

2013 Program Report Card: Residential Work Release – Department of Correction

Quality of Life Result: All Connecticut working age residents will have jobs that provide financial self-sufficiency.

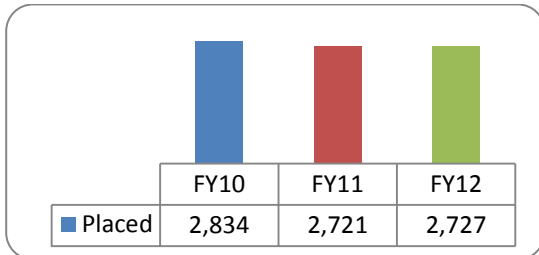
Contribution to the Result: DOC is able to supervise offenders within a controlled setting by placing them in halfway houses. The halfway house staff and other agencies provide job readiness, job-finding, and job retention services to the offenders. Included in job readiness is the offenders having identification, and are prepared for interviews. Job-finding involves matching offenders to existing job openings that fit his or her needs. Job-retention refers to offenders maintaining and having the ability to successfully participate in job interviews even when they face challenges.

| Program Expenditures | State Funding | Federal Funding | Other Funding | Total Funding |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Actual FY 12 | \$19,142,673.00 | \$0 | \$0 | \$19,142,673.00 |
| Estimated FY 13 | \$19,805,945.00 | \$0 | \$0 | \$19,805,945.00 |

Partners: Connection, CT Renaissance, Neon, Perception, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of Social Services, Department of Labor, Board of Pardons and Paroles, University of Hartford, University of Connecticut, local city and town governments, local colleges and universities, business community, other non-profit agencies, and other state agencies. In addition, the work release halfway houses help offenders access services from DOC contracted non-residential services and many services that are not under contract. These include behavioral health, employment, and housing related services.

How Much Did We Do?

Number placed in work-release halfway houses.



Story behind the baseline:

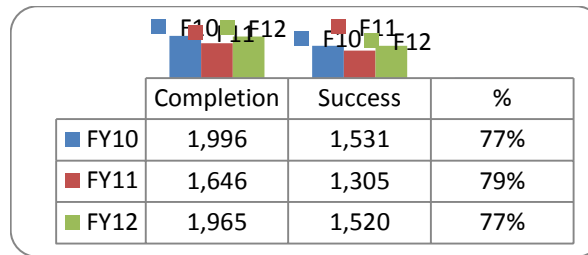
From FY10 to FY11, the 4% reduction in the halfway houses was due to a slight increase in the length of stay ((LOS) (145 days in FY10, 147 days in FY11, and 137 days in FY12)) and a temporary reduction in the number of offenders who could be placed in the halfway houses.

The reduction in offenders who could be placed in halfway houses resulted in a decline in the occupancy rates from FY10 (97%) to FY12 (92%). This was due to the fact that the sentenced population had been considerably reduced in the last several years. DOC will be closely monitoring the occupancy rates over the next several years.

Trend: ◀▶

How Well Did We Do It?

Percentage of successful completions



Story behind the baseline:

A successful completion occurs when a person discharges from a program without being arrested or remanded to custody.

In FY10, the agencies' completion rates ranged from 56% to 94% with a difference of 38%; there was a large decline in the difference from 38% to 25% in FY10 to FY11, and to 27% in FY12. This decrease in the difference was due to improved performance in previously low- performing agencies. However, this did not contribute a great deal to the overall reduction in the successful completion rate since the lower performing halfway houses were smaller.

Trend: ▲

How Well Did We Do It?

Average agency employment rate



Story behind the baseline:

We began collecting this data in FY11. "Served" refers to those who have completed the halfway house's period of orientation. It does not include those in a training or treatment program in lieu of an employment program.

We are very pleased with the increased number served and how well they were served, which is reflected in an 8% increase in the employment rate. This may be attributed to the hiring of employment specialists.

Trend: N/A

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Is Anyone Better Off?

Percentage with stable housing



Story behind the baseline:

We began collecting this data in FY11. Stable housing is achieved when a person discharges and/or completes a program and has obtained adequate housing. Also stable housing is when a person successfully completes and is released to a shelter with case management services.

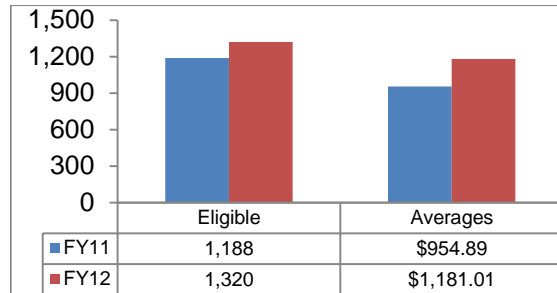
Unsuccessful outcomes are those that are discharged to a shelter with no case management services or discharged with no housing.

In FY11, 98% of the people housed were able to obtain stable housing. In FY12, we increased the numbers of successful completers to 1,520. The very high outcomes reflect that we were able to sustain our high rate of successful completions from FY11 to FY12.

Trend: N/A

Is Anyone Better Off?

Average bank account balance



Story behind the baseline:

We began collecting this data in FY11 to better determine the offenders' ability to obtain financial self-sufficiency. Eligible means those offenders who were able to be gainfully employed and were able to maintain a savings balance in preparation of their release from the halfway house programs.

Offenders in the halfway houses need to have savings to have financial self-sufficiency as part of the quality of life we were trying to achieve. We were able to increase the amount saved by 24%.

Trend: N/A

Proposed Actions to Turn the Curve:

Beginning FY13, \$200,000 was allocated to provide training, quality assurance, and evaluation of our community based program. In addition, DOC has taken steps to improve its comprehensive employment programs. Several counselors, a job developer, and four employment specialists were hired, as well as a new job center were added to our work-release halfway house programs.

DOC put together a Workforce Development Training for all agencies that are contracted with DOC that supplied employment services. This training was partially funded by DOC and the Annie E. Casey Foundation. We are currently in consultation with the National Institute of Justice, MDRC, and other researchers to incorporate new research findings for ex-offenders within halfway house programs.

The slight reduction in placements was a result of normal variation and a slight increase in length of stay. The relatively constant number of placements from FY11 to FY12 was due to offsetting effects of a reduction in length of stay and a temporary reduction in available offenders due to the retroactive applications.

Data Development Agenda:

We began collecting information on hourly wages on January 1, 2012. This information has helped to monitor individuals' financial self-sufficiency. We did not build in a mechanism to collect total hours worked per week. This is a short-coming that will be rectified soon.