REENTRY A BRIDGE TO SUCCESS!

Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Becky Young Community Corrections Recidivism Reduction Fiscal Year 2015 Report

October 2015

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Message from Secretary Edward F. Wall



As Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (WIDOC), I am pleased to share the fifth annual status report on the Becky Young Community Corrections Recidivism Reduction Plan.

The WIDOC remains committed to the safety of Wisconsin residents, while providing supervision to the offender population in the community and within our institutions. We continue to engage in collaborative partnerships with community agencies. Our community partners deliver programming and related intervention services to offenders, in order to enact long-term change by targeting criminogenic needs and ultimately reducing recidivism.

Our Department continues to strive for excellence in our commitment and ongoing efforts to become an evidence -based agency. Evidence-based practices (EBP) are defined as: "a progressive, organizational use of direct,

current scientific evidence to guide and inform efficient and effective correctional services." (Carey Group, 2008). The WIDOC supports the successful transition from incarceration to the community through the use of COMPAS, motivational interviewing, targeting our interventions to the appropriate population, role playing new skills, use of positive reinforcements when appropriate, engaging community support, and providing feedback to those delivering interventions.

This report details the WIDOC's efforts to address the needs of our offender population through the use of the Becky Young funds. The statutory language setting the expectations and parameters for the funds are outlined within this report and specific programs are featured along with outcome data collected through the newly created Program Data Collection System (PDCS). The collection of program data fosters our collaborative efforts with community agencies, in order to gain the best outcomes for our offenders. In addition, it is important to note that recidivism data is collected on an ongoing basis, but only reported for the three year period after an offender's release.

In my role as Co-Chair of the Wisconsin Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), efforts are underway to improve the effectiveness of our entire criminal justice system. In March 2015, WIDOC was awarded one of three National Institute of Corrections (NIC) technical assistance grants. This grant enables us to participate in Phase V of the NIC's Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) Initiative in the six Wisconsin counties of Chippewa, La Crosse, Marathon, Outagamie, Rock, and Waukesha. The NIC's EBDM program is focused on reducing offender risk and building collaborative, evidence-based decision making and practices by equipping criminal justice policymakers with the information, processes, and tools to reduce pretrial misconduct and post-conviction reoffending. These initiatives support EBP and can demonstrate a return on investment, while being cost-effective. This grant will continue to build a climate for decision-making based on research and evidence allowing policymakers to identify options that yield the greatest return on investment for taxpayers. All of these initiatives together will make Wisconsin a safer state in which to live and work.

Respectfully, Secretary Edward F. Wall

Message from Silvia Jackson, Reentry Director

As the WIDOC Reentry Director, I am very pleased to present the Becky Young Community Corrections Recidivism Reduction Report for Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15). The Reentry Unit has earnestly overseen the allocation of these funds since FY11 with the goal of recidivism reduction; thereby making our communities safer. Our report details WIDOC's adherence to the NIC Eight Principles of Effective Intervention. Funding and supporting programs that align with evidencebased practices by addressing the top criminogenic needs remains our highest priority and overarching goal.

The work of the WIDOC Reentry Unit has been guided by a Reentry Business Plan, our roadmap to implement evidence-based strategies for reducing recidivism. The following objectives were identified for completion in FY15:

- Improved internal and external communication around reentry and evidence-based practices.
- Development of program standards for Substance Abuse (SA), cognitive behavioral, and sex
 offender programming.
- Creation of protocols for reporting on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
- Norming of COMPAS risk and needs assessment on a Wisconsin population.
- Development and implementation of a case management manual.
- Delivery of Computer Numerical Control (CNC) operator training in the DOC Mobile Lab.

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of employees throughout the WIDOC, we were able to accomplish the following tasks under the identified 2015 objectives:

- Communications were issued to staff regarding COMPAS and EBP implementation to educate and improve staff knowledge.
- Program standards in the areas of Cognitive Behavioral Programming and Sex Offender Treatment (SOT) were drafted and later adopted by the Reentry Executive Team. These EBP program standards will guide the delivery of treatment programs to DOC offenders in the institution and field offices.
- Definitions and measurement methodologies were established for KPIs that will assist with tracking reentry performance.
- DOC completed a norming study of the COMPAS risk and needs assessment tool using a Wisconsin population.
- The Reentry Unit fully implemented an online Electronic Case Reference Manual (ECRM) that documents the five phases of the offender lifecycle from admission through discharge.
- DOC Mobile Lab Vocational Training in the high demand field of Computer Numerical Control (CNC) operator training was initiated at Racine Correctional Institution with the first class graduating in June 2015.
- DOC initiated Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) efforts in the areas of interrater reliability of COMPAS assessments and developed standardized procedures to guide staff-offender interactions and promote positive offender behavioral change.

The programs and expenditures highlighted in this year's report reflect the spirit of the Reentry Business Plan. While many programs were funded, I would like to draw attention to several initiatives in particular. Of participants served in the Windows to Work employment program (pg. 6-7), 471 participants engaged in 661 episodes of employment with the average beginning wage earned of \$10.11 per hour. The Opening Avenues to Reentry Success (OARS) program (pg. 11-12) served 147 participants, who received mental health treatment, housing, transportation, employment, and other related services. The combined one year recidivism rate for FY11-13 for all 174 OARS participants enrolled was 10.34% compared to 18.48% for those not enrolled in OARS with similar risk level and mental health need. Quite noteworthy is the 44% recidivism rate reduction for OARS participants compared to similar medium and high-risk mentally ill offenders not enrolled in the OARS program. Disabled Offender Economic Security (DOES) Project attorneys (pg. 13) represented 458 offenders applying for Social Security benefits. A total of 294 offenders gained benefits (64.2% success rate). In collaboration with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) (pg. 14 -16), work was initiated to redesign five DAI Earned Release Program sites converting to evidence-based strategies. UCCI also assisted the Department with staff training and technical assistance to further the advancement of WIDOC's efforts to be an evidence-based agency. These are just a few of the programs that are detailed in the following pages.

WIDOC has made strides in identifying and measuring outcomes of funded programs. Work has begun to prepare programspecific logic models to identify performance measures and outcomes. During FY15, logic models were expanded to add Becky Young funded programs. This work will improve reporting mechanisms and our collection of recidivism data. I am excited about our capacity to collect data and measure the efficacy of these programs using our new Program Data Collection System (PDCS).

I am pleased with the progress we have made in FY15 and look forward to our work in FY16 using the Becky Young Community Corrections Recidivism Reduction funds. Through the dedication of our staff and our partners in the community, we continue to strive for the most effective intervention strategies to engage long-term change in our offender population.



Becky Young Community Corrections: Recidivism Reduction Community Services

In 2009, Act 28 created the Becky Young Community Corrections: **Recidivism Reduction Community** Services appropriation (Appropriation 112). The statutory language is outlined below to assist the reader in assessing the Department's efforts to provide programming to improve successful offender reentry.

20.410(1)(ds)

Becky Young Community Corrections: recidivism reduction community services. The amounts in the schedule to provide services under s. 301.068 to persons who are on probation, or who are soon to be or are currently on parole or extended supervision, following a felony conviction, in an effort to reduce recidivism.

301.068(1)

The Department shall establish community services that have the goals of increasing public safety, reducing the risk that offenders on community supervision will reoffend, and reducing by 2010-11 the recidivism rate of persons who are on probation, parole, or extended supervision following a felony conviction. In establishing community services under this section, the Department shall consider the capacity of existing services and any needs that are not met by existing services.

301.068(2)

The community services to reduce recidivism under sub. (1)

shall include all of the following:

301.068(2)(a)

Alcohol and other drug treatment, including residential treatment, outpatient treatment, and aftercare.

301.068(2)(b) Cognitive group intervention.

301.068(2)(c) Day reporting centers.

301.068(2)(d)

Treatment and services that evidence has shown to be successful and to reduce recidivism.

301.068(3)

The Department shall ensure that community services established under sub. (1) meet all of the following conditions

301.068(3)(a)

The community services target offenders at a medium or high risk for revocation or recidivism as determined by valid, reliable, and objective risk assessment instruments that the Department has approved.

301.068(3)(b)

The community services provide offenders with necessary supervision and services that improve their opportunity to complete their terms of probation, parole, or extended supervision. The community services may include employment training and placement, educational assistance, transportation, and housing. The community services shall focus on mitigating offender attributes and factors that are likely to lead to criminal behavior.

301.068(3)(c)

The community services use a system of intermediate sanctions on offenders for violations.



301.068(3)(d)

The community services are based upon assessments of offenders using valid, reliable, and objective instruments that the Department has approved.

301.068(4)

The Department shall develop a system for monitoring offenders receiving community services under this section that evaluates how effective the services are in decreasing the rates of arrest, conviction, and imprisonment of the offenders receiving the services.

301.068(5)

The Department shall provide to probation, extended supervision, and parole agents training and skill development in reducing offenders' risk of re-offending and intervention techniques and shall by rule set forth requirements for the training and skill The Department shall development. develop policies to guide probation, extended supervision, and parole agents in the supervision and revocation of offenders on probation, extended supervision, and parole and develop practices regarding alternatives to revocation of probation, extended supervision, or parole.

301.068(6)

The Department shall annually submit a report to the governor, the chief clerk of each house of the legislature for distribution to the appropriate standing committees under s. 13.172(3), and the

> director of state courts. The report shall set forth scope of the the community services established under sub. (1); the number of arrests of, convictions of, and prison sentences imposed on offenders receiving the community services under this section; and the progress toward recidivism reduction.

Becky Young FY15 Expenditures

COMPAS/Northpointe Contract

301.068(3)(a); 301.068(3)(d)

WIDOC continues to partner with Northpointe Inc. for ongoing license and support of the COMPAS risk, needs, and case management system. The COMPAS system provides actuarial risk and need information that allows WIDOC staff to create more effective, evidence-based case plans and supervision strategies. Risk scores of general and violent recidivism enable staff to operationalize the risk principle, targeting medium and high risk offenders for service. Likewise, criminogenic need profiles allow staff to prioritize and focus on the driving need factors behind criminal behavior. COMPAS also provides a comprehensive case management module, which allows WIDOC to document and store social history information (education, employment, substance use history, etc.), violation disposition information, rewards and incentives, drug testing, and rules of supervision. COMPAS is used in more than fifteen states across the country and has been validated both internally and externally. Most recently, Michigan and New York conducted independent validation studies. WIDOC is currently in the final stages of norming COMPAS on a Wisconsin population and will conduct an independent validation study once a sufficient follow-up time period has been reached.

In addition to annual license and support costs, the FY15 WIDOC partnership with Northpointe Inc. generated enhancements and improvements both in terms of the application and business infrastructure supports. Approximately 375 hours of development time were invested in enhancing assessments, adding alternative screening tools, enhancing the Pre-Sentence Investigation module, and building an Evidence-Based Response to Violation (EBRV) decision support tool. In addition to these enhancements, Northpointe Inc. continued to provide technical assistance and project management as WIDOC increased its capacity to deliver training internally. Lastly, WIDOC partnered with Northpointe Inc. on training all WIDOC trainers in advanced assessment interpretation.

WIDOC is pleased to continue cultivating our relationship with Northpointe Inc. moving into the sixth year of our contract. Our vision is to partner on enhancements in the application along with additional training and continuous quality improvement by creating a research environment that will increase our ability to conduct interrater reliability studies. In addition to quality

"Risk and need assessment has become an integral part of Evidence-Based Decision-Making. The Bar Chart gives us additional perspective we haven't had before."

-Judicial District 4 Judge

assurance initiatives such as this, we will also continue to collaborate with Northpointe Inc. at no cost on a workload management module, which will allow field agents to manage, schedule, and track their field assignments based on risk and supervision level. We are also very excited to launch the Evidence-Based Response to Violation (EBRV) module in calendar year 2016.

Chart A takes a closer look at WIDOC's intake assessments in FY15. COMPAS identifies both the risk and criminogenic needs of the assessed offender. Risk ratings demonstrate the likelihood that the offender will recidivate within the next three years in the community. Risk is separated by Low, Medium, High and is identified by a decile score within the COMPAS software. For example, if an offender scores a four on the scale then this indicates that 60 percent of a similar population is more risky than him or her. As indicated on Chart A, a significant portion of the Division of Community Corrections (DCC) offender population scores Low Risk, while a significant portion of the Division of Adult Institutions (DAI)



offender population scores High Risk.

We would expect to see a higher level of Low Risk offenders in the community due to the less intensive interventions that community supervision provides. In comparison, the elevated level of High Risk offenders incarcerated indicates those offenders are in need of a higher intensity sanction and supervision in a confined setting.

(cont. next page)

COMPAS/Northpointe Contract (continued)

301.068(3)(a); 301.068(3)(d)

Just as COMPAS scores risk level, the criminogenic needs of the offender are also rated on a decile score. In Chart B, the top eight criminogenic needs are broken out by Division according to COMPAS assessments conducted in FY15. As the chart shows, substance abuse continues to challenge a majority of offenders under the custody of WIDOC. We see a general trend of more pervasive criminogenic need in DAI, as higher risk offenders are sentenced to prison. As DOC staff analyze the results of the assessment, the most driving criminogenic needs are addressed in the offender's case plan. Development of the case plan is a collaborative process between the offender and the Agent or Social Worker, to ensure ownership by the offender of the goals/objectives outlined in his or her plan.







Chart C

It is important to note the work completed by the WIDOC staff and the progress made in conducting assessments with our offender population. WIDOC completed 53,912 COMPAS assessments during FY15. This number includes all COMPAS assessments, specifically, the Wisconsin Primary Needs (WPN), Core, Legacy, and Reentry assessments. The offender's position in the lifecycle (i.e. Intake, Supervision, Discharge) dictates the type of assessment used. Chart C depicts the cumulative increase over time in adult assessments completed since COMPAS went live. Likewise, at the end of FY15, WIDOC has trained approximately 6,800 COMPAS users and started 153,000 case plans.

Total Offenders with at least One Assessment in FY15 by Division							
DCC	28,145						
DAI	10,246						
Total 38,391							
Chart D							

Chart D indicates the total number of offenders with at least one COMPAS assessment completed in FY15. As Divisional business process dictates the frequency and type of assessment, some offenders may have more than one assessment completed within the Fiscal Year. Only offenders within DCC and DAI are tabulated in the Total Offenders number.

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Windows to Work

301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(b)

Windows to Work is a pre- and post-release program designed to address criminogenic needs that can lead to recidivism. WIDOC contracts with each of Wisconsin's 11 Workforce Development Boards (WDB) to provide, or subcontract to provide, a Windows to Work Program at selected state correctional institutions or county jail facilities in each workforce development area. Becky Young funds assist five county jail programs and fifteen DAI programs (in ten DAI institutions) throughout the state.

The mission of the Windows to Work Program is to promote self-sufficiency for individuals returning to the community through the development of constructive skills and the modification of thought processes related to criminal behavior.

"[My Windows to Work Coach] was very helpful and caring. He went the extra mile for me and my family."

Pre-Release Services Both individual and group participation begins 3 to 9 months prior to release from incarceration. The Windows to Work Coach provides

participants with classroom training in core curriculum content areas, such as Cognitive Intervention, General Work Skills and Expectations, Financial Literacy, Community Resources, Job Seeking, Applications and Resumes. In coordination with the institution social worker and/or community corrections agent, individual release/case planning takes place.

<u>Post-Release Services</u>: In coordination with the DCC agent, coaches assist participants with job search and job retention

activities for approximately 12 months after release from incarceration. Participants receive assistance in accessing available community resources, and programs may have limited funds to assist participants in addressing barriers to employment, such as transportation, education, identification, and work supplies.

"Upon my release, my [employment] was of a caliber not previously possessed prior to the Windows to Work Program."

Neal S.

Employment: 471 different program participants obtained 661 episodes of employment during FY15. An employment episode is an instance of employment, including temporary placements, On-the-Job Training (OJT), Work Experience, Seasonal Employment, and all full- and part-time employment. Program participants earned an average wage of \$10.11 per hour at hire.





Windows to Work (continued)

301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(b)

Hours at Start Date	Number of Employment Episodes	Percentage
Full-time (35+ hours)	447	67.6%
20-34 hours	149	22.5%
Less than 20 hours	36	5.4%
No hours data available	29	4.4%
Totals	661	100%

An additional focus of the program is to provide assistance to participants so that they may progress on a career pathway and obtain full-time employment after incarceration. The table above provides data indicating the type of employment (hours at start date) for program participants. This data is further broken down by Workforce Board Area in the table at the bottom of the page. **Recidivism:** WIDOC defines recidivism as: following an episode of incarceration with the WIDOC, to commit a criminal offense that results in a new conviction and sentence to WIDOC custody or supervision. WIDOC defines reincarceration as: following an episode of incarceration with WIDOC, an admission to prison within a specified follow-up period for either a revocation, a revocation with a new sentence, or a new sentence. Windows to Work was widely implemented throughout the state beginning in 2011, and thus the chart below is the most recent recidivism and reincarceration data available for program participants in 2011 and 2012 (cannot yet calculate 2-year rates for 2012 releases). This data does not include participants in jail programs or who may have enrolled in the program while in the community.

Release Year	Eligible Participants	One-Year Recidivism Rate	One-Year Reincarceration Rate	Two-Year Recidivism Rate	Two-Year Reincarceration Rate	
2011	64*	10.9%	6.3%	23.4%	25.0%	
2012	121	16.5%	13.2%			

*The number of eligible participants has been adjusted from the previous year's report, due to a change in methodology. Only eligible participants who have completed the core curriculum are included in this sample.



Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Mobile Lab

301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(b)

WIDOC has explored several training opportunities to better prepare releasing inmates (and offenders on DCC supervision) for employment in several highdemand fields. In particular, WIDOC has partnered with various agencies to provide training in CNC machining and operation. CNC machinists and operators are in high demand throughout the state, and trained individuals can expect to earn an entrylevel wage of \$17 - \$22 per hour.



Milwaukee Interagency CNC Project

"These are in-demand jobs, in-demand skills and now we have some in-demand potential employees. Because this isn't about paying back the money it has taken to house them or provide meals or training. This is about having a place in society and avoiding recidivism." Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch

CNC Mobile Lab

The CNC Mobile Lab is a self-contained classroom and is equipped with a CNC Lathe, CNC Mill, Control Simulators, tools and safety equipment, laptops, computers, and audio-visual equipment necessary to provide current technical instruction to participants throughout the state.

In late July 2014, Gateway Technical College was awarded a Wisconsin Fast Forward grant from the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to offer an accelerated 13credit CNC technical education certificate program for WIDOC inmates in the CNC Mobile Lab. After a planning period with Gateway and DWD, instruction began at Racine Correctional Institution (RCI) in early 2015. Eight inmate participants completed the training in June 2015, and eleven participants were enrolled beginning in May 2015.

Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) was awarded a Wisconsin Fast Forward grant from DWD to offer an approximately 14-week, 14-credit CNC technical education certificate program for WIDOC inmates who were incarcerated at Marshall E. Sherrer Correctional Center (MSCC), Felmers O. Chaney Correctional Center (FCCC), and the Milwaukee Women's Correctional Center (MWCC), as well as offenders who were under DCC supervision in Region 3 (Milwaukee).

"Having an opportunity like this to earn money to stay home, not return and do something positive with your life is just outstanding." Jonathon L.

After a planning period with MATC and DWD, instruction began at the MATC

Downtown Campus in early 2015 with participants from FCCC and MSCC. These individuals attended classes between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. (448 total program hours), and many were also working in the community during first or second shift. Eleven individuals were honored at a graduation ceremony on April 17, 2015 and were presented a CNC Machine Operations – Milling Certificate from MATC. Another eight participants (who were on DCC supervision) were enrolled in the program during the Fiscal Year and graduated in August 2015.

A future cohort (during FY16) will include a group comprised of female inmates from the Milwaukee Women's Correctional Center (MWCC) and female offenders on DCC supervision.

"This is about perseverance, character and giving people a skill-set." Scott Jansen, Administrator, DWD Division of Employment and Training





Community Corrections Employment Program (CCEP)

301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(b)(c)

The Community Corrections Employment Program (CCEP) is a statewide program designed to assist medium to high risk offenders with an identified employment need per COMPAS in obtaining the skills necessary to obtain and maintain employment in a competitive work environment. Priority is given to offenders who are within six months of release to 90 days post-release from an institution, but offenders on probation are considered for the program as resources allow.

In FY15, CCEP implemented a reach-in component with eligible incarcerated offenders that are nearing release to connect them to services and employment prior to or immediately upon release.

CCEP Objectives:

- 1. Assist in the reduction of recidivism by addressing the criminogenic needs of employment and education.
- Identify/engage potentially eligible CCEP participants while still incarcerated to eliminate any delay in ability to participate in CCEP program upon release to community.
- 3. Match eligible CCEP participants to most appropriate programs/resources.
- Work with community employers/agencies to develop sites for Work Experience, On-the-Job Training Programs, and technical training opportunities.

CCEP Participant Outcome Comparison **FY14 to FY15** Success-Employed Success-School Continuing Services FY15 Discharge from Supervision (N=1059) Referral to Other Services In Custody/Revoked FY14 (N=1202) Laid Off/Terminated-Employer Terminated-Quit Terminated-Other Status Unknown 0% 10% 20% 30% 40%

CCEP has three main components: work experience, on-the-job training, and educational and training assistance. Participants are assessed and placed into services based on their level of skill and work readiness.

Becky Young Funds supports three CCEP Coordinator positions, in addition to five DCC funded positions from other sources, who work closely with employers and other community agencies to provide employment opportunities and additional employment-related assistance. The eight CCEP Coordinator positions are aligned with the eight DCC regions.

DAI Employment Specialists

301.068(3)(b)

DAI Correctional Centers are committed to providing employment support for offenders to assist in the successful transition from prison to the community. Similar to past years, the Becky Young Funds have allowed DAI to contract for two additional Employment Specialist positions at Winnebago Correctional Center (WCC) and Marshall C. Sherrer Correctional Center (MSCC). These Employment Specialists assist in work release and other employment opportunities for offenders currently incarcerated at the minimum custody correctional centers. The Employment Specialist, in coordination with the Center Work Release Sergeant, assists offenders in the completion of Pre-Release modules, development of pre-release plans, obtaining identification documentation, developing resumes, and exploring employment opportunities. In addition, Employment Specialists and Work Release Sergeants locate new employers and send resumes to prospective employers for offenders eligible for employment. During FY15, offenders were employed in several areas of work including but not limited to

Offender Outcomes in FY15 (N=605)

Continuing Employment in FY16	246
Administrative Termination	140
Successful Completion	119
Disciplinary Termination	96
Withdrew from Program	4

manufacturing, retail, packaging, construction, material handling, and mechanical work.

In FY15, 605 offenders received services at WCC and MSCC. Outcome data collected by each site is shown above. Moving forward in FY16, services will continue to be offered for those most appropriate for services, as WIDOC continues to move towards an evidence-based approach.

Cognitive Behavioral Programs (CBP)

301.068(2)(b); 301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(a-d)

The WIDOC contracts for Cognitive Behavioral Program (CBP) services within both DAI and DCC. Offenders are screened and assigned the program need upon completion of a COMPAS assessment. The importance of such a program cannot be understated, as antisocial cognition is identified as one of the top four criminogenic needs along with antisocial companions, antisocial personality/temperament, and family/marital. In FY15, 68.2% of offenders assessed in DAI had an antisocial cognition need, while 56.0% of offenders assessed in DCC had the need. The program is offered in both the institution and in the community, in order to address the need at every stage of the lifecycle and increasing the offender's opportunity for success.



Affordable Care Act (ACA)

301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(b); 301.068(5)

In March of 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act were signed into law and have become collectively known as the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The ACA made sweeping changes to health care in the United States covering an eight year timeframe from 2010 through 2018 when the last changes are scheduled to take effect.

During the implementation of the ACA, Wisconsin made changes to the eligibility requirements for Badger Care Plus, one of Wisconsin's Medicaid programs. The waitlist for adults without dependent children with income under the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) was removed, allowing more low-income individuals access to health coverage. The newly eligible individuals included those releasing from WIDOC facilities. Because increased eligibility for releasing DOC inmates meant increased access to psychotropic medications, substance use disorder treatment, and medical care; the Department of Health Services (DHS) and the WIDOC jointly developed a new pre-release application process. This process allows inmates to apply for Medicaid programs prior to release from WIDOC facilities, providing them the opportunity to access treatment and meet their healthcare needs when they return to Wisconsin's communities.

Since January 20, 2015, offenders have been applying for BadgerCare Plus using the inmate telephone system. Offenders with developmental disabilities, mental illnesses, reading difficulties, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) are screened for additional assistance with the application phone call. In the six facilities releasing the highest numbers of these populations, offenders meeting one or more of these criteria are referred to one of three contracted benefits specialists who provide application assistance and advocacy. From January 20, 2015 through June 30, 2015, the benefits specialists assisted with 763 applications and 740 of them were approved achieving a success rate of nearly 97 percent. Overall, an estimated 1,500 offenders applied for BadgerCare Plus prior to their releases from WIDOC facilities during FY15.

The objectives of Cognitive Behavioral Programs include teaching specific strategies or techniques to enable participants to (1) identify the specific thoughts that support criminal behavior (selfobservation); (2) recognize the pattern and consequences of thinking; (3) utilize reasoning, problem solving, self-talk, and social interaction skills as a means of controlling and changing thinking; (4) recognize and evaluate potential choices and make a conscious decision to change or not to change a behavior. These programs combine two types of cognitive interventions: cognitive restructuring (changing the thinking patterns, attitudes, and beliefs that lead to offending) and cognitive skills training (learning and practicing reasoning, problem solving, and social skills).

In FY15, DAI continued contracting services to provide 30 lessons over a 16 week period serving 12-15 offenders per group in two distinct phases. In Phase One, offenders are encouraged to make objective observations of past behaviors. In Phase Two, offenders learn how to develop and use selfstatements that help them control impulses. Lessons also teach counter-thinking techniques that challenge previous thinking patterns and attitudes.

Of the 2,203 served under Becky Young CBP services in FY15, 85.7% of the DAI participants completed the program. Additionally, 55.6% of the 1,519 DCC participants completed or were continuing CBP services in FY16.

Opening Avenues to Reentry Success (OARS)

301.068(2)(a-d); 301.068(3)(a-c); 301.068(5)

The WIDOC maintains a partnership with the Department of Health Services (DHS) to provide the Opening Avenues to Reentry Success (OARS) Program.

The OARS program provides participating mentally ill offenders releasing from prison:

- Intensive case management and supervision.
- Assistance with obtaining and maintaining safe, affordable housing.
- Resources for medication and access to quality psychiatric care.
- Treatment options to address individualized and criminogenic needs.
- Access to local transportation, budgeting, and financial resources.
- Access to structured activities including employment and education.

The OARS program provides these services to the most seriously mentally ill inmates releasing to thirty-six Wisconsin counties. The goals of the OARS program are to increase public safety by increasing participants'

success on supervision and reducing revocation and recidivism. The OARS program is also designed to aid in participants' recovery and help establish their self-sufficiency in the community. Research indicates that providing case management and psychiatric treatment in the community can reduce the rate of recidivism in mentally ill offender populations. The program uses a person-centered approach, individualized service planning, and motivational interviewing to encourage participants' intrinsic motivation and their participation in their treatment plans. The frequent interactions between members of the OARS team, which includes participants, can help bridge the transition from the institution to community life.

OARS Participants must:

- Volunteer.
- Be referred by a staff member.
- Be medium or high risk to reoffend based on COMPAS risk assessment.
- Have a diagnosed serious mental illness.
- Have at least six months of post-release DOC supervision remaining on their sentences.

Enrollment in the OARS program begins approximately six months prior to institution release. Contracted case managers enter facilities and work closely with DHS OARS Program Specialists, DOC facility Social Workers, and Division of Community Corrections (DCC) Agents to determine clinical needs, risk factors, and to develop therapeutic rapport with the participant. The team develops Individualized Service Plans (ISP) and encourages participants to stay engaged with pre-release and treatment programming during the pre-release phase.

During the post-release phase, participants can remain in the program for up to two years. Case planning focuses on orienting participants toward psychiatric stability and promotes decisions that enhance mental health and recovery from addiction. This process involves creative, intensive case planning and provides high levels of monitoring and treatment immediately following release to the community. As the participant positively adjusts, the level of monitoring and services may gradually decrease in intensity. The OARS team then works toward gradual transition to independence and eventual successful discharge from the OARS program. The team makes every effort to establish county-based support for the long-term stability and well-being of the participant.

In FY15, the OARS program has experienced positive programmatic changes. Modifications to Wisconsin's BadgerCare Plus Medicaid program have allowed more OARS Program participants to become eligible for public Medical Assistance. The increased enrollments have reduced program expenditures on medications and psychiatric and medical care, allowing the program to expand to eleven additional counties and begin to accept more participants.

During FY15, the OARS program:

- Served 147 participants.
- Maintained an average daily population of approximately 99 participants.
- Calculated a cost of \$17,782 per participant, a reduction of nearly 30 percent from the previous three-year average.



Opening Avenues to Reentry Success (OARS) (continued)

301.068(2)(a-d); 301.068(3)(a-c); 301.068(5)

OARS PARTICIPANT RECIDIVISM FY2011-2013									
	Sample		One-	Sample		Two-	Sample		Three-
FY	Size	Recidivists	Year	Size	Recidivists	Year	Size	Recidivists	Year
FY2011	54	7	12.96%	50	10	20.00%	48	13	27.08%
FY2012	60	6	10.00%	59	17	28.81%			
FY2013	60	5	8.33%						
Total	174	18	10.34%	109	27	24.77%	48	13	27.08%

MENTALLY ILL, MEDIUM AND HIGH RISK OFFENDER RECIDIVISM FY2011-2013									
	Sample		One-	Sample		Two-	Sample		Three-
FY	Size	Recidivists	Year	Size	Recidivists	Year	Size	Recidivists	Year
FY2011	257	43	16.73%	265	79	29.81%	242	86	35.54%
FY2012	386	84	21.76%	367	111	30.25%			
FY2013	304	48	15.79%						
Total	947	175	18.48%	632	190	30.06%	242	86	35.54%

In FY15, participants receiving treatment for mental health and substance abuse concerns included:

- 97 percent of participants diagnosed with an Axis I primary major mental health diagnosis.
- 91 percent of participants diagnosed with a co-occurring substance use disorder.
- 52 percent of participants diagnosed with both a major mental illness and a personality disorder.

The OARS Program works with a complex and challenging population. Using statistics from 298 previous and current OARS participants' assessments from the COMPAS risk and needs assessment tool, this complexity is highlighted. The average age of first arrest for program participants is 17.5 years of age. The single leading criminal charge category for OARS participants is "Other", a catch all for low-level public order crimes, which may include charges like Resisting/ Obstructing, Driving After Revocation, Disorderly Conduct, Loitering, and Public Intoxication. This "Other" category accounts for 24.5 percent of current crimes, followed by Assault at 21.5 percent, and Burglary at 14.1 percent. Remaining criminal categories showed percentages in the single digits.



Participants averaged thirteen arrests, and 94 of the 298 participants have five or more jail stays of 30 days or longer. Nearly half of participants have had serious or administrative prison disciplinary infractions. Of the 165 participants that took the assessment containing this scale, 79 percent were either highly probable or probable to have difficulty with social adjustment. The OARS participants are complex because they have both persistent mental illness and risk factors that are likely to result in new criminal convictions.

The combined one-year recidivism rate for FY11-13 for all 174 OARS participants enrolled in the program is 10.34 percent. To provide context, all medium and high risk offenders releasing with a serious mental illness not enrolled in the OARS program in FY11-13 have a one-year recidivism rate of 18.48 percent. Recidivism measures for participants in the first three Fiscal Years of the program indicate 44 percent lower recidivism rates when comparing non-participants with similar characteristics. The two-year follow-up rate for OARS participants shows a nearly 18 percent lower rate than the group with similar characteristics. FY15 is the first year that program staff have been able to evaluate the three-year recidivism follow-up period for OARS participants. This is a critical statistic because it indicates how successful participants are after leaving the program. The three-year follow-up recidivism rate for OARS participants is 27.08 percent and is nearly 24 percent lower than the group with similar characteristics. While the sample size for the three-year rate is relatively small at 48 participants, it is a very encouraging sign that the program is having a positive effect on participants well after completion of the program.

Disabled Offenders Economic Security (DOES) Project

301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(b); 301.068(5)

The Disabled Offender Economic Security (DOES) Project provides mentally ill and disabled offenders access to civil legal services. These services include Social Security benefits application assistance and advocacy with health insurance, housing assistance, employment training programs, and other services upon release. The WIDOC contracts with Legal Action of Wisconsin (LAW), a Legal Services Corporation, for licensed attorney benefits specialists. Attorneys meet with and agree to represent inmates interested in these services. Attorneys begin working with inmates approximately six months prior to release from prison, prepare public benefits applications, and submit them on the inmate's behalf. Attorneys continue to represent offenders after release until they have attained benefits or appeals are exhausted.



Mentally ill and disabled offenders face significant challenges attaining public benefits. Incarceration limits internet access, which is now the primary platform to review instructions and submit applications for many agencies. Cognitive impairments can also make it difficult to achieve the level of detail required on applications, and the ability to focus over time to complete the process and follow up. For example, Social Security benefits applications can be lengthy, confusing, and can require the resubmission of an application and an appeal to attain benefits. This entire process may take three years or longer to complete. Since research indicates economic stability and health care can reduce recidivism in this population, increasing successful outcomes and decreasing disabled offender wait times for benefits may also increase public safety.

DOES project staff are expert benefits specialist attorneys. They have developed working relationships and procedural knowledge of the Social Security Administration (SSA), WIDOC, and Disability Determination Bureau (DDB). These skills and professional connections contribute to the ability to rapidly process, submit, and advocate for disability determinations. The bar chart below demonstrates how rapidly determinations are being made, with nearly 58 percent of approved applications being completed before or at release. The chart also demonstrates how important continued



advocacy is after release, with the remaining 42 percent of DOES Project clients being served after their release from prison, some for more than a year.

During FY15, LAW attorneys provided civil legal services to 812 offenders and closed 484 cases, while continuing to advocate on 328 open cases at the close of the fiscal year. The pie charts included above describe the number of offenders for whom Legal Action has submitted cases to the SSA.

Legal Action attorneys represented 458 offenders applying for Social Security benefits, with 294 gaining benefits, representing a 64.2 percent success rate. In comparison, the SSA provides success rates for all benefits applications. The most recent data published indicates the success rate is 34.8 percent for all disabled beneficiaries. Legal Action staff applications nearly double the national success rate, while representing a complex and challenging population.

University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) Contract

301.068(1); 301.068(2)(a); 301.068(2)(b); 301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(a-d); 301.068(4); 301.068(5)

Program Effectiveness and Evaluation:

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections continues to develop and evolve as an evidence-based agency. Strong commitment to the design, implementation, and monitoring of offender-based programs and services aligned with the principles of effective intervention remains central to our public safety vision and mission.

As we redefine and retool our program delivery approaches, we continue to draw upon the expertise of the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI). Contracted UCCI Research Associates and Consultants well-versed in the most recent and scientifically-sound methodologies have facilitated the following activities throughout FY15:

Evidence-Based Corrections Program Checklist (CPC) Evaluator Training: UCCI conducted Evidence-Based Corrections Program Checklist (CPC)

Evaluator training with twelve WIDOC staff members in August of 2015—increasing our pool of professional evaluators to twenty-three. The CPC is a tool developed to assess the extent to which correctional treatment programs align with the principles of effective intervention. Designed to assess program integrity rather than outcomes, the CPC process allows for a thorough examination of program capacity and content. CPC Evaluators engage in direct observation, structured interviews, and curriculum and file review prior to crafting a formal evaluation report which serves as a roadmap for program improvement efforts.

Evidence-Based Corrections Program Checklist-Group Assessment (CPC-GA) Training:

WIDOC staff previously certified as Evidence-Based CPC Evaluators added the CPC-GA tool to their quality assurance repertoire in February of 2015. The CPC-GA is designed to examine the degree to which group facilitation aligns with recidivism reduction research and can be utilized within a variety of correctional settings. The CPC-GA narrows the unit of analysis to a particular group-based intervention, rather than the broader program approach of the CPC. This tool will be particularly helpful to the Division of Community Correction's work with group service providers. The CPC-GA also allows for the development of action planning steps for improvement.

Evidence-Based Corrections Program Checklist (CPC) Action Planning Workshop:

This collaborative workshop conducted in April of 2015 engaged WIDOC CPC Evaluators and DCC Contracted Service Providers in the design of site-specific blueprints for program improvement. Following a foundation-building orientation to the principles of effective intervention, UCCI Consultants guided participants through an action planning process. This systematic process utilized each program's Evidence-Based CPC Evaluation Report as the starting point for a prioritized plan for incremental improvement. Regionally assigned CPC Evaluators/Program and Policy Analysts continue to support and monitor progress toward the goals and objectives delineated within these plans on a quarterly basis. UCCI-sponsored technical assistance, training, and guidance have been and will continue to be provided as necessary.



Evidence-Based Practice 101 and Corrections Program Checklist Workshops for Contracted Service Providers:

Regional Program and Policy Analysts within the Division of Community Corrections worked collaboratively with the UCCI Consultants to deliver eight EBP 101 and CPC Overview workshops throughout FY15. The content of these sessions highlighted the foundational research supporting the principles of effective intervention and an introduction to the CPC Evaluation process. Audience members included current and potential contracted service providers and WIDOC field and institutional staff. Two hundred and seventy-five attendees rated the content and structure of these workshops as enlightening, practical, and helpful in demystifying the CPC Evaluation process.

University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) Contract (continued)

301.068(1); 301.068(2)(a); 301.068(2)(b); 301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(a-d); 301.068(4); 301.068(5)

<u>Thinking for a Change (T4C) Facilitator Training and Plans for</u> <u>Sustainability:</u>

UCCI has played a central role in training WIDOC service providers in the NIC Thinking for a Change (T4C) curriculum. This program targets our most prevalent criminogenic need area—antisocial cognition. T4C combines cognitive restructuring theory with cognitive skills theory—creating an innovative and integrated curriculum designed to help justice-involved individuals take control of their lives by addressing their criminal thinking. The three instructional components of T4C are cognitive self-change, social skills, and problem-solving skills. Cognitive self-change teaches a concrete process for self-reflection aimed at uncovering antisocial thoughts, feelings, attitudes, and beliefs. Social skills instruction prepares group members to engage in pro-social interactions based on self-understanding and consideration of the impact of their actions on others. Problem-solving skills



instruction integrates the two previous interventions to provide group members with an explicit step-by-step process for addressing challenging and stressful real-life situations. UCCI Consultants have trained 350 staff members as T4C facilitators (including institution-based contractors and Windows to Work Coaches). Additionally, fourteen T4C facilitators have been trained as T4C trainers—allowing for sustainability of the program within the WIDOC.

UCCI Technical Assistance to Cross Divisional Teams (CDTs) and Curriculum Review:

WIDOC Cross Divisional Teams representing Cognitive/Behavioral Programs, Substance Abuse Treatment Programs, and Sex Offender Treatment Programs have been charged with the realignment of current offerings and interventions with the principles of effective intervention. Over the past twenty-four months, these CDTs have drafted program delivery standards, which include service standards, treatment modalities, program documentation, staff credentialing standards, and quality assurance standards. UCCI has provided technical assistance, curriculum review, literature reviews, and research support to the WIDOC CDTs, as necessary.

The Drug Abuse Correctional Center (DACC) Celebrates EBP Alignment Project

The Division of Adult Institutions (DAI), the Wisconsin Correctional Center System (WCCS), the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI), and the Reentry Unit collaboratively engaged in an evidence-based program redesign process at the Drug Abuse Correctional Center from April of 2013 through November of 2014. Drug Abuse Correctional Center (DACC) staff were honored for their dedication, commitment, and perseverance during a celebratory event on November 21, 2014.

UCCI consultants introduced the redesign project in early 2013. DACC subcommittees dedicated to the areas of Assessment and Programming, Scheduling, Behavior Management Systems, and Quality Assurance were convened. These committees examined existing programming and operations and worked toward implementing the redesign deliverables as outlined by UCCI.



DACC Superintendent Jeff Jaeger

Team Work Coming together is a beginning keeping together is prograss Working together is precess!

A Multidisciplinary Implementation Team was also created involving representatives from subcommittees, UCCI consultants, and local and Central Office administrative staff members. Committee membership received technical assistance, training, and support from UCCI consultants throughout this redesign process. DACC personnel were consistently open, honest, innovative, passionate, and incredibly creative in their approaches to program redesign activities.

"I have been tremendously impressed with all the staff at this facility. You are a talented group of individuals," said UCCI Consultant Kelly Pitocco. "It has been an honor to be part of this project and you should feel very proud of what you've accomplished.

(cont. next page)

University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) Contract (continued)

301.068(1); 301.068(2)(a); 301.068(2)(b); 301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(a-d); 301.068(4); 301.068(5)

DACC staff were also honored for their teamwork at the Wisconsin Department of Corrections SALUTE Awards Ceremony on May 8, 2015 in the Wisconsin State Capitol Assembly Chambers.

The Reentry Unit is currently working with five Earned Release Program sites across the state to replicate the DACC evidencebased model. Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility, Black River Correctional Center, Milwaukee Women's Correctional Center, Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center, and Racine Correctional Institution engaged in an orientation to the program model and foundational training in Core Correctional Practices, Thinking for a Change, and Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse during the third and fourth quarters of FY15. Additional training, subcommittee work, and technical assistance will be facilitated by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute, the Division of Adult Institutions Office of Program Services, and the Reentry Unit throughout FY16.

The Earned Release Program Redesign reflects the Department of Corrections' commitment to the design and implementation of programs and strategies grounded in the principles of effective intervention. The DOC's Mission, Vision, and Core Values statements and the Reentry Business Plan reflect this focus on implementation of evidence-based practice. EBP is defined as the progressive, organizational use of direct, current scientific evidence to guide and inform efficient and effective correctional program service provision. Validated assessment of criminogenic risk and need, followed by application of research-driven intervention strategies ultimately results in reduced recidivism and improved public safety. Generalization of the DACC Model to Earned Release Program sites statewide represents a strategic, phased approach to realignment with the research on effective correctional interventions.





Staff Development Training and Skill Building 301.068(5)

In FY15, the Becky Young appropriation provided multiple staff development and skill building opportunities for both DAI and DCC line staff and supervisors. Within the training sessions, staff gained new techniques and interventions to use in oneon-one interactions with offenders. Staff further sharpened their skills on several of the NIC Eight Principles for Effective Interventions including role modeling, Motivational Interviewing, and the use of appropriate positive reinforcements. Funded training for FY15 included Motivational Interviewing and the use of the STATIC-99R tool.

Wisconsin Community Services, Inc. (WCS) provided Motivational Interviewing training for a variety of staff positions within DCC. Both an introductory course and intermediate course were offered based on prior training experience and job classification. Case scenarios and role plays were utilized in the training environment, in order to allow staff to practice their skills and receive feedback in alignment with evidence-based practices. As evidenced by staff evaluations, the trainings proved to be beneficial and staff enjoyed the interactive nature of the sessions. In FY16, it is anticipated that the WIDOC will continue to build on the skills gained through the initial training sessions.

Community Residential Programs (CRPs)

301.068(2)(a-d); 301.068(3)(a-d)

Since 2013, the WIDOC has provided a new model of residential treatment, Community Residential Program (CRP), for our offender population. Providers are encouraged to develop new and creative interventions to provide high dosage hours of treatment for medium and high risk offenders addressing evidence-based practices that reduce recidivism. Interventions include a step down service for offenders transitioning to off-site residential locations or their own housing. Offenders may return to the facility for completion of dosage hours.

A CRP is expected to provide an environment that includes support and supervision assisting offenders in making the transition to independent living. Services provided include assessment, treatment planning, service coordination, evaluation, group and individual counseling, life skills, and daily living skills services. Housing assistance, if needed, will be coordinated with the DCC Agent. It is the intent of the program that offenders who are not participating in the residential component of CRP will be housed in existing WIDOC contracted housing or in the offender's own residence while completing the proposed program.

WIDOC's first CRP, Portage House, became operational in FY14. In addition, a second CRP in Appleton became fully operational in March 2015 with eight beds and is now pending expansion to ten beds. Portage House served 53 offenders during FY15 with 25 successfully completing the program. Ten offenders are continuing services to FY16. Two offenders were served in the Appleton CRP and both are continuing services into the next Fiscal Year.



Community Services Project (Circles of Support)

301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(b-c)

The WIDOC contracts with Goodwill Industries of Northeastern Wisconsin to provide supportive services to men and women releasing from institutions in the Fox Valley area. The services provided include residence assistance, employment training and placement, education, family reunification, W-2 eligibility, medical and health care, financial literacy, pro-social relationships, social/leisure plans, Substance Abuse services, and restorative justice opportunities. Offender support groups are overseen by trained community volunteers and delivered utilizing the "circles" model.

According to the most recent data collected from the Program Data Collection System (PDCS) and WIDOC-DCC:

- 240 offenders were served in FY15 with 92 offenders successfully completing the program.
- 86.25% of active participants were employed at the end of each quarter (Please note this figure does not include SSI/SSDI participants).
- 90.50% of participants remained free from new arrest and/or revocation during FY15.
- 135 new offender hires in FY15.
- 115 community volunteers participated in FY15.

Circles of Support will...

- Foster an environment of acceptance for the individual's return to the community
- Promote positive social interaction and responsibility
- Focus on the future rather than the past
- Focus on the individual's strengths and struggles
- Plan for success
- Support and recognize individual accomplishments
 - Mobilize community resources

http://www.circles-of-support.org/

WIDOC will continue to work with providers to enhance program services and to align with evidence-based principles of effective intervention.



AODA Relapse Programs

301.068(2)(a); 301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(a-d)

The AODA Relapse Program provides treatment to referred offenders exhibiting signs of relapse/destabilization. The goal of such a "booster" form of treatment is to re-stabilize the offender following a structured re-exposure to program elements designed to address the substance abuse issues the offender was having difficulty with. Relapse prevention may be combined with outpatient substance abuse counseling as elements of an individual treatment plan or might occur through an Alternative to Revocation (ATR) process with the needed elements identified in the treatment plan.

The program serves male and female offenders who are under WIDOC supervision for the duration of services. The WIDOC and providers work together to accommodate any identified special needs such as learning disabilities or cognitive limitations prior to entry into programming.

In FY15, 252 offenders participated in the Becky Young funded AODA Relapse Programs with 45 offenders successfully completing the program. It should be noted that additional AODA Relapse Programs were facilitated throughout the state using other funding sources.

In support of the use of evidence-based practices, factors

County Jail Recidivism Reduction Programs

301.068(2)(a-d); 301.068(3)(b)

The WIDOC continues to initiate, foster, and enhance systemic collaboration within the statewide criminal justice community. The Green Lake Recidivism Reduction Project is a prime example of the positive impact of such joint efforts. WIDOC has partnered with Green Lake County Law Enforcement Center personnel and the Green Lake County Department of Health and Human Services via Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) since 2011. Program services are available to inmates housed in the county jail, as well as offenders on active community supervision. Individualized, validated risk and needs assessment results will be used to drive the assignment of program interventions and services within the project framework. Program components address substance abuse treatment, mental health services, education, housing stability, identification/drivers license reinstatement assistance, employability services, and transportation supports. The project collaborates with a number of local education and service agencies including the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Moraine Park Technical College, Ripon College, and the Green Lake County Department of Health and Human Services. During FY15, Green Lake County Jail served a total of 142 offenders. On average, seven offenders received Substance Abuse and/or mental health services per month.

considered in referrals include the results from a validated risk and needs assessment tool (COMPAS), in alignment with the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) Principle. The results of the COMPAS Assessment are used to prioritize concerns to be addressed within programming. The target population is Probable to Highly Probable in the criminogenic need areas of antisocial cognitions, antisocial companions, antisocial personality/temperament, family/marital, and substance abuse.



The Bayfield County Jail Project offers multiple services including relapse prevention, cognitive behavioral treatment, Substance Abuse assessment services, female dual diagnosis cognitive behavioral/Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), mental health assessment, and individual mental health therapy. During FY15, Bayfield County Jail served a total of 106 offenders with fourteen offenders continuing services into the next Fiscal Year. Outcomes are noted below for each of the three types of programs offered at the Bayfield County Jail.



Pre-Treatment Services

301.068(2)(a-d); 301.068(3)(a-d)

- In FY13, the Pre-Treatment Curriculum was implemented with three goals:
 - 1. Assist offenders in becoming motivated to change their behavior by fostering their advancement through the stages of change.
 - 2. Ready offenders to be more successful in completing their primary treatment program.
 - 3. Reduce recidivism rates.

In FY14, offender referrals did not increase at the rate originally anticipated and adjustments were made to the referral process, but referrals continue to reduce. In FY15, the program was offered in four regions with 302 offenders receiving Pre-Treatment Services in the community and 180 offenders successfully completing the program.

In FY16, the Pre-Treatment Curriculum will be integrated into other select program services in Region 3 and will no longer be a separate program.



Oshkosh Correctional Institution (OSCI) Transitional Outreach Program (TOP)

301.068(2)(b); 301.068(2)(d); 301.068(3)(b); 301.068(3)(c)

The Transitional Outreach Program (TOP) at Oshkosh Correctional Institution (OSCI) supports the reentry of offenders with chronic mental illness who are returning to Wisconsin communities. An Outreach Specialist collaborates with staff to provide supportive mental health services to the offender. Through a pre- and postrelease approach, the offender receives intensive case management six to nine months prior to release and for twelve months after release. The goals of the program include minimizing criminal recidivism and psychiatric deterioration, as well as to enhance community living skills. Case management is a collaborative effort between OSCI's Outreach Specialist, the institution Social Worker, and the DCC Agent.

TOP Eligibility Criteria:

- Releasing within 9-12 months from date of referral;
- Returning to a Wisconsin community;
- Diagnosed with a serious mental illness (Axis I, Axis II, or IQ below 70);
- Medication compliant for a minimum of 30 days prior to referral;
- Willingness to participate in the program.

In the pre-release phase, the offender begins the institution-based curriculum program facilitated by the Outreach Specialist. The curriculum focuses on cognitive interventions, personal development, victim impact, and coping skills. In the post-release phase, the Outreach Specialist coordinates access for the offender to available community resources to address identified needs in the areas of housing, employment, food, clothing, transportation, medical care, and mental health care. The Outreach Specialist will continue to support the offender through direct home and community contacts, in support of continued compliance with DCC rules of supervision.

In FY15, TOP served 33 offenders at OSCI with ten (30.3%) successfully completing the program. Additionally, seventeen (51.5%) offenders are continuing in the program into the next Fiscal Year. The remaining six (18.2%) offenders were terminated (administrative or disciplinary) from the program.



Program Data Collection System (PDCS) 301.068(4)

In FY15, a new standard data collection system was created through a collaboration of the Reentry Unit, Bureau of Technology Management (BTM), Division of Community Corrections (DCC), and Division of Adult Institutions (DAI). The Program Data Collection System (PDCS) is used by internal WIDOC staff and external community providers to enter and collect outcome data for Appropriation 112 funded programs. Program providers enter the offender data at their sites with unique user logins and access to their own assigned agencies. The completed data is then accessed and analyzed by the Reentry Unit for inclusion in this report. Such a system ensures that data is accurate and can be evaluated with additional WIDOC data sources.



In order to maintain consistency in the system, standard outcomes (i.e. end codes) are defined and are utilized by all program providers when entering offender data. The end codes are defined as follows:

- <u>Continuing Services</u>—Participants are continuing services into the next Fiscal Year.
- <u>Successful Completion</u>—Participants who participated in the entirety of the program and successfully completed all requirements of the program, as defined by the individual Agency/Provider.
- <u>Withdrawal</u>—Participants who removed themselves from the program prior to the completion date. In such instances, it would be the sole decision of the participant to withdraw from the program and would not be based on any of the above "Terminated" statuses.
- <u>Disciplinary Termination</u>—Participants who were removed from the program prior to the completion date due to disciplinary reasons including rule infractions, positive drug/alcohol use, conduct reports, supervision violations/ revocation, absconding, new offense, no show/poor attendance, removal from program by DCC Agent, and/or other related behaviors.
- <u>Administrative Termination</u>—Participants who were removed from the program prior to the completion date during the
 report period due to uncontrolled circumstances. Instances could include, but are not limited to, transfer to another facility
 or agency, program hold due to facilitator absence or unavailability of services, medical leave, death, transfer, or
 discharge from supervision.
- Unknown Status—An end code that was not completed by the program provider and the status of the offender within that program is unknown.

Furthermore, in FY16, the Program Data Collection System (PDCS) will add new functionality specific to the Division of Community Corrections (DCC). All community providers will begin to enter information regarding offender participation, program capacity, wait lists, and holds. The system will greatly improve the efficiency of data collection for both providers and the WIDOC.

Research and Policy

301.068(4)

The Research and Policy Unit provides statistical information on a cross-divisional basis that is used in policy decision-making to support evidence-based practices. With the assistance of Becky Young Funds in FY15, the Unit was able to further the work on several initiatives including the following:

- Matching of Division of Workforce Development (DWD) and WIDOC data.
- Completion of population projection model, assisted by the JFA Institute.
- Completion of propensity score matching for primary programs.

The Unit also continued their work on the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), Logic Models for several WIDOC programs, and norming the COMPAS assessment on the Wisconsin population. In June 2015, the Research and Policy Unit published an information guide on Reincarceration Rates, which is referenced on page 19 of this Report and is available on the WIDOC public website (http://doc.wi.gov/Home). In FY16, the Research and Policy Unit will continue their work to support WIDOC's commitment to evidence-based practices and the results of their work will be beneficial for future policy development and implementation.

Reincarceration Report

Office of Research and Policy 301.068(4)

In June 2015, the Research and Policy Unit published an information guide on Reincarceration Rates. Reincarceration rates are calculated as the number of offenders admitted to prison (following a release from prison) divided by the total number of offenders released from prison in a given year. An offender is considered to be reincarcerated if after release, he or she is admitted to prison for a revocation, a revocation with a new sentence, or a new sentence. It should be noted that admissions for temporary holds and alternatives to revocation are not included in reincarceration rate calculations. Reincarceration should not be confused with recidivism, which involves an offender committing a new offense that results in a conviction and sentence to the WIDOC. Since 2005, overall reincarceration rates have decreased significantly, with the three -year rate dropping from 47.1% to 37.1%. In addition, 38.3% of males were reincarcerated, compared to only 22.2% of females. The below charts provide further analysis.





Logic Models

301.068(4)

A logic model is a visual representation of the way a program functions. These models use both words and images to map out the sequence of activities in the program and how these activities are linked to the results the program is expected to achieve. Logic Models contain seven major aspects including Inputs, Activities, Outputs, Outcomes, Impacts, Assumptions, and External Factors. A logic model is useful for communication about a program's purposes and processes, as well as reporting and evaluation. Logic models can also serve as a foundation for evaluating a program's effectiveness. In the WIDOC, logic models were created for several programs funded under the Becky Young appropriation. Below is a description of the process used to create a logic model for the OARS program (discussed on pages 11-12 of this report).

OARS Program

A logic model for the OARS program was developed through a series of collaborative group meetings between the DOC Reentry Disabilities Coordinator, the DHS OARS Program Specialists, the DHS Behavioral Health Director, analysts from the DOC Research & Policy Unit, and DOC institutional staff.

Group members began by documenting the staff and resources involved in the program's operations and proceeded to map out the program's activities, beginning with the selection process for possible OARS participants and moving through the participants' release from incarceration. To determine the program outcomes for OARS, group members discussed what the ultimate goals of the OARS program are and then outlined the desired achievements and benchmarks for OARS participants from the short-term to the long-term.

Short-term outcomes for OARS participants involve each participant having an individualized service plan and access to community-based services and treatment appointments upon release. As participants continue to be involved in OARS, they are expected to engage in prosocial activities and become increasingly self-sufficient and stable. Long-term participants are expected to have access to healthcare, become employed if eligible, and have increased success on supervision and reduced recidivism and reincarceration. These final outcomes are tracked through a combination of DHS program records and DOC data.

In FY16, logic models will continue to be developed for programs under Becky Young funding. Finalized logic models will be incorporated into the evaluation and creation of program outcomes.

Looking Ahead to Fiscal Year 2016

Fiscal Year 2015 has been a productive year with many key enhancements to WIDOC's evidence-based programs and initiatives. The WIDOC remains committed to implementing strategies and interventions that are research-driven and will ultimately reduce recidivism. Our goals moving forward into FY16 are outlined in the Reentry Business Plan and detailed below:

- Norm the COMPAS assessment instrument on the WIDOC population to ensure COMPAS utilization is consistent, reliable, and true to the intent of the tool.
- Develop an inventory of evidence-based programs offered within each division to include dosage levels aligned with assessed risk and criminogenic needs targeted by each intervention. Operationalize youth, inmate, and offender placements in programs and services based on risk and needs. Implement program standards in the areas of Cognitive Behavioral, Substance Abuse Treatment, and Sex Offender Treatment to include contracted service providers.
- Determine reporting strategy on the KPIs including frequency of reporting, distribution, audience, report format, etc.
- Continue with the implementation process for COMPAS Case Manager module to include an Evidence-Based Response to Violation (EBRV).
- Review current Alternative to Revocation (ATR) program data to analyze recidivism and return to confinement rates. Develop a strategic plan for ATR bed allocation within DAI.
- Conduct a department-wide interrater reliability test facilitated by the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Committee upon completion a new interrater reliability COMPAS environment. Develop standardized procedures for staff-to-offender and staff-to-staff exchanges.
- Implement the WIDOC Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Mobile Lab technical training program and the Milwaukee Area Technical College collaboration.

In FY16, the WIDOC will continue to strive towards implementing evidence-based practices by phasing out approaches unsuccessful at reducing recidivism and implementing more effective, research-driven approaches. Ultimately, we hope to instill long-term change in our offender population to ensure fewer victims, reduced recidivism, and a safer community.

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