Impacting Services & Outcomes through Prisoner Reentry Programs

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U.S. Sentencing Commission Symposium
Washington, DC
July 14, 2008

Today

- The Federal Initiative: What was the Serious & Violent Offender Reentry Initiative?
- Implementation: Did SVORI programs increase the delivery of services & programming?
- Impact: Did SVORI participation result in improved outcomes?
- Sustainability: Did SVORI funding precipitate system change?
SVORI Overview

- Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative funded agencies to develop programs to improve criminal justice, employment, education, health, and housing outcomes for released prisoners
- 69 agencies received federal funds ($500,000 - $2,000,000 over 3 years) to develop 89 programs that
  - Targeted adult & juvenile populations
  - Incorporated partnerships among state and local agencies to provide comprehensive services to prisoners returning home
  - Were locally designed to meet local needs and organizational capabilities

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SVORI Programs
Post-Release Geographic Areas

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SVORI Components

- Federal funding to initiate or supplement integrated programs and services
- Partnerships between state & local agencies to provide comprehensive services to prisoners returning to the community

Stages of Reentry

**Prison Services**
- Screening/Assessment
- Treatment
- Education
- Training
- Personal Development
- Reentry Planning

**Community Supervision**
- Assessment/Planning
- Case Management
- Transitional Housing
- Supervision & Monitoring
- Treatment/Aftercare (Service Integration)

**Post Supervision**
- Community Reintegration Activities

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SVORI Multi-site Evaluation

RTI International & the Urban Institute funded by NIJ in 2003 to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the SVORI
- Implementation & Sustainability: Four rounds of surveys with SVORI Program Directors
- Impact: Longitudinal study of more than 2,500 adult & juvenile offenders in 14 states (16 programs)
- Cost-Benefit: Supplemental services and cost data collection in five of the impact sites
- Dissemination: www.svori-evaluation.org

SVORI Program Goals

- Self Sufficiency & Quality of Life
  - Employment
  - Housing
  - Family (including contacts, stability & child custody/support)
  - Community Involvement

- Health
  - Substance Use (sobriety & relapse prevention)
  - Physical Health
  - Mental Health

- Reduced Criminality
  - Supervision Compliance
  - Reoffending
  - Rearrest
  - Reconviction
  - Reincarceration

- Agency-level impact: Systems Change
  - Agency cooperation
  - Sustainability
SVORI Program Characteristics

- Focused on the general “serious and violent population” (85%)
- Focused equally on the pre- and post-release phase (67%)
- Geographically targeted pre-release (specific institutions) and post-release (specific release communities)
- Most (90%) programs reported attempting to provide all needed services rather than delivering a specific service or set of services

Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors

Primary Focus of Adult SVORI Programs

- Employment: 42%
- Community integration: 27%
- Substance use: 14%
- Mental health: 10%
- Education: 2%
- Family: 0%
- Other: 6%

Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors
### Many Programs & Services

- Risk assessment
- Needs assessment
- Treatment/release plan development
- Legal assistance
- Assistance obtaining identification
- Assistance obtaining benefits
- Financial support/emergency assistance
- Peer support groups
- 1-on-1 mentoring
- Housing placements/referrals
- Transportation (post-release only)
- Comprehensive drug treatment programs
- AA/NA
- Counseling sessions
- Mental health services
- Anger management/violence counseling
- Medical services
- Dental services
- Education/GED/tutoring/literacy
- Vocational training
- Employment referrals/job placement
- Resume & interviewing skills development
- Work release program
- Cognitive skills development/behavior program.
- Life skills training
- Domestic violence services
- Parenting skills development
- Family reunification
- Family counseling
- Formal post-release supervision (post only)

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### Most Common Adult Pre-release Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Non-SVORI</th>
<th>SVORI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life skills training</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental services</td>
<td></td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical services</td>
<td></td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment/release plan</td>
<td></td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors

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Most Common Adult Post-release Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Non-SVORI</th>
<th>SVORI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resume &amp; interviewing skills</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job referrals/ placement</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs assessment</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk assessment</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervision</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment/ release plan</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors

SVORI Program Service Bundles

- **Coordination & Supervision**: risk assessment, needs assessment, treatment/release plan, and (post-release only) supervision
- **Transition Services**: legal, id assistance, benefits assistance, financial support/ emergency assistance, peer support, mentoring, housing, and (post-release only) transportation
- **Health Services**: AA/NA, counseling, comprehensive AOD treatment, mental health, medical, dental, anger mgmt/violence counseling
- **Employment/Education/Skills Building**: education/GED/ tutoring/literacy, vocational training, employment referral/job placement, resume/interviewing skills, work release, cognitive skills development, life skills

Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors
Service Delivery
Pre-Release Service Bundle Scores (0 – 100)

Service Delivery
Post-Release Service Bundle Scores (0 – 100)

Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors

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Service Receipt

30 Days Pre-release Bundle Scores (0 – 100)

Source: Evaluation Participant Interviews

3 Months Post-release Bundle Scores (0 – 100)

Source: Evaluation Participant Interviews
Service Delivery & Receipt

- Program Directors generally reported that they were providing services to more individuals than individuals reported receiving.
- SVORI participants reported receiving significantly more services and programs than those in the nonSVORI comparison group.
- The overall level of service provision is low—particularly post release.

Impact Evaluation

- Four waves of interviews with more than 2,500 adult & juvenile offenders in 14 states (drug testing at 3 & 15 months) were completed in May 2007.
- Numerous potential outcomes including:
  - **Self Sufficiency & Quality of Life**: Employment, Housing, Family (including contacts, stability & child custody/support), Community Involvement.
  - **Health**: Substance Use (sobriety & relapse prevention), Physical Health, Mental Health.
  - **Reduced Criminality**: Supervision Compliance, Reoffending, Rearrest, Reconviction, Reincarceration.
Adult Males 3 M Post Release

- Only 1% homeless; most are living with relatives although about ¼ report living in own place
- In contrast to baseline findings (re: pre-incarceration), few report currently living with people using AOD or who have committed illegal acts
- SVORI subjects more likely than non-SVORI to respond positively to questions about reentry programming
- Nearly ¾’s have worked since release

Did SVORI Work?

- As we’ve seen
  - SVORI programs potentially addressed a very broad range of needs
  - Individual programs provided up to 28 pre-release and 30 post-release categories of services
  - Offenders may have received assistance across these 58 service categories
  - SVORI program participants much more likely to receive services and participate in programs
The Broad View

- We have **more than 100 potential outcome measures** at the individual level
  - Community involvement
  - Employment
  - Family Contact/Stability
  - Health/Mental Health
  - Housing
  - Recidivism
  - Substance Use
  - Supervision Compliance

Impact of SVORI on Post-Release Employment Measures

Percentage Differences in Outcomes
(Positive means SVORI better)

- R currently supports self w/job
- Hourly salary
- Job permanent
- Formal pay
- Job has benefits
- Did not have problems finding job

-50% -40% -30% -20% -10% 0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50%

- 3 Month 9 Month 15 Month

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Impact of SVORI on Post-Release Substance Use

Percentage Differences in Outcomes (Positive means SVORI better)

-50% -40% -30% -20% -10% 0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50%

Alcohol Any drugs Marijuana Cocaine Tested positive

3 Month 9 Month 15 Month

The Broader View: 100+ Treatment Effects

Percentage Differences in Outcomes (Positive means SVORI better)

Mostly drug & crime outcomes

3 Months

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The Broader View: 100+ Treatment Effects

Percentage Differences in Outcomes
(Positive means SVORI better)

Conclusions

- SVORI: Ambitious effort to improve integrated, individually targeted services through DOC coordination of state & community agencies & organizations
- Within a year, most programs greatly increased the level of services provided to offenders pre and post release—but levels were far less than 100%, particularly post release
- From release up through 15 months post release, SVORI participants are doing better—if only moderately so—across a wide range of outcomes