

Colorado Commission on Criminal & Juvenile Justice

FY2008 RECOMMENDATION/FY08-GP27 SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNOR'S COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Status: Implementation Complete

Actions/Updates

2013 UPDATE

While the Commission supports the work of the Community Corrections Advisory Council in 2013 CCJJ decided create its own Community Corrections Task Force to further address ongoing Community Corrections issues in the state.

2010 UPDATE

No implementation.

2009 ACTION/IMPLEMENTATION

The Office of Community Corrections reports that the items identified in the first four bullets of this recommendation have been incorporated into the community corrections audit requirements and are now part of every audit performed. However, measurement of the quality of treatment and its fidelity to the treatment plan (third bullet) requires evaluation resources outside the scope of current audit proceedures.

2009 BARRIERS

The impact of the implementation of this recommendation cannot be determined without a focused study, which is the subject of part of the third and the entire last bullet. Resources are unavailable at this time to conduct such a study.

Description

The Commission supports the work of the Governor's Community Corrections Advisory Council in the following initiatives:

- The assessment techniques used to establish the treatment needs of community corrections offenders should be evidence-based and implemented as required. This requires training of community corrections staff. The accuracy and completeness of individual offender assessments should be a part of the community corrections performance auditing process.
- The development of individualized treatment plans should directly reflect the identified criminogenic needs of individual offenders. The individualized treatment plans should

- address offender risk/needs and should be assessed as part of the community corrections performance auditing process.
- The treatment provided to each community corrections offender should be consistent with the individualized treatment plan developed for that offender. The quality of such treatment and its fidelity to the treatment plan should be a part of the community corrections performance auditing process.
- Because criminogenic needs can change during the course of treatment, reassessment of community corrections offenders should be performed in a standardized fashion and at appropriate intervals. Such information should be used to adjust the treatment plans of community corrections offenders, as required. The quality of such reassessments and plan adjustments should be a part of the community corrections performance auditing process.
- The efficacy of community corrections treatment plans in the prevention of recidivism should undergo formal evaluation by the Office of Research and Statistics of the Division of Criminal Justice, with appropriate funding provided for the study.

Agencies Responsible

Department of Public Safety (Office of Community Corrections/DCJ)

Discussion

Auditing community corrections programs for adequate, individualized and dynamic case planning is a basic component of evidence-based correctional practices. Implementation of this reflects the priority the Commission has given to evidence-based practices, and is a necessary step toward meaningful correctional reform. It is consistent with the Commission's statutory mandate to "focus on evidence-based recidivism reduction initiatives...." [C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(1)].