



CDCR PRISON STAFF TEST USERS NEEDED



CDCR's [Automated Reentry Management System \(ARMS\)](#) will provide real-time, comprehensive and consistent information to help service providers deliver meaningful and timely program solutions and outcomes. DRP's Performance Evaluation, Data and Fidelity (PEDF) unit and vendor [Social Solutions Group](#) will implement this solution in several phases throughout 2015. The ARMS team is requesting prison staff participation for User Acceptance Testing during May to support the initial phase.

Interested staff members should contact ARMSRequests@cdcr.ca.gov.

Subsequent phases will include DRP's [Community and Reentry Services \(CRS\)](#), the [Division of Adult Parole Operations](#) and additional [Division of Adult Institutions](#) programs.



AUTOMATED REENTRY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

COMMUNITY AND REENTRY SERVICES:

Area II STOP Begins Parolee Services

[Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming \(STOP\)](#) contractors provide a broad variety of evidence-based services to assist parolees in California counties with substance abuse treatment, education, literacy, employment and job readiness, cognitive behavioral treatment, anger management, family relations, criminal thinking, community referrals and housing. STOP Program Area II, composed of 15 counties stretching along the Pacific Coast from Sonoma County to Ventura County, has begun providing these services to eligible parolees.

DRP contractor, [Center Point](#), subcontracts with approximately 25 providers operating residential alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment and outpatient treatment facilities, detoxification services and sober living environments in 72 facilities throughout STOP Program Area II. All STOP contract mandated curriculum and treatment modalities are addressed by the network of community-based providers. Substance use disorder treatment is the primary treatment need for the majority of STOP program participants.



All placements for this program area are made through the San Rafael placement office. Most placements are coordinated, transportation planned, and the parolee is placed within 48 hours of release from incarceration or from the point of first contact with the STOP placement office.

STOP Program Area II maintains an open line of communication with the [Division of Adult Parole Operations'](#) regional parole units and field agents, as well as with all subcontracted providers to ensure a smooth and quick placement process for parolees in need of services. STOP case managers participate in unit meetings and other parolee forums to educate stakeholders.

STOP Program Area II's network of community-based providers are experienced with providing services geared toward sensitive or special populations, such as registered sex offenders. Other service recipients include participants for whom trauma may have played a role in their criminality, and participants with co-occurring disorders.

Some STOP Program Area II providers have partnered with local [Day Reporting Centers](#) to utilize their [Computer Literacy Learning Centers](#) to satisfy participants' literacy needs. STOP case managers and the [Employment Development Department \(EDD\)](#) liaison work with the subcontracted provider network to ensure that parolee participants are linked with enrollment counselors to ensure access to health care coverage; apply for CalWORKS and other public assistance (housing, employment, and other social service benefits) for which the parolee participant may be entitled; and provide additional resources and referrals to address assessed unmet needs.

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Please contact Larissa Frees, DRP-Community and Reentry Services, larissa.frees@cdcr.ca.gov, or Marc Hering, Center Point, mhering@cpinc.org



“Today’s inmate is tomorrow’s neighbor.”
*Ralph Diaz, Deputy Director (A),
 Division of Adult Institutions*

Academic Education

Increases inmate reading levels to minimum 9th grade level and achieve a GED or high school diploma. Access to college courses also available.

Arts in Corrections

Programs in theater, dance, music and art instill pro-social behavior, self-esteem and problem solving skills.

CAL-ID Card Program

Assists in obtaining state-issued California identification cards used to secure employment, housing, bank accounts, travel, and more.

Career Technical Education

Prepares inmates for viable vocational career paths upon release by training to industry certification levels.

Cognitive Behavioral Treatment

Provides evidence-based treatment for Substance Abuse, Anger Management, Family Relationships and Criminal Thinking.

Long Term Offender Program

Provides evidenced-based treatment programming in criminogenic behavior to inmates serving long-term sentences.

Offender Mentor Certification

Trains and certifies long-term inmates as interns to assist as mentors in various substance abuse treatment programs.

Pre-Employment Transition

Provides job readiness skills, including job search, resume, interviewing, financial skills and access to career centers.

Reentry Hubs

Provides relevant training and services to eligible and interested inmates within four years of release.

Step-Down Program

Provides alternatives to criminal gang lifestyle to reduce confinement in Security Housing Units (SHU).

Single Level and Multi-Level Substance Abuse Treatment

Promotes positive social behavior and helps inmates develop knowledge and skills necessary to avoid substance use relapse and successfully reintegrate back into the community, through **single** and **multi-level** substance abuse treatment programs.

IN-PRISON PROGRAMS:

Step Down Steps Forward

The **Step Down Program (SDP)** is CDCR’s voluntary behavior-based program for Security Threat Group affiliates in a joint effort of the Division of Adult Institutions and the Division of Rehabilitative Programs. The SDP provides opportunities for enhanced programs, interpersonal interactions, and corresponding privilege and personal property enhancements for participating inmates. This multi-step program provides inmates the opportunity to be released back to the general population and “step down” from a Security Housing Unit (SHU) environment.



L-R: SDP Facilitators Pat Miller (SAC), Mike Tann (CCI), Program Manager Debra Herndon, Facilitator Esau Villarrial (COR), Deputy Director Rodger Meier, Director Millicent Tidwell and Facilitator Rick Christiansen (CCI).

DRP Director Millicent Tidwell and Deputy Director Rodger Meier recently recognized Step Down Facilitators from **California Correctional Institution (CCI)**, **California State Prison-Sacramento (SAC)** and **California State Prison-Corcoran (COR)** for their “groundbreaking efforts to implement the Step Down Program, during its first year of existence.”



L-R: SDP Program Manager Debra Herndon, Facilitators Zanzi Neblett (CCI), Kathleen Nealy (PBSP), Josh Phelps (CCI), Director Millicent Tidwell, Deputy Director Rodger Meier, and Facilitators O’Brian Bailey (COR) and Jeff Reed (SAC). Not Pictured: Nicole Danbacher (HQ)

Step Down Program Manager Debra Herndon welcomed new facilitators for these institutions and **Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP)**. All of them have been counselors in adult or youth CDCR institutions. The new facilitators completed a week of program orientation at headquarters in Sacramento. The facilitators were joined by Nicole Danbacher, Correctional Counselor II, who is the Step Down Program coordinator.

Please contact Debra Herndon, DRP In-Prison Programs, debra.herndon@cdcr.ca.gov



“DRP’s continuum of care provides offenders critical support to successfully transition back into the community.”

Dan Stone, Director, Division of Adult Parole Operations

Computer Literacy Learning Centers (CLLC):

Offers computer-based courses provided by certified instructors for basic reading, writing and math.

Day Reporting Centers (DRC) and Community-Based Coalition (CBC):

Addresses parolees’ needs through assessment and placement in classes and support services. One stop shop for education, life skills, financial and employment training, substance abuse and counseling. Some transitional housing available.

Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program (FOTEP):

Provides gender-responsive residential treatment services for women and their children.

Parolee Service Centers (PSC):

Provides group and family reunification, life, employment skills in a residential program.

Residential Multi-Service Centers (RMSC):

Helps at-risk parolees transition back into the community with housing, substance abuse treatment and independent living skills.

Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP):

Provides comprehensive residential and outpatient programs and services supporting parolees needs for housing, substance abuse treatment, cognitive behavioral intervention, employment, education, family relations and community referrals.

Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Program (STAR):

Provides substance abuse treatment education by certified instructors in select parole offices.

IN-PRISON PROGRAMS:

Finding Options @ CAL Provider Fair



Inmates visit with providers, including Ralph Mendoza from HealthRIGHT 360

Calipatria State Prison (CAL) held its quarterly provider fair for Substance Abuse Treatment program participants on Friday, January 30, 2015. Forty inmates attended the event, coordinated by Correctional Counselor III Jeffrey Devenberg and Community Education Centers’ Transitional Counselor Eduardo Duran. The goal of the fair is to encourage voluntary participation in continuing care during the parole process.

The event lasted from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and included a community meeting, provider introductions, and open visits with representatives from HealthRIGHT 360, Community Education Centers, Imperial Valley College, California Department of Rehabilitation, as well as social workers and Parole Planning and Placement committee members.

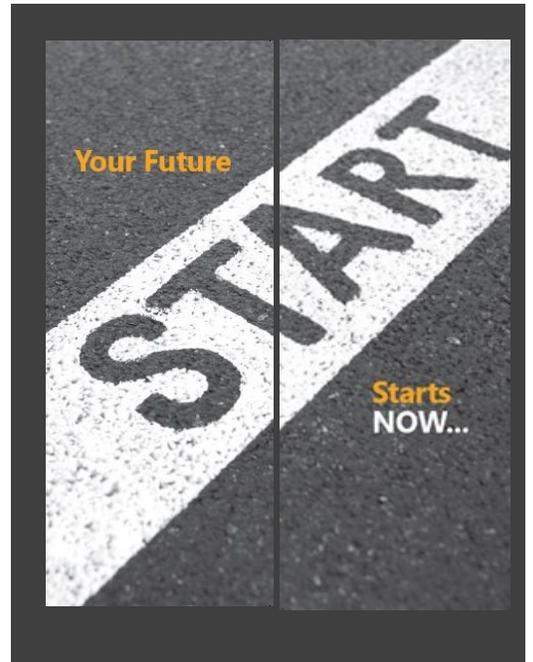
The inmates were informed of social programs including health care, job training, residential and other programs. Parole Agent II Ramiro Plascencia provided information about communities where inmates will be paroled, and parole requirements and services.

Inmates were receptive of the provider fair and were impressed with the breadth of available services. Inmates expressed interest in employment preparation, parenting and family reintegration, and anger and stress management workshops offered by providers.

Please contact Lt. Everardo Silva, AA/PIO, CAL, everardo.silva@cdcr.ca.gov

COMMUNITY AND REENTRY SERVICES:

Start Your Future



DRP’s Community and Reentry Services (CRS) unit manages hundreds of contracted providers who extend CDCR’s continuum of care to parolees throughout California. A new brochure, “Your Future Starts Now,” has been developed by a team of CRS and DRP Outreach staff members. The brochure describes education, family relationship, employment, substance abuse treatment and transitional housing services available to help offenders integrate successfully into the community.

“Parolees, and those inmates about to become parolees, are looking for information to help them address some of life’s more serious questions – where to live, how to make a living, how to reconnect with family after incarceration, and how to avoid criminal behavior. This guide will help them, and family members who are critical to their successful reintegration, understand the scope of services available to them,” Kevin Wortell, Associate Director, DRP Offender Services

These brochures will be distributed to:

- Parole Planning and Placement staff in adult institutions
- [Division of Adult Parole Operations](#)
- Community and Reentry service providers

Please contact Chief Barnett, DRP-Community and Reentry Services, amber.barnett@cdcr.ca.gov

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The right inmate in the right program at the right time

eReaders

Helps offenders achieve milestone credits with increased access to college curriculum textbooks. Tablets, pre-loaded with Voluntary Education Program (VEP) textbooks, are provided to inmates enrolled in VEP college courses. Devices are checked, charged, updated and reissued for use by other inmates.



Enterprise Inmate Online Education Network

Secured inmate education network connects inmates to computers that enables use of online resources: internal centralized learning repositories, internet based certification programs, and distance learning environments.



Law Library Touch Screen Technology

Provides Administrative Segregation Unit inmates with electronic touch screen access to the Gilmore Law Collection as mandated by *Casey v. Lewis* court case. This also reduces time and costs required to escort high security inmates to the library.



Offline Digital Resource Library for Inmates

Uses technology to reduce education textbook and library collection costs by providing those items electronically to inmates in classrooms and libraries via an offline "internet in a box" concept.



Internet Protocol Television Integration

Supports adult basic education, career technical education, and college on multiple channel television networks for inmates, using more efficient technology.



OFFICE OF CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION:

OCE's Shannon Swain Speaks

OCE Deputy Superintendent Swain shares thoughts about correctional education

Breathe! Take a moment and just sit and focus on breathing. It may sound corny, but sometimes I get so busy doing the "RIGHT NOW" kinds of tasks on my plate that I forget to slow down enough to appreciate the gifts all around me. Sometimes I think our culture places too much value on "Busy-ness" and somehow equates a packed schedule-- and a to-do list that stretches out the door--with success. Lately, I have been trying to do my work with intention, being mindful of the impact my words and work have on others—and on me! I have a habit of blazing rapidly through the tasks and memos, phone calls and emails, budgets and contracts, speeches and spreadsheets that make up my day. What kind of toll can this frantic pace take on my family? On my physical (and emotional) health? On the culture of the workplace of the people around me? Slowing down enough to take a deep breath and look around at the people I work with and for reminds me to remain connected, and to remember that I chose a life of public service for a reason, not just to get to the end of my list or to arrive at pay day with my hand out and my wits intact.

Now that I have taken a few deep breaths, I can dive into some updates about exciting things happening for the Office of Correctional Education (OCE). Did you know, that of the +/- 1,700 employees currently working for the Division of Rehabilitative Programs, 1,436 work through OCE? Thousands of students, and their families and futures, are impacted by the work that we—this means you, too!—do each day. From preparing contracts, to researching best practices, to teaching Algebra, to negotiating rates for refreshing auto body equipment, to assisting students to find the correct legal resource, to coordinating sports contests, to providing professional development, to entering data on Form 200 certifications, to writing lesson plans, to speaking at Senate hearings, to motivating students—the breadth and depth of the work that is done each day by OCE staff amazes and astounds me. And you do it so well!

Basic Correctional Officer Academy cadets will soon learn about the philosophy behind providing programs and services to inmates, and receive an overview of OCE, including academic and career technical education programs, libraries, recreation, testing and assessment, etc., as well as In-Prison and Community and Reentry Services. While we are very pleased that CDCR Officers will now learn a bit about rehabilitative programming and education at the beginning of their professional careers, I also know that the very BEST ambassadors for the importance and effectiveness of programs and education are...our institution principals and staff! Every interaction you have with custody staff, every time officers observe the positive changes in inmate behavior that come through participating in the classes you teach, every pleasant conversation with the fantastic men and women you work with inside the institutions—those experiences become the evidence that correctional education is valuable and essential in our prisons!

Thank you for everything you do each day to help improve the lives and futures of the incredibly needy student population we serve. Together we truly are creating the 'Best Correctional Education System in the world.'



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