# AN EXPLORATORY STUDY ON "GREYING OFFENDERS"

Who are they and why do they offend at an older age?

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### WHAT WE KNOW FROM PREVIOUS RESEARCH

#### Elderly offenders face challenges in:

## Ways to manage and reduce offending:



Physical and mental health



**Finances** 



Enhancing employability

Increasing social skills



Social support



(SPS, 2014; SACA, 2018)

## WHAT WE FOUND IN THIS CURRENT STUDY

Slight increase in percentage of older offenders in prison





Many older offenders had scores suggestive of poorer mood and cognitive abilities

Finances and employment are their main worries after release





Most older offenders have a lower risk of reoffending



Life circumstances (e.g. social isolation, poor financial planning for older age) and motivations (e.g. impulsivity, opportunistic) led to them committing offences later in life

#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

#### When interacting with older offenders...



Be aware of their mood and cognitive issues and be patient



Engage in conversations to prepare them for release



Increase your awareness of community resources for older individuals (e.g. Agency for Integrated Care, Silverjobs)



Provide a listening ear and engage meaningfully



Encourage them to participate in community activities upon release





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