides the participants in his meeting
 - The inmate is the leader of the meeting
 - Delegation of tasks
 - Create efforts which are important for the future



Model of housing





Problems we have had with housing

- Some are used to spend a lot of money – a big challenge is to learn them to live with less money
- Some need to learn how to pay their bills
- Some often have a large amount of white and black debt
- Some are not used to follow rules
- Some have lived an ambulant life with no structure and routines
- Some have little knowledge about society in general, often drop-outs from school
- Some have experienced violence and poverty in their lives
- Lonesome when they try to live an ordinary life
- Some have been haunted in their house by their previous criminal environment



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TOG-offenders: results 01.03.07

Re-offenders in the project	39
Released on probation	13
Rented apartment	5
Public apartment	10
Minimum security prison	7
Institution	5
Recidiv	1



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Hege Kongerud - project co-ordinator and
Marit Lieungh TOG-officer



Thank You for Your attention