

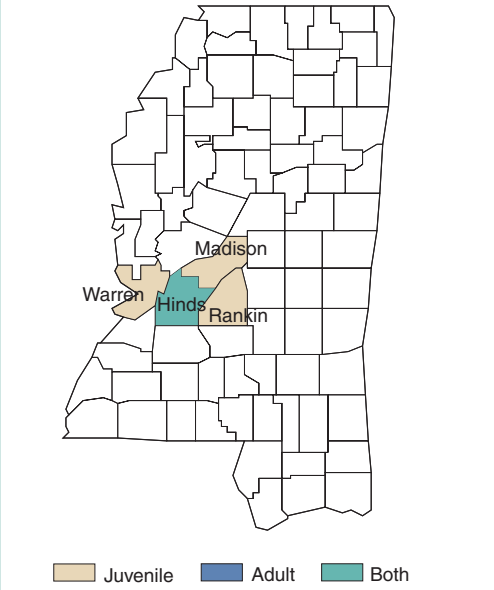
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SVORI Grantees in Mississippi

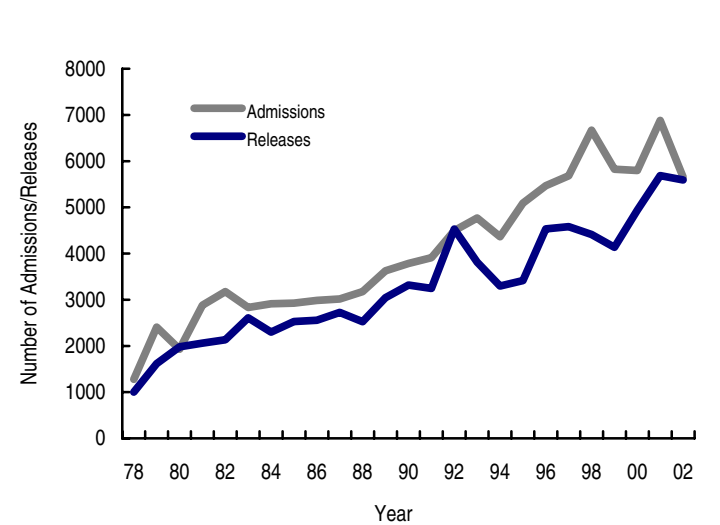
- Mississippi Department of Corrections (MS DOC)

Mississippi has one grantee with two administratively separate programs; one targets male adults returning to Hinds County and the other targets male juveniles returning to Hinds, Rankin, Madison, and Warren counties (depicted in the map below). The line chart below provides BJS statistics on adult prison admission and release trends in Mississippi over a 24-year period.

Mississippi SVORI Target Areas



Mississippi 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: Mississippi Department of Corrections

SVORI website	None
Data management system	Using the MS DOC's Offendertrak Program to track the progress of Reentry Program participants.
Local evaluation planned	No
Program names	Mississippi Reentry—Mississippi “Going Home” Reentry Program Mississippi Reentry Juvenile

MS DOC: PROGRAM 1

Mississippi “Going Home” Reentry Program

TARGET POPULATION

Population type	Male adults
Number of targeted prisoners	201+
Inclusion criteria	Drug offenders, sex offenders, and other violent offenders; eligible for parole within 12 months; convicted of a “serious” and/or “violent” offense (homicide, robbery, sex offenses, offenses involving a deadly weapon, gang affiliation, sentenced as a habitual offender, convicted for sale of a controlled substance); minimum of 1 year post-release supervision
Exclusion criteria	No detainees and no serious Rule Violation Report (RVR) within 6 months prior to request for participation
Pre-release facilities	One prison facility: MS State Penitentiary (Parchman, MS)
Post-release locations	Hinds County
Participation	Voluntary and mandatory
Legal release status	All participants are under a type of supervised release—parole, probation, or earned release

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

Steering committee	Mississippi Collaboration Interagency Reentry Team
Post-release reentry authority	Department of Corrections and Parole Board, Circuit Courts, and Youth Court Judges
Number of phases	2

Phase 1: Institutionally Based Program

Duration: 4–6 months

Assessments: LSI-R; joint intake and assessment procedure comprising interagency staffing groups

Components/services offered within phase:

- Restorative Justice Approach—offers offenders a means to give back to the community
- Involve offenders in the Second Chance Pet Project—rescues and trains homeless and neglected animals to become companions and service animals for disabled and handicapped children and adults
- Involve offenders in Habitat for Humanity—a nonprofit, ecumenical housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness worldwide. Offenders will have the opportunity to acquire skills that will be beneficial to securing employment, in addition to giving back to the community.
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, dental services, employment skills/vocational training, education, housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence, life skills training, anger management, and faith-based services

Coordination of services:

- Case manager and integrated case management teams

Phase 2: Community-Based Transition

Duration: 13–24 months

Assessments: LSI-R; joint intake and assessment procedure comprising interagency staffing groups

Components/services offered within phase:

- Will assist the participants in finding establishments that provide housing at a reduced fee
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, dental services, employment skills/vocational training, education, parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention and intervention, life skills training, anger management, and faith-based services

Coordination of services:

- Case manager and integrated case management teams

CHANGES AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING

System-level changes

- Integrated case management including representatives from multiple community service providers and/or corrections/supervision agencies who meet to discuss and work on particular cases
- Joint mission statements with other agencies around reentry
- Reentry coalition or task force of agencies meets to set guidelines for supervision of offenders returning to the community
- Regular feedback mechanism among agencies to ensure that the collaboration is working
- Shared agency protocols regarding approach to service provision
- Boundary spanner—staff person who creates partnerships with community service providers facilitating services for offenders and opening communication among agencies

Individual-level changes

- Using transition teams in the facility and community to work with specific offenders
- Community accountability panel (consisting of members of the community) that meets with the offenders post-release as part of the supervision process

TARGET POPULATION

Population type	Male juveniles
Number of targeted prisoners	51–100
Inclusion criteria	Ages 14–17; committing crimes against persons, assaults, sex crimes, drive-by shootings, auto theft, drug offenses, repeat offenders, and placement problems; performing academically at a minimum of a sixth-grade level; physically fit/able to work; and diagnosis of conduct disorder such as oppositional defiant disorder, substance abuse/dependence, and alcohol abuse/dependence
Exclusion criteria	Physically handicapped and having an IQ below 70
Pre-release facilities	Mississippi Youth Correctional Complex (MYCC): Oakley Training School, Units 1 and 2 and Ironwood
Post-release locations	Hinds, Rankin, Madison, and Warren counties
Participation	Mandatory
Legal release status	All participants will be under parole supervision

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

Steering committee	The transition team at the MYCC
Post-release reentry authority	The Mississippi Department of Human Services/Division of Youth Services/Youth Re-entry Program has primary responsibility for imposing sanctions or rewards for post-release behavior
Number of phases	3

Phase 1: Institutional Phase

Duration: 7–9 months

Assessments: Mississippi Delinquency Risk Assessment Scale, TABE, Aptitude Test, Drug Test; TRACC Model will assess, monitor, and evaluate Phase 1

Components/services offered within phase:

- The Youth Reentry Specialist who works with youth for 3 years (all three phases) continues as case manager
- Youth reside either in a residential facility or at home. Residential facilities will offer 24/7 security and will provide meals.
- Supervision includes random drug testing and electronic monitoring
- The MYCC will develop an Individualized Treatment Plan (ITP) for each of the reentry program participants and ensure that goals and objectives of the ITP are met
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, dental services, employment skills/vocational training, education,

housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention and intervention, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, tutoring, and cognitive skills development

Coordination of services:

- Utilizing a Transition Team—Youth Reentry Specialist, Graduate Assistant from Jackson State University, and Multisystematic Training (contractual service)
- MYCC team, which consists of a psychologist, a nurse, a counselor, an educational coordinator, a vocational coordinator, a recreational coordinator, the Branch Director, the Project Officer, the Judge, the parent/legal guardian, and the TLC Director

Phase 2: Community Phase

Duration: 10–12 months

Assessments: Mississippi Delinquency Risk Assessment Scale; TABE; Aptitude Test; Drug Test; Treatment, Research, and Result-Based Accountability for Competency-Based Community Corrections

(TRACC) Model. The TRACC Model will assess electronic monitoring and evaluate Phase 1 results.

Components/services offered within phase:

- The Youth Reentry Specialist continues as case manager
- Youth reside either in a residential facility or at home
- Supervision includes random drug testing and electronic monitoring
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, dental services, employment skills/vocational training, education, housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention and intervention, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, tutoring, and cognitive skills development

Coordination of services:

- One-stop center that will provide all the community services
- Youth Reentry Specialist brokers services

Phase 3: Long-Term Phase**Duration:** Unlimited**Assessments:** No specific assessments used in this phase**Components/services offered within phase:**

- Multisystematic Training which will provide a 15- chapter self-improvement and life skills training program. Eight critical areas will be addressed: (1) motivation, (2) goal setting, (3) problem solving and decision making, (4) emotional control, (5) family relationships, (6) financial stability, (7) effective communication, and (8) employment search and retention.
- Youth will discontinue using electronic monitoring device, and home-based services will begin
- Intensive work with the family and parents to accomplish reunification; provide mentoring, training, and support; and encourage active involvement
- Community involvement—vendors from the community and persons involved with faith-based organizations should participate on the advisory board
- Youth serve in the community as volunteers
- Aftercare services—Multisystematic Training will provide aftercare services
- The community and faith-based organization, along with mentoring, will play a vital part in the monitoring and aftercare with long-term goals of the program
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, dental services, employment skills/vocational training, education, housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention and intervention, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, mentoring, military recruitment, and in-home economics

Coordination of services:

- Multisystematic Training and Youth Reentry Specialist will provide aftercare services and encourage parental involvement

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

- Transition team that includes staff from within the institution and community agencies (e.g., community service providers, corrections officers, supervision agencies), who will be working with offenders post-release
- Integrated case management where representatives from multiple community service providers and/or corrections/supervision agencies meet to discuss and work on particular cases
- Community service providers come to the institution to meet with offenders
- Required core curriculum that all offenders receive prior to release

Individual-level changes

- Needs assessment conducted or updated prior to release for developing a reentry plan
- Inclusion of family members in reentry planning prior to release
- Inclusion of victim during reentry planning prior to release
- Use of video-conferencing while offenders are in prison so that they can meet with community service providers and family members
- Identification of a specific case manager from a community-based organization who brokers services from appropriate agencies for offenders once they are released
- Use of a community accountability panel (consisting of members of the community) that meets with the offenders once they are released as part of the supervision process
- Creation of a boundary spanner—staff person who creates partnerships with community service providers, facilitating services for offender and open the communications among agencies