

Services to Lower the Risk of Recidivism Oversight Committee and the Offender Reentry Community Safety Program (ORCSP)

Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5432; Section 1029; Chapter 325; Laws of 2019; RCW 71.24.460

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Monica Reeves

Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

P.O. Box 42730; Olympia, WA 98504

Phone: (360) 725-1552

Fax: (360) 763-4702

www.hca.wa.gov

Preamble

In reviewing the bill and associated RCWs, in collaboration with program partners, we believe this language was referring to the original pilot program for the Offender Reentry Community Safety Program (ORCSP) back in 1998. This program referenced in RCW 71.24.455 is no longer in existence and should be repealed. The only program that currently does this work is the ORCSP and is governed by RCW 71.24.470. This program does not currently require any legislative report. There is an oversight committee associated with this group that meets quarterly and we currently track program services and outcomes, including recommendations to increase program effectiveness.

The ORCSP currently completes an annual fiscal year report that is completed by October 31st of each year.

Offender Reentry Community Safety Program

Authority

Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 71.24.470

Overview

ORCSP was created by Substitute Senate Bill 5011, passed in 2000. The intent is to improve the process of identifying, and providing additional behavioral health treatment for persons determined to be dangerous to themselves or others as a result of a mental disorder or a combination of a mental disorder and chemical dependency or abuse. Participants must be exiting confinement or partial confinement from the Department of Corrections. This program, administered by the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR), currently funds contracts with community behavioral health agencies to plan and deliver ORCSP Services for offenders releasing from prison who meet the criteria of having a mental disorder and/or enrollment with the Development Disabilities Administration (DDA) and are also considered high risk.

ORCSP services include non-Medicaid covered pre and post release services to include: pre-release engagement, intensive case management, specialized treatment services (sex offender, chemical dependency, anger management, and parenting), housing assistance, basic living expenses, transportation assistance, educational and vocational services, employment services, unfunded medical expenses, and other non-medical treatment supports that increase capacity to live successfully in the community.

DBHR contracts with one Behavioral Health Organization and 12 community behavioral health providers who offer services to ORCSP participants. Each participant receives up to 60 months of ORCSP services as long as they are participating in community behavioral health services.



Eligibility

Offenders are screened by Department of Corrections (DOC) for meeting mental disorder and risk criteria. The offenders are then reviewed by the statewide ORCSP Review Committee, which is co-chaired by DOC and DBHR ORCSP Administrators. The committee makes the final determination of entry into the ORCSP program and refers the offenders to the appropriate Behavioral Health Organization, community behavioral health agency as a program participant, or DDA

Budget Expenditures

The budget for ORCSP has stayed fairly static since inception of the program in 2000, with a reduction to the budget from 2.1 million per fiscal year to 1.8 million per fiscal year in 2009, of which has continued since that date. Program expenditures for the past four fiscal years are as follows:

FY16: 2,103,028

FY17: 2,130,943

FY18: 1,947,487

FY19: 2,344,848

Program Services and Outcomes

To date, 1118 have been designated to the ORCSP = since its inception in 2000.

In 2015, the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) completed a study on The Effectiveness of Reentry Programs for Incarcerated Persons: Findings for the Washington Statewide Reentry Council, which shows the ORCS Program as having the highest positive impact to recidivism per effect size as compared to 43 other programs that reported recidivism as an outcome.

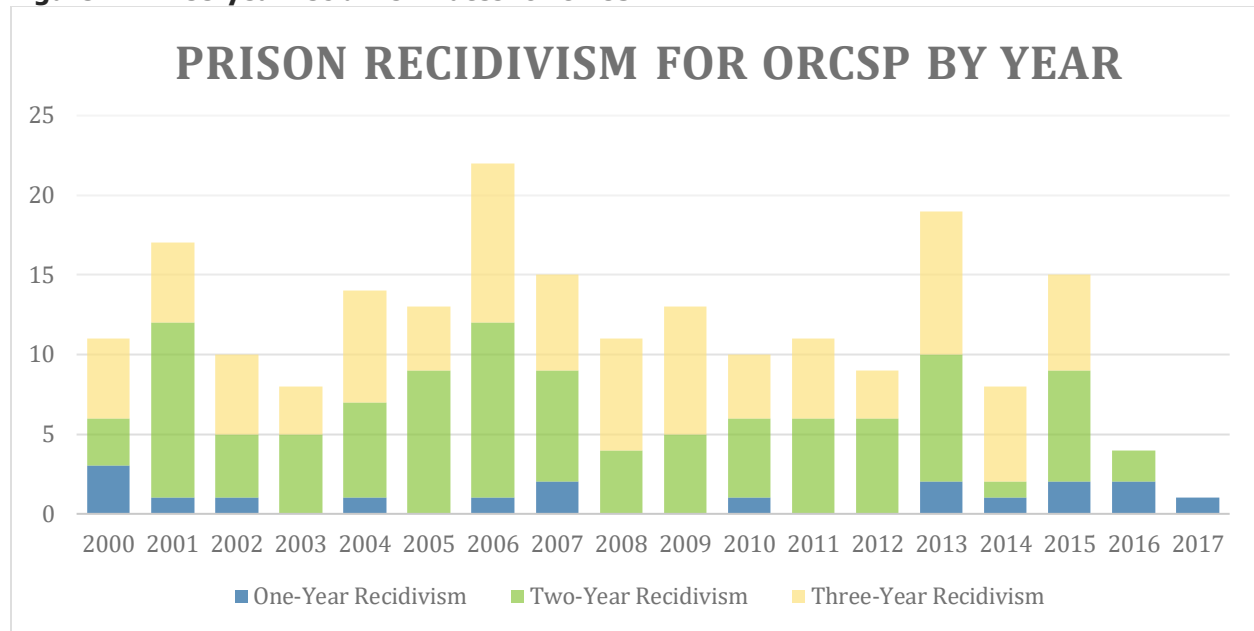
The full report can be found at this link.

http://wsipp.wa.gov/ReportFile/1667/Wsipp_The-Effectiveness-of-Reentry-Programs-for-Incarcerated-Persons-Findings-for-the-Washington-Statewide-Reentry-Council_Report.pdf



The figure and corresponding table below are of three-year recidivism rates, with most recent recording year of 2017.

Figure 1: Three-year recidivism rates for ORCSP



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Number of Offenders	43	65	75	96	78	95	93	80	73	73	48	67	70	75	68	67	83	71
Total for Three Years	11	17	10	8	14	13	22	15	11	13	10	11	9	19	8	15	4	1
3yr %	26%	26%	13%	8%	18%	14%	24%	19%	15%	18%	21%	16%	13%	25%	12%	22%	5%	1%
One-Year Recidivism	3	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	2	1
%	7%	2%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	3%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	3%	1%	3%	2%	1%
Two-Year Recidivism	3	11	4	5	6	9	11	7	4	5	5	6	6	8	1	7	2	
%	7%	17%	5%	5%	8%	9%	12%	9%	5%	7%	10%	9%	9%	11%	1%	10%	2%	
Three-Year Recidivism	5	5	5	3	7	4	10	6	7	8	4	5	3	9	6	6		
%	12%	8%	7%	3%	9%	4%	11%	8%	10%	11%	8%	7%	4%	12%	9%	9%		

Recommendations to Increase Program Effectiveness

- 1. Request for increased program funding:** The budget allotment for ORCSP has not been increased since inception of the program in 2000. With the proven success of the program, increases in cost of living and housing, and consistent overspend in the program in the past 4 years, an increase in budget would allow the program to potentially increase reimbursement rates to allow providers to have more funding for client services.
- 2. Development of additional housing resources:** Affordable, supported housing is a nationwide need and not unique to Washington State. The availability of quality affordable, supported housing would increase program effectiveness by assuring ORCSP participants are safely housed.
- 3. Expand ORCSP contracts to all counties of the state:** Currently ORCSP has contracted providers in 19 counties of the State, covering nearly all major metropolitan areas and



providing services to the majority of ORCSP releases. Our goal is to expand the availability of services to all counties of the state to ensure that all ORCSP releases are afforded the same, high quality transition services regardless of residence.

