



The *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*: Expanded Sections, Key Findings, and Using the Site

Brought to you by the National Reentry Resource Center, a project
of the Council of State Governments Justice Center

With support from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S.
Department of Justice



the NATIONAL REENTRY RESOURCE CENTER

— A project of the CSG Justice Center —

<http://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc>



- The resource center is continually updating its website with materials relevant to the reentry field.
- Sign up for the monthly NRRC newsletter to receive news about upcoming distance learning and funding opportunities at <http://csgjusticecenter.org/subscribe/>

What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse



Hank Rosen, *CSG Justice Center*
Nancy La Vigne, PhD, *Urban Institute*

Goals of today's presentation

Purpose of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Characteristics of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Key Findings from Newest Sections

Using the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Goals of today's presentation

Purpose of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Characteristics of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Key Findings from Newest Sections

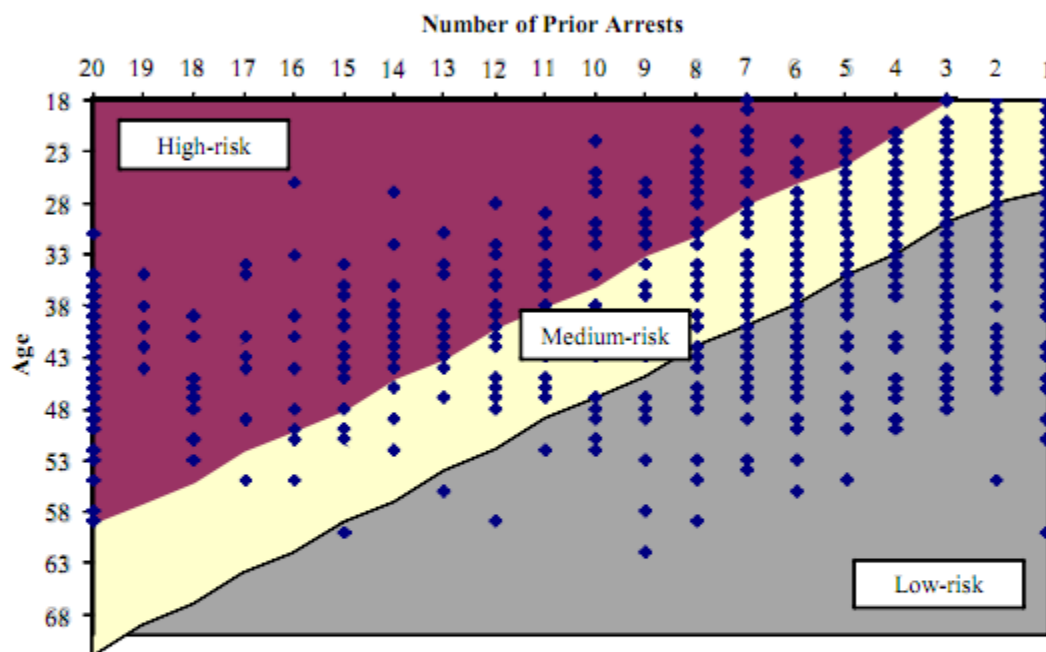
Using the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Practitioners – Policymakers – Funders – Researchers

- *How do I find and **decipher** research?*
- *What are the **key takeaways** that I need to know?*
- *How do I know if the research is **reliable**?*
- *How do I determine the **relevance** of the research?*

Figure 2

Definition of Risk Subgroups, by Age and Number of Prior Arrests



NOTES: This figure shows former prisoners in the sample and their categorization as being at high, medium, or low risk of recidivism, as determined by regression-based calculations of recidivism risk for different combinations of age and prior arrests while holding constant at the sample means gender, race/ethnicity, and time since release. As shown in the figure, for the average-aged participant (who was 33 years old), those with nine or more prior arrests are placed in the subgroup with high risk of recidivism; those with five to eight prior arrests are categorized as medium risk; and those with one to four prior arrests are categorized as low risk. Similarly, for participants who had the sample average of seven prior arrests, those who were age 28 or younger are categorized as high risk; those who were 29 to 40 are categorized as medium risk; and those who were 41 or older are categorized as low risk.

Does CEO's Impact on Recidivism Vary by Low, Medium, or High Risk of Reoffending?

Goals of today's presentation

Purpose of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Characteristics of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Key Findings from Newest Sections

Using the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Development



Review and research

Screening and selection

Coding and rating

Summarize findings

Synthesize across studies

Content-related criteria

- Quantitative
- Population returning from incarceration
- Measure one or more reentry-relevant outcomes (recidivism, employment, substance use, housing, or mental health)
- Published in 1980 or later

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Methodology

Content-related criteria











- Quantitative
- Population returning from incarceration
- Measure one or more reentry-relevant outcomes (recidivism, employment, substance use, housing, or mental health)
- Published in 1980 or later

Methodological criteria

- Study design:
 - Randomized experiment
 - Quasi-experiment with matched groups or statistical controls for differences
- Sample size of at least 30 in each group
- Independent evaluation

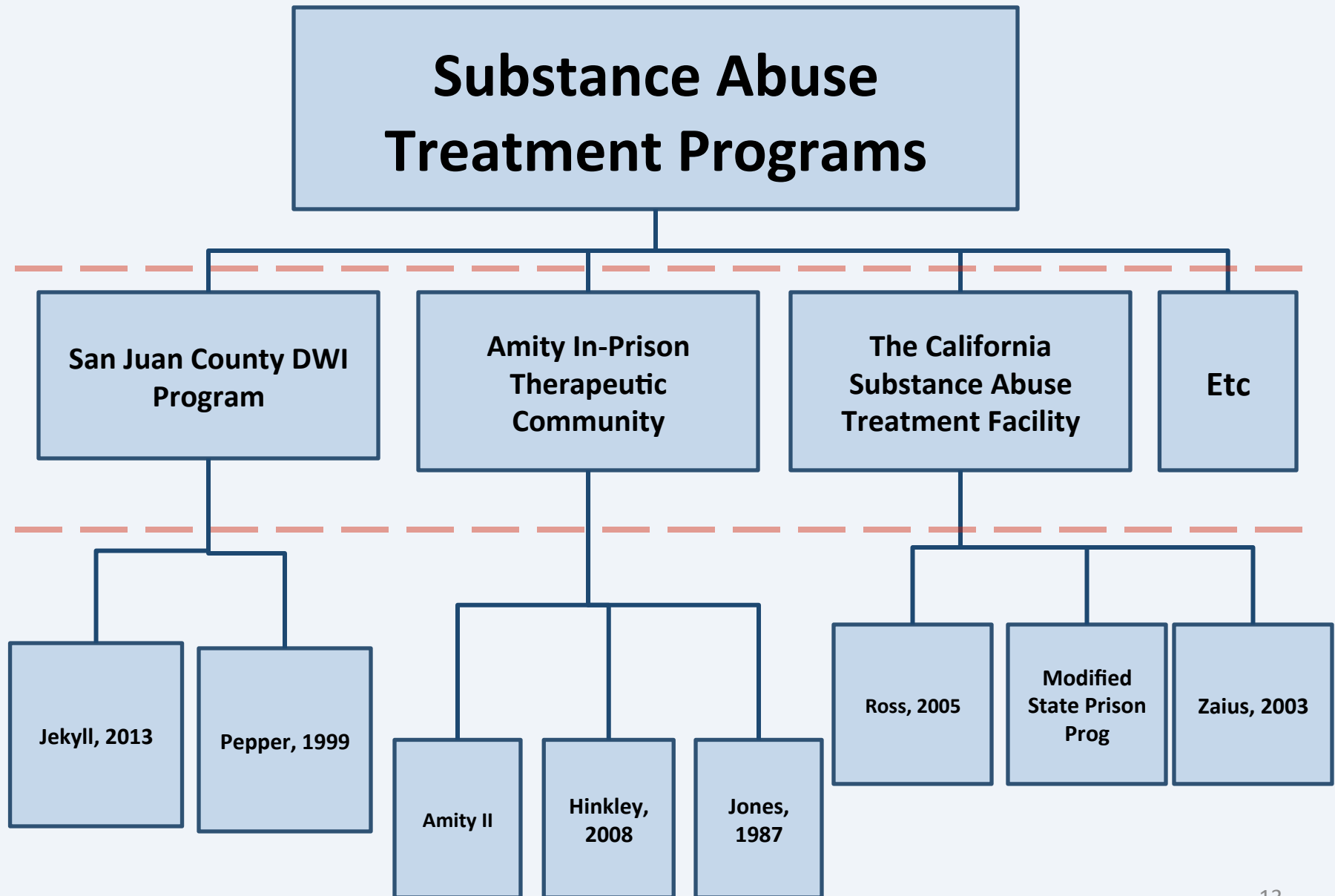
List of ineligible studies provided on website

The key to interpreting *What Works*: Ratings System

High Rigor	Basic Rigor	
		Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
		Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
		No statistically significant findings
		Modest evidence of a harmful effect
		Strong evidence of a harmful effect

- Outcome ratings: What the study actually found
- Rigor ratings: How much we can trust the findings

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Content Organization



Topical Areas Covered

Current topic areas:

- Employment
- Housing
- Mental Health
- Brand Name

Recently updated :

- Substance Abuse
- Family-Based Programs

Forthcoming:

- Education
- Case Management and Comprehensive Programs
- Sex Offender Treatment
- Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment
- Supervision and Sanctions
- Juvenile-Specific Interventions

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Homepage



What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse

The *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse* offers easy access to important research on the effectiveness of a wide variety of reentry programs and practices. It provides a user-friendly, one-stop shop for practitioners and service providers seeking guidance on evidence-based reentry interventions, as well as a useful resource for researchers and others interested in reentry. To get started, click the button below for additional information about this project or how to use this site; or, click on a focus area topic on the left to begin exploring. You can also conduct a customized search by clicking the advanced search link on the right.

[Click here for more information about the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse* and information on how to use this site](#)

Browse Focus Areas

- [Brand Name Programs](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Family-Based Programs](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Mental Health](#)
- [Substance Abuse](#)

Coming Soon

- Case Management and Comprehensive Programs
- Juvenile-Specific Interventions
- Supervision and Sanctions

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Ratings Key

High Rigor	Basic Rigor	
		Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
		Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
		No statistically significant findings
		Modest evidence of a harmful effect
		Strong evidence of a harmful effect

Tips and Help

Advanced search

Browse the site

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Homepage

“Substance Abuse treatment is vital to improving reentry outcomes”

What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse

The *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse* offers easy access to important research on the effectiveness of a wide variety of reentry programs and practices. It provides a user-friendly, one-stop shop for practitioners and service providers seeking guidance on evidence-based reentry interventions, as well as a useful resource for researchers and others interested in reentry. To get started, click the button below for additional information about this project or how to use this site; or, click on a focus area topic on the left to begin exploring. You can also conduct a customized search by clicking the advanced search link on the right.

[Click here for more information about the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse* and information on how to use this site](#)

Browse Focus Areas

- [Brand Name Programs](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Family-Based Programs](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Mental Health](#)
- [Substance Abuse](#)

Coming Soon

- Case Management and Comprehensive Programs
- Juvenile-Specific Interventions
- Supervision and Sanctions

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Ratings Key

High Rigor	Basic Rigor	
		Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
		Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
		No statistically significant findings
		Modest evidence of a harmful effect
		Strong evidence of a harmful effect

Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

San Juan County DWI
Program

Amity In-Prison
Therapeutic
Community

The California
Substance Abuse
Treatment Facility

Etc

Jekyll, 2013

Pepper, 1999

Amity II

Hinkley,
2008

Jones,
1987

Ross, 2005

Modified
State Prison
Prog

Zaius, 2003

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse

For people transitioning from incarceration back to their communities, substance abuse is often closely related to their difficulties with housing, employment, and mental health. Research on the effectiveness of various in-prison and community-based substance abuse intervention programs in improving reentry outcomes has begun to show what approaches reduce recidivism, promote public safety, and improve the lives of the formerly incarcerated and their families. However, more research is needed to develop a better understanding of what works, for whom, and under what circumstances. This section provides an overview and examination of key research on the relationship between substance abuse program participation and recidivism, substance use, employment, and mental health outcomes of those returning from incarceration.

More than 29 publications met [eligibility criteria](#), including a number of publications that evaluated therapeutic community treatment approaches. Below is general description of the trends and themes that emerged from the research review. Because therapeutic communities were the subject of a considerable number of publications reviewed, a special discussion section on these types of programs can be accessed by clicking this link to the [Therapeutic Communities summary page](#).

What the Research Says about Substance Abuse Programs

Based on a systematic review of literature published through 2010, 16 evaluations of in-prison therapeutic community (TC) programs met criteria for methodological rigor. Across these 16 studies, most found that program participation had a positive impact on both recidivism and substance abuse. Many of the evaluations of TC programs included analyses examining the effects of participation in aftercare programs. Overall, the findings suggest ... [\(more\)](#)

20 Interventions

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

About the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Other Resources

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Ratings Key

High Rigor	Basic Rigor	
		Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
		Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
		No statistically significant findings
		Modest evidence of a harmful effect
		Strong evidence of a harmful effect

Brief Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The intervention consisted of two one-on-one motivational interviewing sessions, consistent with the principles of motivational interviewing, the approach involved expressing empathy towards the client and refraining from arguing with her.

[View Intervention Details](#)

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse

For people transitioning from incarceration back to their communities, substance abuse is often closely related to their difficulties with housing, employment, and mental health. Research on the effectiveness of various in-prison and community-based substance abuse intervention programs in improving reentry outcomes has begun to show what approaches reduce recidivism, promote public safety, and improve the lives of the formerly incarcerated and their families. However, more research is needed to develop a better understanding of what works, for whom, and under what circumstances. This section provides an overview and examination of key research on the relationship between substance abuse program participation and recidivism, substance use, employment, and mental health outcomes of those returning from incarceration.

More than 29 publications met [eligibility criteria](#), including a number of publications that evaluated therapeutic community treatment approaches. Below is general description of the trends and themes that emerged from the research review. Because therapeutic communities were the subject of a considerable number of publications reviewed, a special discussion section on these types of programs can be accessed by clicking this link to the [Therapeutic Communities summary page](#).

What the Research Says about Substance Abuse Programs

Based on a systematic review of literature published through 2010, 16 evaluations of in-prison therapeutic community (TC) programs met criteria for methodological rigor. Across these 16 studies, most found that program participation had a positive impact on both recidivism and substance abuse. Many of the evaluations of TC programs included analyses examining the effects of participation in aftercare programs. Overall, the findings suggest ... [\(more\)](#)

20 Interventions

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

About the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Other Resources

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Ratings Key		
High Rigor	Basic Rigor	
		Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
		Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
		No statistically significant findings
		Modest evidence of a harmful effect
		Strong evidence of a harmful effect

Brief Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The intervention consisted of two one-on-one motivational interviewing sessions, consistent with the principles of motivational interviewing, the approach involved expressing empathy towards the client and refraining from arguing with her.

View Intervention Details

19

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse

For people transitioning from incarceration back to their communities, substance abuse is often closely related to their difficulties with housing, employment, and mental health. Research on the effectiveness of various in-prison and community-based substance abuse intervention programs in improving reentry outcomes has begun to show what approaches reduce recidivism, promote public safety, and improve the lives of the formerly incarcerated and their families. However, more research is needed to develop a better understanding of what works, for whom, and under what circumstances. This section provides an overview and examination of key research on the relationship between substance abuse program participation and recidivism, substance use, employment, and mental health outcomes of those returning from incarceration.

More than 29 publications met [eligibility criteria](#), including a number of publications that evaluated therapeutic community treatment approaches. Below is general description of the trends and themes that emerged from the research review. Because therapeutic communities were the subject of a considerable number of publications reviewed, a special discussion section on these types of programs can be accessed by clicking this link to the [Therapeutic Communities summary page](#).

What the Research Says about Substance Abuse Programs

Based on a systematic review of literature published through 2010, 16 evaluations of in-prison therapeutic community (TC) programs met criteria for methodological rigor. Across these 16 studies, most found that program participation had a positive impact on both recidivism and substance abuse. Many of the evaluations of TC programs included analyses examining the effects of participation in aftercare programs. Overall, the findings suggest ... [\(more\)](#)

20 Interventions

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

Brief Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use

Evaluations:

1 Basic Rigor

The intervention consisted of two one-on-one motivational interviewing sessions, consistent with the principles of motivational interviewing, the approach involved expressing empathy towards the client and refraining from arguing with her.

View Intervention Details

20

- Tips/Help
- Related content
- Advanced Search
- Key
-
- Overview of Focus Area

About the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Other Resources

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Ratings Key	
High Rigor	Basic Rigor
	Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
	Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
	No statistically significant findings
	Modest evidence of a harmful effect
	Strong evidence of a harmful effect

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse

For people transitioning from incarceration back to their communities, substance abuse is often closely related to their difficulties with housing, employment, and mental health. Research on the effectiveness of various in-prison and community-based substance abuse intervention programs in improving reentry outcomes has begun to show what approaches reduce recidivism, promote public safety, and improve the lives of the formerly incarcerated and their families. However, more research is needed to develop a better understanding of what works, for whom, and under what circumstances. This section provides an overview and examination of key research on the relationship between substance abuse program participation and recidivism, substance use, employment, and mental health outcomes of those returning from incarceration.

More than 29 publications met [eligibility criteria](#), including a number of publications that evaluated therapeutic community treatment approaches. Below is general description of the trends and themes that emerged from the research review. Because therapeutic communities were the subject of a considerable number of publications reviewed, a special discussion section on these types of programs can be accessed by clicking this link to the [Therapeutic Communities summary page](#).

What the Research Says about Substance Abuse Programs

Based on a systematic review of literature published through 2010, 16 evaluations of in-prison therapeutic community (TC) programs met criteria for methodological rigor. Across these 16 studies, most found that program participation had a positive impact on both recidivism and substance abuse. Many of the evaluations of TC programs included analyses examining the effects of participation in aftercare programs. Overall, the findings suggest ... [\(more\)](#)

20 Interventions

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.

Brief Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use

Evaluations:

1 Basic Rigor

The intervention consisted of two one-on-one motivational interviewing sessions, consistent with the principles of motivational interviewing, the approach involved expressing empathy towards the client and refraining from arguing with her.

View Intervention Details

About the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Other Resources

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Ratings Key	
High Rigor	Basic Rigor
	Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
	Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
	No statistically significant findings
	Modest evidence of a harmful effect
	Strong evidence of a harmful effect

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

- Tips/Help
- Related content
- Advanced Search
- Key
- Overview of Focus Area
- General Summary of Findings

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse

For people transitioning from incarceration back to their communities, substance abuse is often closely related to their difficulties with housing, employment, and mental health. Research on the effectiveness of various in-prison and community-based substance abuse intervention programs in improving reentry outcomes has begun to show what approaches reduce recidivism, promote public safety, and improve the lives of the formerly incarcerated and their families. However, more research is needed to develop a better understanding of what works, for whom, and under what circumstances. This section provides an overview and examination of key research on the relationship between substance abuse program participation and recidivism, substance use, employment, and mental health outcomes of those returning from incarceration.

More than 29 publications met [eligibility criteria](#), including a number of publications that evaluated therapeutic community treatment approaches. Below is general description of the trends and themes that emerged from the research review. Because therapeutic communities were the subject of a considerable number of publications reviewed, a special discussion section on these types of programs can be accessed by clicking this link to the [Therapeutic Communities summary page](#).

What the Research Says about Substance Abuse Programs

Based on a systematic review of literature published through 2010, 16 evaluations of in-prison therapeutic community (TC) programs met criteria for methodological rigor. Across these 16 studies, most found that program participation had a positive impact on both recidivism and substance abuse. Many of the evaluations of TC programs included analyses examining the effects of participation in aftercare programs. Overall, the findings suggest ... [\(more\)](#)

20 Interventions

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.

Brief Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use

Evaluations:

1 Basic Rigor

The intervention consisted of two one-on-one motivational interviewing sessions, consistent with the principles of motivational interviewing, the approach involved expressing empathy towards the client and refraining from arguing with her.

View Intervention Details

About the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Other Resources

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Ratings Key	
High Rigor	Basic Rigor
	Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
	Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
	No statistically significant findings
	Modest evidence of a harmful effect
	Strong evidence of a harmful effect

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

- Tips/Help
- Related content
- Advanced Search
- Key
-
- Overview of Focus Area
- General Summary of Findings
- Interventions

Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

**San Juan County DWI
Program**

**Amity In-Prison
Therapeutic
Community**

**The California
Substance Abuse
Treatment Facility**

Etc

Jekyll, 2013

Pepper, 1999

Amity II

Hinkley,
2008

Jones,
1987

Ross, 2005

Modified
State Prison
Prog

Zaius, 2003

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

20 Interventions

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

Brief Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The intervention consisted of two one-on-one motivational interviewing sessions, consistent with the principles of motivational interviewing, the approach involved expressing empathy towards the client and refraining from arguing with her.

[View Intervention Details](#)

In-Jail Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor



These five in-jail substance abuse treatment programs, all of which were voluntary, were based on a biopsychosocial approach, and located in either California or New York; the majority were residential and offered multiple phases of treatment.

[View Intervention Details](#)

Intensive Outpatient Program and Non-Hospital Residential Program

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor



The Intensive Outpatient Programs (IOPs) involved various types of group work, including didactic educational sessions, therapeutic counseling, and relapse prevention, as well as individual counseling.

[View Intervention Details](#)

Offender Substance Abuse Pre-Release Program (OSAPP)

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor



The Correctional Service of Canada, to address the substance abuse needs of federal inmates, designed and implemented the Offender Substance Abuse Pre-Release Program (OSAPP), an in-prison program established for those with moderate to severe substance abuse problems.

- Short description of the Intervention
- Quick overview of evaluations ratings

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

20 Interventions

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

Brief Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The intervention consisted of two one-on-one motivational interviewing sessions, consistent with the principles of motivational interviewing, the approach involved expressing empathy towards the client and refraining from arguing with her.

[View Intervention Details](#)

In-Jail Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

Basic rigor: Modest evidence of effectiveness

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

These five in-jail substance abuse treatment programs, all of which were voluntary, were based on a biopsychosocial approach, and located in either California or New York; the majority were residential and offered multiple phases of treatment.

[View Intervention Details](#)

Intensive Outpatient Program and Non-Hospital Residential Program

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The Intensive Outpatient Programs (IOPs) involved various types of group work, including didactic educational sessions, therapeutic counseling, and relapse prevention, as well as individual counseling.

[View Intervention Details](#)

Offender Substance Abuse Pre-Release Program (OSAPP)

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The Correctional Service of Canada, to address the substance abuse needs of federal inmates, designed and implemented the Offender Substance Abuse Pre-Release Program (OSAPP), an in-prison program established for those with moderate to severe substance abuse problems.

- Short description of the Intervention
- Quick overview of evaluations ratings

Tour of the website: Focus Area Page, Substance Abuse

20 Interventions

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

Brief Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The intervention consisted of two one-on-one motivational interviewing sessions, consistent with the principles of motivational interviewing, the approach involved expressing empathy towards the client and refraining from arguing with her.

[View Intervention Details](#)

In-Jail Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

Basic rigor: Modest evidence of effectiveness

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

These five in-jail substance abuse treatment programs, all of which were voluntary, were based on a biopsychosocial approach, and located in either California or New York; the majority were residential and offered multiple phases of treatment.

[View Intervention Details](#)

Intensive Outpatient Program and Non-Hospital Residential Program

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The Intensive Outpatient Programs (IOPs) involved various types of group work, including didactic educational sessions, therapeutic counseling, and relapse prevention, as well as individual counseling.

[View Intervention Details](#)

Offender Substance Abuse Pre-Release Program (OSAPP)

Evaluations: 1 Basic Rigor

The Correctional Service of Canada, to address the substance abuse needs of federal inmates, designed and implemented the Offender Substance Abuse Pre-Release Program (OSAPP), an in-prison program established for those with moderate to severe substance abuse problems.

- Short description of the Intervention
- Quick overview of evaluations

Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

**San Juan County DWI
Program**

**Amity In-Prison
Therapeutic
Community**

**The California
Substance Abuse
Treatment Facility**

Etc

Jekyll, 2013

Pepper, 1999

Amity II

Hinkley,
2008

Jones,
1987







Ross, 2005

Modified
State Prison
Prog

Zaius, 2003

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse: Tour, Substance Abuse*

- Table of findings
- Introduction to intervention
- Summary of Findings/Research Quality

Outcome	Evaluated Findings
Recidivism	 
Employment	 
Substance Abuse	 

Description of Intervention

The Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP), a voluntary in-prison residential program based on the therapeutic community model, was provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to address the needs of federal inmates with documented histories of moderate to severe substance abuse problems. The core components of the program included screening and assessment, treatment orientation, criminal thinking confrontation, cognitive skill building, relapse prevention, interpersonal skill building, wellness, and transitional programming. During Phase One of the treatment, which typically lasted nine-twelve months, clients were separated from members of the general population and received services five days a week in two daily sessions, each of which lasted two hours. During Phase Two, participants returned to the general population, where they continued to receive substance abuse treatment for up to twelve months. Finally, during Phase Three, the clients were transferred from their correctional institution to a Community Corrections Center. Substance abuse treatment providers continued to provide group, individual, and/or family counseling during Phase Three.

Summary of Findings











One evaluation of the DAP program was identified and was rated at the basic level of methodological rigor. This study examined the effects of the program on both male and female inmates. Because these analyses are presented separately, there are two summaries of the study findings, one for males and one for females. However, the study methods were the same for both groups. The researchers compared a population of federal inmates who participated in, and completed, the DAP program to a group of inmates who either (1) started but did not complete DAP, (2) resided in a facility where DAP was offered, but chose not to participate, or (3) resided in a facility where DAP was not offered. To examine the program's effects on recidivism, substance use relapse, and employment outcomes over a three-year follow-up period, the researchers used three statistical approaches: "unadjusted" multivariate regression analyses, an instrumental variable approach, and the Heckman modeling approach. The latter two approaches were used to control for potential selection bias resulting from the study design, including the inclusion of program completers in the comparison group. The analyses included a wide variety of control variables, including demographic, criminal history, substance use history, treatment type, supervision, employment, and post-release habitation status variables.... [\(more\)](#)

Recommendations for Practice

- Findings indicate that the DAP program may be more effective for males than for females, possibly suggesting that gender-responsive curricula, rather than traditional programming, should be used with female inmates.

Suggestions for Future Research

- Since little can be known from a single study, additional research is needed to determine whether DAP or similar therapeutic community programs are effective with inmates in the federal prison system. In particular, given the problems of selection bias in the study reviewed here, future







Ratings Key	
High Rigor	Basic Rigor
	 Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
	 Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
	 No statistically significant findings
	 Modest evidence of a harmful effect
	 Strong evidence of a harmful effect

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse: Tour, Substance Abuse*

- Table of findings
- Introduction to intervention
- Summary of Findings/Research Quality
- Recommendations for practice
- Suggestions for future research

Outcome	Evaluated Findings
Recidivism	 
Employment	 
Substance Abuse	 

Description of Intervention

The Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP), a voluntary in-prison residential program based on the therapeutic community model, was provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to address the needs of federal inmates with documented histories of moderate to severe substance abuse problems. The core components of the program included screening and assessment, treatment orientation, criminal thinking confrontation, cognitive skill building, relapse prevention, interpersonal skill building, wellness, and transitional programming. During Phase One of the treatment, which typically lasted nine-twelve months, clients were separated from members of the general population and received services five days a week in two daily sessions, each of which lasted two hours. During Phase Two, participants returned to the general population, where they continued to receive substance abuse treatment for up to twelve months. Finally, during Phase Three, the clients were transferred from their correctional institution to a Community Corrections Center. Substance abuse treatment providers continued to provide group, individual, and/or family counseling during Phase Three.

Summary of Findings











One evaluation of the DAP program was identified and was rated at the basic level of methodological rigor. This study examined the effects of the program on both male and female inmates. Because these analyses are presented separately, there are two summaries of the study findings, one for males and one for females. However, the study methods were the same for both groups. The researchers compared a population of federal inmates who participated in, and completed, the DAP program to a group of inmates who either (1) started but did not complete DAP, (2) resided in a facility where DAP was offered, but chose not to participate, or (3) resided in a facility where DAP was not offered. To examine the program's effects on recidivism, substance use relapse, and employment outcomes over a three-year follow-up period, the researchers used three statistical approaches: "unadjusted" multivariate regression analyses, an instrumental variable approach, and the Heckman modeling approach. The latter two approaches were used to control for potential selection bias resulting from the study design, including the inclusion of program completers in the comparison group. The analyses included a wide variety of control variables, including demographic, criminal history, substance use history, treatment type, supervision, employment, and post-release habitation status variables.... [\(more\)](#)

Recommendations for Practice

- Findings indicate that the DAP program may be more effective for males than for females, possibly suggesting that gender-responsive curricula, rather than traditional programming, should be used with female inmates.

Suggestions for Future Research

- Since little can be known from a single study, additional research is needed to determine whether DAP or similar therapeutic community programs are effective with inmates in the federal prison system. In particular, given the problems of selection bias in the study reviewed here, future

Ratings Key	
High Rigor	Basic Rigor
	 Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
	 Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
	 No statistically significant findings
	 Modest evidence of a harmful effect
	 Strong evidence of a harmful effect

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

and should attempt to ensure that the same inclusion and exclusion criteria are applied to both the treatment and comparison groups. If possible, future studies should endeavor to use random assignment.

- Findings from the study reviewed here suggest that DAP was effective in improving employment outcomes for female inmates, but not in improving recidivism or substance use outcomes. Future research should explore whether these findings are accurate, and if so, the mechanisms by which the program affects employment but not other outcomes. Given that DAP is a substance abuse treatment program, it is unclear how the program could improve employment while having no effect on substance use.

2 Evaluations

Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information. [Send Us Your Feedback](#)

Pelissier et al. 2000-2003 Rigor: Basic

Program Name: Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP) (males)

Outcome Ratings:

Modest evidence of effectiveness

No evidence of an effect

Strong evidence of effectiveness

Program Summary:The Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP), a voluntary in-prison residential program based on the therapeutic community model, was provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to address the needs of federal inmates with documented histories of ...

Age Adult

Gender Men

State/Country All

Focus Area Substance Abuse

Intervention [Therapeutic Community: Bureau of Prisons' Drug Abuse Treatment Program](#)

[View Evaluation Details](#)

Pelissier et al. 2000-2003 Rigor: Basic

Outcome Ratings:

No evidence of an effect

Strong evidence of effectiveness

No evidence of an effect

Program Summary:The Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP), a voluntary in-prison residential program based on the therapeutic community model, was provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to address the needs of federal inmates with documented histories of ...

Age Adult

Gender Women

State/Country All

Focus Area Substance Abuse

Intervention [Therapeutic Community: Bureau of Prisons' Drug Abuse Treatment Program](#)

[View Evaluation Details](#)

Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

San Juan County DWI
Program

Amity In-Prison
Therapeutic
Community

The California
Substance Abuse
Treatment Facility

Etc

Jekyll, 2013

Pepper, 1999

Amity II

Hinkley,
2008

Jones,
1987

Ross, 2005

Modified
State Prison
Prog

Zaius, 2003

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

Program Name

Rigor Rating and Outcomes

Abbreviated...
Summary of program

target population

ratings

and should attempt to ensure that the same inclusion and exclusion criteria are applied to both the treatment and comparison groups. If possible, future studies should endeavor to use random assignment.

- Findings from the study reviewed here suggest that DAP was effective in improving employment outcomes for female inmates, but not in improving recidivism or substance use outcomes. Future research should explore whether these findings are accurate, and if so, the mechanisms by which the program affects employment but not other outcomes. Given that DAP is a substance abuse treatment program, it is unclear how the program could improve employment while having no effect on substance use.

2 Evaluations

[Click the header to expand/collapse to show or hide additional information.](#) [Send Us Your Feedback](#)

Pelissier et al. 2000-2003

Rigor: Basic

Program Name: Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP) (males)

Outcome Ratings:

Modest evidence of effectiveness

No evidence of an effect

Strong evidence of effectiveness

Age Adult

Gender Men

State/Country All

Focus Area Substance Abuse

Intervention [Therapeutic Community: Bureau of Prisons' Drug Abuse Treatment Program](#)

Program Summary:The Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP), a voluntary in-prison residential program based on the therapeutic community model, was provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to address the needs of federal inmates with documented histories of ...

View Evaluation Details

Pelissier et al. 2000-2003

Rigor: Basic

Outcome Ratings:

No evidence of an effect

Strong evidence of effectiveness

No evidence of an effect

Age Adult

Gender Women

State/Country All

Focus Area Substance Abuse

Intervention [Therapeutic Community: Bureau of Prisons' Drug Abuse Treatment Program](#)

Program Summary:The Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP), a voluntary in-prison residential program based on the therapeutic community model, was provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to address the needs of federal inmates with documented histories of ...

View Evaluation Details

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Substance Abuse

Program Name

Rigor Rating and Outcomes

Expanded... Summary of program

target population




Ratings

Expanded... Evaluation Design

Findings

Limitations

Sample sizes

Pelissier et al. 2000-2003		Rigor: Basic
Program Name: Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP) (males)	Age	Adult
Outcome Ratings: Modest evidence of effectiveness  No evidence of an effect  Strong evidence of effectiveness 	Gender	Men
	State/Country	All
	Focus Area	Substance Abuse
	Intervention	Therapeutic Community: Bureau of Prisons' Drug Abuse Treatment Program
Program Summary: The Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP), a voluntary in-prison residential program based on the therapeutic community model, was provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to address the needs of federal inmates with documented histories of moderate to severe substance abuse problems. The core components of the program included screening and assessment, treatment orientation, criminal thinking confrontation, cognitive skill building, relapse prevention, interpersonal skill building, wellness, and transitional programming. During Phase One of the treatment, which typically lasted 9-12 months, clients were separated from members of the general population and received services 5 days a week in 2 daily sessions, each of which lasted 2 hours. During Phase Two, participants returned to the general population, where they continued to receive substance abuse treatment for up to 12 months. Finally, during Phase Three, the clients were transferred from their correctional institution to a Community Corrections Center. Substance abuse treatment providers continued to provide group, individual, and/or family counseling during Phase Three.		
Design: The researchers conducted a quasi-experimental study in which the treatment group consisted of men who completed DAP, while the comparison group consisted of men who did not volunteer for DAP, who started DAP but did not complete it, or who were housed at facilities where DAP was not offered. The researchers measured the impact of the program on recidivism, substance use, and employment outcomes. Two statistical approaches were used to control for selection bias resulting from the inclusion of program noncompleters in the treatment group.		
Findings: Treatment group participants had lower probabilities of rearrest and revocation and demonstrated evidence of delayed time until rearrest and/or revocation combined. However, no differences were found between treatment and comparison groups with regard to only time until rearrest. The treatment group experienced a significantly longer time until 1st substance use than the comparison group. However, the program did not significantly affect either of the employment outcomes tested.		
Limitations: Program participants who did not complete DAP were included in the comparison group instead of the treatment group, and program participants were required to meet several criteria that were not applied to the comparison group. However, the researchers used statistical techniques to attempt to control for selection bias.		
Sample Size: Total N: 1,842 Treatment group: 763 Comparison group: 1,079		
Follow-Up Period: 3 years		

Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

San Juan County DWI
Program

Amity In-Prison
Therapeutic
Community

The California
Substance Abuse
Treatment Facility

Etc

Jekyll, 2013

Pepper, 1999

Amity II

Hinkley,
2008




Jones,
1987











Ross, 2005

Modified
State Prison
Prog

Zaius, 2003

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse: Tour, Substance Abuse*

Outcome	Evaluated Findings
Recidivism	
Employment	
Substance Abuse	

Ratings Key	
High Rigor	Basic Rigor
	 Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
	 Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
	 No statistically significant findings
	 Modest evidence of a harmful effect
	 Strong evidence of a harmful effect

Search What Works

[Advanced Search](#)

- Outcome Ratings

- Program Summary

- Target Population

- Methodology and limitations

- Overview of findings

- Publications Reviewed

Program Summary

The Drug Abuse Treatment Program (DAP), a voluntary in-prison residential program based on the therapeutic community model, was provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to address the needs of federal inmates with documented histories of moderate to severe substance abuse problems. The core components of the program included screening and assessment, treatment orientation, criminal thinking confrontation, cognitive skill building, relapse prevention, interpersonal skill building, wellness, and transitional programming. During Phase One of the treatment, which typically lasted 9-12 months, clients were separated from members of the general population and received services 5 days a week in 2 daily sessions, each of which lasted 2 hours. During Phase Two, participants returned to the general population, where they continued to receive substance abuse treatment for up to 12 months. Finally, during Phase Three, the clients were transferred from their correctional institution to a Community Corrections Center. Substance abuse treatment providers continued to provide group, individual, and/or family counseling during Phase Three.

Rigor

Basic

Study Population

The study population consisted of males with substance use histories who were incarcerated in the federal prison system and were released to supervision between 1992 and 1997. In order to be admitted into the program, individuals had to meet the following criteria: (1) a documented history of moderate to severe substance abuse, (2) English proficiency, (3) no record of violent behavior during incarceration, (4) no record of serious mental or physical health problems, (5) no detainer or pending charges, and (6) successful completion of the Drug Abuse Education Program (a 40-hour course that is mandatory for all inmates for whom alcohol or drug use was a factor in committing the offense that led to their incarceration, or who were recommended for substance abuse treatment by a judge). Members of the comparison group were not required to meet these criteria; however, all comparison individuals were identified as regular drug users through self-reported assessment.... [\(more\)](#)

Methodology

The researchers used a quasi-experimental design to assess the impact of DAP on recidivism, substance abuse, and employment outcomes. Out of a sample of 948 men who volunteered for DAP, 763 (80%) completed the program, while 36 dropped out, 67 received a disciplinary discharge, and 82 did not complete the program for other reasons. These treatment participants were drawn from 16 federal prisons in which DAP treatment was available. In the analyses, only those who completed the program were included as part of the treatment group. The 185 individuals who started but did not complete the program were included as part of the comparison group. The comparison group also consisted of (1) individuals who were housed at a BOP facility where the program was offered, but who did not volunteer to participate (n=451), and (2) individuals housed in BOP facilities where the program was not offered (n=443). In total, comparison group individuals were drawn from over 40 BOP facilities. The final comparison group consisted of 1,079 individuals who were compared to the 763 successful program completers.... [\(more\)](#)

Methodological Limitations

In the analyses, individuals who did not complete the program were included in the comparison group. This approach introduces selection bias, since individuals

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse: Tour, Substance Abuse*

- Outcome Ratings
- Program Summary
- Target Population
- Methodology and limitations
- Overview of findings
- Publications Reviewed

health problems, completion of the Drug Abuse Education Program, etc.), which members of the comparison group were not required to meet. Furthermore, members of the treatment group volunteered for the program, while about half of the individuals in the comparison group had the opportunity to volunteer for the program but chose not to do so, which may suggest higher levels of motivation among the treatment group. However, these limitations are mitigated by the researchers' use of the Heckman and the instrumental variable approach, which incorporated the probability of program completion. Both statistical approaches are designed to control for selection bias.

Quality of Implementation

The researchers do not provide a systematic discussion of intervention implementation. However, they do note that admission criteria and incentives for program participation changed over the course of the study.

Findings

Those who completed the program experienced better substance abuse outcomes than the comparison group, but no effects were found with respect to employment. Findings for recidivism outcomes were mixed, with some analyses showing beneficial treatment effects and others suggesting no differences between the groups.

- In the unadjusted multivariate regression model, program completers experienced a statistically significant delay in time until rearrest and/or revocation relative to the comparison group during the 3-year follow-up period. A significant treatment effect was also found after controlling for selection bias using the instrumental variable and Heckman modeling approaches ($p < .05$). Overall, the treatment group had a lower estimated probability of rearrest and/or revocation relative to the comparison group (44.3% vs. 52.5%).
- When examining the time until an arrest for a new offense only (not a supervision revocation), all 3 statistical approaches indicated that program completion did not have a statically significant impact.
- Relative to the comparison group, program completers experienced a statistically significant delay with regards to time until an alcohol or substance abuse relapse during the 3-year follow-up period. This finding was supported by all 3 statistical approaches (the unadjusted, instrumental variable, and Heckman models).
- None of the models found a significant treatment impact on either of the employment outcomes examined.

Publications Reviewed

Pelissier, B., S. Camp, G. Gaes, W. Rhodes, & W. Saylor. (n.d.) "Federal Prison Residential Drug Treatment: A Comparison of Three-Year Outcomes For Men and Women." Washington, DC: Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Pelissier, B., W. Rhodes, W. Saylor, G. Gaes, S.D. Camp, S.D. Vanyur, & S. Wallace. (2000). TRIAD Drug Treatment Evaluation Project: Final Report of Three-Year Outcomes: Part 1. Washington, DC: Federal Bureau of Prisons, Office of Research and Evaluation.

Pelissier, B., G. Gaes, W. Saylor, S. Camp, & S. Wallace. (2001). "Alternative Solutions to the Problem of Selection Bias in an Analysis of Federal Residential Drug Treatment Programs." *Evaluation Review* 25(3): 331-369.

Pelissier, B., W. Rhodes, W. Saylor, G. Gaes, S. Camp, S.D. Vanyur, & S. Wallace. (2001). "Triad Drug Treatment Evaluation Project." *Federal Probation* 65(3): 3-7.

Pelissier, B., S. Wallace, J.A. O'Neil, G.G. Gaes, S. Camp, W. Rhodes, & W. Saylor. (2002). "Federal Prison Residential Drug Treatment Reduces Substance Use and Arrests After Release." *American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse* 27(2): 315-337.

Pelissier, B.M.M., S.D. Camp, G.G. Gaes, W.S. Saylor, & W. Rhodes. (2003). "Gender Differences in Outcomes from Prison-Based Residential Treatment." *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment* 24(2): 149-160.

Characteristics of the *Clearinghouse*: Tour, Advanced Search

- Intervention / Evaluations
- Keyword + filters
- Customizability increases as amount of content increases
- Sort according to various criteria

[What Works](#) » [Search](#)

Search for: ☐ Interventions ☒ Evaluations

Keyword:

Focus Areas

- ☐ Brand Name Programs
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Mental Health

Rigor

- ☐ High
- ☐ Basic

Age

- ☐ Juvenile
- ☐ Adult
- ☐ Mixed
- ☐ Unspecified

Gender

- ☐ Men
- ☐ Women
- ☐ Mixed
- ☐ Unspecified

State/Country:

All
Unspecified
Alabama
Alaska

Ratings Key

High Rigor	Basic Rigor	
		Strong evidence of a beneficial effect
		Modest evidence of a beneficial effect
		No statistically significant findings
		Modest evidence of a harmful effect
		Strong evidence of a harmful effect

42 Evaluations match [Show All](#)

Click "View Evaluation Details" button to find additional information

Sort By

[Send Us Your Feedback](#)

Bohmert, Duwe, and Minnesota Department of Corrections 2010, 2011

Rigor: High

Program Name: Affordable Homes Program (AHP)

Age Adult

Gender Men

State/Country Minnesota

Focus Area Employment

Intervention [Affordable Homes Program \(Construction Training and Experience\)](#)

Outcome Ratings:

No evidence of an effect ☐

Modest evidence of effectiveness

Program Summary: The Affordable Homes Program (AHP), as implemented by the Minnesota Department of Corrections with the assistance of non-profit agencies, is an intervention designed to provide practical, construction-related experience to minimum-security inmates, ...

[View Evaluation Details](#)

Gehring, Van Voorhis, & Bell 2010

Rigor: Basic

Age Adult

Goals of today's presentation

Purpose of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Characteristics of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Key Findings from Newest Sections

Using the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

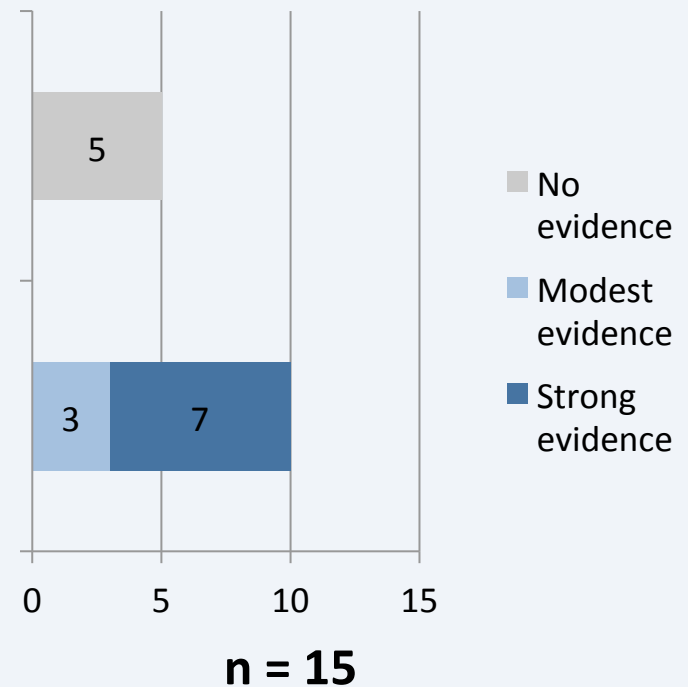
Substance Abuse Studies

- Reviewed 415 publications evaluating substance abuse programs, including:
 - Therapeutic communities (TCs) and modified TCs
 - Case management and service referrals
 - Inpatient treatment programs
 - Outpatient treatment programs
 - Unique/“brand name” programs

Therapeutic Communities

- 16 studies met eligibility criteria
 - 6 rated as High rigor
 - 10 rated as Basic rigor
- 15 of the 16 studies tested effects on recidivism
 - 10 (67%) found evidence of an effect
 - 7 found strong evidence of an effect
 - 3 found modest evidence of an effect
 - 5 found no effect

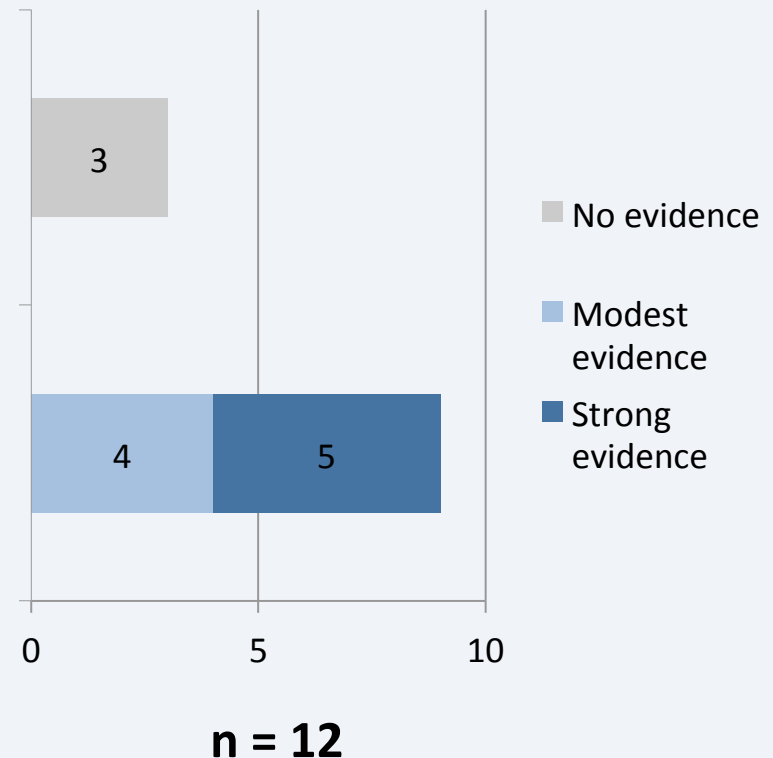
Studies Finding Effects on Recidivism Outcomes



Therapeutic Communities, cont.

- 12 of the 16 studies tested substance use effects
 - 9 (75%) found evidence of an effect
 - 5 found strong evidence of an effect
 - 4 found modest evidence of an effect
 - 3 found no effect

**Studies Finding Effects on
Substance Use Outcomes**



Therapeutic Communities, cont.

- Gender-specific effects
 - 6 studies tested effects of TCs with women
 - 3 tested impacts of standard/traditional TCs on female clients
 - All found no effect on recidivism
 - 3 tested impacts of programs specifically designed for women
 - All found beneficial effects on recidivism
 - One found that gender-responsive treatment is more effective than standard TC
- **Conclusion: TC treatment should be gender-responsive**

Other Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

- Most studies of non-TC substance abuse treatment programs (9/12) show beneficial effects on recidivism
- However, all but 2 of the programs have been evaluated only once
 - Difficult to draw conclusions

Other Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

Program Name	Recidivism Rating
San Juan County (NM) DWI Program	Strong evidence
Cognitive-behavioral in-prison treatment (OSAPP, Canadian program)	Strong evidence
Social support treatment for parolees in Maryland	Strong evidence
Turning Point DWI Program (Ohio)	Modest evidence
Residential jail-based treatment (NY & CA)	Modest evidence
Drug Offender Sentence Alternative (Washington state)	Modest evidence

Other Substance Abuse Treatment Programs, cont.

Program Name	Recidivism Rating
Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (Colorado) – Study 1	Modest evidence
Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (Colorado) – Study 2	No evidence
Counseling and case management aftercare program in Baltimore (compared to standard outpatient treatment alone)	No evidence
Victim Impact Panels for DWI offenders (compared to DWI program alone)	No evidence

Implications: Substance Abuse Programs

- 2/3rds of studies found that TCs reduce recidivism
 - Gender-responsive TCs more effective for women
 - Research needed specific program components
- Most substance abuse programs show beneficial effects, but typically only evaluated once; replication needed

Key Findings: Family

Family

- Dearth of studies on impact of family programs
- Most lack post-release outcomes (e.g., recidivism or employment).
- Visitation Programs – 3 studies, all basic level of rigor
 - Private Family Visiting (PFV) Program
 - Canada, federal
 - Conjugal visits
 - In-Prison Visitation
 - Canada, federal
 - Regular visits
 - In-Prison Visitation – Florida
- Two studies found modest impact on recidivism; one found strong evidence
- Reinforces importance of family-friendly visitation policies
- Much more research is needed

Goals of today's presentation

Purpose of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Characteristics of the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

Key Findings from Newest Sections

Using the *What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse*

For Programs, Agencies, Policymakers

A tool for improving quality of programs and policies

- Makes research accessible
- Can expedite literature review and research for proposals and reports
- Provides information on effective programs/practices
- Can be used to inform policies to support new strategies
- Provides a kind of baseline for comparing outcomes

For TA Providers/Experts

A tool for improving quality of services and knowledgebase

- Quick and easy access to research.
- Used for training and education
- Helpful to grant proposals
- Assists in engaging stakeholders and funders
- Can be used as a baseline for tracking and comparing outcomes

For Funders/Funding-decisions

A tool improve the quality of applicants

- Requiring/give priority consideration to applicants that cite research from the WWRC and/or demonstrate use of the WWRC can ensure quality applications
- Can be used as a kind of baseline for comparing outcomes

For Researchers/Academics

A tool for synthesizing research and identifying gaps in research

- Summarizes, analyzes, and synthesizes findings from high quality research
- Provides recommendations on tackling new issues
- Provides recommendations on improving research
- Provides a basis for comparing research and findings across multiple domains
- Can help expedite a literature review

How can you use the site?

Strategies for using the site?

Tracking and measuring success?

How to get there?

<http://whatworks.csgjusticecenter.org/>

Who to contact?

Hank Rosen: hrosen@csg.org

Nancy La Vigne, PhD: nlavigne@urban.org

Hannah Dodd: hdodd@urban.org