Serious Violent Reentry Initiative (SVORI) Reentry Projects for Inmates with Serious Mental Illness

The National GAINS Center for Systemic Change for Justice-Involved People with Mental Illness

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In 2003, the U.S. Departments of Justice (DOJ), Labor (DOL), Education (DOEd), Housing and Urban Development (DHUD), and Health and Human Services (DHHS), funded 69 grantees to implement reentry programs for persons returning to communities from correctional institutions.

The Serious and Violent Reentry Initiative (SVORI) provided funding to develop reentry strategies focusing on the safety of the community and the reduction of serious, violent crime. Grants to all 50 States, plus the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands received a total of approximately \$110 million to develop new or expand existing programs offering integrated supervision and reentry services to adults or juveniles leaving correctional facilities. The goal of the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI) is to reduce the likelihood of re-incarceration by providing tailored supervision and services to improve the odds for a successful transition to the community. Grantees were permitted to target juvenile and /or adult offenders considered to be a high risk for recidivism who are returning from commitment in a state training school, juvenile, or adult correctional facility, or where appropriate, a residential treatment facility.

The National GAINS Center through a partnership with Caliber Associates developed the accompanying matrix that describes the 11 SVORI Reentry Projects that include offenders with serious mental illnesses returning to the community. Serious Mental Illness (SMI) is defined as a diagnosable mental disorder found in persons aged 18 years and older that is so long lasting and severe that it seriously interferes with a person's ability to take part in major life activities (Source: SAMHSA).We hope that this information will facilitate contacts across states and stimulate more programming for this population. For more information about the SVORI evaluation component, please visit http://www.svori-evaluation.org.

| Colorado's program is using grant funds to develop and imple- which will target 205 serious and violent offenders each year. This includes 60 adult offenders returning to the Denver area, 25 adult offenders with mental illness and County of Denver. Most of the offenders in this Colorado program have co- occurring substance use and mental disorders and there- fore are at high risk for violence, re-offense, and technical violations of parole conditions. | Adults / Male and Female offenders Persons with SMI included | Mental health treatment Substance abuse treatment Housing Faith-based support services Mentoring |
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| The is a collaboration of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services with the Department of Correc- | | |

| Minnesota's provides institutional and community- Hennepin County. Participants are randomly selected and must volunteer to participate. for orientation and treatment plan development. Phase informal social control, including informal self-assessments to determine needed services. Mental health agency case managers work with all offenders diagnosed with SMI to connect them with avail- able services. | Adults / Male and Female offenders Persons with SMI included | Community support services training Family support services Housing assistance Incentive-based programming |
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