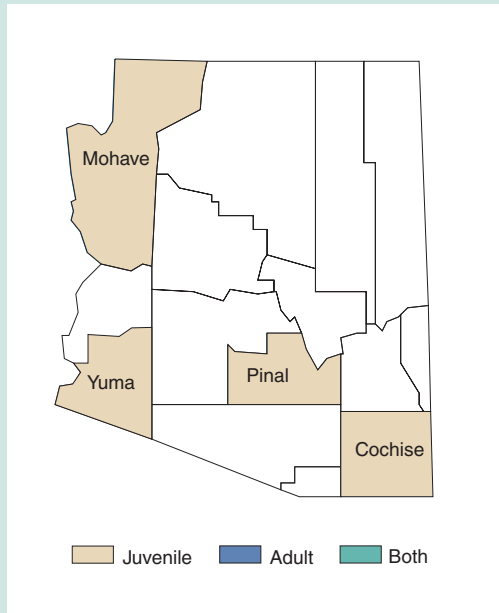


ARIZONA

SVORI Grantees in Arizona

- Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC)

Arizona has one SVORI grantee that advocates for improvements in the transition of youth statewide and specifically focuses on male and female juveniles returning to four rural counties (Pinal, Mohave, Cochise, and Yuma), depicted in the map below. In 1990, the ADJC was established as a separate entity from the Arizona Department of Corrections as one of a number of reforms in the supervision and treatment of juveniles in the State system. The ADJC operates and maintains four secure care facilities for the custody, treatment, and education of committed juveniles from 15 Arizona counties, each of which sends its most difficult juvenile offenders. The counties targeted for post-release have populations with special needs, such as youth who have severe mental health problems, substance abuse problems, and sexual offending behaviors.



SVORI Grantee: Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections

SVORI website	http://www.adjc.az.gov/
Data management system	MIS identifies SVORI participants
Local evaluation planned	No
Program name	Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections Re-entry Initiative

ADJC

Re-entry Initiative

TARGET POPULATION

Population type	Male and female juveniles
Number of targeted prisoners	201+
Inclusion criteria	None
Exclusion criteria	None
Pre-release facilities	All State secure care facilities
Post-release locations	Assigned to a parole office in one of four rural counties: Pinal, Mohave, Cochise, and Yuma
Participation	Mandatory
Legal release status	All youth released to the community from secure care are under parole supervision

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

Steering committee	A reentry coalition or task force meets to give ADJC input on grant implementation and collaboration
Post-release reentry authority	ADJC Community Corrections (Juvenile Parole)
Number of phases	3

Phase 1: Institutionally Based Programs

Duration: 7–9 months

Assessments: Within 40 days of commitment to ADJC, the youth receives a risk/needs assessment, medical/dental screening, and mental health screening. Currently, ADJC is implementing the Criminogenic Assessment Protective Factors Assessments to build on the previous assessments using this multi-domain tool (to be agency-wide by 12/04). In addition, the Strategies for Juvenile Supervision assessment is being completed to assist in defining supervision status.

Components/services offered within phase:

- Following the completion of assessments, the Initial Treatment Plan (ITP) is developed. This will be the first step toward a Continuous Case Plan for the individual youth's care in treatment and in the community.
- Assignment of the youth to appropriate housing based on his/her need/risk classification
- Establishment of "Faith Community Connections" through faith-based mentors (available on a limited basis)
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, mental health counseling, medical/dental services, education, vocational planning, parenting skills training, behavior management, and faith-based services. Other services provided for youth who need them are substance abuse services, sex offender counseling, services for violent offenders, and therapeutic crisis intervention.
- Opportunities for high school credits, GED, and college courses are offered in secure care.

Coordination of services:

- As the youth's release date approaches, the Transition Team is convened to review his/her progress and prepare for his/her transition to the community. A multidisciplinary team is convened to develop a Parole Plan as a continuation of the ITP. Once the services a youth will need in the community are identified, arrangements are made to have those in place upon his/her release. Community resources are utilized as a part of this plan, whenever possible.

Phase 2: Community-Based Transition

Duration: 7–9 months, continues into Phase 3

Assessments: Risk and needs assessments are continued through this phase with a focus on successful transition from secure care to conditional liberty (parole)

Components/services offered within phase:

- Continued development of the Parole Plan
- CAPFA assessments at 90-day intervals
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, mental health counseling, medical services, medical/dental services, education, vocational exploration, parenting skills training, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, and substance abuse treatment. Provision of new services to youth after release, including employment skills/vocational training, life skills, and independent living.

Coordination of services:

- The Reentry Specialist will spearhead the effort to bring the continuous case plan and community resources together for transition planning and plan implementation

Phase 3: Community-Based Long-Term Support

Duration: Begins when Phase 2 ends; duration varies

Assessments: Risk and needs assessments are continued through this phase, with a focus on successful transition from conditional liberty (parole) to independence from the juvenile justice system

Components/services offered within phase:

- Development of an individualized plan using a coordination of community services to meet individual youth and family needs
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, mental health counseling, education placement, vocational skills training, parenting skills training, life skills training, anger management, faith-based mentors, substance abuse treatment, employment skills/vocational referrals, and placement services

Coordination of services:

- The Reentry Specialist will put together a team of community partners (resource partners), whose involvement with the youth and his/her family will continue beyond the time that the Reentry Specialist's participation is completed
- Continued development of interagency agreements to improve accessibility to services for youth and families

CHANGES EXPECTED AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING

System-level changes

- Increased involvement of the community in providing programs and services to youth reentering these rural communities
- Ongoing feedback to the community partnerships about the success of the collaboration
- Increased involvement of faith-based institutions in providing mentors for the youth and in enlightening church/community members about the youth reentering their community

Individual-level changes

- More intensive case management and continuum of services during transitions from secure care to parole and from parole to independence
- Ongoing, comprehensive needs assessment that drives the development of the reentry plan