



First Step Act Programming  
Federal Bureau of Prisons  
Reentry Services Division



# 13 NEED AREAS

BOP department	Area of need	Reason BOP is assessing the need
Education	Dyslexia	Required by First Step Act of 2018. Dyslexia is a learning disorder commonly caused by difficulty in phonological processing. <sup>9</sup>
	Education	Low levels of involvement and satisfaction in school can impact engagement in criminal behavior.
	Work	Low levels of involvement and satisfaction in work can impact engagement in criminal behavior.
Health Services	Medical	Physical health and wellness correlate strongly with poverty and overall success, which can be indicators of risk for recidivism.
	Recreation • Leisure • Fitness	Low levels of involvement and satisfaction in prosocial activity can contribute to criminality.
Psychology Services	Anger • Hostility	Temperamental and antisocial personality, including anger and hostility, contributes to callous, self-indulgent, and rule-violating behavior. Such behaviors move one away from living a prosocial lifestyle and toward a life of criminality.
	Antisocial Peers	Associating primarily with peers involved in criminal behavior puts one at higher risk of sharing in that behavior. Over time, incarcerated individuals lose contact with their prosocial support system, leaving them without a network to help reinforce appropriate behaviors.
	Cognitions	Antisocial cognitions are characterized by a belief and values system supportive of crime. Cognitive emotional states typically involve resentment and defiance.
	Family • Parenting	Research has found links between family environment and criminal lifestyle. Arrests in family members constitute a major risk factor for poor developmental outcomes, including criminal behavior.
	Mental Health	Mental illness may indirectly lead to criminality. A serious mental illness may interfere with one's ability to form prosocial relationships and achieve and maintain life stability. Individuals may trend toward antisocial individuals and succumb to the criminal lifestyle.
	Trauma	Adverse childhood experiences were found to be associated with significant increases in a number of negative social, behavioral health, and physical health outcomes.
Unit Management	Finance • Poverty	The cost of committing the crime appears lower than the benefits gained. There is direct correlation between poverty and criminality.
	Substance Use	Problematic substance use associates with criminality. Individuals who use illicit substances are more likely to commit crimes; law breaking behavior commonly involves individuals who used substances prior to crime commission, or who were using at the time of the offense.

Source: GAO analysis of DOJ documentation. | GAO-23-105139

# RESIDENTIAL FSA PROGRAMMING

## ▶ 8 PSYCHOLOGY RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

- ▶ Bureau Rehabilitation and Values Enhancement Program (BRAVE)
- ▶ Challenge
- ▶ Female Integrated Treatment (FIT)
- ▶ Mental Health Step Down Program
- ▶ Residential Drug Abuse Treatment Program (RDAP)
- ▶ Sex Offender Treatment Program
- ▶ Skills Program
- ▶ Stages Program

## ▶ 1 FAITH-BASED RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

- ▶ LIFE CONNECTIONS

# Bureau Rehabilitation and Values Enhancement Program (BRAVE)

- ▶ EBRR program designed to facilitate favorable institution adjustment and reduce incidents of younger initial designation Adults In Custody (AIC). Brave encourages AIC to interact positively with Bureau employees and take advantage of opportunities to engage in self-improvement activities throughout their incarceration.
  - ▶ Admission requirements:
    - ▶ AIC is 40 years of age or younger
    - ▶ AIC has a sentence of at least 36 months remaining on their sentence
    - ▶ AIC is a first-time Bureau commitment
    - ▶ AIC is within the first 18 months of their sentence
  - ▶ Currently offered at 5 Male facilities:
    - FCI BECKLEY
    - FCI EL RENO
    - FCC VICTORVILLE
    - FCI WILLIAMSBURG
    - FCI GREENVILLE

# Challenge

- ▶ EBRR program specifically for high security AIC with two components:
  - ▶ Treatment activities geared to this high-risk population including a component of violence prevention
  - ▶ AIC with severe mental illness who require day-to-day management skills, medication management and basic daily living skills.
- ▶ AIC successfully completing this program may result in a drop of security points from a high security to a medium security.
  - ▶ Admission requirements (must meet one of the following):
    - ▶ History of drug abuse as evidenced by self-report, Presentence Investigation report (PSI) documentation, or incident reports for use of drugs or alcohol
    - ▶ A major mental illness as evidenced by a current diagnosis of a psychotic disorder, mood disorder, anxiety disorder, or severe personality disorder

## ▶ Challenge is currently offered at 13 male penitentiaries:

USP ALLENWOOD

USP ATWATER

USP BEAUMONT

USP BIG SANDY

USP CANAAN

USP COLEMAN I & II

USP HAZELTON

USP LEE

USP MCCREARY

USP POLLOCK

USP TERRE HAUTE

USP TUSCON

# Female Integrated Treatment (FIT)

- ▶ EBRR program offers integrated cognitive-behavioral treatment for substance use disorders, mental illness, and trauma related disorders, as well as vocational training to female participants.
  - ▶ Admission requirements:
    - ▶ Low security females in the Northeast United States
    - ▶ Females in need of Mental Health treatment across the country
- ▶ FIT is currently offered at 3 female facilities:
  - FSL DANBURY
  - SFF HAZELTON
  - FCI TALLAHASSEE

# Mental Health Step Down Programs

- ▶ EBRR program that offers intermediate level of care for AICs with serious mental illness who do not require inpatient treatment but lack the skills to function in a general population prison.

- ▶ Admission requirements:

- ▶ AIC must be a Care 3 Mental Health who is believed to need residential programming in order to successfully function in a mainline institution
- ▶ AIC must have a serious mental illness or behavioral disorder, including psychotic disorders, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, or significant cognitive impairment
- ▶ AIC has a need for intensive treatment services as evidenced by:
  - ▶ Multiple psychiatric hospitalizations
  - ▶ Complex Psychotropic treatment
  - ▶ Major mental health related functional impairment
  - ▶ Repeated instances of Severe behavioral problems

- ▶ Currently offered at 5 facilities:

USP ALLENWOOD

USP ATLANTA

FCC BUTNER

FMC FORT WORTH

FCI SHERIDAN

# Residential Drug Abuse Treatment Program (RDAP)

- ▶ EBRR program that also satisfies the program need for PATTERN. RDAP is a program that serves as a catalyst for change and focus on the individual as a whole person with overall lifestyle change needs, not simply abstinence from drug use.
- ▶ Requires completion of three components:
  - ▶ Unit based treatment
  - ▶ Follow-up treatment- continues for AIC who have completed the unit base component and return to general population. AIC must remain in follow-up treatment for 12 months or until transferred to an RRC
  - ▶ Transitional Drug Abuse Treatment Program (TDAT)- Treatment for AIC who have completed unit base component, follow-up treatment (if appropriate), and are transferred to community confinement where they must complete community-based drug abuse treatment. (ordinarily AIC who complete RDAP must receive no less than a 120-day placement in an RRC)
    - ▶ Admission criteria
      - ▶ AIC have a verifiable substance use disorder
      - ▶ AIC must have sufficient time remaining on their sentence (ordinarily 24 months)
      - ▶ AIC must sign an agreement acknowledging program responsibility and can complete all components of the program
- ▶ Currently offered at 71 Facilities ( PLEASE REFER TO ATTACHED DOCUMENT FOR RDAP LIST)



# Sex Offender Treatment Program

- ▶ EBRR program designed for high-risk sexual offenders (ordinarily AIC with multiple sex offenses or a history of contact sexual offenses)
  - ▶ Admission requirements:
    - ▶ AIC must have a current or prior sex offense or admit to a history of sexually deviant behavior and/or abusive behavior
    - ▶ AIC must have sufficient time remaining on his sentence to complete the program including transfer to the SOMP program and community-based programs, if eligible
      - ▶ AIC must be no less that 27 months from their projected release date
    - ▶ Incident reports (within the last 12 months) may preclude an AIC from participation in the program
    - ▶ AIC must be able to fully engage in treatment, comprehend treatment expectations, and participate in the program activities
    - ▶ AIC must sign an agreement to participate
  - ▶ This program is available at 2 facilities:

FMC DEVENS

USP MARION

# Skills Program

- ▶ EBRR program designed to improve the institutional adjustment of those who have intellectual and social impairments.
  - ▶ Admission requirements:
    - ▶ A psychologist who believes an AIC with whom they work with would benefit from these intensive residential services may contact the Program Coordinator at the appropriate facility.
      - ▶ AIC must have a serious mental illness or behavioral disorder, including psychotic disorders, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, or significant cognitive impairment
      - ▶ AIC has a need for intensive treatment services as evidenced by:
        - ▶ Multiple psychiatric hospitalizations
        - ▶ Complex Psychotropic treatment
        - ▶ Major mental health related functional impairment
        - ▶ Repeated instances of Severe behavioral problems
  - ▶ This program is currently offered at 2 facilities:

FCI COLEMAN

FCI DANBURY

# Life Connections Program (LCP)

- ▶ EBRR program designed to address religious beliefs and value systems. Participants are connected with a community mentor at the institution and with a faith-based community organization that their release destination.

- ▶ **Admission requirements:**

- ▶ AIC must be within 24-36 months of projected release date. Remaining time of sentence is not a consideration for high security or female AIC who have at least 30 months remaining before release. Shorter sentences have priority
- ▶ AIC must not have written deportation order
- ▶ AIC must receive a recommendation from relevant components
- ▶ AIC are approved by Sending institutions Warden
- ▶ AIC may not be in Financial Repayment Plan Refuse Status
- ▶ AIC are meeting or have met GED obligations
- ▶ AIC have met ESL Obligations
- ▶ AIC are willing to be designated to the LCP site
- ▶ AIC have completed pre-requisite requirements

- ▶ **Admission pre-requisites:**

- ▶ AIC must complete the LCP orientation workbook ( "A New Direction")
- ▶ AIC must complete 3-session Orientation Video
- ▶ AIC must be interviewed by the Chaplain. The Chaplain will then generate a LCP referral packet.

- ▶ **LCP is currently offered at 6 facilities:**

FCC PETERSBURG

FCC MILAN

FMC CARSWELL

USP LEVENWORTH

USP TERRE HAUTE

FCI ALICEVILLE