



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT TO THE 2016 LEGISLATURE

HRS 367D-008
GENDER RESPONSIVE COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMS
FOR WOMEN

Department of Public Safety
Corrections Program Services Division
December 2015

INTRODUCTION

The 2006 Hawaii State Legislature mandated through §367D-2 that the Department of Public Safety (PSD) foster a gender responsive environment by providing model gender-responsive programs for female offenders that are responsive to statewide needs and geographical areas and shall award contracts for programs subject to funding by the Legislature. The gender-responsive environment and programs shall:

- (1) Respond in a rehabilitative way to the type of offense female offenders generally commit and address pathways to crime;
- (2) Respond to the problems of female offenders with dependent children;
- (3) Respond to the importance of developing self-determination through independent living and marketable job skills;
- (4) Assist female offenders in overcoming their own extreme degree of dependency by developing and fostering strong and healthy relationships without losing self-esteem;
- (5) Respond appropriately to the specific health care needs of women, including but not limited to mental health and substance abuse services;
- (6) Offer transitional support for female offenders and their families to promote successful reentry into their families and communities; and
- (7) Offer technical assistance and training toward the implementation of other similar programs.

This report is being submitted in response to §367D-8 which requires PSD to report on the following areas: program descriptions, type and costs of contracts made, name of the private agency awarded each contract, and the success of each contract in meeting program specifications. The statute also requires that this report detail the development of the comprehensive continuum of care to address gender-responsive needs of Hawaii's female offenders, the existing gaps in the system and include recommendations for resources needed to reach a continuum of care.

Contracted Programs for Incarcerated Women Program Descriptions

Women's Community Correctional Center

Culinary Arts Program - provides a quality education in the culinary arts. There were 3 modules covered:

- Module 1: Introduction to Culinary Industry
- Module 2: Fundamentals of Cookery
- Module 3: Intermediate Cookery

This program was provided through a Memorandum of Agreement with Kapi'olani Community College. The total cost for the Culinary Arts Program was approximately \$97,500 for delivery and materials for the 3 modules.

Recommendation: The Culinary Arts Program was reduced to being offered once per year due to budget reductions. The funding should be restored to allow the program to be offered twice per year.

Facilities Maintenance Program - consists of three training modules designed to prepare students interested in entering careers in the facility maintenance or construction trade industries. The program provides instruction in carpentry skills; removing and installing electrical devices; removing, installing and repairing plumbing fixtures; installing and repairing drywall; basic masonry repair; and painting. "Green" construction techniques were incorporated into the curriculum. The program is made up of the following training modules:

Module 1: Rough Carpentry, Drywall and Surface Finishes

Module 2: Electricity and Plumbing Fundamentals

Module 3: Service Learning Project

This program was provided through a Memorandum of Agreement with Windward Community College – Community and Career Education. The total cost for the Facilities Maintenance Program was approximately \$48,000 for delivery and cost of materials.

Recommendation: There have been very few women who have been able to complete the entire program and receive certification. The program should continue to be evaluated for another year.

I-CAN Program (Individualized Career Achievement Network) – is a fast-track career and workforce student support program designed to help students improve their reading, writing, math, and computer skills in preparation for a new career. Students have the option to receive career readiness training through a workplace-contextualized curriculum and achieve a National Career Readiness Certificate or to prepare for a college entry placement test.

This program was provided through a Memorandum of Agreement with Windward Community College – Community and Career Education. The cost for the I-CAN Program was \$600 to cover the cost of materials for every course offering. The delivery cost was paid by the Community Colleges Career Training (C3T) grant through Windward Community College - Community and Career Education. It was offered 4 times last fiscal year for a total cost of \$2,400.

Recommendation: The cost of this program is minimal, but the possible benefits are great. The program should continue to be evaluated for another year.

Mother Read (Level II-Parenting) – is a family empowerment and literacy program sponsored by the Hawaii Council for the Humanities. All parents are welcome, including average and poor readers. Participants can improve their parenting skills and learn how to make reading with their children a family experience that is fun and educationally rewarding. Through a variety of books, parents strengthen reading skills, communication with their children, and family bonds. Parents find that through participation in the Mother Read class, they can also help their children become better students.

This program was provided through a purchase of service with Hawaii Council for the Humanities. The total cost of the program was \$6,000.

Recommendation: This program strengthens strong bonds between mothers and children. The current funding should continue; however, the program should be evaluated to see the need for an increase in future funding.

Lifestyles for Women – is a comprehensive transition skills training program planned to provide assessments, cognitive skills, job development, job placement, transition services, and intensive re-entry services. The program uses social education and skills training to assist inmates to recognize behavior patterns so the making of errors and unintended consequences are minimized. This training program has four phases:

- Phase I – Cognitive Skills Training
- Phase II – Life Skills Training
- Phase III – Self-directed Job Search
- Phase IV – Personal Transition Planning

This program was provided through a contract with WorkNet along with the Women in Transition program at Oahu Community Correctional Center. The total contract was for \$50,000.

Recommendation: This program is the remnants of the Intensive Reentry Program that was originally funded by the 2006 Hawaii Legislature. The Department will determine if funds are available for continuation of this program.

Road Map to Success – provides a framework for developing a business plan tailored to the needs of the participants’ business. It presents a way of thinking about the participants’ business, their life, and the interrelationship between the two. This perspective has several principles, all of which, when taken to heart and practiced, guides the women toward making the necessary changes to create a business that truly works and gives them “more life.”

It includes real life situational application, case studies, techniques for carrying out situational analyses, and useful analytical instruments. In addition, a learning guide is provided for the course. Participants are evaluated based on their participation and business plan completion. At the end of this 8-week course, the participants are able to understand the principles of business, outline the specific details about what their company’s expectations are for meeting their identified goals, and finalize a business plan.

This program was provided through a purchase of service with Kona Mann. The total cost was \$6,000.

Recommendation: This program teaches entrepreneurship and is only being offered once per year. The Department will determine if funds are available to continue this program.

Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment (Level II) - provides Level II substance abuse treatment services utilizing a component lasting 44 hours over a 3 to 6 month period and is based on an evidence-based cognitive-behavioral therapy curriculum. Level II services are for inmates who are at lower risk for criminal conduct and meet diagnostic criteria for substance abuse or dependency.

The services are offered to male and female incarcerated inmates through a purchase of service contract of \$302,790 with The Salvation Army.

Recommendation: The services should continue to be provided under one contract for male and female inmates.

Intensive Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment (Level II.5) - consists of daily, 2 to 3 hour group sessions, 4 days per week with accompanying individual counseling sessions as needed. Staff utilizes the Change Companies' Residential Drug Abuse Program, which is an evidenced based, cognitive-behavioral curriculum. The duration of the program is approximately 9 months to completion. Each group is a closed ended group with a maximum of 15 women per group. Assessment and treatment planning, individual and family counseling, aftercare services, and other types of gender responsive issues are provided for each participant.

PSD was successful in developing and implementing an IOP program at the Women's Community Correctional Center, known as O Malama, by utilizing an existing qualified staff member to administer the program.

Recommendation: Available staff offices and program space are a constant challenge at the Women's Community Correctional Center. Continued efforts to overcome these challenges are vital in maintaining a complete array of treatment options for high-risks offenders with histories of chemical dependencies.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (Level III) – is an in-house therapeutic community (TC) of 50-bed capacity, known as Ke Alaula, that is operated by Hina Mauka Inc. through a purchase of service agreement with PSD at a cost of \$322,000 per year. The program is an intensive long-term, 9 to 12 month program.

Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment and Social Learning Theory combine to address criminal thinking and behavior. As the TC residents live and work together, separated from the general population, they hold each other accountable to practice recovery skills and change their criminal thinking and behavior. Specialized services are also provided in the area of sexual and physical abuse, domestic violence, criminality and other types of gender responsive issues.

Recommendation: The contract amount for these services have not changed for several years in spite of increases in operational cost by the vendor. The recommendation is to increase funds by at least \$100,000 to avoid any reductions in services. The Department will determine if funds are available to prevent any reduction in these services.

Olomana Bridge Program - is a residential substance abuse reentry, work furlough program for inmates who have completed IOP, or residential substance abuse treatment while incarcerated. The program provides opportunities to practice social learning, cognitive, and recovery skills learned in treatment while transitioning to the community. Family therapy, psychological, and job development services are provided as the inmate re-connects with family and community resources.

Recommendation: This program is delivered by qualified civil service employees. The services should continue to be provided.

Psychological Services For Co-Occuring Female Offenders - provide integrated treatment services to female offenders with co-occurring disorders. Due to the chronic and relapsing course of severe mental illness and substance use disorders, a comprehensive range of services is required during the course of the offender's participation in the program. Treatment includes greater use of individualized counseling, greater emphasis on psycho-educational and supportive approaches. During FY 2015, PSD entered into a contract of \$36,000 with a qualified private vendor to provide services to women with co-occurring disorders.

Recommendation: This program is the only program offered to female offenders with co-occurring disorders. The services should continue to be provided.

Correctional Work Furlough and Halfway House Program For Women Inmates on Oahu - The program is designed to provide up to 30 re-entry beds and halfway house services to women offenders transitioning to the community from the Women's Community Correctional Center. The intent of the program is to successfully reintegrate female offenders through a supportive environment that reduces the chances of re-offending while strengthening the participants family and community support system and enhancing their ability to be productive members of society.

The goal of this program for female offenders is to develop necessary skills for pro-social independent living and to promote a drug free lifestyle. The transitional program provides for gender responsive issues, cognitive restructuring, relapse prevention, vocation/employment services, family therapy, health care, domestic violence and sexual abuse services.

PSD executed a new contract of one million ninety thousand (\$1,000,090) with the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) Fernhurst for the delivery of the gender responsive transitional services through their Ka Hale Ho'ala Hou No Na Wahine program.

Recommendation: This community program is in its inaugural year in servicing this contract. However, the association has the leadership, national presence, and consulting to be highly successful in assisting female inmates with transitioning into the community. This program is required to provide services without any consideration for the rising cost of living in Hawaii. Although the department provided an additional \$100,000 to defer some of the rising costs, the number of bed spaces were maintained below the full amount to prevent exceeding the contract budget. The recommendation is to continue funding the increase of the contract per year to address the state's rising cost of living. The services should continue to be provided.

Hawaii Community Correctional Center

Essential Career Skills – This program is presented as an ongoing course for students who do not meet minimum writing and/or reading requirements to effectively gain and/or maintain housing, employment, or other essential services. The focus of the course is on applying critical reading skills for organizing, analyzing, and retaining material and developing written work appropriate to the audience, purpose, situation, and length of assignment. The course integrates preparation in basic applied reading skills and writing in a variety of applied formats. This is a non-graded course with a certificate issued for attendance after 18 hours.

This program was provided through a purchase of service with Mr. Doug Capogrossi. The total cost of delivery was \$15,000.00.

Recommendation: The effectiveness of this program should continue to be evaluated for another year.

Maui Community Correctional Center

Life Skills-Women – This program is based on the tenets of the well-researched National Institute for Literacy (NIFL) product: Equipped for the Future Content (EFF) Standards. The following skills and defining standards, as set forth in EFF, provide the framework for educating adult learners for their life roles in the family, the workforce, and the community:

- a. Communication – read with understanding, convey ideas in writing, speak so others can understand, listen actively and observe critically
- b. Decision-making – use math to solve problems and communicate, solve problems and make decisions, and plan
- c. Interpersonal – cooperate with others, advocate and influence, resolve conflict and negotiate, and guide others, and
- d. Lifelong learning – take responsibility for learning, reflect and evaluate, learn through research and use information and communications technology. Students are further encouraged to read as much as possible to expand vocabulary. Maui Friends of the Library provides teachers with free used books and magazines to be able to acquire an abundance of reading material according to interests, reading levels, and availability.

This program was provided through a purchase of service with Ms. Joanna Barnes. The total cost of delivery was \$26,000.00.

Recommendation: The effectiveness of this program should continue to be evaluated for another year.

Oahu Community Correctional Center

Women in Transition – the purpose and mission of this program are to address the transitional needs of youthful offenders aged twenty-two and under who are detained at Oahu Community Correctional Center and have the potential to be released into the community through electronic

monitoring, supervised release, sentenced to probation, or released having completed their sentencing term. These programs address the psychosocial, vocational, and academic needs of young offenders beginning pre-release and continuing through post-release transition. Without these programs, youthful offenders would be left to manage their own lives with little or no preparation or guidance.

These comprehensive programs are designed to support and encourage the clients to successfully complete their GED academic courses, to motivate them to initiate and/or complete substance abuse treatment services, to provide mentoring that assists them with developing independent living skills, and to provide guidance and support in gaining and sustaining meaningful employment.

This program was provided through a \$50,000 contract with WorkNet, which included the Lifestyles for Women program at WCCC.

Recommendation: This program is the remnants of the Intensive Reentry Program. The Department will determine if funds are available for the continuation of this program.

CONCLUSION

§367D-8 also mandates that the report details the development of the comprehensive continuum of care to address the gender-responsive needs of Hawaii's female offenders and highlight the existing gaps in the system and include recommendations for resources needed to reach a seamless continuum of care and other relevant information concerning the creation of a gender responsive environment for female offenders. Although the Department has made piece-meal gains in promoting a variety of evidence-based programs to assist female offenders as they navigate through the Re-entry process, the sustainability of these programs are still reliant on available funds to contract services from private providers that may have the resources and qualified expertise to deliver effective programming.