

Performance Evaluation Fact Sheet

ADDITIONAL FUNDING RECEIVED AT THE END OF SESSION, DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

ISSUE STATEMENT

Upon recommendation by the Governor, the 2011 Legislature added \$1.8 million general fund each year of the biennium for the Adult Community Corrections Division of the Department of Corrections. The Legislative Finance Committee requested an update on how these additional funds were utilized by the department.

HISTORY AND PURPOSE OF PROGRAM OR ITEM

The additional funding associated with this report was to support community corrections placements. At the time the legislature affirmed the additional funding, the type and number of beds or placements to be supported by the funding was not specified (see DP 299 in the Legislative Fiscal Report 2013 Biennium, page D-101).

The funding associated with this item was used to add bed capacities in placements outside of the secure facilities of the Montana State Prison, Montana Women's Prison, regional prisons, or community jails. The department used the funding to add 48 beds (29 male and 19 female) in the following placements:

- 3 beds at Nexus, which is located in Lewistown for the treatment of male offenders addicted to methamphetamines and other substances
- 10 beds at START or Sanction, Treatment, Assessment, Revocation, and Transition, which is located near Anaconda and serves as an alternative placement for male offenders who have received "technical violations" in an alternative placement facility
- 5 beds at the Billings prerelease center for male offenders
- 7 beds at the Helena prerelease center for male offenders
- 4 beds at the Bozeman re-entry center for male offenders
- 4 beds at the Passages prerelease center for female offenders in Billings
- 5 beds at Elkhorn, which is located in Boulder for the treatment of female offenders addicted to methamphetamines and other substances
- 9 beds at Passages ADT/ASC, which is located in Billings and serves as an alcohol and drug treatment (ADT) center for female offenders and an assessment and sanction center (ASC) for female offenders
- 1 female bed at WATCH East (Warm Springs Addiction Treatment and Change), which is located in Glendive for the supervision and treatment of male and female offenders serving time for a felony (fourth and subsequent) DUI offense

The department strives to place 80% of offenders in placements outside the secure custody facilities in order to affect the portion of its mission of returning offenders back to the community once their sentences have been served. The most recent population projection report indicates that 80.2% of the 12,897 offenders under supervision of the Department of Corrections are managed in programs outside of prison. This means 10,348 offenders are supervised in programs outside the secure custody facilities

POTENTIAL OPTIONS OR DECISION POINTS

There are no specific decisions associated with this item as it is provided to inform the committee of how the additional funds are being used. Legislative staff will continue to monitor the impacts of additional community corrections placements in the context of how it is used to manage the average daily population of offenders sentenced to the Department of Corrections.