

2009 Innovations Awards Program APPLICATION

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ID # (assigned by CSG): 09-E-01CT

Please provide the following information, adding space as necessary:

State: Connecticut

Assign Program Category (applicant): Corrections (Use list at end of application)

1. Program Name – Offender Re-entry Workbook Program
2. Administering Agency – State of Connecticut Department of Correction Programs and Treatment Division
3. Contact Person (Name and Title) – Jerry Wagner , Offender Programs and Victim Services
4. Address – 24 Wolcott Hill Road Wethersfield, CT 06109
5. Telephone Number -(860) 692-7785
6. FAX Number - (860) 692-7586
7. E-mail Address – Gerald.Wagner@po.state.ct.us
8. Web site Address - <http://www.ct.gov/doc>
9. Please provide a two-sentence description of the program.

The Re-entry program is designed to “boost” offender skills prior to their community re-entry. Offenders must be approved for release to transitional supervision, parole, or a halfway house and be within 90 days of that date for participation in the program. The re-entry program is a modularized program intended to do several things:

- Review the most important things contained in CT DOC programs such as Anger Management, How to Deal with Your Problems, Thinking for a Change, Relapse Prevention, Domestic Violence, and the department's addiction programs.
- Help each participant prepare a plan that will help the person avoid committing future crimes and thereby helping the person stay out of jail or prison.
- Use the plan with others that might be involved with assisting and supervising the participant when he or she leaves prison. This could include halfway house staff, parole staff, probation staff or community service providers.

10. How long has this program been operational (month and year)? November 2006
11. Why was the program created? What problem[s] or issue[s] was it designed to address?

This program was developed to ensure transfer of core skills needed for successful community re entry by providing a supportive transfer climate in the community (e.g. supervisor (parole officer) support, coaching, and feedback. The program also helps to ameliorate issues such as 1) facility based programs not being integrated, 2) treatment effects not extending into re entry (diminution of the treatment effect), 3) lack of balanced supervisory role by parole staff, 4) limited information available to parole staff about offenders, and 5) the role of “relationship” in supervision.

12. Describe the specific activities and operations of the program in chronological order.
 - 1) Developed concept based on research and promising practices.
 - 2) Developed workbook and piloted program with facility and parole staff.
 - 3) Evaluated pilot and planned to expand program
 - 4) Hired and trained facility based staff
 - 5) Trained field parole staff
 - 6) Implementation evaluation and fidelity assessment
13. Why is the program a new and creative approach or method?

Addresses several problems associated with facility based offender programs, transferring learning and treatment effect, and the relationship between parole staff and offenders.
14. What were the program's start-up costs? (Provide details about specific purchases for this program, staffing needs and other financial expenditures, as well as existing materials, technology and staff already in place.)

Start –up costs included program development, hiring and training six correctional counselors, a half time counselor supervisor, and training of field parole staff.
15. What are the program's annual operational costs?

The annual salary for 6 Counselors including: Regular Salary, Meals ,and Fringe Benefits - \$524,390.
16. How is the program funded?

State of Connecticut General Funds.
17. Did this program require the passage of legislation, executive order or regulations? If YES, please indicate the citation number.

No – other than the biennial budget resolution.
18. What equipment, technology and software are used to operate and administer this program?

Offender Management System for tracking program completion.
19. To the best of your knowledge, did this program originate in your state? If YES, please indicate the innovator's name, present address, telephone number and e-mail address. YES
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20. Are you aware of similar programs in other states? If YES, which ones and how does this program differ? NO
21. Has the program been fully implemented? YES . If NO, what actions remain to be taken?
22. Briefly evaluate (pro and con) the program's effectiveness in addressing the defined problem[s] or issue[s]. Provide tangible examples.

The program provides offenders with an overview of core programs they may have taken during their incarceration and helps them develop a plan for successful re entry. The plan then goes to the offender supervising parole officer in the field. The parole officer uses the re entry workbook to help develop, with the offender, a case management plan that addresses core criminogenic needs (the workbook corresponds with criminogenic risks and needs as delineated in the Level of Service Inventory-Revised –a tool the parole staff use.)
23. How has the program grown and/or changed since its inception?

The program has changed as a result of on going evaluation to address implementation and fidelity issues. We found that we needed to track the re entry workbooks from the

facility to the parole office to insure the right parole officer received the workbook at the right time.

24. What limitations or obstacles might other states expect to encounter if they attempt to adopt this program?

One obstacle we encountered had to do with the culture of the field parole division. We were asking for an organizational culture change in how they did business, how they assessed offenders, and how they related to the offender in their interactions.

2009 Innovations Awards Program Program Categories and Subcategories

Use these as guidelines to determine the appropriate Program Category for your state's submission and list that program category on page one of this application. Choose only one.

Infrastructure and Economic Development

- Business/Commerce
- Economic Development
- Transportation

Government Operations

- Administration
- Elections
- Public Information
- Revenue

Health & Human Services

- Aging
- Children & Families
- Health Services
- Housing
- Human Services

Human Resources/Education

- Education
- Labor
- Management
- Personnel
- Training and Development
- Workforce Development

Natural Resources

- Agriculture
- Energy
- Environment
- Environmental Protection
- Natural Resources
- Parks & Recreation
- Water Resources

Public Safety/Corrections

- Corrections
- Courts
- Criminal Justice
- Drugs
- Emergency Management
- Public Safety

Save in .doc or rtf. Return completed application electronically to innovations@csg.org or mail to:

CSG Innovations Awards 2009
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Lexington, KY 40578-1910

Contact:

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This application is also available at www.csg.org, in the Programs section.

Deadline: March 2, 2009