

**Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report
Oklahoma Department of Corrections
Division of Female Offender Operations**

On the Cover . . .

While it may seem unusual to depict children on the cover, research demonstrates that the pathways to incarceration for many Oklahoma women begin early in childhood. Childhood experiences of child physical and sexual abuse, chaotic home environments, and poverty present hurdles to educational attainment and transform into later substance abuse and addiction and problems with mental illness. Adult victimization and experiences of domestic violence are the adult parallels of childhood experiences. Children who live in environments such as these today have a significantly increased risk of being incarcerated tomorrow. Without intervention, the cycle continues.

With Special Acknowledgement and Appreciation

The Division of Female Offender Operations acknowledges and expresses sincere appreciation to the staff of the Mabel Bassett and Eddie Warrior Correctional Centers, Hillside and Kate Barnard Community Corrections Centers, and the Altus Community Work Center who work tirelessly 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to ensure the agency's mission of "Protecting the Public, the Employees, and the Offenders," is fulfilled in an exemplary manner.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections, Division of Female Offenders Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report is presented in an effort to educate, increase awareness, and facilitate discussion and engagement around the issue of the incarceration of women in Oklahoma.

During Fiscal Year 2010, this issue was a continued area of focus for groups such as the George Kaiser Family Foundation, Oklahoma Women's Coalition, the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women, and the Oklahoma Academy.

* The Complex Dialogues Summit, sponsored by the George Kaiser Family Foundation, Don and Donna Millican, and Oklahoma Christian University held January 26, 2010, focused on establishing a foundation for positive change in policy and legislation to address the challenge of women's incarceration.

* Advocacy Day at the Capitol, sponsored by the Oklahoma Women's Coalition, held March 2, 2010, provided Coalition members time to speak with legislators in support of House Bill 2998 and support funding for domestic violence services including lost replacement fees that benefit victims of domestic violence and sexual assault services.

* House Bill 2998, authored by Representative Kris Steele, was passed into law during Fiscal Year 2010. The legislation creates pilot programs, funded by private donations and state funds, to provide diversion and reentry programs to allow non-violent parents to receive community-based services.

* The Incarceration of Oklahoma Women Solutions Initiative Summit (Oklahoma SIS), sponsored by the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women, Oklahoma Women's Coalition, and Oklahoma Department of Corrections held April 30, 2010, resulted in the development of a public agenda action plan with state, community, and individual strategies identified in the areas of (1) Prevention, (2) Intervention and Diversion, and (3) Recidivism and Reentry.

* Presentations regarding female offenders were made at the request of Oklahoma Supreme Court Chief Justice James E. Edmondson, and Sue Tate, Court Improvement Process and Judicial Education Coordinator, at the Summer 2010 Judicial Regional Workshop series entitled, "Children Are Why We Are Here."

These efforts, along with the countless efforts of volunteers, faith-based and community partnerships, and our many partners working in the Oklahoma criminal justice system, are highly valued and greatly appreciated as we continue to work together to reduce Oklahoma's female incarceration rate to at, or below, the national average while increasing public safety.

Laura J. Pitman, Ph.D., Deputy Director
Division of Female Offender Operations

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Introduction

The vision of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is to create a culture that empowers individuals, encourages teamwork, employs best practices, and embraces diversity. The mission of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is to Protect the Public, the Employees, and the Offenders. The department values professionalism, rehabilitation, integrity, diversity, and excellence.

Over-incarceration is an Oklahoma issue. By consistently using imprisonment for low risk, non-violent offenders with short sentences, the state is paying a premium for public safety. For the majority of incarcerated women, evidence-based strategies can be implemented to protect public safety, maintain accountability, and provide improved outcomes for future generations at substantially lower social and economic costs. It will take everyone, working together, to effectively address the causes of incarceration. Developing strategies to reduce both incarceration and recidivism rates requires an in-depth understanding of female offenders including:

- * Female offender incarceration rates nationally, in the state of Oklahoma and contiguous states, as well as how those states compare county-by-county within Oklahoma;
- * Characteristics of female offenders and their pathways to incarceration;
- * Characteristics of female offenders receptions and the incarcerated population;
- * Programs and services delivered during incarceration;
- * Needs of female offender upon reentry to society;
- * Alternatives to incarceration; and
- * Opportunities to intervene at critical points prior to incarceration.

Incarceration Rates

Oklahoma currently incarcerates 132 women per 100,000 population compared to the national average of 68.

This chart provides the incarceration rate of female offenders per 100,000 female population. The average incarceration rate nationally was 68. The incarceration rate was 132 for Oklahoma; 92 for Texas; 91 for Colorado; 81 for Missouri; 73 for Arkansas; 59 for New Mexico; and 41 for Kansas.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Prison Inmates at Midyear 2009—Statistical Tables, NCJ, Table 10. Imprisonment Rates of Sentenced Prisoners Under Jurisdiction of State and Federal Correctional Authorities, by Sex and Jurisdiction, June 30, 2009.

Oklahoma Female Incarceration Rate by County of Conviction per 100,000 Female Population

As the map below illustrates, of Oklahoma's 77 counties, 14 counties incarcerate females at 300 percent above the national average (rate per 100,000 female population); 14 counties incarcerate females between 201 percent and 300 percent above the national average; 13 counties incarcerate between 151 percent and 200 percent above the national average; 10 counties incarcerate between 101 percent and 150 percent of the national average; and 26 counties incarcerate at or below the national average.

The number listed after the county name reflects the number of female offenders incarcerated from that county, based on controlling offense, as of the June 30, 2009 prison population.*

U.S. Female Incarceration Rate, 2009: 68 per 100,000. Oklahoma Female Incarceration Rate: 132 per 100,000.

The number listed after the county name reflects the number of female offenders incarcerated from that county, based on controlling offense, as of the June 30, 2009 prison population.

Adair: 2; Alfalfa: 0; Atoka: 10; Beaver: 4; Beckham: 29; Blaine: 11; Bryan: 27; Caddo: 22; Canadian: 19; Carter: 31; Cherokee: 8; Choctaw: 6; Cimarron: 0; Cleveland: 40; Coal: 12; Comanche: 69; Cotton: 10; Craig: 4; Creek: 60; Custer: 40; Delaware: 27; Dewey: 1; Ellis: 1; Garfield: 72; Garvin: 5; Grady: 70; Grant: 1; Greer: 9; Harmon: 4; Harper: 0; Haskell: 6; Hughes: 10; Jackson: 32; Jefferson: 6; Johnston: 8; Kay: 32; Kingfisher: 8; Kiowa: 8; Latimer: 4; Le Flore: 19; Lincoln: 17; Logan: 23; Love: 2; Major: 1; Marshall: 7; Mayes: 12; McClain: 6; McCurtain: 23; McIntosh: 12; Murray: 15; Muskogee: 43; Noble: 4; Nowata: 2; Okfuskee: 3; Oklahoma: 629; Okmulgee: 14; Osage: 7; Ottawa: 33; Pawnee: 5; Payne: 36; Pittsburg: 46; Pontotoc: 20;

Pottawatomie: 53; Pushmataha: 2; Roger Mills: 3; Rogers: 34; Seminole: 30; Sequoyah: 7; Stephens: 59; Texas: 17; Tillman: 4; Tulsa: 513; Wagoner: 11; Washington: 28; Washita: 3; Woods: 0; Woodward: 4.

*Does not include Interstate compact IN (4) and GPS (140). Incarceration rate calculations provided by the Bureau of Justice do not include offenders whose total prison term was one year or less. Fifty female offenders with total prison terms of one year or less were removed from the sample for comparison purposes. An additional two female offenders were removed from the sample due to incomplete data. Total female prison population on June 30, 2009, was 2,651. Map sample is 2,455. Census data from Federal Population estimates by Selected Age Groups and Sex for Counties, July 1, 2009. National incarceration rates from Bureau of Justice Statistics, Prison Inmates at Midyear 2009.

Pathways to Incarceration

Women share common pathways to incarceration:

- * History of family dysfunction and instability;
- * History of trauma and violence;
- * History of substance abuse and addiction;
- * Economic marginalization and poverty;
- * Race and ethnicity;
- * Medical issues and mental health issues;
- * Women offenders as mothers; and
- * Relationships.

History of Family Dysfunction and Instability

Someone in Home With Drinking Problem 61.1%
Someone in Home With Drug Problem 46.8%
Mental Illness in the Home 47.2%
Parents Divorced 61.1%
Father Incarcerated 18.3%
Mother Incarcerated 9.3%
Both Parents Incarcerated 4.0%
Ran Away From Home Before Age 18 52.5%
Often or Very Often Did Not Have Enough to Eat 14.9%
Nobody to Take Them to Doctor When Sick 7.0%

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children, January 22, 2010; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth. Note: Sample size was 301 female offenders and was representative of the incarcerated population.

History of Trauma and Violence

Trauma and Violence in Childhood
Child Physical and/or Sexual Abuse 66.4%
Father Violent in Home 42.9%
Mother Violent in Home 28.6%

Trauma and Violence in Adulthood
Domestic Violence 71.1%
Rape Past the Age of 18 36.2%
Received Abuse Counseling 39.5%

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children January 22, 2010; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

History of Substance Abuse and Addiction

During Fiscal Year 2010, 1,393 female offenders were received by the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Of these, 64 percent (N=890) were assessed with a moderate to high need for substance abuse treatment.

Economic Marginalization and Poverty

Of the 1,393 female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2010, 1,368 were administered a Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) at the time of reception. The LSI-R is a quantifiable survey of offender attributes relevant to level of supervision and treatment decisions.

LSI-R results relevant to economic marginalization and poverty include:

- * 84 percent (N=1,154) were unemployed at the time of arrest;
- * 75 percent (N=1,022) were frequently unemployed when in the labor market;
- * 77 percent (N=1,057) reported difficulty managing their finances at the time of arrest; and
- * 60 percent (N=823) reported a reliance on social assistance at the time of arrest.

Both the proportion of offenders frequently unemployed when in the job market and the proportion who relied on social assistance at the time of arrest increased significantly from Fiscal Year 2009 to Fiscal Year 2010 (from 65 percent to 75 percent and from 46 percent to 60 percent, respectively). Although not a complete answer, it appears the deteriorating economic conditions may have played a role in the increase in receptions.

Additionally, of the 1,393 female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2010, 71 percent (N=995) had a need for education (e.g., Literacy, Adult Basic Education, General Equivalency Diploma).

Race and Ethnicity

Black and Native American women are disproportionately represented in the Oklahoma prison system.

Race and Ethnicity of Female Offenders

Female End of FY 2010 Population: 59.00% White; 23.40% Black; 13.00% Native American; 4.20% Hispanic; 0.30% Asian and 0.10% Other, as compared to the July 2009 Oklahoma Census Estimate of Females: 71.40% White; 7.70% Black; 7.70% Native American; 7.60% Hispanic; 1.70% Asian and 3.90% Other.

Medical and Mental Health Issues

Female offenders are treated for a variety of medical and mental health issues. Of the 2,760 female offenders incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2010, 62 percent (N=1,707) had a history of or were currently being treated for a mental disorder such as post-traumatic stress disorder, major mood disorders (i.e., depression, bipolar disorder), or psychotic disorders.

Female Offenders as Mothers

“There is now a growing awareness that parents who go to prison do not suffer the consequences alone; the children of incarcerated parents often lose contact with their parents and visits are sometimes rare. Children of incarcerated parents are more likely to drop out of school, engage in delinquency, and subsequently be incarcerated themselves.” (“Incarcerated Parents and Their Children: Trends 1991-2007,” The Sentencing Project, February 2009)

Children of Incarcerated Mothers

Of the 301 Female Offenders Surveyed . . . (Extrapolated for Entire Population of 2,760 Female Offenders), 257 Had At Least One Child (2,357 With Children), 257 Offenders Had 760 Children (3 Children Per Offender) (7,071 Children), 65.39 Percent of the 760 Children Were Under the Age of 18 (4,624 Children Under Age of 18), 45.5 Percent (N=137) of Female Offenders Lived With Minor Child Prior to Incarceration (265 Children).

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children, January 22, 2010; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

Placement of Oklahoma Children of Incarcerated Mothers Living With Mother At Time of Incarceration

As Percentage of Known Placements (N=187):

Child's Other Parent 31.0%;
Offender's Mother 28.3%;
Offender's Sibling 8.0%;
Offender's Other Relatives 8.0%;
Partner's Mother 5.9%;
Foster Care 5.9%.

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children, January 22, 2010; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

Children Experiencing Problems Before and Since Mother's Incarceration As Reported by Mothers

Problem Before Mother's Incarceration:

Bad Grades 18;
Expelled 6;
Dropped Out 8;
Trouble With Guardian 10;
Ran Away 2;
Arrested 3;
Drug Problem 4;
Depression 10;
Suicidal 3.

Since Mother's Incarceration:

Bad Grades 35;
Expelled 12;
Dropped Out 12;
Trouble With Guardian 33;
Ran Away 10;
Arrested 8;
Drug Problem 11;
Depression 47;
Suicidal 14.

Both Before and Since Mother's Incarceration:

Bad Grades 16;
Expelled 7;
Dropped Out --;
Trouble With Guardian 11;
Ran Away 5;
Arrested 5;
Drug Problem 5;
Depression 16;
Suicidal 6.

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children, January 22, 2010; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

Contact with Children Among Women Living With Children Prior to Incarceration

Visits

Once a Year or Less 43.8%
Twice a Year or More But Less Than Monthly 14.6%
Once a Month or More 35.1%

Telephone Calls

Once a Year or Less 28.5%

Twice a Year or More But Less Than Monthly 24.8%

Once a Month or More 40.9%

Mail

Once a Year or Less 27.0%

Twice a Year or More But Less Than Monthly 22.7%

Once a Month or More 44.5%

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children, January 22, 2010; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

Relationships

The critical issues outlined above ultimately impact female offenders' ability to feel safe in the world, trust others, handle stress, and rebound from disappointment thus making it difficult to successfully maintain healthy relationships with children, family, and significant others.

Receptions

The Mabel Bassett Correctional Center houses the Assessment and Reception Center for females incarcerated in the state of Oklahoma. During the reception period, which ranges from 10-30 days, female offenders complete a series of assessments that determine custody status, facility placement, and identify needs the offenders will work to address during incarceration.

During Fiscal Year 2010, 1,393 female offenders were received into the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. This is an increase of 109 over Fiscal Year 2009.

End of Fiscal Year Female Receptions:

FY2001 1141;
FY2002 1188;
FY2003 1237;
FY2004 1327;
FY2005 1360;
FY2006 1213;
FY2007 1243;
FY2008 1400;
FY2009 1284;
FY2010 1393.

The largest numbers of receptions during Fiscal Year 2010 were from Oklahoma, Tulsa, Comanche, Creek, Pottawatomie, Garfield, and Grady.

Fiscal Year 2010 Female Offender Receptions by County of Controlling Offense

Adair 1; Alfalfa 0; Atoka 2; Beaver 0; Beckham 8; Blaine 6; Bryan 21; Caddo 14; Canadian 16; Carter 27; Cherokee 4; Choctaw 9; Cimarron 0; Cleveland 25; Coal 2; Comanche 47; Cotton 5; Craig 2; Creek 46; Custer 23; Delaware 13; Dewey 0; Ellis 1; Garfield 31; Garvin 1; Grady 31; Grant 1; Greer 4; Harmon 3; Harper 1; Haskell 2; Hughes 4; Jackson 21; Jefferson 8; Johnston 4; Kay 27; Kingfisher 6; Kiowa 4; Latimer 3; LeFlore 13; Lincoln 9; Logan 10; Love 5; Major 0; Marshall 5; Mayes 6; McClain 3; McCurtain 7; McIntosh 4; Murray 3; Muskogee 16; Noble 1; Nowata 0; Okfuskee 7; Oklahoma 324; Okmulgee 21; Osage 5; Ottawa 22; Pawnee 2; Payne 18; Pittsburg 17; Pontotoc 16; Pottawatomie 32; Pushmataha 0; Roger Mills 0; Rogers 26; Seminole 10; Sequoyah 5; Stephens 23; Texas 15; Tillman 4; Tulsa 315; Wagoner 5; Washington 10; Washita 7; Woods 0; Woodward 4; TOTAL 1,393.

Fiscal Year 2010 Female Offender Receptions Demographics

Ethnicity
Caucasian 60.2%
African American 21.5%
Native American 13.8%

Hispanic 4.2%
Asian 0.1%
Pacific Islander 0.1%
Other 0.1%

Breakdown by Age Group

20 and Under 6.6%
21-25 16.9%
26-30 21.0%
31-35 15.3%
36-40 13.9%
41-45 11.9%
46-50 8.8%
51-55 3.7%
56 and Older 1.9%

Of the 1,393 Fiscal Year 2010 receptions, 947 were new court admissions (not on probation or parole); 167 were probation violators (new cases); 243 were probation violators (technical violations); and 31 were parole violators. Parole violators include offenders with new cases and those receiving technical violations. Five were recaptured escapees.

Most of the increase (N=109) in receptions from Fiscal Year 2009 to Fiscal Year 2010 can be attributed to new court admissions.

Based on the Initial Custody Assessment completed at the Assessment and Reception Center, 1,081 (78%) of the 1,393 receptions were identified as presenting a minimal threat to public safety and as requiring minimum security or community corrections facility placement.

Of the 1,393 women admitted to prison in Fiscal Year 2010, the majority were assessed with a high LSI-R score (49 percent). The LSI-R is a scoring instrument used to assess offender risk and needs. A score of 0-18 is low risk and needs; a score of 19-28 is moderate risk and needs; and a score of 29-54 is high risk and needs. The average score for female offenders, 27.85, falls within the moderate risk category.

Fiscal Year 2010 Female Receptions by Total LSI-R Score

LSI Total Score – Low 121 (8.7%)
LSI Total Score – Moderate 571 (41.0%)
LSI Total Score – High 676 (48.5%)
Total 1,368 (98.2%)
No LSI 25 (1.8%)
Total 1,393 (100.0%)

Offenders who did not have the LSI-R administered at reception had either very short sentences (generally 30 days or less) or very long sentences (Life, Life Without Parole, Death).

As of November 1, 2010, 1,016 of the 1,393 female offenders received during Fiscal Year 2010, remain incarcerated. The average number of projected days remaining is 1,061 or three years.

Unlike most states, which require sentences of one or two years to be served in county jails, offenders in Oklahoma can be sentenced to serve any length of time in state prisons. As of November 1, 2010, of the women received in FY 2010, 377 had completed their sentences and were released. Three hundred and fifty-seven (95 percent) of these women served less than one year in prison. Five were released on the same day as admission.

While the majority of the 377 women discharged (238 or 63 percent) were required to undergo a period of community supervision, many (139 or 37 percent) were not.

Top Five Controlling Offense Categories for Fiscal Year 2010 Female Receptions

Possession, Obtaining a Controlled Dangerous Substance 23.8%
Distributing Controlled Dangerous Substance 19.1%
Forgery 8.5%
Larceny 7.1%
Assault 7.0%

Table of Fiscal Year 2010 Female Receptions By Offense Type

Violent 21.4%
85% Offense* 9.5%
Sex Offense 1.8%
Drug Offense 54.5%

*Effective March 1, 2000, 21 O.S., Section 13.1, provides that offenders who commit certain crimes on or after such date must serve 85 percent of their subsequent sentence of imprisonment day-for-day before becoming eligible for parole consideration or to earn or accrue any type of credit that might reduce the length of the sentence to less than 85 percent.

Incarcerated Population

The following chart illustrates the increasing female offender population across time.

FY 2010 2,760;
FY2009 2,649;
FY2008 2,690;
FY2007 2,566;
FY2006 2,458;
FY2005 2,475;
FY2004 2,292;
FY2003 2,332;
FY2002 2,285;
FY2001 2,256;
FY2000 2,289.

At the end of Fiscal Year 2010, there were 2,760 incarcerated female offenders.

Fiscal Year 2010 Incarcerated Female Offender Demographics

Ethnicity

Caucasian 59.0%
African American 23.4%
Native American 13.0%
Hispanic 4.2%
Asian 0.3%
Other 0.1%

Breakdown by Age Group

20 and Under 2.2%
21-25 12.3%
26-30 19.0%
31-35 17.4%
36-40 14.5%
41-45 13.1%
46-50 12.1%
51-55 5.3%
56 and Older 4.1%

Average Age 36.5

Of the 2,760 incarcerated female offenders, 111 were incarcerated for a life sentence (2 were for nonviolent offenses); 53 were incarcerated for life without parole (6 were for nonviolent offenses); and one was sentenced to death.

Table of Fiscal Year 2010 Female Receptions By Offense Type

Violent 33.50%
85% Offense* 17.40%
Sex Offense Offense 2.60%
Drug Offense 50.10%

*Effective March 1, 2000, 21 O.S., Section 13.1, provides that offenders who commit certain crimes on or after such date must serve 85 percent of their subsequent sentence of imprisonment day-for-day before becoming eligible for parole consideration or to earn or accrue any type of credit that might reduce the length of the sentence to less than 85 percent.

Top Five Controlling Offense Categories for Fiscal Year 2010 Female Offender Population

Distributing Controlled Dangerous Substance 20.3% (N=560)
Possession, Obtaining Controlled Dangerous Substance 19.8% (N=547)
Forgery 7.6% (N=209)
Assault 6.2% (N=172)
Larceny 6.2% (N=170)

Female Facilities: Custody Level, Location, Staffing, Capacity, and Cost

Death Row/Maximum/Medium/Minimum at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center (McCloud): Authorized: 216, Filled: 135. Capacity: 1,043 and 93 in A&R. \$36.92 cost per offender per day. \$13,475 annual direct cost per offender.

Minimum at Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center (Taft): Authorized: 148, Filled: 100. Capacity: 783. \$34.60 cost per offender per day. \$12,630 annual direct cost per offender.

Community at Hillside Community Corrections Center (Oklahoma City): Authorized: 33, Filled: 20. Capacity: 249. \$32.11 cost per offender per day. \$11,719 annual direct cost per offender.

Community at Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center (Oklahoma City): Authorized: 26, Filled: 20. Capacity: 164. \$40.26 cost per offender per day. \$14,696 annual direct cost per offender.

Community at Altus Community Work Center (Altus): Authorized: 15, Filled: 14. Capacity: 110. \$26.48 cost per offender per day. \$9,665 annual direct cost per offender.

Halfway House at Turley Residential Center (Tulsa). Contract Facility Capacity: 150. \$40.07 cost per offender per day. \$14,627* annual direct cost per offender.

Halfway House at Center Point, Inc. (Tulsa). Contract Facility Capacity: 32. \$40.07 cost per offender per day. \$14,627* annual direct cost per offender.

Source: Oklahoma Department of Corrections Total Cost to State, Statement of Operating Cost per Inmate Based on FY 2010 Actual Expenditures; Finance and Accounting. *Halfway house daily costs do not include medical, overhead and administrative costs.

Programs and Services During Incarceration

Female offenders are assessed and screened at the Mabel Bassett Correctional Center Assessment and Reception Center for medical, mental health, and programmatic needs. Assessed program needs are identified on a case plan. Case managers monitor offenders' needs and place them in the appropriate program at the appropriate time.

Primary among the programs available to female offenders are substance abuse treatment and educational services.

The tables below represent unique program participation by program type for Fiscal Year 2010.

Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse Treatment (SAT) Programs are facilitated by qualified staff utilizing approved curriculum. While the structure and physical activities are different, Substance Abuse Treatment also encompasses Regimented Treatment Programs (RTP) and Therapeutic Communities (TC). Treatment itself focuses on the use of role play and journaling exercises to address triggers that lead to substance abusing behaviors, and the learning of alternative behaviors. Problem solving skills are also addressed within treatment, as well as relapse prevention. Aftercare planning is addressed during the final phases of treatment in an attempt to network offenders completing programs with services within the community to which they are returning. Length of treatment varies from four to twelve months. All SAT programs adhere to strict admission criteria. The need must be determined through an established assessment instrument approved by the programs administrator. An individualized case plan is developed to address the needs identified by the assessment instrument(s).

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections has 188 substance abuse beds available for women.

Sixty-four percent (N=890) of female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2010 were assessed with a moderate to high need for substance abuse treatment.

Of the 2,760 female offenders incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2010, 63 percent (N=1,744) had an assessed need for substance abuse treatment.

During Fiscal Year 2010, 885 female offenders who discharged or completed their sentences had a need for substance abuse treatment. Of these, 252 (28 percent) completed treatment prior to release, and 633 (72 percent) did not.

Fiscal Year 2010 Substance Abuse Program Participation

Substance Abuse Treatment 532

The Regimented Treatment Program offered at Eddie Warrior Correctional Center and the Substance Abuse Treatment Program offered at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center (minimum unit) are funded through a federal Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) grant. The Substance Abuse Treatment Program offered at Hillside Community Corrections Center is funded by Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Special Population Treatment Unit funds.

The Helping Women Recover Substance Abuse Treatment Program offered at Mabel Bassett and Eddie Warrior Correctional Centers is based on women's developmental theory and a model created by Dr. Stephanie Covington, a nationally recognized expert in developing innovative, gender-responsive, and trauma informed approaches to the treatment needs of women and girls.

During Fiscal Year 2010, the Helping Women Recover and Beyond Trauma Treatment Programs received \$190,000 from the George Kaiser Family Foundation to fund efforts and expand programming. One hundred twenty-four women at Mabel Bassett and Eddie Warrior Correctional Centers completed the four-month intervention, and 104 women at Hillside and Kate Barnard Community Corrections Centers received a one-month booster intervention utilizing the Helping Women Recover curriculum.

The Eddie Warrior Correctional Center Helping Women Recover Program underwent a structured program evaluation using the Evidence-Based Correctional Program Checklist (CPC) during this fiscal year and received certification. The purpose of the CPC evaluation is to conduct an assessment of programming and services offered and compare these practices with research literature on best practices in corrections. Based on discussions with Dr. Covington, this is the first gender-specific program in the nation to achieve certification via the evidence-based evaluation process. Helping Women Recover at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center will undergo the CPC evaluation during Fiscal Year 2011. Once programs are certified, completion of Helping Women Recover satisfies offenders' substance abuse treatment need, and offenders earn 70 achievement credits.

Education

Seventy-one percent (N=995) of female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2010 had an assessed need for basic education. Of the 2,760 females incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2010, 70 percent (N=1,918) had an assessed need for basic education.

During Fiscal Year 2010, 960 female offenders who discharged their sentences had a case plan need for basic education. Of these, 279 (29 percent) completed some form of education prior to release, and 681 (71 percent) did not complete some form of education. Educational services include Literacy, Adult Basic Education, General Equivalency Diploma, college courses (not funded with agency operating funds/tax dollars), and Life Skills classes.

Fiscal Year 2010 Education Program Participation

Title I** 51**
Education* 1,500*

Literacy 247
Adult Basic Education 311
College 452
General Equivalency Diploma 252
CIMC Life Skills 238

*Note: An offender may complete more than one educational program during a fiscal year and would be included in the count for all programs completed. **Title I includes offenders in education that, at the time of service, were 21 years old or younger.

Career Technology

Fiscal Year 2010 CareerTech Skill Center Activity

Mabel Bassett Skills Center

Career Development (Short-Term Training)*
Served 33
Completed 33
Retained 0
Non-Completion 0

*Discontinued by Career Technology due to budget shortfalls.

Computer Fundamentals
(Short-Term Training)
Served 31
Completed 28
Retained 0
Non-Completion 3

Licensed Trades
Served 33
Completed 15
Retained 12
Non-Completion 6

Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics
Served 35
Completed 21
Retained 10
Non-Completion 4

Dr. Eddie Warrior Skills Center

Business and Information Technology Academy

Served 52

Completed 33

Retained 14

Non-Completion 4

Career Tech Light (Short-Term Training)

Served 39

Completed 29

Retained 10

Non-Completion 0

Manufacturing Academy

Served 71

Completed 42

Retained 26

Non-Completion 1

Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

Served 35

Completed 21

Retained 10

Non-Completion 4

TOTAL

TOTAL SERVED 329

TOTAL COMPLETED 222

TOTAL RETAINED 82

TOTAL NON-COMPLETION 22

Offenders do not complete CareerTech for a variety of reasons including disciplinary, discharge, parole, transfer, etc.

Employment

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections recognizes that stable employment making a livable wage is a key component to the successful reentry of offenders. The department provides opportunities for offenders to work during incarceration. Employment opportunities include facility support, work release, Prisoner Public Works Programs, Oklahoma Correctional Industries/Agri-Services, and facility maintenance.

Facility support jobs include grounds keeping, kitchen, facility gardens, custodial, etc.

The Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center houses work release eligible female offenders. These offenders work in the community for a variety of employers including food service, lodging, hospitality, clothing, publishing, etc.

The Division of Female Offender Operations also contracts with other agencies such as the Department of Central Services (fleet management and Oklahoma State Capitol services such as custodial, building maintenance, event set-up, etc.), Oklahoma City Food Bank, Department of Tourism, and the Department of Public Safety to provide Prisoner Public Work crews.

Oklahoma Correctional Industries employs offenders in business services operations. Offenders are also employed by Prison Industry Enhancement enterprises (PIE) such as the BOSS telemarketing operation at the Mabel Bassett Correctional Center and the Jacobs Trading Company repackaging operation at Eddie Warrior Correctional Center. Facility maintenance jobs include plumbing, electrical, construction trades, and general maintenance.

Medical Services

Medical services at facilities for females vary based on the location and population served. Information presented in the “Medical Services Summary” table on the following page excludes medical, dental, and mental health information for the Altus Community Work Center, Turley Residential Center (Tulsa), and Center Point, Inc. (Tulsa) which are provided by host facilities. The host facility for women residing at the Altus Community Work Center was the Lawton Community Corrections Center, and the host facility for Turley Residential Center was Riverside. These host facilities house male offenders and do not report health information separately for female offenders. Center Point, Inc., accessed services in the community.

Offenders complete a “Request for Medical Services” to be seen by a medical provider, obtain appointment information, and refill medications, etc. Appointments are scheduled with physicians and mid-level medical providers at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, and Hillside Community Corrections Center.

Emergencies and After Hours Activities: Medical units handle health issues even when their clinics are not open. After-hours callbacks and emergency clinic visits are not rare. Many emergencies are critical enough to require a visit to the emergency room at the local hospital or at Oklahoma University/Oklahoma State University Medical Center (Turley Residential Center and Center Point, Inc.).

Specialty Care: Female offenders receive “well-women” preventative services that include mammograms and gynecological exams. In addition to care provided at facility medical clinics, female offenders receive health care outside of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. During Fiscal Year 2010, there were 2,419 specialty care

visits from Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, and Hillside Community Corrections Center.

Pregnancy: Each year, Oklahoma Department of Corrections medical units monitor female offenders' pregnancies and births. During Fiscal Year 2010, Mabel Bassett Correctional Center offenders gave birth to 32 babies. Most were delivered at Oklahoma University Medical Center. On average, there are 13 females who are pregnant. When an offender gives birth, guardianship is normally given to an immediate family member (most of the time a grandmother). If this is not possible, the child is placed in foster care. In a few rare instances, the child is placed for adoption. If the offender is placing the baby with a guardian, the offender completes the required paperwork at the facility law library. If the offender does not have a guardian to care for the baby, placements are arranged through a case manager at the hospital. Mabel Bassett Correctional Center does allow children/babies to visit their mothers more often than just regular visiting days.

Chronic Illness: In addition to providing comprehensive care for female offenders, there are special groups who require monitoring due to chronic illnesses such as asthma, hypertension, diabetes, seizures, etc.

Health Education: The Woman to Woman Inside/Out Program, which is based on a comprehensive health education curriculum offered by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Women's Health, received \$3,000 in funding for program continuation. Twenty-seven women received two college credits for completing the program.

Additionally, the HIV Peer Education Program for Incarcerated Women received funding from the Tulsa Community AIDS Partnership and the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation to continue peer education services. One hundred women received college credit to help them become peer educators. Peer educators provided prevention education to 982 incarcerated women, and 2,500 peer educational manuals were distributed. The Robert Woods Johnson Foundation also provided funding for a health and reentry fair which was conducted at Eddie Warrior Correctional Center. Approximately 550 women attended, and over 5,000 educational handouts were distributed.

Dental Care: Female offenders also receive necessary dental care at the facilities.

Fiscal Year 2010 Medical Services Summary

Medical Services

Scheduled Appointments

MBCC 6,348

EWCC 2,517

HCCC 1,806

TOTAL 10,671

Requests for Medical Services

MBCC 7,870
EWCC 4,604
HCCC 3,994
TOTAL 16,468

Nursing Protocols

MBCC 2,119
EWCC 3,518
HCCC 1,274
TOTAL 6,911

Medications (Not Including Psychotropic Medications)

Average Number of Offenders on Medications Per Month

MBCC 764
EWCC 532
HCCC 279
TOTAL 1,575

Average Number of Medications Per Offender Per Month 3.85

Emergency and After Hours Activities

ER Clinic (Facility)

MBCC 84
EWCC 11
HCCC 34
TOTAL 129

After Hours Callbacks

MBCC 119
EWCC 40
HCCC 21
TOTAL 180

Emergency Room Visits (includes OUMC and local)

MBCC 98
EWCC 7
HCCC 29
TOTAL 134

Hospital Admissions From ER Visits

MBCC 72
EWCC 3
HCCC 12
TOTAL 87

Hospital Admissions From Non-ER Visits (Direct Admit)

MBCC 69
EWCC 9
HCCC 6
TOTAL 84

Specialty Care

Contracted Provider

MBCC 241
EWCC 361
HCCC 173
TOTAL 775

Lindsay Hospital

MBCC 180
EWCC 124
HCCC 41
TOTAL 345

OU Medical Center

MBCC 939
EWCC 252
HCCC 108
TOTAL 1,299

Chronic Illness

*Some offenders fall into more than one group. Therefore, these numbers are not cumulative.

Asthma

MBCC 157
EWCC 108
HCCC 61
TOTAL 326

Hypertension

MBCC 171
EWCC 106
HCCC 69
TOTAL 346

Diabetes

MBCC 48
EWCC 28
HCCC 13

TOTAL 89

Seizures
MBCC 57
EWCC 21
HCCC 12
TOTAL 90

Hepatitis C
MBCC 59
EWCC 44
HCCC 25
TOTAL 128

Pulmonary
MBCC 26
EWCC 16
HCCC 6
TOTAL 48

Endocrine
MBCC 28
EWCC 18
HCCC 1
TOTAL 47

Cardiovascular
MBCC 22
EWCC 6
HCCC 4
TOTAL 32

Cancer
MBCC 10
EWCC 1
HCCC 1
TOTAL 12

AIDS HIV
MBCC 6
EWCC 3
HCCC 1
TOTAL 10

Dental Visits and Services

Routine Visits

MBCC 3,599

EWCC 1,678

HCCC --

TOTAL 5,277

Sick Call Requests

MBCC 2,091

EWCC 800

HCCC --

TOTAL 2,891

Unscheduled Visits/Emergency Visits

MBCC 620

EWCC 381

HCCC --

TOTAL 1,001

Mental Health Services

Generally, mental health issues are more prevalent as security level increases. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections utilizes a mental health level system as a means of determining the appropriate level of service for each offender based on need and severity of illness.

Of the 2,760 female offenders incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2010, 62 percent (N=1,707) had a history of or were currently being treated for mental disorder.

Mental health services provided to Hillside Community Corrections Center, Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center, Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, and Mabel Bassett Correctional Center female offenders include crisis intervention, suicide prevention, individual and group therapy, illness/medication management training and monitoring, and various psycho-educational programs (parenting classes, coping skills classes, assertiveness training, problem-solving skills, etc.).

Fiscal Year 2010 Psychotropic Medications

Average number of offenders prescribed psychotropic medications monthly

MBCC 426

EWCC 260

HCCC/KBCCC 130

TOTAL 816

Average number of psychotropic medications per offender per month 1.98

Offenders whose mental health needs increase to a level which requires more intensive treatment are referred to Mabel Bassett Correctional Center Mental Health Unit. The mental health unit has 45 beds and two safe cells and averages four admissions per month.

Volunteer Services

Volunteers provide critical services for female offenders including serving as positive role models and providing invaluable programmatic services and skill-building opportunities related to overcoming experiences of grief, loss, and abuse; character development opportunities; support opportunities to promote recovery from addictions; and self-improvement opportunities including parenting and family relations.

Additionally, volunteers provide transportation to and from work and outside medical appointments for community corrections offenders. They also provide transportation to and from religious services and activities.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections neither endorses one religious belief over another nor endorses religion over non-religion. Female offenders are provided opportunities for religious services and faith-based programs. Religious services are primarily worship or religious education. Faith-based programs are offered by volunteers and may address specific criminogenic issues such as cognitive behavior skills, family relationships, or substance abuse from a faith perspective. Within community corrections, eligible offenders are transported to local churches or religious groups for services.

It is the many selfless acts of service performed by volunteers that assist the Oklahoma Department of Corrections in meeting the agency's mission on a daily basis. The monetary value of hours is calculated at \$17.05 per hour (estimate for Oklahoma provided by the "Independent Sector" at www.independentsector.org).

Fiscal Year 2010 Average Annual Volunteer Hours

Mabel Bassett Correctional Center: 7,419 Hours, \$126,493.95 Value
Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center: 5,254 Hours, \$89,580.07 Value
Hillside Community Corrections Center: 8,888 Hours, \$151,540.40 Value
Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center: 12,437 Hours, \$212,050.85 Value
Altus Community Work Center: 4,585 Hours, \$78,174.25 Value
Turley Residential Center: 7,742 Hours, \$132,001.10 Value
Center Point, Inc.: 1,225 Hours, \$20,886.25 Value
TOTAL: 47,550 Hours, \$810,726.87 Value

Releases, Reentry, and Recidivism

Releases

Approximately 94 percent of Oklahoma's incarcerated women will eventually be released. The remaining 6% (N=165) are serving sentences of Death, Life, and Life Without Parole.

In the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, 2,760 were females incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2010.

During Fiscal Year 2010, 1,271 female offenders were released. Of these, 54 percent (N=687) were released to probation and parole or another type of community supervision, and 46 percent (N=584) were released without a requirement for continued supervision.

Based on a five year average of female offenders who have exited the Oklahoma Department of Corrections prison system, the average length of stay per female offender is 1.9 years.

Forty-one percent of female offenders released in the past five years served less than a year in prison.

Reentry

Female offenders have significant needs upon reentry to society. These needs include:

- * Safe and affordable housing;
- * Transitional income (living expenses, court costs, fines, restitution, child support);
- * Employment;
- * Transportation;
- * Childcare;
- * Medical care;
- * Mental health care;
- * Substance abuse treatment;
- * Community support (family, friends, spiritual); and
- * Positive relationships/role models.

According to a report issued January 2005 entitled, "Charting the Safe and Successful Return of Prisoners to the Community," issued by the Re-Entry Policy Council, Council of State Governments, "Ensuring successful reentry means both safer communities and the improved use of tax dollars. But realizing better outcomes for people released from prison and jail requires efforts that address their myriad needs."

The report provided the following strategies to assist with offenders' successful reentry:

- * Housing—Facilitate an offender's access to stable housing upon reentry to the community.
- * Planned Continuity of Care—Prepare community-based health and treatment providers, prior to the release of an individual, to receive that person and to ensure uninterrupted services and support upon return to the community.
- * Creation of Employment Opportunities—Promote, where appropriate, the employment of people released from prison and jail and facilitate the creation of job opportunities for this population that will benefit communities.
- * Workforce Development and the Transition Plan—Connect offenders to employment, including supportive employment and employment services, before release.
- * Victims, Families, and Communities—Prepare family members, victims, and relevant community members for the released individual's return to the community and provide them with protection, counsel, services and support, as needed and appropriate.
- * Identification and Benefits—Ensure that individuals exit prison and jail with appropriate forms of identification and that those eligible for public benefits receive them immediately upon their release.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections addresses reentry needs through case management that begins upon reception; transition coordinators who provide wraparound services upon reentry; integrated services discharge managers, co-occurring treatment specialists, and four Reentry Intensive Care Coordination Teams funded by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Additionally, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is fortunate to have a variety of partnerships in the community that provide critical support and assistance (i.e., housing, food, clothing, transportation, preparation for employment, etc.).

Recidivism

At the end of Fiscal Year 2010, the recidivism rate for females released in Fiscal Year 2007 and returning within 3 years was 14.4 percent.

Female Offender Recidivism Rate By LSI Risk Score

Low

FY 2008 9.0%

FY 2009 7.3%

FY 2010 8.7%

Moderate

FY 2008 16.5%

FY 2009 12.5%

FY 2010 11.9%

High

FY 2008 27.9%

FY 2009 21.5%

FY 2010 18.1%

Missing LSI Score

FY 2008 20.6%

FY 2009 14.0%

FY 2010 18.3%

Total

FY 2008 19.0%

FY 2009 14.7%

FY 2010 14.4%

Survival Analysis of FY2007 Releases* by Gender Followed for 36 Months

Survival Rate at 36 Months: Male (N=6,913): 74%; Female (N=1,184): 85%.

*Offenders recorded in the Offender Management System as having exited between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007.

Recidivism Rates from Contiguous States

Oklahoma: 36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in Calendar Year 2007=14.4%

Colorado: 36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in Calendar Year 2003=47.5%

Missouri: 36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in Fiscal Year 2005=43.0%

New Mexico: 36 Month Return Date for Females Released 07/01/05 to 05/22/06=41.71%

Kansas: 36 Month Return Date for Females Released in Fiscal Year 2005=41%

Texas: 36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in FY 2005=20.7%

Arkansas: 36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in Calendar Year 2005=23%

Sources: (1) Colorado Department of Corrections: "Recidivism and Cumulative Return Rates Calendar Year Released from 1998 through 2005," Kristi Rosten, Bonnie Barr, Kim Mersman; Office of Planning & Analysis; November 2007 Missouri Department of Corrections: "A Profile of the Institutional and Supervised Offender Population on June 30, 2008"; George Lombardi, Director; April 22, 2009; (2) New Mexico Department of Corrections: E-Mail report entitled, "Recidivism Analysis Report: Female," from Kathryn Torcivia-Zwicke, Budget Analyst, June 23, 2009; (3) Kansas Department of Corrections: E-Mail entitled, "Female Offender Recidivism Rate," from Ken Shirley, Research Analyst, dated June 24, 2009; (4) Texas Department of Criminal Justice: Letter from Alicia Frezia Nash, Open Records Act Coordinator, Texas Department of Criminal Justice--Executive Services; June 9, 2009; (5) Arkansas Department of Corrections: E-Mail entitled, "Female Offender Recidivism Rate," from George Brewer, Administrator, Research and Planning, June 11, 2009.

Alternatives to Incarceration

“Oklahoma Department of Corrections Director Justin Jones is tired of being No. 1.”

“It’s time we took control of our own destiny and addressed the causes of why so many female offenders are coming to prison,” Jones said.

“ . . . The goal is to reduce recidivism effectively and develop collaborative efforts to provide diversionary programs for women as an alternative to incarceration, as well as to implement programs to help them succeed outside of prison.”

Source: DOC Aims to Reduce Female Offenders, Tulsa World, Tom Lindley, World Capitol Bureau, November 26, 2008

Women in our state continue to be incarcerated in record numbers. For many of the non-violent, low-risk women serving short terms of incarceration, the resources they need are simply not available within our prison system. The result is that these women return to Oklahoma communities requiring the same services needed when they arrived at the Assessment and Reception Center.

In a perfect world, the pathways leading to incarceration (e.g., childhood physical and sexual abuse, family dysfunction and instability, poverty, substance abuse, domestic violence and rape, low educational attainment) would be addressed. Early identification, intervention and treatment would precede contact with law enforcement. Diversion would come before incarceration. Taking on these pathways through prevention, intervention and treatment and diversion would ultimately protect public safety and prove far more cost-effective than the current strategy of incarceration. Unfortunately, in the current economic environment, monies are not available to invest in these strategies at multiple points along the pathways.

There is support for evidence-based and cost-effective diversion opportunities rooted in the communities they are intended to serve. Over time, investment in diversion can free up funds to reinvest at other points in the continuum, thus making our communities stronger, healthier and safer. Implementation of other strategies to reduce the number of incarcerated, non-violent female offenders also have the potential to free up monies to reinvest. Measures such as these will ensure continued public safety while more effective long-term solutions are put in place.

Current alternatives to incarceration are presented in the following pages. The final section of this report presents additional opportunities to intervene.

Probation

Cost Per Offender Per Day ~ \$2.75

Courts may sentence offenders to a period of supervised probation as an alternative to incarceration in an effort to facilitate pro-social adjustment, prevent further criminal behavior, and ensure successful completion of the terms and conditions established by the court. Probation officers utilize evidence-based practices to increase successful

offender outcomes, thereby reducing recidivism. Success is measured by decreasing the number of offenders accelerated or revoked to prison while under supervision.

Community Sentencing

Cost Per Offender Per Day ~ \$3.51

The Community Sentencing Act authorizes a sentencing option for nonviolent offenders positioned between probation and prison in the criminal justice continuum. Participating offenders remain in the community, work to support their families, and receive mandatory treatment to address issues such as substance abuse and mental illness. There were 508 female offenders sentenced to Community Sentencing during Fiscal Year 2010. Community Sentencing is a strategy that diverts offenders from incarceration. Community sentencing is administered by the Department of Corrections and is characterized by partnerships among the Department of Corrections, local community sentencing systems, and contractors providing services for participating offenders.

The district attorney may consent to eligibility for an offender who has a mental illness, developmental disability, or a co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorder and who scores outside the moderate range on the LSI, provided the offender is not otherwise prohibited from Community Sentencing by law. These exceptions are identified in the table below.

The LSI-R is a scoring instrument used to assess the risk of someone continuing criminal behavior if identified needs are not addressed. A score of 0-18 is low risk; a score of 19-28 is moderate risk; and a score of 29-54 is high risk. The average score for female offenders, 25.21, falls within the moderate risk category.

Fiscal Year 2010 Community Sentencing Summary

Total Sentenced 32% (N=508) Females
Mental Health Exceptions 42% (N=83) Females
Average LSI-R Scores 25.21 Females

Fiscal Year 2010 Offense Categories Females

Drugs 58%
Property 22%
Assault 8%
DUI 8%
Other 4%

Mental Health and Drug Courts

Cost Per Offender Per Day ~ \$25.00 and \$15.00 Respectively*

*Source: David Wright, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Females, Fiscal Year 2010

Mental health courts represent collaboration from practitioners in both the criminal justice and mental health fields. Mental health courts generally deal with nonviolent offenders who have been diagnosed with a mental illness or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders. Mental health courts provide an effective alternative to incarceration for these offenders. Treatment is funded by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Female Mental Health Court Participants Active as of June 30, 2010

Cherokee 7; Cleveland 10; Comanche/Cotton 3; Craig 5; Creek/Okfuskee 7; Hughes 6; Oklahoma 29; Okmulgee 6; Pontotoc 1; Rogers 10; Seminole 15; Tulsa 27; Wagoner 6; Statewide 132.

Source: Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

According to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, "Drug courts represent the combined efforts of justice and treatment professionals to actively intervene and break the cycle of substance abuse, addiction, crime, delinquency, and child maltreatment." Once sentenced to drug court, participants complete an intensive regimen of substance abuse treatment, case management, and drug testing with monitoring, sanctions, incentives, and reporting. Drug courts provide an effective alternative to incarceration for drug offenders. Treatment is funded by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Female Drug Court Participants Active as of June 30, 2010

Atoka/Coal 13; Beckham 13; Bryan 27; Caddo 13; Carter/Love 23; Cherokee 22; Cleveland 25; Comanche/Cotton 14; Craig 3; Creek 55; Delaware 16; Garfield 17; Garvin/McClain 17; Grady 23; Hughes 21; Jackson/Kiowa/Harmon/Greer/Tillman 31; Johnston/Marshall/Murray 14; Kay 12; LeFlore/Haskell/Latimer 62; Lincoln 16; Logan 10; Mayes 12; McCurtain 26; McIntosh 8; Muskogee 32; Okfuskee 7; Oklahoma 144; Okmulgee 18; Osage 7; Ottawa 19; Payne 8; Pittsburg 26; Pontotoc 54; Pottawatomie 23; Rogers 32; Seminole 49; Sequoyah 19; Stephens/Jefferson 7; Tulsa 169; Wagoner 15; Washington 16; Washita/Custer 20; Woodward/Woods/Dewey/Major/Alfalfa 5; STATEWIDE 1,160.

Source: Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Female Offender Diversion Program

In collaboration with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Office of the District Attorney, Office of the Public Defender, and Sheriff for Oklahoma County; Department of Human Services, Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth, and representatives from community based treatment and program providers, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections received a \$350,000

diversion grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance targeting female offenders with multiple needs and varying degrees of involvement in the criminal justice system.

The Female Offender Diversion Program is designed to target female offenders with multiple needs and varying degrees of involvement in the criminal justice system. Offenders may be assigned to a caseload supervised by probation and parole officers and include: (1) those who are moderate to high risk and given a term of probation in lieu of incarceration; (2) those who have been noncompliant with their terms of community supervision but do not pose a threat to the community; and (3) those who have been court-ordered to the Female Diversion Program either as a delayed sentence or sentenced to participate in the program as part of their probation requirements. The Female Offender Diversion Program provides funding for substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, and co-occurring disorders. The Female Offender Diversion Program began January 4, 2010, and as of June 30, 2010, there were 105 participating in the program.

Women in Recovery

Women in Recovery, funded by the George Kaiser Family Foundation, offers a cost-effective and holistic approach to diverting female offenders from incarceration in Tulsa County. Women in Recovery has served 33 nonviolent women offenders who together have 73 children. The Program is a true wraparound model, changing the way traditional services are delivered, allowing women the maximum potential to succeed by providing them the necessary tools to regain their independence financially and exit the criminal justice system. Focusing primarily on substance abuse and mental health treatment, and providing safe housing and transportation from the beginning, each woman's total needs are met.

Additional Opportunities to Intervene

In order to effectively reduce the incarceration of women in Oklahoma, increase public safety, and make the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars, strategies must be developed and implemented so that the greatest numbers of women are redirected from the pathways leading to imprisonment.

Following are some of the strategies identified by valued stakeholders such as the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women; Oklahoma Women's Coalition; Oklahoma Academy; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth; National Institute of Corrections; as well as those who participated in the Complex Dialogues Summit sponsored by the George Kaiser Family Foundation, Don and Donna Millican, and Oklahoma Christian University and those who participated in the preparation of the Public Agenda Action Plan unanimously adopted at the Incarceration of Oklahoma Women Solutions Initiative Summit co-sponsored by the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women, the Oklahoma Women's Coalition, and the Oklahoma Department of Corrections.

Strategy

Undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the Oklahoma Criminal Justice system (arrest through reentry) to identify opportunities to reduce spending, increase public safety, and improve conditions in communities and neighborhoods most affected by incarceration.

Expand the availability of mental health, substance abuse, and domestic violence services throughout the state.

Expand mental health and substance abuse treatment availability for persons entering the criminal justice system.

Support evidence-based alternatives that reduce the incarceration of low-risk, nonviolent female offenders.

Expand mental health court, drug court, juvenile court, veterans' court, and community sentencing programs.

Implement standardized mental health and addiction screening in county jails to facilitate appropriate treatment and diversion.

Remove barriers that prevent suitable offenders from entering mental health court, drug court, juvenile court, veterans' court, and community sentencing.

Require periodic program evaluations of community-based alternatives to incarceration to ensure consistent implementation, adherence to best practices, outcomes, and opportunities to modify target populations.

Establish the default sentence sequence as concurrent rather than consecutive.

Repeal the prohibition against probation sentences for nonviolent offenses.

Enact presumptive probation sentences for drug possession crimes.

Eliminate mandatory minimum prison sentences for drug possession and nonviolent felonies, except for the provisions of the Habitual Offender Act.

Repeal the statutory prohibition against suspended sentences for certain offenses, allowing courts to use community supervision programs as alternatives to prison.

Expand evidence-based detoxification and treatment programs police can utilize for offenders arrested on possession of drugs/alcohol.

Support efforts that focus on alternatives to prison, including comprehensive alternative programs, intensive supervision probation, day reporting centers, nighttime incarceration, etc.

Expand pre-trial services to include a range of pre-trial release options in addition to bail.

Evaluate sentencing for drug offenses, including caps on time for drug sentencing, mandatory minimum sentences, thresholds on possession, and provisions for the use of Global Position Satellite Surveillance Programs.

Consider creating and funding programs that pay county jails for incarcerating felony offenders in lieu of imprisonment.

Limit Governor's participation in the parole process.

Modify the GPS Statute to reduce the requisite period of incarceration from 180 to 90 days and revise criteria to include offenders with sentence lengths of five years or less.

Implement regional drug and mental health courts to address the disparity in the availability of drug and mental health providers in rural versus urban areas.

Further Information?

Please contact the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, Division of Female Offender Operations, if you need further information or you would like to partner with the department to:

- * Educate others regarding female incarceration in Oklahoma and the critical issues facing female offenders;
- * Reduce the incarceration rate of female offenders; and
- * Provide critical support and resources necessary for female offenders' successful reentry into society.

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