

BYRNE/JAG AUTHORIZED PURPOSE AREA #2. Corrections

Program Title: Correctional Programming

AUTHORIZED PURPOSE AREA: #2

A. Problem Statement

Reporting, investigation, and prosecution of all types of crime have exerted a steady, substantial impact on the prisons and jails that house the convicted. The prison population is not only growing at an alarming rate, it is changing in its composition and underlying treatment needs. According to the Tennessee Department of Correction 2005/2006 Annual Report, over the next 11 years Tennessee's incarcerated population is projected to increase by a total of 17%. The most recent statistics, released in May 2006, indicate that Tennessee has the 18th highest incarceration rate in the country. With the exception of Burglary and Theft, the TDOC report also reported that there were more people incarcerated for drug offenses than any other offenses in 2005/2006. The average time served by those with drug offenses was between 3 and 4.6 years. Approximately 20% of the inmate population is diagnosed with a mental disorder, and as many as 19% of the inmate population has both a mental disorder and a diagnosed substance dependence. Many inmates need other services as well, such as anger management, employment and job training, educational improvement, criminal thinking classes, and more.

With the increase in drug offenses and inmates manifesting substance abuse treatment needs, the treatment programs in a traditional prison setting are inadequate. Research indicates that programming in prison and community corrections is the best method to reduce the risk of recidivism. Research-based programs can reduce recidivism by up to 25%. Research conducted in the state of Delaware and other localities suggests that long-term care is needed for the substance abusing offender population, with a continuum of care encompassing therapy, security, supervision, and aftercare.

B. Program Description

Projects funded in this program area will be in-house or community-based correctional programming that is designed to address the need of the offender related to education, intervention of addiction, skill building, integration, arrest and treatment of mental illness, and other support services. Projects will include a continuum of care approach for eligible offenders in state correctional facilities, county jails, community-based programs. The program model will focus on the primary problems of the correctional offender by providing structured services that focus on the development of the offender's cognitive, behavioral, social, and vocational skills. A continuum of care will be available to the offender who has completed the "treatment" phase of the continuum and has left incarceration. A range of services will be provided in the community including continued group and individual counseling, drug testing and support activities for the offenders and their families. Funding will be provided for projects using evidence-based approaches and will focus on integration, support, and accountability.

C. Program Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Reduce the use of standard jail and prison beds and other correctional services by eligible offenders by diverting them into rehabilitative programs.

Goal 2: Reduce crimes committed by eligible offenders.

Goal 3: Promote public safety through these reductions.

Goal 4: Increase the personal, familial, and societal accountability of eligible offenders.

Goal 5: Promote effective interaction and the use of resources among local criminal justice agencies and community agencies.

D. Activities

In-house Programming: Correctional programs designed to educate, intervene into addiction, and build cognitive, behavioral, social and vocational skills. Programs will integrate the identification and treatment of mental illness with other interventions, and provide support services.

Continuum of Care Programming in Community-based Programs: Continuity of program services will follow the offender from state correctional facilities or jails into the community-based programs after release. Services should focus on the primary problems of eligible offenders, providing counseling, drug testing and support services.

E. Performance Measures

Measure 1.1. Number of times admitted to jail and/or prison measured by:

- Two years prior to admission to program
- During participation in program
- Two years after graduation or termination from the program

Measure 1.2. Amount of time in jail and/or prison measured by:

- Two years prior to admission to program
- During participation in program
- Two years after graduation or termination from the program

Measure 1.3. Number of offenders admitted to standard jail or prison/correctional facility who have graduated from or been terminated from a qualified community-based intervention program.

Measure 2.1. Number of felony arrests measured within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 2.2. Number of misdemeanor arrests measured within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 3.1. Rate of crimes against persons [re: public safety] measured within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.1. Rate of Restoration of custody rights/visitation rights within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.2. Rate of Birth of drug-free babies within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.3. Rate of Employment, re-employment, and/or improved employment within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.4. Rate of Employment stability within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.5. Rate of Education gains within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.6. Rate of Child support payments within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.7. Rate of Hours of community service within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.8. Rate of Fines, court costs, program costs, and restitution paid within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.9. Rate of Drivers license restoration within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 4.10. Rate of Residential stability within one year of either graduation or termination from a qualified community-based program.

Measure 5.1. List of individuals, agencies, and organizations with which the program collaborates.

Measure 5.2. Rate of satisfaction with the quality of collaboration among the program's partner agencies.

F. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation Methods

Projects funded through this program must:

- Collect all data on participants needed to report on any federal or state required performance measures for correctional programs
- Semi-Annual and Annual reports will be used to analyze effectiveness of the program
- Collect and report statistics and anecdotal data to be available for replication of the program
- Programs will be monitored for adherence to contract narratives, OCJP and BJA program requirements.
- Data collected will be used for program evaluation purposes to determine need for expansion or modification.