KRS 439.3103 FY23 ANNUAL REPORT ON EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

Kentucky Department of Corrections

Contents

Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report

This Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) report provides an overview of efforts by the Kentucky Department of Corrections (DOC) to implement evidence-based practices to enhance public safety and reduce recidivism. Evidence-based practices (EBP) encompasses intervention and supervision programs that scientific research demonstrates reduce instances of criminal activity when implemented.

Part of DOC's mission is to provide opportunities for offenders to acquire pro-social skills, promote successful reentry into the community, and reduce recidivism. DOC has worked diligently to implement evidence-based practices and to provide additional services and support to the justice-involved population since the 2011 Regular Session House Bill 463 was enacted.

DOC's average daily population in FY23 was 19,743. There were 15,239 admissions and 14,925 releases. Offenders sentenced to state custody are housed in state prisons, local jail facilities, reentry service centers, and the community on the home incarceration program. The average daily population of those on active supervision with DOC's Division of Probation and Parole in FY23 was 48,811 individuals.

Reentry programming is provided by members of DOC's Division of Reentry Services staff within communities and state prisons, in conjunction with DOC-approved community partners and vendors. In FY23, the Division of Reentry Services consisted of 85 staff members. All DOC employees are trained to utilize the following Evidence-Based Staff Practices:

> **Motivational Interviewing –** A cognitive-based interviewing technique taught to all DOC staff that enhances offender engagement in supervision and retention.

> **Core Correctional Practices –** Supervision strategy that teaches DOC staff to apply principles of effective interventions with offenders.

DOC utilizes a program screening tool to review and approve programs for entry in the DOC course catalog. In collaboration with the University of Cincinnati's Corrections Institute (UCCI), DOC developed an evidence-informed screening tool to be used in the program selection process. This tool identifies key areas to consider, such as: research availability to show how the program reduced recidivism and/or improved other key outcomes; adherence to risk, need, and responsivity principles; and outcome measures. The tool also reviews other key factors an agency should consider when implementing a new program, such as cost and training requirements. Additionally, this tool has helped DOC identify the amount of completion credit an approved program should receive.

DOC offers three types of programs in addition to educational courses: Evidence-Based Programs and Practices; Promising Practices Programs; and Life Skills Programs. Promising practices are programs and strategies that have some research or data showing positive

outcomes, but do not have enough evidence yet to meet the standard of an evidence-based program. Life skills programs remove barriers to successful reintegration into the community and address skill areas, including time management, money management, use of technology, communication, and social skills.

In FY23, DOC offered 105 different programs, 39 of which were Evidence-Based. The listing can be found in three different course catalogs, depending on the location of the offerings (Community, Local Facilities, and Adult Institutions). There is also a full education course catalog for educational courses and technical classes offered statewide. The course catalogs provide a description of the program; time frame; applicable good time credits for completion; admission criteria; applicable policies; and locations. The catalogs are updated every quarter and are made available to the DOC population at the applicable locations, as well as on the DOC website.

Fiscal Year 2023: Programs and Practices

Below are the evidence-based programs and practices offered in FY23.

Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT)	MRT Mentor	MRT Anger Management	MRT Parenting
MRT Staying Quit	MRT Thinking for Good	MRT Untangling Relationships	MRT Trauma
Challenges	Getting Started	Go Further	RHU Short Term Behavioral Modification
RHU Administrative Behavioral Modification	RHU Extended Behavioral Modification	RHU Transitional Behavioral Modification	Healthy Lifestyles Program
Sex Offender Treatment Program – Prison	Seeking Safety	Threshold	Substance Abuse Program (SAP) – Prison
SAP Mentor – Prison	Outpatient SAP – Prison	SAP Co-Occurring Disorder (SAP-COD) – Prison	SAP – COD Mentor – Prison
Supporting Others in Active Recovery (SOAR)	SOAR Mentor	Supportive Assistance with Medication for Treatment (SAMAT)	MEE Journaling Series
Sex Offender Treatment	Sex Offender Treatment	SAP - Reentry Service	SAP Mentor - Reentry Service

Program - Community	Program – Private Providers	Center/Recovery KY Center	Center/Recovery KY Center
SAP – DOC Community Program	SAP – VOA Halfway Back Program	Comprehensive Outpatient Program – Community SAP	Supportive Housing for Adaptive Reentry – Co-Occurring (SHARE – CO)
Supportive Housing for Adaptive Reentry – Serious Mental Illness (SHARE – SMI)		Pretrial Substance Abuse Program – PSAP	Outpatient SAP – Jail

Program Completions

The following table represents program completions for FY23 Evidence-Based Programs, Promising Practices Programs, Life Skills Programs, and Vocational/Education Certificates. This number is inclusive of the entire Department of Corrections population (inmates in all housing statuses and on community supervision):

Program Type	Completions
Academic - Vocational	678
Evidence-Based	30,156
Life Skills	3305
Promising Practices	13
Total	34,152

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Expenditures

During FY23, DOC spent approximately $30 million for evidence-based programming by utilizing General, Federal, Senate Bill 192 and Kentucky Centralized Inmate Commissary, Inc. (KCIC) funds. Details of the expenditures for these programs are listed in the below table. It should be noted that KCIC/Canteen funds are from inmate purchases that are used for programming for the population.

FY23 Evidence Based Program Expenditures				
Program	General Fund	Federal Fund	SB192 Fund	KCIC/ Canteen
Substance Abuse	$ 16,805,549	$ 462,859	$ 2,782,039	$ 14,811
Sex Offender Treatment Program	$ 2,274,032			
Education	$ 5,100,771	$ 23,493		$ 19,290
MRT	$ 2,817,205			$ 153,129
Total	**$ 26,997,557**	**$ 486,352**	**$ 2,782,039**	**$ 187,230**
				$30,453,178

After a review of various interdepartmental policies and procedures, amendments were made in FY23 to increase reentry success for the DOC population. These include:

- Expansion of the State ID pilot project to include all 14 state prisons and jails where reentry staff are located.
- Distribution of over 17,000 Narcan kits to offenders upon release from custody and their families
- Expansion of medical services for Hepatitis C-diagnosed clients post-release
- Launch of an employment pipeline assisting with employment pre- and post-release
- Launch of a virtual learning job skills program. By learning to overcome challenges through this virtual learning experience, inmates will develop the resiliency, perseverance, and confidence needed to overcome real-life obstacles and help them answer job interview questions.

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Fiscal Year 2024 Department of Corrections Goals

DOC remains committed to creating a better, safer Kentucky by reducing recidivism in FY24 through the following strategies:

- Continued focus on programming to ensure necessary changes are implemented and consistent across all areas of program delivery.
- Expansion of programming to include employment services for the population
- Continue to expand reentry services to the jail state inmate population
- Enhance medical and mental health services to the state inmate population housed in county jails. Providing mental health and primary medical care improves the health of offenders re-entering society as well as leads to increased chances of permanent housing, education, and employment.
- Conduct pilot programs in state-run correctional facilities, jails, and communities to evaluate effectiveness to determine how best to achieve successful reentry
- Collaborate with various state agencies to enhance procedures for offenders
- Expand community relationships to gather additional resources to enhance offender reentry
- Utilize faith-based groups willing to assist the offender population in hopes of providing successful reentry into the communities
- Expand technology use for those in state prisons
- Provide education and resources for families of the incarcerated
- Complete a validation study of the Kentucky Risk Assessment System (KyRAS) assessment tool system

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