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Testimony on Program Updates to The Joint Committee on Corrections & Juvenile Justice Oversight

By Ray Roberts
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November 29, 2012

- KDOC Approach to Programming
 - o Evidence-based
 - Targets risk areas
 - Delivered with fidelity
 - Evaluated for impact
 - o Skills-building with robust curricula (not lecture hall nor talk therapy)
 - Dose targeted to level of risk/need (more hours of group/classroom work for higher risk)
 - Delivers programs through internal program providers as well as contract providers
 - o Partner with service systems in the community for programming after release
- Thinking for a Change (T4C) Cognitive Programming
 - Over 30 modules of skills-building in problem solving
 - o Changing criminal thinking to pro-social behaviors & problem solving
 - o Delivered by internal program providers with co-facilitation by unit team staff, volunteers, and mental health staff (for those with mental illness)
 - o Served 942 offenders in FY 2012
- Job Readiness (OWDS)
 - Over 24 modules of preparing for employment, including skills assessments, mock interviews, addressing felony history with potential employers
 - Delivered by internal program providers with co-facilitation by unit team staff and volunteers
 - In select geographic areas, Job Specialists in parole offices and workforce centers follow up with individual support for job placement/retention
 - Served 991 offenders in FY 2012

Vocational Training

- Market-relevant vocational training
- WorkReady assessment/certification (assessment used by employers to determine aptitude with levels of certification related to proficiency)
- o Certification in manufacturing skills and other vocational skills
- o Served 483 offenders in FY 2012

Education

- Self-paced instructor-led preparation for GED and testing/certification
- o Includes skills-building and education-support components, to increase success in obtaining GED and preparing offenders to use GED in employment
- Delivered by three different contractors
- o Served 470 offenders in FY 2012

Parenting

- o Cognitive-based interactive skills-building parent management training for offenders
- o Includes communication, problem solving, monitoring, positive reinforcement, non-violent discipline techniques
- o Work individually with parents to create plans for child visits
- Provide feedback to inmates and problem solving after visits with the child or child's caregiver
- o Delivered by internal program providers
- Served 432 offenders in FY 2012

Substance Abuse

- o Chemical Dependency Recovery Program (CDRP)
 - Delivered by internal program providers at Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility
 - Served 118 offenders in FY 2012
- Substance Abuse Recovery Program
 - Delivered by a contractual provider at Topeka Correctional Facility
 - Served 57 offenders in FY 2012
- o Substance Abuse Program
 - Contract provided cognitive-based skills-building programming for moderatehigh and high-risk offenders
 - Focuses on those most likely to be revoked for drug/alcohol abuse after release
 - Offered at Lansing, Hutchinson, El Dorado, and Wichita Work Release

Mentoring4Success

- o Mentors provide a pro-social model and accountability
- 1156 mentors matched with offenders leaving prison since July 2011