



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice

Roy Cooper, Governor
Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

Reuben Young, Interim Chief Deputy Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairs of House Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety
Chairs of Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety
Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety

FROM: Erik A. Hooks, Secretary *EAH*
Reuben Young, Interim Chief Deputy Secretary *RY*

RE: Treatment for Effective Community Supervision Report

DATE: March 1, 2019

Pursuant to G. S. 143b-1155(c), the Department of Public Safety, Community Corrections Section, shall report by March 1 of each year to the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety on the status of the programs funded through the Treatment for Effective Community Supervision Program. The report shall include the following information from each of the following components:

- (1) *Recidivism Reduction Services:*
 - a. *The method by which offenders are referred to the program.*
 - b. *The target population.*
 - c. *The amount of services contracted for and the amount of funding expended in each fiscal year.*
 - d. *The supervision type.*
 - e. *The risk level of the offenders served.*
 - f. *The number of successful and unsuccessful core service exits with a breakdown of reasons for unsuccessful exits.*
 - g. *The demographics of the population served.*
 - h. *The number and kind of mandatory and optional services received by offenders in this program.*
 - i. *Employment status at entry and exit.*
 - j. *Supervision outcomes, including completion, revocation, and termination.*

- (2) *Community Intervention Centers (CIC):*
 - a. *The target population.*
 - b. *The amount of funds contracted for and expended each fiscal year.*
 - c. *The supervision type.*
 - d. *The risk level of the offenders served.*
 - e. *The number of successful and unsuccessful core service exits with a breakdown of reasons for unsuccessful exits.*
 - f. *The demographics of the population served.*
 - g. *Supervision outcomes, including completion, revocation, and termination.*

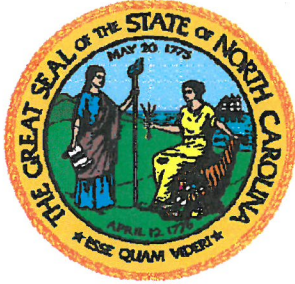
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- (3) *Transitional and Temporary Housing:*
- a. *The target population.*
 - b. *The amount of funds contracted for and expended each fiscal year.*
 - c. *The supervision type.*
 - d. *The risk level of the offenders served.*
 - e. *The number of successful and unsuccessful core service exits with a breakdown of reasons for unsuccessful exits.*
 - f. *The demographics of the population served.*
 - g. *The employment status at entry and exit.*
 - h. *Supervision outcomes, including completion, revocation, and termination.*
- (4) *Local Reentry Councils (LRC):*
- a. *The target population.*
 - b. *The amount of funds contracted for and expended each fiscal year.*
 - c. *The supervision type.*
 - d. *The risk level of the offenders served.*
 - e. *The number of successful and unsuccessful core service exits with a breakdown of reasons for unsuccessful exits.*
 - f. *The demographics of the population served.*
 - g. *The employment status at entry and exit including, wherever possible, the average wage received at entry and exit.*
 - h. *Supervision outcomes, including completion, revocation, and termination.*
- (5) *Intensive Outpatient Services. - If the Department enters into a contract for Intensive Outpatient Services, the Department of Public Safety shall report in the next fiscal year on this service including the following:*
- a. *The target population.*
 - b. *The amount of funds contracted for and expended each fiscal year.*
 - c. *The supervision type.*
 - d. *The risk level of the offenders served.*
 - e. *The number of successful and unsuccessful core service exits with a breakdown of reasons for unsuccessful exits.*
 - f. *The demographics of the population served.*
 - g. *Supervision outcomes, including completion, revocation, and termination. (2011-145, s. 19.1(h), (k); 2011-192, s. 6(b); 2012-83, s. 56; 2014-100, s. 16C.7(b); 2016-94, s. 17C.4.)*



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice

**STATUS OF THE TREATMENT FOR EFFECTIVE
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION PROGRAM
G.S. 143B-1155(c)**

March 1, 2019

**Roy Cooper
Governor**

**Erik A. Hooks
Secretary**

I. Introduction

The Justice Reinvestment Act was signed into law in June of 2011 (SL 2011-192). This body of legislation created the Treatment for Effective Community Supervision Program (TECSP) which is to be administered by the Community Corrections section of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice. The program is designed to support the use of evidence-based practices to reduce recidivism and to promote coordination between state and community-based corrections programs. The target populations for these programs are high risk, high need offenders who are most likely to re-offend and also face significant barriers or destabilizing factors that contribute to re-offending.

Considering the myriad of treatment, programming, and service needs that offenders under community supervision demonstrate, the Department took a critical look at what was available to offenders and decided to refocus the purpose of TECSP funding. Historically, this funding through its various name changes has primarily provided substance abuse treatment. However, national research studies indicate that Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI) programming also has a significant impact on recidivism. Therefore, as part of the recidivism reduction strategy, the Department has designated a large portion of the TECSP funding towards CBI. With the advent of evidence-based practices in correctional interventions and the implementation of the risk/need assessment process, the Department now has empirical evidence demonstrating that the offenders who are more likely to re-offend have other programmatic and treatment needs in addition to substance abuse. Therefore, TECSP is a multi-pronged approach to programming, treatment, and reentry-related services, and essentially represents an “umbrella” of funding. Under TECSP, the Department contracts with “eligible entities” directly through the competitive procurement process to provide community-based services to offenders on probation, parole or post release supervision. The different programs funded by TECSP are described below.

Recidivism Reduction Services (RRS)

Formerly called the Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP) from 1994-2011 and then TECS from 2011-2015, the Recidivism Reduction Services is the single largest program funded under the TECSP umbrella and serves the largest number of offenders through services available in 98 counties during FY 17-18. The core services offered to offenders include cognitive behavioral interventions with booster sessions and a continuum of substance abuse services to include outpatient and aftercare/recovery management services. Support services such as education, employment, health/nutrition education and social support services based on the offender needs must also be addressed by vendors through community linkages and collaboration.

Community Intervention Centers (CIC)

CIC is offered as an intensive day program offering treatment, programming and services for 3-6 hours per day, five (5) days a week. The CIC program targets offenders under supervision who are in violation or at risk of revocation. The CIC provides cognitive behavioral intervention; substance abuse treatment, employment and educational services, and any other additional services which support evidence-based programming to avoid revocation and the possibility of incarceration.

This program is currently not offered.

Transitional/Temporary Housing (TH)

Transitional and Temporary Housing (TH) is community-based housing provided to offenders who are in need of a structured, positive and safe environment for an interim period. The issue of homelessness among offenders supervised in the community has been a significant problem for supervising officers. By providing housing to these homeless offenders, it is the Department's intent to reduce recidivism and the rate of probation and post release supervision revocations. Vendors provide social support and program services along with the transitional housing.

Local Reentry Councils (LRC)

Due to Justice Reinvestment, the Department is also more focused on providing reentry services to the growing number of individuals released from prison on post-release supervision. Local Reentry Councils (LRC) is organized networks of individuals and agencies that provide supervision and coordination of innovative responses to the reintegration of offenders/formerly incarcerated individuals in the local community. The LRC brings all the stakeholders together to assist with resources in helping formerly incarcerated individuals to become productive citizens, reduce recidivism and victimization. Service Providers consist of local and faith-based community organizations that offer direct services such as housing assistance, employment services, food, clothing, vocational training, transportation, substance abuse and mental health treatment, mentoring programs and any other supportive services.

Intensive Outpatient Services (IOP)

Intensive substance abuse treatment services are an ASAM Level 2.1 non-residential treatment service that includes structured individual and group activities and services that are provided at an outpatient program designed to assist offenders to begin recovery and learn skills for recovery maintenance. The services are offered at least 3 hours a day, at least 3 events a week for 12 weeks. IOP structured programming includes individual and group counseling and support, cognitive behavioral programming, family counseling and support, drug testing coordinated with supervising Probation/Parole Officer and TASC Care Manager, relapse prevention strategies, life skills, crisis planning, disease and recovery management, and treatment support activities for those with physical disability, co-occurring mental illness, and developmental differences.

This program is currently not offered.

The following sections provide specific information about the status of each program funded under TECSP during FY 17-18.

(1) Recidivism Reduction Services (RRS)

a. Method by which offenders are referred to the program:

All referrals are generated through the automation process on the Offender Case Plan. Offenders can also be recommended by TASC Care Managers as a result of the TASC Assessment.

b. Target population:

The eligible pool of offenders for RRS programming is the population of offenders in each county who have been assessed as Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 in terms of supervision level. Generally speaking, 61% of the population under community supervision is Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 offenders (not including offenders unlevelled at the time). However, due to the availability of funding, the RRS program uses a 35% threshold for the target population, and thus the program targets 20,907 offenders as the eligible pool of offenders for RRS.

c. The amount of services contracted for and the amount of funding expended in each fiscal year:

FY 17-18 was the third year of the Recidivism Reduction Services (RRS) program where the contracts for services were performance-based. Vendor payments are directly related to offender engagement and outcomes. Vendors made tremendous progress during the second year of the RRS contracts by improving on data entries. Additionally, the performance-based contracts included an upfront payment during the first month of the FY equaling 25% of the contract total (the amount a vendor could possibly earn providing services).

Expenditures for FY 17-18 increased by 26% compared to last fiscal year due to the Vendors becoming more familiar and comfortable with the RRS performance-based contracting approach as well as the department awarding a contract in one (1) additional county. The upward trend is anticipated to continue as we strive to have all 100 counties with RRS contracts in place by the end of the current fiscal year. The Department is currently considering an increase in the percentage payout structure of the RRS contracts as an incentive to achieve successful outcomes (reducing recidivism).

Total amount of contracts - \$11,442,472

Total Expenditures - \$5,316,671

Note: The legislative report asks specifically about the total amount of contracts and total expenditures for the RRS program. Since these are performance-based contracts, the total amount of contracts is a derived figure based on the assumption that each vendor achieves all milestones with all offenders and is used by Purchasing for contractual purposes only. It is a separate and distinct figure that is derived for the purpose of creating a purchase order with each vendor. Therefore, it is not appropriate to compare this derived figure with the budget or the expenditures for this program.

d. The supervision type:

Table 1: (1) d. Recidivism Reduction Services Supervision Type of Offenders Served FY 17-18

Supervision Type	Count
Probation	8,862
Post-Release	2,711
Parole	59
Total	11,632

e. The risk level of the offenders served.

Table 2: (1) e. Recidivism Reduction Services Risk Level of Offenders Served FY 17-18

Risk Level	Count
R1	3,042
R2	4,297
R3	3,361
R4	855
R5	71
Not Leveled	6
Total	11,632

f. The number of successful and unsuccessful core service exits with a breakdown of reasons for unsuccessful exits:

Table 3: (1) f. Recidivism Reduction Core Service Outcomes for Offenders Served FY 17-18

Core Service	Completed		Not Completed		Non-Compliance		Inappropriate Referral		Other		Total
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
ROP Treatment	677	38%	221	13%	610	34%	164	9%	100	6%	1,772
ROP Aftercare	381	73%	44	9%	70	14%	17	3%	7	1%	519
CBI Group Therapy	2,850	39%	743	10%	2,586	35%	350	5%	765	11%	7,294
CBI Booster Sessions	2,159	87%	152	6%	102	4%	22	1%	60	2%	2,495
Total	6,067	50%	1,160	10%	3,368	28%	553	5%	932	7%	12,080

*Successful completion means offenders satisfied all program requirements, non-compliance includes both non-compliance with program requirements and conditions of supervision, other includes moved out of the area, died, changed meeting times, moved to unsupervised probation or the probation term was complete or terminated.

g. The demographics of the population served.

Table 4: (1) g. Recidivism Reduction Demographics of Population Served FY 17-18

Age Group	White		Black		Other		Total	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Count	Percent
13-18	5	41	6	94	1	15	162	1%
19-21	55	344	45	727	9	88	1,268	11%
22-25	162	541	112	1,279	12	115	2,221	19%
26-30	287	757	144	1,469	13	88	2,758	24%
31-35	305	615	80	863	12	44	1,919	17%
36-40	227	443	74	474	9	31	1,258	11%
41-45	154	277	61	335	11	14	852	7%
46-50	83	182	28	190	.	13	496	4%
51-55	65	135	28	174	1	5	408	3%
56-60	16	52	25	89	.	3	185	2%
61-65	5	27	4	44	.	.	80	1%
66-70	2	4	2	11	.	.	19	<1%
71+	.	3	.	3	.	.	6	<1%
Total	1,366	3,421	609	5,752	68	416	11,632	100%

h. The number and type of mandatory and optional services received by offenders in this program:

During the FY 17-18, 15,026 services were rendered to RRS clients.

Table 5: (1) h. i. Recidivism Reduction Mandatory Service Outcomes Population Served FY 17-18

Mandatory Services	Count	Percent
Health/Nutrition	4,555	40%
Employment Services	3,974	35%
Education	2,803	25%
Total	11,332	

Table 6: (1) h. ii. Recidivism Reduction Optional Service Outcomes Population Served FY 17-18

Optional Services	Count	Percent
Parenting Classes	1,703	46%
Family Counseling	1,747	47%
Child Care Services	244	7%
Total	3,694	

NOTE: The mandatory and optional services are generally rendered as a one-time event. Changes to the programs database during FY 17-18 do not allow for vendors to enter specific outcomes for services.

i. Employment status at entry and exit:

Table 7: (1) i. Recidivism Reduction Employment Status at Entry & Exit Population Served FY 17-18

Employment Status at Entry	Employment Status at Exit			Total
	Employed	Unemployed	Unknown	
Employed	2,722	991	55	3,768
Unemployed	1,197	2,869	245	4,311
Unknown	47	167	3,339	3,553
Total	3,966	4,027	3,639	11,632

j. Supervision outcomes, including completion, revocation, and termination:

Table 8: (1) j. Recidivism Reduction Supervision Outcomes Population Served FY 17-18

Supervision Outcome	Count	Percent
Active	4,290	37%
Completed	2,239	19%
Revoked	2,130	18%
Terminated	2,328	20%
Moved to Unsupervised	395	4%
Other	249	2%
Total	11,631*	100%

Other includes offender who died or failed to comply

**Missing data*

(2) **Community Intervention Centers (CIC)**

The CIC contracts were initially awarded in 6 counties primarily in the urban communities where the number of offenders in violation and/or at risk for revocation is usually a greater percentage of the supervised population. However, the Vendors involved with CIC programming were also involved in RRS programming and the overlap was difficult to manage for both the Vendors and the supervising officers. Therefore, based on requests from Vendors and due to low numbers of referrals, the Department agreed to allow these contracts to expire during FY 15-16 and they

were not renewed after August 2016. There were no operational programs during FY 17-18. New programming options are being considered.

(3) Transitional and Temporary Housing

a. The target population:

Offenders (male and female) who are 18 years or older under community supervision who voluntarily agree to live in transitional housing due to being homeless or recently released from prison without a confirmed home plan, and do not have any family or community resources willing to provide suitable living arrangements.

b. The amount of funds contracted for and expended each fiscal year:

Based on risk/need assessment data, those offenders facing homelessness are more likely to become at risk for violation and revocation. Therefore, without a statewide network of housing options available to the offender population, the Department began to provide transitional housing in 2013 to address this need for structured, positive and safe housing environments.

Total amount of contract for non-sex offender housing- \$2,333,740

Total Expenditures - \$2,075,420

c. The supervision type:

Table 9: (3) c. Transitional and Temporary Housing Supervision Type of Offenders Served FY 17-18

Supervision Type	Count
Probation	201
Parole	3
Post-Release	210
Total	414

d. The risk level of the offenders served:

Table 10: (3) d. Transitional and Temporary Housing Risk Level of Offenders Served FY 17-18

Risk Level	Count
R1	150
R2	121
R3	89
R4	14
R5	2
Not Leveled	38
Total	414

e. The number of completions and non-completions for core services:

Table 11: (3) e. Transitional and Temporary Housing Core Service Outcomes for Offenders Served FY 17-18

Core Service	Completed		Not Completed		Total
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
CBI Group Therapy	74	38%	120	62%	194
Regular Outpatient Substance Treatment	10	29%	24	71%	34
Total	84	37%	144	63%	228

Note: Starting in FY 17-18, transitional/temporary housing providers were not required to provide CBI group therapy and regular outpatient substance abuse treatment. Rather, housing providers were instructed to make referrals to existing contractual services offered under RRS contracts. However, some housing providers elected to continue these services at no additional cost.

f. The demographics of the population served:

Table 12: (3) f. Transitional and Temporary Housing Demographics of Population Served FY 17-18

Age Group	White		Black		Other		Total	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Count	Percent
13-18	.	21	.	10	.	.	31	7%
19-21	.	2	2	13	.	1	18	4%
22-25	2	18	.	27	1	2	50	12%
26-30	8	51	.	33	.	1	93	23%
31-35	8	29	.	25	.	3	65	16%
36-40	4	21	1	13	.	2	41	10%
41-45	3	16	1	17	.	.	37	9%
46-50	.	9	2	20	.	1	32	8%
51-55	1	6	2	16	.	.	25	6%
56-60	2	5	1	8	.	1	17	4%
61-65	.	1	.	3	.	.	4	1%
66-70	.	.	.	.	.	.	0	0%
71+	.	1	.	.	.	.	0	<1%
Total	28	180	9	185	1	11	414	100%

g. The employment status at entry and exit:

Table 13: (3) g. Transitional and Temporary Housing Employment Status at Entry & Exit Population Served FY 17-18

Employment Status at Entry	Employment Status at Exit			Total
	Employed	Unemployed	Unknown	
Employed	63	5	1	69
Unemployed	178	119	12	309
Unknown	1	0	35	36
Total	242	124	48	414

h. Supervision outcomes, including completion, revocation, and termination:

Table 14: (3) h. Transitional and Temporary Housing Supervision Outcomes Population Served FY 17-18

Supervision Outcome	Count	Percent
Active	101	24%
Completed	133	32%
Revoked	116	28%
Terminated	45	11%
Moved to Unsupervised	10	3%
Other	8	2%
Total	413*	100%

Other includes offenders who died or failed to comply

**Missing data*

(4) **Local Reentry Councils (LRC)**

a. The target population:

The primary target population is offenders currently under community supervision including Probation, Post-Release, or Parole. In FY 17-18, 14 LRCs across the state served 2,933 individuals. These sites include Buncombe, Mecklenburg, Pitt, Nash/Edgecombe/Wilson, Hoke/Scotland/Robeson, Craven/Pamlico, Onslow/Jones, Cumberland, Durham, New Hanover, McDowell, Wake, Forsyth, and Guilford. Sites used an automated case management system called Community Automated Reentry Tool (CART) for case planning, case management and tracking reentry services and outcomes. Data were available for 566 individuals served by LRCs and who were previously or currently under NCDPS care and supervision. Any individual in the Reentry Council community who has been involved in the criminal justice system or recently released from local confinement or the federal system are eligible for reentry services through the Local Reentry Council. The core services include housing assistance, employment assistance, transportation assistance, child care assistance, and referrals to substance abuse and mental health services.

The NCDPS supervision outcomes are based on 566 individuals with information as tracked by CART (of the 2,933 served by LRCs) who were either recently released from a state prison or on community supervision during FY 17-18.

b. The amount of funds contracted for and expended each fiscal year:

Total amount of contracts - \$1,803,928.00*

Total Expenditures - \$1,314,048.46**

**Due to staggered contract start dates, nine of the 14 LRCs' contracts were partially active during FY 17-18. Of those nine sites, five contracts were active for 8 months and four contracts were active for 6 months.*

***All but two of the fourteen LRC sites were operational during FY 17-18. Of those 12 sites, 5 sites were fully operational all 12 months of the fiscal year; 2 sites were operational for 7 months; 4 sites were operational for 6 months; and 1 site was operational for 2 months.*

c. The supervision type:

Table 15: (4) c. CART Clients by Supervision Type during FY 17-18

Supervision Type	Count
Probation	366
Post-Release	194
Parole	6
Total	566

d. The risk level of the offenders served:

Table 16: (4) d. Risk Level of Offenders Served Through CART during FY 17-18

Risk Level	Count
R1	95
R2	160
R3	186
R4	77
R5	15
Not Leveled	31
Total	564*

* Missing data

e. The number of supportive services provided:

Note: Count of reentry activities includes multiple contacts with an individual participant

Table 17: (4) e. Local Reentry Council Supportive Services Provided FY 17-18

Supportive Services	Total
*Employment	1,394
Clothing/Food/Hygiene	381
Vocational Training	15
Transportation	1,005
Housing	440
Academic Education	59
SA/MH Treatment	40
**Documentation	31
Life Skills	17
Child Care	6
Mentorship	51
	3,439

*Employment activities include job search and job placement.

**Documentation activities include assisting participants with obtaining items such as a social security card, birth and marriage certificates, and state issued ID.

f. The demographics of the population served:

Table 18: (4) f. Age at Intake of Offenders Served by Local Reentry Councils FY 17-18

Age Group	Total
16-20	88
21-29	791
30-39	940
40-49	591
50+	451
Under 16	37
Not Recorded	37
Total	2,935

Table 19: (4) f. Gender at Intake of Offenders Served by Local Reentry Councils FY 17-18

Gender	Total
Female	610
Male	2,314
Transgender	7
Not Recorded	2
Total	2,933

Table 20: (4) f. Marital Status at Intake of Offenders Served by Local Reentry Councils FY 17-18

Marital Status	Total
Single	2,244
Married	258
Divorced	193
Separated	121
Common Law	12
Domestic Partner	12
Widowed	22
Not Recorded	71
Total	2,933

Table 21: (4) f. Race at Intake of Offenders Served by Local Reentry Councils FY 17-18

Race	Total
African American	1,718
Asian	6
Bi-Racial	12
Caucasian	641
Latino	18
Multi-Racial	10
Native American	484
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1
Other	36
Not Recorded	7
Total	2,933

Table 22: (4) f. Ethnicity at Intake of Offenders Served by Local Reentry Councils FY 17-18

Ethnicity	Total
Hispanic	37
Non-Hispanic	2,896
Total	2,933

g. Hourly Wages Received:

Table 23: (4) g. Hourly Wage of Offenders Served by Local Reentry Councils during FY 17-18

Starting Hourly Wage	Count
Minimum Wage Min.	39
Wage - \$8.00	80
\$8.01-\$9.00	62
\$9.01-\$10.00	90
\$10.00+	344
Total	615

h. Supervision outcomes, including completion, revocation, and termination:

Table 24: (4) h. Most Recent Outcome Status of Offenders Served Through CART during FY 17-18

Supervision Outcome	Count	Percent
Active Supervision	220	39%
Completed	141	25%
Revoked	83	15%
Terminated	103	18%
Moved to Unsupervised	8	1%
Other	11	2%
Total	566	100%

Other includes offenders who died, failed to comply, absconded, closed -other state case, or moved to other state.

(5) Intensive Outpatient Services – The Department did not have any contract(s) for this service during FY 17-18 but will be incorporating this service under Recidivism Reduction Services (RRS) for the new contracts to begin on July 1, 2019.

Summary

Across the state, 14,979 offenders received services under the TECSP, and in some instances, offenders may have been enrolled in multiple programs during the reporting period.

FY 17-18 was the third full year of services under the RRS programming as a performance-based model. The RRS providers have a better understanding of the model and how to serve high risk offenders. The providers have learned that creativity is necessary in motivating offenders to change behavior. We anticipate that at the beginning of the FY 18-19, the RRS program will have vendors in all 100 counties. Overall, the RRS provides probation/parole officers with quality programs and services that offenders under their supervision can be referred to and officers receive regular updates about progress and compliance. Lastly, all RRS vendors conduct graduation or recognition ceremonies for those offenders who complete the programs. These ceremonies are supported by probation/parole officers, judicial officials, family, and friends, and make a significant impact on the lives of the offenders completing these programs.

Transitional housing for non-sex offenders continues to expand across the state. In FY 17-18, the number of transitional/temporary beds increased to 120 beds in 8 counties (4 new counties were added during this fiscal year). The interest in providing transitional housing may create opportunities to provide assistance to some of the most difficult offenders to place in permanent housing. We are actively working on partnerships to provide transitional housing assistance for sex offenders as well as offenders with medical and/or mental health needs. Finding a solution will require stakeholders to commit to educate, communicate, and promote legislative public policy regarding these issues.

Local Reentry Councils increased to 14 sites during this fiscal year, and there are numerous communities who are organizing in support of establishing a local reentry council in the near future. As the overall reentry conversation grows among the various segments of society, we will need to identify more sustainable funding mechanisms to scale up reentry support across the state.

The Department continues to work with community partners in developing effective, evidence-based programming for offenders in the care and custody of the agency. We are working to ensure that DPS staff, vendors, service providers, and volunteers not only understand the research on correctional interventions but also understand the importance of delivering quality programs in a consistent manner. The ongoing challenge will be to keep the high-risk offender engaged in services. Correctional research and practice dictates that in order for the program to be effective and have an impact on recidivism, offenders must remain engaged for a longer period of time and receive the appropriate dosage of services.