



Innovative Programming Grants Shine with Creativity and Inspiration

➔ Rehabilitative programming is a key component of the continuum of care offered by the Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP) to inmates housed in State institutions. Beyond the regular programs offered by DRP, some inmates are also able to participate in beneficial programs provided by volunteers. However, not all institutions receive a large number of volunteers.

This past October, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) announced a total of \$3 million will be awarded to selected volunteer organizations for Innovative Programming Grants in the fiscal year 2016-17.

GRANTS CRITERIA

Grant funding is available on a one time basis. Volunteer and not-for-profit organizations that currently offer programs in State institutions are eligible to apply if they focus on offender responsibility and restorative justice principles, and have demonstrated success.

The funding is intended to provide the recipient organizations with the necessary resources to replicate current successful

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programs at one or more institutions. At the end of the grant period, recipients are expected to have implemented a program(s), and developed additional volunteer resources and/or outside funding. Additionally, the programs are to be sustainable without additional funding from CDCR. The selection process for grant money is currently underway. Funding will span from March 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

GRANTS IN ACTION

The remainder of this article will highlight some of the volunteer organizations whose programs were expanded into other institutions as a result of this grant.

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DIRECTOR'S FAREWELL MESSAGE



DRP Director Millicent Tidwell

"I must say that this is a bittersweet moment for me as I have enjoyed working with everyone at CDCR. Over the past several years, I have seen DRP's mission evolve into something greater than what is written on paper or displayed on our website. What CDCR is doing is impacting the lives of offenders as well as assisting in enhancing public safety.

We have come a long way but CDCR must continue to keep the momentum going to help inmates and parolees to successfully reintegrate into their communities and live a life with purpose. I am confident with the current group of hardworking staff and partnerships we have developed over the years, CDCR will continue to strive toward these efforts.

Thank you for your dedication and tireless efforts. I am honored to have had the privilege to work with such a wonderful group of people."

Rehabilitation Professional of the Year!



AGPA Matika Rawls receiving her award from CDCR Secretary Jeffrey Beard

➔ Associate Governmental Program Analyst (AGPA) Matika Rawls from the Office of Correctional Education (OCE), is the Rehabilitation Professional of the Year for 2015. Ms. Rawls is being recognized for her dedication, work ethic and outstanding customer service in the Career Technical Education Unit of OCE, where she supports the teachers and principals in the institutional schools.

The Rehabilitation Professional of the Year award is one of the categories in the Employee Recognition Program that honors the outstanding performance of employees and are selected by CDCR executives. This award and other award categories were given during the 2015 Medal of Valor Ceremony held in September. ■

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THE PLACE FOR GRACE

The Father2Child Literacy Project is a family centered literacy program run by The Place for Grace. Incarcerated fathers are filmed reading books out loud to their children, then a DVD recording and the book are mailed to the children.

Inmates have the opportunity to sign up for filming sessions which occurs every six weeks. Program volunteers clear inmates of any child-contact restrictions prior to scheduling filming. Filming sessions encompass inmates choosing a book to read to their child(ren) from a broad selection of



Inmate reading children's book, "Who's That Baby?" for his child

books suitable for various age ranges. Up to 50 inmates per session can be recorded and inmates can sign up for as many sessions as they would like. Over the last four years, the Father2Child Literacy Project has sent nearly 2,200 books to the children of incarcerated fathers. For many fathers, this is the first story they have ever read to their child.

To measure program effectiveness, surveys were sent to the caregivers of children who received these books. Survey results indicated that 86% of the children began to read more as a result of getting books from their fathers. Moreover, institution staff reported an increase in participation in both literacy and parenting programs as a result of an inmate's participation in the Father2Child Literacy program. The grant money allowed volunteers to expand the program to High Desert State Prison, Ironwood State Prison, and Chuckwalla Valley State Prison. For more information contact: Karen McDaniel, Executive Director at theplace4grace@yahoo.com.

INSIGHT GARDEN PROGRAM (IGP)

IGP facilitates an innovative curriculum combined with vocational gardening and landscaping training. This program can help inmates reconnect with themselves, their community, and the natural world. What differentiates IGP from other prison garden programs is a classroom and hands-on gardening component.

The classroom curriculum was designed using the latest neuroscience research on learning strategies that can encourage behavioral change. IGP's holistic classroom and gardening approach is four semesters long covering the following topics:

1. ecological view of the interconnectedness of all life from a systems perspective
2. permaculture food gardening skills
3. "inner gardening" behavioral tools to build emotional intelligence
4. life and work skills focused on accountability, responsibility and leadership



Inmates harvesting onions from IGP's vegetable garden at California State Prison - San Quentin

After two semesters in the classroom, inmates begin their hands-on experience building the garden in conjunction with the rest of the classroom curriculum. IGP is continuing to develop long-term collaborative relationships with organizations to ensure that IGP graduates receive a continuum of care for employment assistance, mentoring, and other support services. This program has been expanded to California State Prison - Los Angeles and California Medical Facility as a result of the Innovative Programming Grant. For more information contact: Beth Waitkus, Executive Director at beth@insightgardenprogram.org.

Reentry begins the first day of incarceration.

Academic Education

Increasing an inmate's proficiency to the 9th grade reading level, and achieving a GED or high school diploma. Access to college courses also available.

Arts-in-Corrections

Programs in theater, dance, music and art instill pro-social behavior, self-esteem and problem solving skills.

CAL-ID Card Program

Assists in obtaining state-issued California identification cards used to secure employment, housing, bank accounts, travel, and more.

Career Technical Education

Prepares inmates for viable vocational career paths upon release by training to industry certification levels.

Cognitive Behavioral Treatment

Provides evidence-based treatment for substance abuse, anger management, family relationships and criminal thinking.

Long-Term Offender Pilot Program

Provides evidenced-based treatment programming in criminogenic behavior to inmates serving long-term sentences.

Offender Mentor Certification

Trains and certifies long-term inmates as interns to assist as mentors in various substance abuse treatment programs.

Transitions

Provides job readiness skills, including job search, resume, interviewing, financial skills and access to career centers.

Reentry Hubs

Provides relevant training and services to eligible and interested inmates within four years of release.

Step Down Program

Provides alternatives to a criminal gang lifestyle to reduce confinement in Security Housing Units (SHU).

Single Level and Multi-Level Substance Abuse Treatment

Promotes positive social behavior and helps inmates develop the knowledge and skills necessary to avoid substance use relapse and successfully reintegrate back into the community, through single and multi-level substance abuse treatment programs.

"Programs that focus on the rehabilitation of inmates have proven to reduce recidivism substantially, we hope to continue to expand the positive influence of these programs to prisons that have fewer volunteer resources." — **CDCR Secretary Jeffrey Beard.** ■

When you make it hard to do the right thing, you make it easy to do the wrong thing.

Computer Literacy Learning Centers (CLLC)

Offers computer-based courses provided by certified instructors for basic reading, writing and math.

Day Reporting Centers (DRC) and Community-Based Coalition (CBC)

Addresses parolees' needs through assessment and placement in classes and support services. One stop shop for education, life skills, financial and employment training, substance abuse and counseling. Some transitional housing available.

Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program (FOTEP)

Provides gender-responsive residential treatment services for women and their children.

Parolee Service Centers (PSC)

Provides group and family reunification, life skills and employment skills in a residential program.

Residential Multi-Service Centers (RMSC)

Helps at-risk parolees transition back into the community with housing, substance abuse treatment and independent living skills.

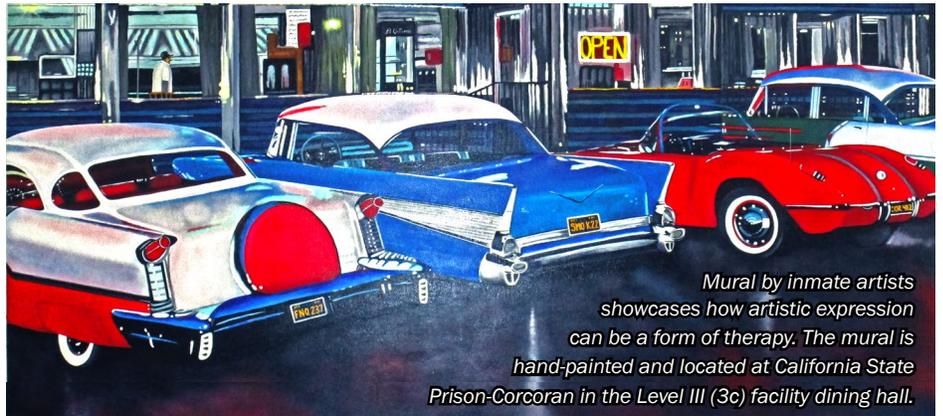
Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP)

Provides comprehensive residential and outpatient programs and services supporting parolees needs for housing, substance abuse treatment, cognitive behavioral intervention, employment, education, family relations and community referrals.

Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Program (STAR)

Provides substance abuse treatment education by certified instructors in select parole offices.

Rehabilitation in Art: CSP-Corcoran Mural



Mural by inmate artists showcases how artistic expression can be a form of therapy. The mural is hand-painted and located at California State Prison-Corcoran in the Level III (3c) facility dining hall.

Rehabilitative Advancements Spotlight: eReaders

OCE Teacher Testimonial:

"eReaders dovetail with actual textbooks to provide the opportunity for continuing education and improve the function of distributing textbooks in a more efficient manner; it can create a series of goals for the inmates such as completing their GED to take college courses and have access to an eReader."



eReader Key Features:

1. Clear case with gorilla glass for durability
2. No wireless chip or ports; safe from connecting to the Internet
3. Supports .pdf, .txt and epub formats for eBooks.
4. 16GB storage space; holds multiple books

➔ eReaders help offenders achieve milestone credits with increased access to college curriculum textbooks. These tablets are pre-loaded with Voluntary Education Program (VEP) textbooks and are provided to inmates enrolled in VEP college courses. ▣

DRP Employee Recognition Awards: 2nd Quarter Winners!

➔ DRP's Recognition Awards Program (RAP) recognizes the extraordinary efforts of employees who support DRP's rehabilitative initiatives to reduce recidivism. Staff are nominated quarterly by their management and peers, and the DRP executive team select the winners. ▣



AGPA Debbie Wells from the Office of Program Accountability and Support and AGPA Ashley Peele, Community and Reentry Services pictured with DRP Director Millicent Tidwell (center).



DRP In-Prison Programs field staff winner Correctional Counselor III, Jennifer Cota at Pleasant Valley State Prison.

Rehabilitation Highlight Reel for 2015



1. OCE Librarians at the American Librarian Association 2015 Conference, recruiting for future institution librarians. **2.** DRP and California Men’s Colony staff showing support and teamwork for the 2015 Special Olympics Torch Run. **3.** DRP Headquarters staff members at Folsom State Prison to see rehabilitative programming in action. **4.** DRP OPAS staff members dressed to impress at the quarterly Director’s Stakeholder Advisory Group meeting held last August 2015.



We love story ideas! If you have an article idea or photo that you would like to see in *Rehabilitation Today*, please send details to: rehab.today@cdcr.ca.gov

REHABILITATIVE ADVANCEMENTS

ARCAID Machines

Automated Rehabilitation Catalog and Information Discovery Machines enable offenders to find community-based rehabilitative programs and resources via self-serve information kiosks in parole offices (and coming soon to Reentry Hubs).



ARMS

The Automated Reentry Management System enhances case management for CDCR and contracted program providers, streamlining data collection while improving measurement of program performance and offender progress.



eReaders

Helps offenders achieve milestone credits with increased access to college curriculum textbooks. Tablets, pre-loaded with Voluntary Education Program (VEP) textbooks, are provided to inmates enrolled in VEP college courses.



Law Library Touch Screen Technology

Provides Administrative Segregation Unit inmates with electronic touch-screen access to the Gilmore Law Collection as mandated by Casey v. Lewis court case. This also reduces time and costs required to escort high security inmates to the library.



Internet Protocol Television Integration

Supports adult education on multiple-channel television networks for inmates, using more efficient technology and increased opportunities for milestone credit achievement.



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