# **2023** PROGRAM OUTCOMES NEW JERSEY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTERS (CRC)



# FACILITIES

Elizabeth CRC Neptune CRC North Brunswick CRC Pleasantville CRC Vineland CRC

## AGENCY

New Jersey State Parole Board

## POPULATION

Individuals on Parole

# **PROGRAM SUMMARY**

In New Jersey, GEO Reentry Services provides comprehensive treatment programs tailored to meet individual participant's risk and needs. At the foundation of our treatment is evidence-based programming designed to address criminogenic needs as identified through the assessment process. The program model at the New Jersey CRCs includes individual assessments and treatment plans, Moral Reconation Therapy<sup>®</sup> (MRT), an intensive employment program, anger management, life skills groups, Thinking for a Change (T4C), WRAT5 educational testing, and community resource referrals and wraparound services. Programming is delivered through group and individual sessions.

The following reflects the combined annual (January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023) program data and intermediate outcomes for the five New Jersey CRCs.

## **PARTICIPANTS SERVED**

732 Participants served during the reporting period

## **GRADUATED PARTICIPANTS**

**319** Participants graduated the program during the reporting period

# COMMUNITY RESOURCE REFERRALS

**1,222** Community resource referrals and wraparound services provided to assist with participant stabilization in the community

# MEALS

**1,509** Breakfasts Served

1.914 Lunches Served

## **EMPLOYMENT**

A goal of the CRCs is to assist participants with securing employment and/or enrolling in school. During the reporting period, the number of participants employed increased by 880%, based on the total individuals discharged. (n=557)

#### **EMPLOYMENT GAINS: 880%**

#### 5%

87%

49%

- Employed at Starting Point
- Employed During the Program

# **DRUG & ALCOHOL TEST RESULTS**

CRC participants are required to test for alcohol and illicit substances. Below is the breakdown of negative and positive test results during the reporting period.

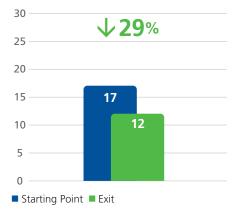
# **TOTAL DRUG TESTS: 3,034**

# TOTAL BREATH ALCOHOL CONTENT (BrAC) TESTS: 4,951 99.9% 0.10%

Clean Substance(s) Detected

# LSI-R RISK REDUCTION ASSESSMENT RESULTS

During the reporting period, programming at the New Jersey CRCs helped participants reduce their risk scores by an average of 29%, which correlates to a similar reduction in the probability of recidivism.<sup>1</sup> (n=305)



#### DISCHARGE RESULTS TOTAL DISCHARGES: 557

JISCHARGES, SSI	
76%	24%

- Positive Completion: includes successful and completion discharges, agency-ordered terminations, external transfers, and other discharges
- Non-completion: includes absconds, jail termination, and unsuccessful discharges

## **IN THEIR WORDS**

Below is a sample of the participant testimonials from the January 2024 survey.

- "Thank you for treating me with respect even though I wasn't always easy to work with."
- "I enjoy talking to people who treat me like a person."
- "This program keeps me out of trouble and gives me hope to stay out of prison."
- "I really like how my counselor listens to me and truly helps me think through my issues."
- "Staff was very understanding of situations and very helpful overall."
- "The staff does their absolute best and always has a good attitude no matter what."

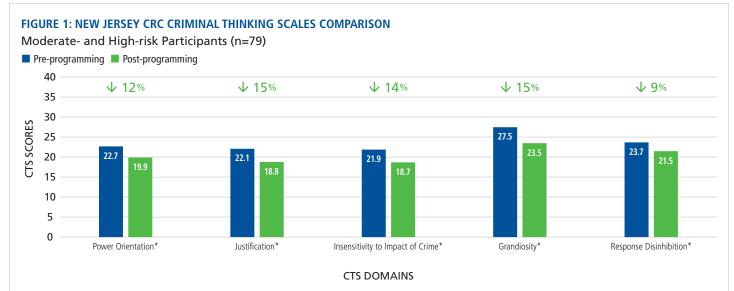
### NEW JERSEY CRC PROGRAMS REDUCE CRIMINAL THINKING

Criminal thinking domains, such as antisocial cognitions and antisocial attitudes, are frequent targets for change in correctional treatment, and are described in current theories of criminal behavior.<sup>2</sup> The research on "What Works" to reduce recidivism indicates that antisocial cognition and antisocial attitudes (criminal thinking) are among the top three risk factors as drivers of recidivism. The Texas Christian University (TCU) Criminal Thinking Scales (CTS) 3.0, released in 2022, measures the effect of GEO Reentry's programming on antisocial cognition and attitudes. The results of this report indicate that GEO Reentry's programming reduced criminal thinking patterns as measured by the CTS, and therefore lowers the potential for future recidivism.

#### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Research evaluators analyzed the pre- and post-programming CTS scores for 79 individuals who participated in programming at one of the New Jersey CRCs between January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. These individuals had moderate- to high-risk scores in at least one domain at starting point. Participant risk level is determined by the recommended score ranges outlined by research (see table below). The average number of days between the pre- and post-programming assessment was 128 days.

The results indicated in Figure 1 illustrate that these participants averaged a 13% reduction (3.1 points) across all five domains. All five domains showed a clinically significant reduction (two points or higher) in participant criminal thinking patterns.



\*A clinically significant reduction in scores is defined as a two point or greater decrease from the pre- to post-programming score.

CTS DOMAINS	DESCRIPTION	RECOMME	RECOMMENDED RISK SCORE RANGES	
		LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
POWER ORIENTATION	<ul> <li>Reflects the need for power and control</li> <li>High scores may be associated with an outward display of aggression to control their external environment or others</li> </ul>	10-15	16-23	24-50
JUSTIFICATION	<ul> <li>Refers to the tendency to justify one's criminal behavior</li> <li>High scores reflect a likelihood to make excuses for their crime(s) or blame others for their wrongdoings</li> </ul>	10-15	16-23	24-50
INSENSITIVITY TO IMPACT OF CRIME	<ul> <li>Focuses on a lack of understanding or awareness around the effect their crime has on others or society</li> <li>High scores may be associated with the individual being prone to shrugging off their crime(s), thinking it is not that big of a deal</li> </ul>	10-17	18-21	22-50
GRANDIOSITY	<ul> <li>Refers to thoughts and feelings of superiority as compared to others</li> <li>High scores are associated with a belief that one is above the law or superior to others</li> </ul>	10-15	16-23	24-50
RESPONSE DISINHIBITION	<ul> <li>Focuses on the inability to regulate behavior in situations when overwhelmed</li> <li>High scores reflect behavior that the individual may later regret such as lashing out or becoming aggressive</li> </ul>	10-23	24-30	31-50

<sup>2</sup>Sease, T. B., & Knight, K. (2023). Development and Testing of the Texas Christian University Criminal Thinking Scales 3.0. Crime & Delinquency, 69(13-14), 2699-2718.

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