

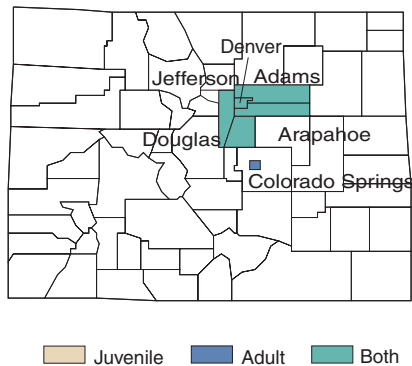
COLORADO

SVORI Grantees in Colorado

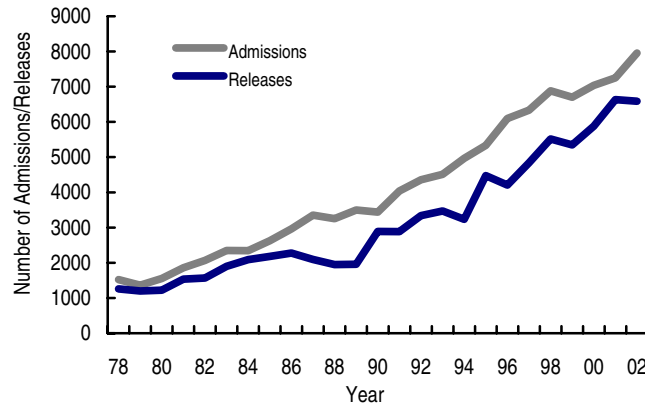
- Colorado Department of Corrections (CO DOC)

Colorado has one SVORI grantee operating four SVORI programs: three programs target adults, youthful offenders, and juveniles returning to five counties in the Denver area (depicted in the map below), and one program focuses on seriously mentally ill adults returning to the City of Colorado Springs (also shown). The line chart below provides BJS statistics on adult prison admission and release trends in Colorado over a 24-year period.

Colorado SVORI Target Areas



Colorado Adult Prison Admissions and Releases, 1978–2002



Source: Correctional Populations in the U.S. (BJS, 2002) and Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2002 and 2003 (Harrison and Karberg, 2004)

SVORI Grantee: Colorado Department of Corrections

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|--------------------------|--|
| SVORI website | None |
| Data management system | Stand-alone CO DOC database for the adult program; youthful offender program uses CO DOC system called DCIS |
| Local evaluation planned | CO DOC will conduct a local evaluation for the adult program |
| Program names | Colorado Affirms Reentry Efforts (CARE)—Adults Colorado Affirms Reentry Efforts (CARE)—Youthful Offender System Colorado Affirms Reentry Efforts (CARE)—Juveniles Colorado Reentry Court for the Seriously Mentally Ill |

CO DOC: PROGRAM 1

CARE—Adults

TARGET POPULATION

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|------------------------------|--|
| Population type | Male adults |
| Number of targeted prisoners | 101–150 |
| Inclusion criteria | Ages 19–35; targeting five distinct populations: (1) general population, (2) offenders with serious mental illness, (3) sex offenders, (4) assault level 3, and (5) offenders in administrative segregation, using the following inclusion criteria: LSI score at or above 28 and MHNLA score of 3+, returning to the Denver metropolitan area, and having a mandatory release date or sentence discharge date within 24–48 months |
| Exclusion criteria | None |
| Pre-release facilities | Selected State prisons including Sterling Correctional Facility |
| Post-release locations | Five-county Denver area: Denver, Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, and Jefferson counties |
| Participation | Voluntary |
| Legal release status | All participants are under parole supervision |

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

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|--------------------------------|--------|
| Steering committee | Yes |
| Post-release reentry authority | CO DOC |
| Number of phases | 3 |

Phase 1: Institutionally Based Programs

Duration: 18.5 weeks (12 weeks cognitive therapy, 6.5 weeks pre-release services)

Assessments: LSI and MHNLA, along with others that measure mental health, substance abuse problems, employment, and education

Components/services offered within phase:

- Reentry planning will begin at least one year prior to release, with a Reentry Plan being developed by the transition team and active involvement by the offender, family members, and victim(s)
- Each offender has a specific transition team consisting of the members of the core facility transition team (case manager, parole officer, and reintegration specialist) and unique members based on identified needs or risk factors
- A formal transition report is written to address issues related to supervision, risk factors, and needs
- A step-down model is used in which participants step down to a minimum security facility, Intensive Supervision Parole (ISP), or community corrections
- There is a major emphasis on a standardized enhanced cognitive program
- Community service providers will come into the institution to meet with offenders, as will family members and other significant others
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical/dental services, employment skills/vocational training, housing assistance, parenting skills training, dating violence prevention, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, sex offender treatment, legal needs, and mentoring services

Coordination of services:

- A core facility team (a case manager and the Reintegration Specialist) and a Community Team (parole officer, community reintegration specialist, and others) meet throughout the program to assess and plan the offender's next step down.

Phase 2: Community Reintegration

Duration: Depends on length of parole

Assessments: Because of longer prison stays among CO DOC offenders, a reassessment may occur 1 year prior to parole eligibility to determine participation in CARE. Periodic assessments will be used to inform decisions regarding classification and reclassification, reentry plans, release, community supervision and services, revocation, and discharge from supervision or sentence.

Components/services offered within phase:

- Transition team works with offender, institution, and community agencies before and after release
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, employment skills/vocational training, education, housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, batterer intervention, counseling on avoidance of criminal behavior, family reintegration/reunification plans, restitution plan, aftercare programs, and IMPACTS program services

Coordination of services:

- Core facility team (Case Manager and Reintegration Specialist) and Community Team (parole officer, community reintegration specialist, others)

Phase 3: Community Assumes Responsibility

Duration: There is no time frame. This is a process that begins with the connection of the offender to community resources. Offenders are required to complete the Phase 3 transition plan, which outlines their attachment to the community over a long period of time. The effort is viewed as lifelong.

Assessments: Because of longer prison stays among CO DOC offenders, a reassessment may occur one year prior to parole eligibility to determine participation in CARE. Periodic assessments will be used to inform decisions regarding classification and reclassification, reentry plans, release, community supervision and services, revocation, and discharge from supervision or sentence.

Components/services offered within phase:

- Offender, family members, and victim are included in the Reentry Plan as part of transition services
- The transition team works with offender, institution, and community agencies before and after release
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, employment skills/vocational training, education, housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, batterer intervention, counseling on avoidance of criminal behavior, family reintegration/reunification plans, restitution plan, aftercare programs, and IMPACTS program services.

Coordination of services:

- Core facility team (Case Manager and Reintegration Specialist) and Community Team (parole officer, community reintegration specialist, others)

CHANGES AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING

System-level changes

- Increased communication between community and corrections
- Key CO DOC staff have been linked to the process to provide feedback
- Improved transition plan development process
- Greater information sharing among partners
- Therapy focuses on aggression and attachment

Individual-level changes

- Step-down approach
- SVORI participants receive an enhanced cognitive program
- SVORI participants benefit from pairing programming with step-down procedures
- CARE participants receive more urine analyses and security measures as well as more intensive treatment (process therapy)

TARGET POPULATION

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| Population type | Male youthful offenders |
| Number of targeted prisoners | Fewer than 50 |
| Inclusion criteria | CYO-LSI score of 31 or above and returning to Denver Metro or Colorado Springs |
| Exclusion criteria | Severely mentally ill offenders |
| Pre-release facilities | Youthful Offender System in Pueblo |
| Post-release locations | Denver and Colorado Springs |
| Participation | Voluntary |
| Legal release status | Youth offenders in the community have inmate status; all participants are under intensive community supervision |

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

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|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Steering committee | Placement Committee |
| Post-release reentry authority | DOC |
| Number of phases | 3 |

Phase 1: Institutional Phase

Duration: 3 months

Assessments: Full diagnostic and risk assessment; CYO-LSI

Components/services offered within phase:

- Reentry plan is developed, with the offender and family members as active participants in its creation
- Other services include medical and dental services and employment skills/vocational training

- Collaboration with CO Forum on Restorative Justice to develop Circles of Support
- Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Center
- Step-down approach to supervision in community
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, academic education, Quick Skills cognitive education, personal development skills, life skills, anger management, mental health and substance abuse treatment, job training, and mentoring

Coordination of services:

- Facility Program Team (Reintegration Specialist; facility case manager or the pre-release case manager; the offender; the offender’s family members, optional; the parole officer at the last two pre-release transition team meetings; SAVIO House; and additional key players, as needed)

Phase 2: Transition Phase**Duration:** 3 months**Assessments:** Full diagnostic and risk assessment; CYO-LSI**Components/services offered within phase:**

- Emphasis on post-release phase
- Community-based transition programs work with offenders prior to and immediately following their release from incarceration
- Transition team works with offender before he/she leaves the institution
- Use of video-conferencing while in prison to meet with community service providers or family (both of whom come to the institution to meet with offenders)
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, case management, education, monitoring, mentoring, life skills training, assessment, vocational training, job skills development, mental health and substance abuse treatment, medical and dental services, anger management, and personal growth and development

Coordination of services:

- Facility Program Team

Phase 3: Reintegration Phase**Duration:** 1 year**Assessments:** The CYO-LSI is used for community supervision and service modification, TABE test scores from the facility are used in conjunction with the PLATO educational software to determine academic levels and course study, and the Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment is used as a pre- and post-incarceration life skills assessment. The Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Center uses the Holland and CHOICES career assessment instruments.**Components/services offered within phase:**

- Each offender receives money in a personal spending account that can be used for rent, food, clothing, bus passes, medical services, home furnishings, parenting services, and other miscellaneous needs
- Participants receive extensive employment services (training, job matching, job placement) through Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Center
- Participants receive help with legal issues (e.g., custody filings), individual and family counseling, parenting classes, and substance abuse services, mostly through SAVIO House

- Use of transition team, case management, and coordination of partnerships among offender and community service agencies
- Faith-based services, community Circles of Support, and case management are also part of the post-release services, as well as intensive post-release supervision, which includes a minimum of two contacts with the participant per week
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, education, housing assistance, domestic violence prevention and intervention, and anger management services

Coordination of services:

- Community Program Team (members are the same as for the Facility Program Team, except that an offender has a different case manager for each phase); case management for CARE participants is linked by the Community Reintegration Specialist, who oversees case management throughout all three phases

CHANGES AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING**System-level changes**

- Increased pre-release involvement of community providers
- Increased program visibility

Individual-level changes

- Enhanced cognitive education courses are continued following release
- Involvement with the Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Center during incarceration
- Duration of pre-release programming extended from 3 months to 6
- Use of a Community Reintegration Specialist to link pre- and post-release case management
- Employment counseling through the A/D Workforce Center; community-based support through Community Circles of Support
- Individualized or specialized mental health services
- Improved access to community incentives; additional funds available in individual spending accounts for living incentives

TARGET POPULATION

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Population type | Male and female juveniles |
| Number of targeted prisoners | 201+ |
| Inclusion criteria | Classified as serious and violent, score of 31+ on CLSI, and at least 6 months left on parole |
| Exclusion criteria | None |
| Pre-release facilities | Right of Passage Ridgeview (boys), Girlview (girls), Lookout Mountain (boys), and adding Everest in the future |
| Post-release locations | Five-county Denver area: Denver, Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, and Jefferson counties |
| Participation | Voluntary |
| Legal release status | All participants are under parole supervision for 6 months |

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Steering committee | Yes |
| Post-release reentry authority | Independent parole board; Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) juvenile parole board |
| Number of phases | 3 |

Phase 1: Facility Phase

Duration: 6 months

Assessments: CYOLSI will be the primary tool for identifying DYC youth for the CARE project. Additional assessment instruments include the following: DYC Risk Assessment Instrument, CCAR, Psychological Services Summary, SUS-1A, Woodcock Johnson, WISC and Stanford-Benet IQ Tests, Apticom, TAP, and Reading-Free Vocational Interest Inventory.

Components/services offered within phase:

- Transition Team will be developed, including the youth, Client Manager, family member, mentor, provider, and any other support person; members of the youth's Circle of Support will also be recruited
- Reentry Plan will be developed by the team and identify each team member's role, as well as identify goals and time frames in which to achieve those goals. The victim will also be included in reentry planning, and family members and community service providers will come into the institution to meet with offenders.
- Facilities offer varying specific services and curricula for their populations

- Transition Team members meet monthly to review client needs and update the plan
- Reassessment prior to release and modifications as needed to Reentry Plan
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, anger management, sex offender treatment, parenting skills training, educational programs, legal needs, vocational programs, work experience, medical services, housing assistance, domestic violence prevention and intervention, life training, mentoring, and faith-based services

Coordination of services:

- Client Manager and Reintegration Specialist (also the Project Director)

Phase 2: Parole Phase

Duration: 6 months

Assessments: Periodic assessments will be used to inform decisions regarding classification and reclassification, reentry plans, release, community supervision and services, revocation, and discharge from supervision or sentence

Components/services offered within phase:

- Community-based services will be

“backed in” and linked with institutionally based services, which can include mental health and substance abuse treatment, mentoring, and educational and work experience programs

- Specific targeted services include, as needed, housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, batterer intervention program, counseling on avoidance of criminal behavior, restitution plan, aftercare programs, and IMPACTS program services.
- Family reintegration services will begin and/or intensify at this stage while other services may decrease to reduce a youth's reliance on institutional-based services.
- Transition team continues working with offender and community
- Client Manager's role changes into the role of a Parole Officer but stays the same person to maintain continuity in the case

Coordination of services:

- Parole Officer (same person who was the Client Manager), Reintegration Specialist (also Project Director), and Parole Advocate

Phase 3: Community Phase

Duration: Occurs when the client has completed parole and is no longer in “the system”; the duration is hoped to be a lifetime

Assessments: No assessments used during this phase

Components/services offered within phase:

- Community-based services will begin at the time of community reintegration

- DYC will enter into long-term service agreements with agencies that provide the following services: day treatment, drug/alcohol services, employment, family reunification, vocational rehabilitation services, housing, mental health services, and other services outlined in the Reentry Plan

- Leverage existing resources available in a youth’s community to meet needs identified in the Reentry Plan

- Circles of Support will play an important role in helping youth reintegrate successfully, connect to services and support systems, and adhere to the Reentry Plan

Coordination of services:

- Client Manager/Parole Officer and Parole Advocate

CHANGES AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING

System-level changes

- Increased communication between community and corrections
- Improved transition plan development process
- Key CO DOC staff linked to process to provide feedback
- Addition of a step-down approach

Individual-level changes

- Cognitive program (Thinking for a Change) is available only for SVORI participants at the boys’ facility, but the State is moving toward adopting this curriculum for everyone
- Girls’ facility is running a leadership program targeted toward SVORI participants
- SVORI participants meet with Client Manager once a month and will receive intensive community tie-in (in the long term)
- Other differences include Transition Team support, Circle of Support, guidance from community liaison, and links to community resources

TARGET POPULATION

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Population type | Male and female adults |
| Number of targeted prisoners | Fewer than 50 |
| Inclusion criteria | Must be released on parole, seriously mentally ill, and returning to Colorado Springs |
| Exclusion criteria | Unknown |
| Pre-release facilities | All State prisons |
| Post-release locations | Colorado Springs |
| Participation | Voluntary |
| Legal release status | Participants are under parole supervision |

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Steering committee | Placement Committee |
| Post-release reentry authority | DOC |
| Number of phases | 1 |

Phase 1: Community-Based Long-Term Support**Duration:** 6 months**Assessments:** Mental Health Needs Level Assaultiveness Code, LSI**Components/services offered within phase:**

- Transition Team is developed
- Circles of Support is implemented
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, employment skills/vocational training, education, housing assistance,

parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, batterer intervention program, counseling on avoidance of criminal behavior, family reintegration/reunification plans, restitution plan, aftercare programs, and IMPACTS program services

- All seriously mentally ill offenders receive a mental health assessment and plan developed during incarceration

Coordination of services:

- Parole Board

CHANGES EXPECTED AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING**System-level changes**

- Introduction of a Reentry Court model; at court hearings, the team receives a progress update, and the judge uses graduated sanctions and incentives

Individual-level changes

- SVORI participants appear once a month (or once every 2 weeks) in court; the administrative law judge, mental health center representative, TASC representative, parole officer, and client attend the court hearings