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Matching Prisoner Needs and Treatment Approaches: Research Evidence from Two Studies

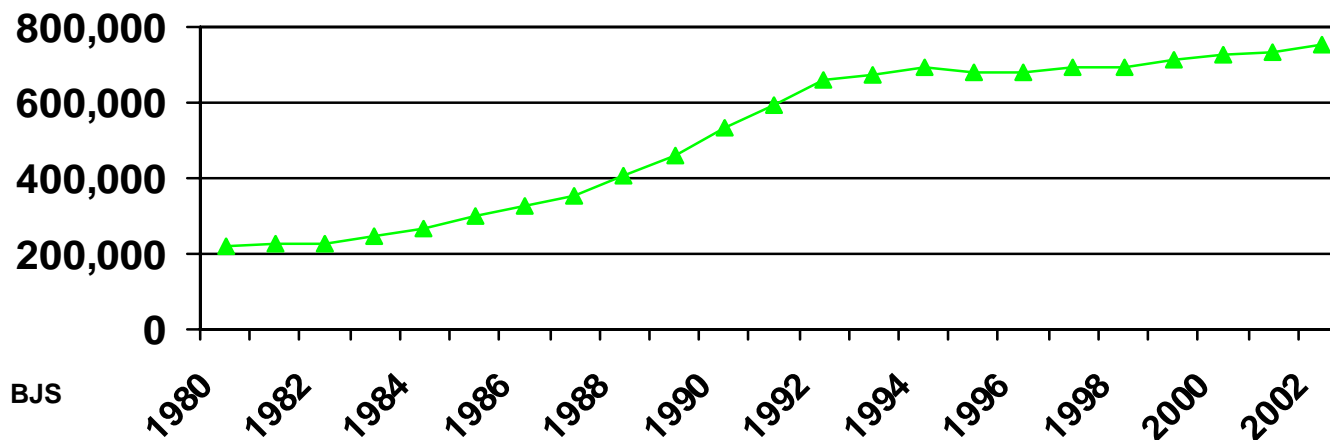
Christy A. Visher
Laura Winterfield
Urban Institute

Pamela Lattimore
RTI International

Overview

- The Reentry Problem
 - More than 650,000 of the more than 2 million people incarcerated in the US are released each year, including 450,000 to parole
 - The revolving door: Within 3 years of release
 - Two-thirds will have been rearrested
 - More than half will have returned to prison

Parole Population



Source: BJS

Research Question

Test of Underlying Premise

- To enhance outcomes, services should be matched to specific prisoner needs.

Is this being done?

- Addressed through analyses from two studies of reentry: Returning Home (RH) and Multi-Site Evaluation of Serious and Violent Reentry Initiative (SVORI)

Stages of Reentry

Prison Services

- ✓ **Screening & Assessment**
- ✓ Treatment
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Training
- ✓ Personal Development
- ✓ Reentry Planning

Protect & Prepare

Community Supervision

- ✓ **Assessment & Planning**
- ✓ Case Management
- ✓ Employment Services
- ✓ Supervision & Monitoring
- ✓ Transitional Housing
- ✓ Treatment & Aftercare

Control & Restore

Post Supervision

- ✓ Community Reintegration Activities

Sustain & Support



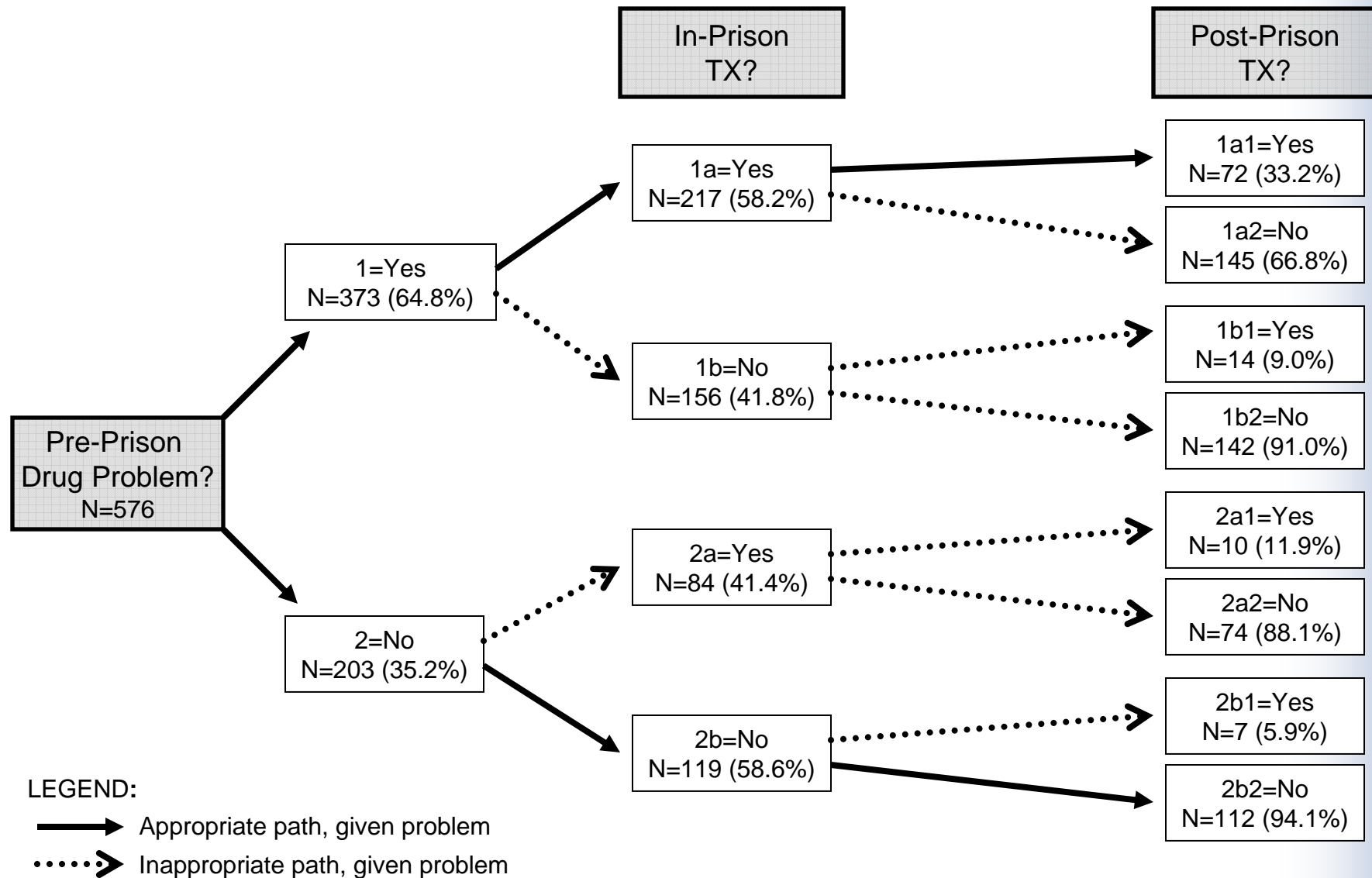
Returning Home (RH) Project

- Structure: Longitudinal
 - Offender interviews at baseline in prison and 2–3 times during the year after release concerning reentry expectations/needs and post-release experiences
- Sites
 - Maryland, Illinois, Ohio, and Texas
- Subjects
 - Sample of 576 men from Illinois and Ohio, sentenced for at least 1 year in state facility
 - For Illinois, interviewed in prison from Oct. 2002 to March 2003
 - For Ohio, interviewed in prison from May 2004 to March 2005

***RH:* Key Constructs**

- **Pre-prison Drug Problem**
 - Frequent use (few times a week or more) of heroin, cocaine, or similar drugs
 - Frequent drunkenness, and/or
 - Problems symptomatic of drug or alcohol abuse (e.g., needed more drugs or alcohol to achieve same effect)
- **In-prison Drug Treatment**
 - Receipt of substance abuse services in prison, including Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT); other outpatient substance abuse programs; and AA or NA
- **Post-prison Drug Treatment**
 - Receipt of substance abuse services within 3.5 months of release, including outpatient substance abuse programs; and AA or NA

RH: Treatment Matching



***RH:* Summary of Findings**

- **Some evidence of treatment/need matching**
 - 58% with a pre-prison drug problem (compared to 41% without) received drug treatment in prison
 - However, 42% failed to receive treatment, and 41% without need were inappropriately given treatment
 - Overall, more than one-third in need (38%) failed to receive treatment either in prison or post-release
- **Limited continuity of treatment after release**
 - Only 19% with a pre-prison drug problem received treatment in prison and post-release
 - Regardless of need, only 27% who received treatment in prison also received treatment after release

SVORI Multi-site Impact Evaluation

- **Structure: Longitudinal**

- Interviews: baseline in prison; 3-, 9- and 15-months post release
- Oral fluids drug tests (3 and 15)
- Data collection ends May 2007
- Administrative data from DOCs, JJ agencies, LEs, and ESCs

- **Sites**

- Geographically distributed
- Include states w/ ~25% state-supervised populations

- **Subjects: Men, Women, and Boys**

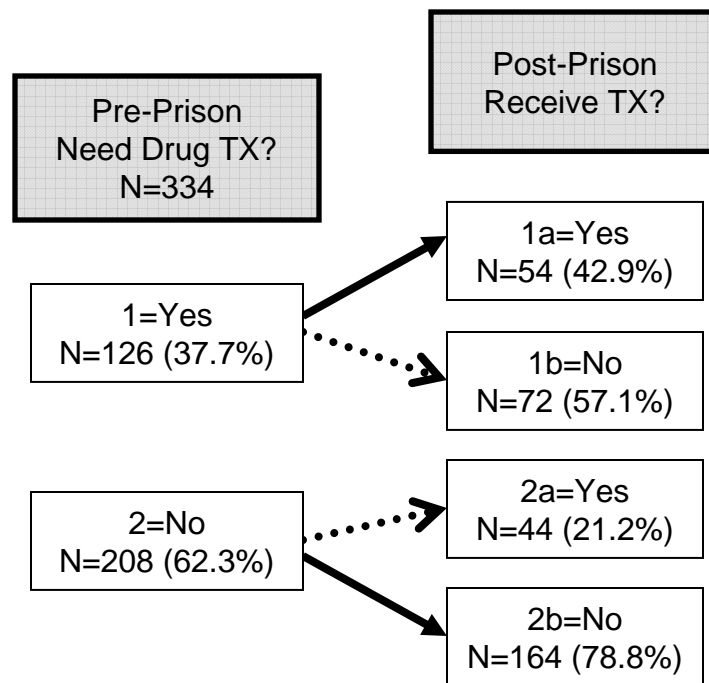
- SVORI participants in 16 programs in 14 states
- Comparison subjects
 - Random assignment: 2 programs
 - Locally constructed comparison groups for remaining programs
- Expected enrollment (baseline)
 - 2500-2600 men & women and 400-500 boys
- 3-month sample (to date) = 635 men, 131 women, and 136 boys

***SVORI*: Key Constructs**

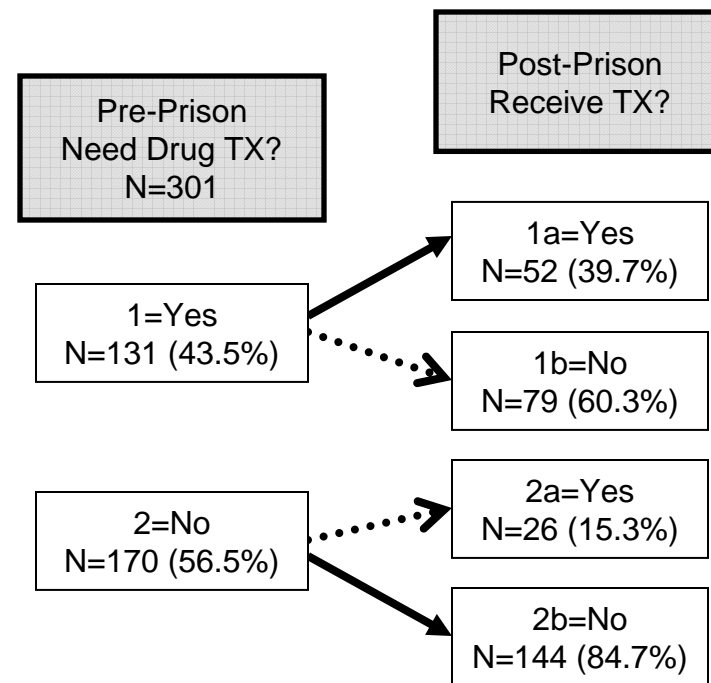
- **Pre-prison Need for Drug Treatment**
 - Asked respondents: How much do you need drug or alcohol treatment?
 - A lot or a little = Needs treatment
 - Not at all = Does not need treatment
- **Post-prison Drug Treatment**
 - Receipt of any drug or alcohol treatment within 3 months of release
 - Asked respondents: Since your release from incarceration, have you received any drug or alcohol treatment?

SVORI Adult Males: Treatment Matching

SVORI Sample



Non-SVORI Sample



LEGEND:

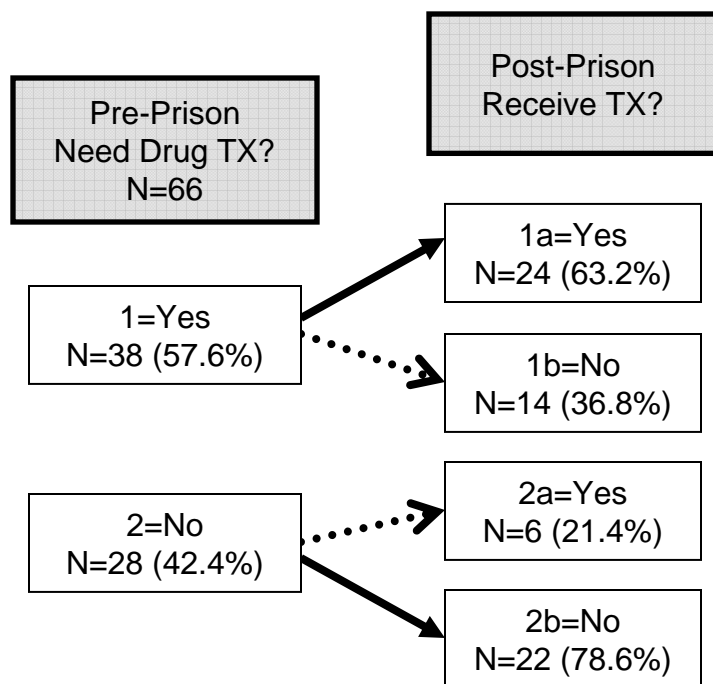
- Appropriate path, given problem
- ⋯→ Inappropriate path, given problem

SVORI Adult Males: **Summary of Findings**

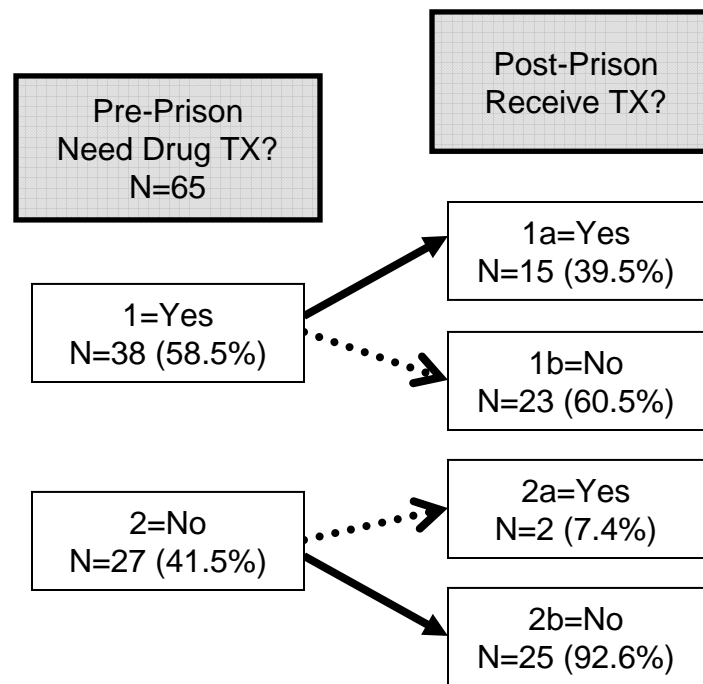
- In SVORI sample, more appropriate matching found among those *without need* than those in need
 - Of those with a pre-prison drug problem, only 43% received treatment
 - Among those without need, 79% (correctly) did not receive treatment
- Compared to non-SVORI sample, SVORI showed *slightly* better matching for those in need
 - Among those in need, 43% of SVORI males (versus 40% of comparisons) received treatment
 - However, among those without need, 85% of comparisons (versus 79% of SVORI) correctly did not receive treatment

SVORI Adult Females: Treatment Matching

SVORI Sample



Non-SVORI Sample



LEGEND:

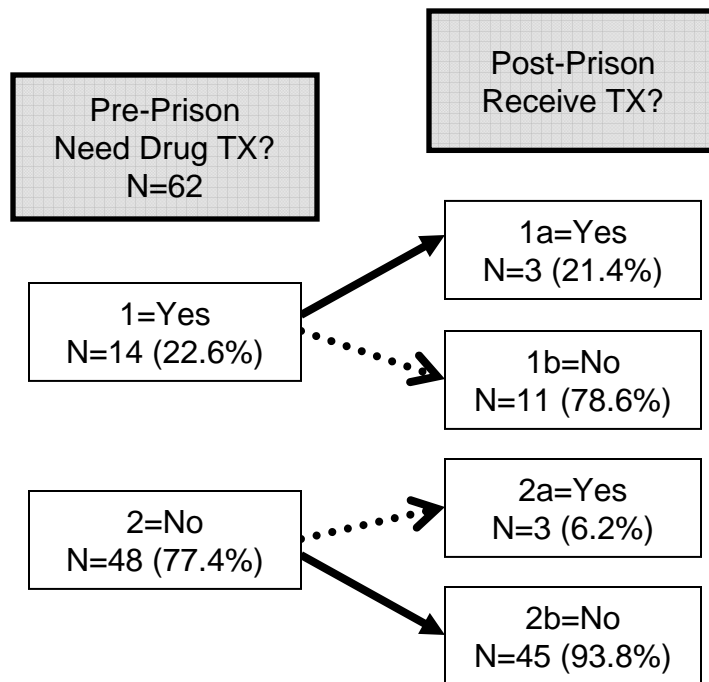
- Appropriate path, given problem
- ⋯→ Inappropriate path, given problem

SVORI Adult Females: **Summary of Findings**

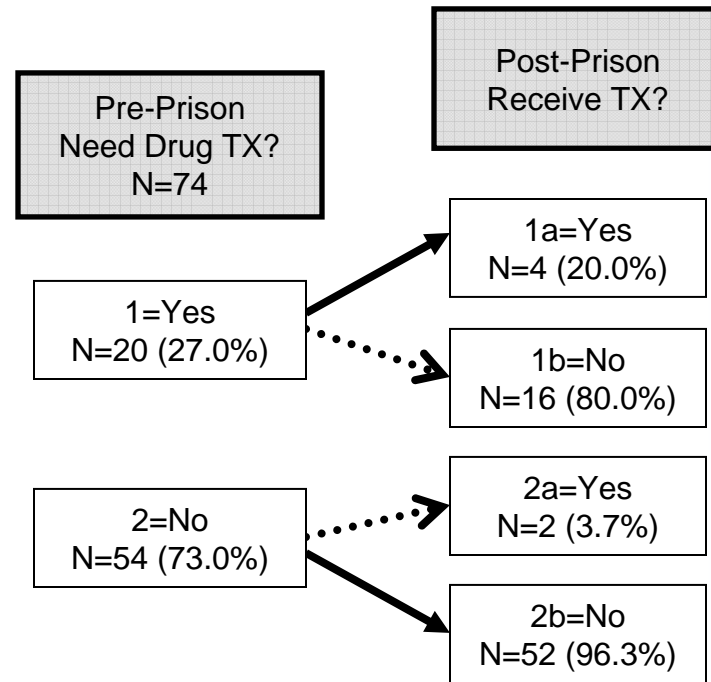
- In SVORI sample, more appropriate matching found among those *without need* than those in need
 - Of those with pre-prison drug problem, 63% received treatment
 - Among those without need, 79% (correctly) did not receive treatment
- Compared to non-SVORI sample, SVORI showed better matching for those in need
 - Among those in need, 63% of SVORI females (versus 40% of comparisons) received treatment
 - However, among those without need, 93% of comparisons (versus 79% of SVORI) correctly did not receive treatment
- There was better matching for SVORI women than men
 - Of those in need, 63% of SVORI women compared to 43% of SVORI men received treatment

SVORI Juvenile Males: Treatment Matching

SVORI Sample



Non-SVORI Sample



LEGEND:

- Appropriate path, given problem
- ⋯→ Inappropriate path, given problem

SVORI Juvenile Males: **Summary of Findings**

- Again, in SVORI sample, more appropriate matching among those *without need* than those in need
 - Of those with pre-prison drug problem, only 21% received treatment (however, very small N could be unstable)
 - Among those without need, 94% (correctly) did not receive treatment
- No significant differences between SVORI and comparisons
 - Among those in need, 21% of SVORI juveniles (versus 20% of comparisons) received treatment
 - Among those without need, 96% of comparisons (versus 94% of SVORI) correctly did not receive treatment

RH and SVORI Adult Males: Comparison

- Service Delivery
 - SVORI had better matching of services for those not in need of treatment (RH: 59% of those w/o need did not get services; SVORI 79% of those w/o need did not get services)
 - However, there was no increase in matching for those with identified need for SVORI (RH: 58% of those with pre-prison drug problem received treatment, compared to 43% for SVORI)
- Limited continuity of treatment after release (*RH* only)
 - Only 19% with pre-prison drug problem received treatment in prison and post-release
 - Regardless of need, only 27% who received treatment in prison also received treatment after release

Conclusions from *RH* and *SVORI* on Treatment Matching

- As hoped for, *SVORI* had better matching of services for those not in need of treatment
 - However, there was no increase in matching for those with identified need
- Reasons not known
 - Best guess is that there still remains limited treatment availability, although fewer *SVORI* offenders (38%) were identified as needing treatment compared to *RH* (65%)
- Still policy and practice work to do within reentry community regarding techniques to better match provision of treatment to those in need



www.svori-evaluation.org

<http://justice.urban.org>