



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
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December 29, 2020

Lt. Governor Randy McNally
Tennessee Senate
425 5th Avenue North
Suite 700, Cordell Hull Bldg.
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Speaker Cameron Sexton
House of Representatives
425 5th Avenue North
Suite 600, Cordell Hull Bldg.
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Re: Tenn. Code Ann. §40-35-323(f) Report (December 2020)

Mr. Lt. Governor and Mr. Speaker:

Tenn. Code Ann. §40-35-323(f) requires a report be made to the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives relative to the grants awarded pursuant to Public Chapter 1051 (2018) and the results of the measurable outcomes agreed upon between the department and grant recipients. The legislation further required that the Department publish its regular reports on its website.

For its 2020 end-of-year report, the Department submits the following budgetary information:

GRANTEE	BUDGET DRAW DOWN	REMAINING BUDGET
Franklin County	\$116,714	\$133,286
Knox County	\$166,666	\$83,333
Dyer County	\$187,500	\$62,500
South-Central Tennessee Workforce Alliance (SCTWA)*	\$177,688	\$73,312

** For the SCTWA, the proposal partner is Maury County Jail, but the alliance is a consortium of Wayne, Lawrence, Giles, Marshall, Maury, Lewis, Perry and Hickman counties.*

While recidivism is a three-year measurement, since inception of the grants the following offender returns suggest positive strides toward impacting re-incarceration for those justice involved individuals who have benefited from programs funded through these grants.

The current data on program outcomes is as follows:

- **FRANKLIN COUNTY**
 - 10 of 95 grant enrollees have returned
 - Grant supports gainful offender employment by focusing its program efforts on moral reconnection therapy, job readiness training, victim impact programming, developing parenting skills, and substance use treatment.
 - The program has served 95 offenders since program inception.

- **KNOX COUNTY**
 - 19 of 72 grant enrollees have returned
 - Grant used to focus on an Intensive Treatment Program (90-day program) designed to attain and maintain sobriety as well as focus on life skills and reentry planning that includes employment/job readiness, housing, and finances.
 - To date Knox County has served 85 individuals with 72 graduating from Reentry Services and returning to communities with plans that promote successful reentry.

- **SOUTH-CENTRAL TENNESSEE WORKFORCE ALLIANCE (SCTWA)**
 - Consortium of Wayne, Lawrence, Giles, Marshall, Maury, Lewis, Perry and Hickman counties.
 - 14 of 85 grant enrollees have returned
 - SCTWA continues to focus on high school equivalency, programming, developing parenting skills, anger management skills, gainful offender employment, and recovery programming. The program has served 85 individuals during the course of the grant.

- **DYER COUNTY**
 - No outcomes to report at present
 - Grant was awarded for infrastructure expansion to expand a reentry work-release program to include female offenders. Grant draws are being held in escrow by the County.
 - The county has contracted with an architectural firm after a competitive bid process for the design and construction of a 10-bed female reentry addition to the existing jail. The addition will allow Dyer County to expand its successful male reentry work-release program to their female population.

Finally, it is important to relay supplemental and relevant information that has been reported by the grantees. The reentry grants, and the work in establishing the relevant infrastructure and best practices, have allowed the grantees to accomplish additional positive milestones in addressing recidivism in their respective jurisdictions. Highlights are as follows:

- The grantees have had training in administering the validated risk needs assessment – to assess the dynamic and static factors that drive criminal behavior –

that was part of the Public Safety Act of 2016. The use of the validated risk needs assessment helps with case planning and developing an individual's reentry plan. See *Tenn. Code Ann.* §41-1-126.

- The grantees have been able to use their established best practices to seek additional grant funding from other sources in order to continue their work of breaking the cycle of criminality.
- SCTWA was able to secure a \$1.6 million dollar Pathway Home Grant offered by the US Dept of Labor and a Victims of Crime Grant Act Grant for \$922,000.
- Dyer County was able to secure a Victims of Crime Grant Act Grant for \$700,000 and shares a pre-trial grant with Lake County for \$360,000.

Sincerely,

/Torrey S. Grimes

Torrey S. Grimes
Senior Counsel/Legislative Liaison

Cc: Senate State & Local, Corrections Subcommittee Members
House State, Corrections Subcommittee Members
Mr. Eddie Weeks, Legislative Librarian