SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITIES

- Airway Heights Corrections Center
- Cedar Creek Corrections Center
- Coyote Ridge Corrections Center
- Larch Corrections Center
- Monroe Correctional Complex
- Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women
- Olympic Corrections Center
- Stafford Creek Corrections Center
- Washington Corrections Center
- Washington Corrections Center for Women
- Washington State Penitentiary

Contact Us

Dawn Williams
Administrator
360-725-8602 | dawn.williams@doc.wa.gov

Lori Hensin
Administrative Assistant
360-725-8628 | lori.hensin@doc.wa.gov
The Department of Corrections (DOC) Substance Abuse Recovery Unit (SARU) is one of the largest certified treatment agencies in Washington State, with services located within prisons and work releases. Treatment services are delivered using an evidence based, structured program to include cognitive behavioral interventions, instructive education, group and individual counseling, motivational interviewing, and recovery-focused skill building. SARU treatment services provide a specialized focus on correcting criminal thinking errors, relapse prevention and management, and gender-specific trauma based therapy.

What We Do

The Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) found that convicted individuals who participate in Substance Abuse (SA) treatment programs have lower recidivism rates than those who did not participate.

Reentry Opioid Response

The SARU provides reentry opioid brief risk screening interventions to inmates releasing from short term confinement. During this process individuals are educated on the proper use of opioid overdose rescue kits, rescue breathing and are then issued a kit upon release from incarceration. The Department of Corrections provided these services to 1605 individuals from September 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018 and have issued 816 opioid overdose prevention kits since the beginning of the project.

Currently, reentry medication assisted treatment (MAT) referral services are provided at seven locations throughout the state: Nisqually Jail, Kent Regional Justice Center, SCORE, and Yakima County Jail, Washington Correction Center for Women, and Washington Correction Center for Men.

Diagnosed Substance Abuse Dependency

In 2017, 43% of women and 32% of men who received assessments were diagnosed with a primary condition of methamphetamine use disorder. There was also a large increase in secondary opioid use disorders with 38% of women and 21% of men being diagnosed with a secondary opioid use disorder.

What the Research Says

The SARU offers intensive outpatient, intensive day treatment, and residential treatment services. DOC currently has substance use disorder treatment available at 11 of the 12 Washington State prison facilities and nine work release locations.

Treatment Services

Treatment services are provided, within available resources, to individuals who meet the eligibility criteria based upon clinical needs and sentencing requirements, and follow a triage protocol. In 2017 SARU provided treatment services in total or partial confinement to 3993 individuals. The types of treatment available are:

- Therapeutic Community—Residential (TC)
- Intensive Day Treatment (IDT)
- Intensive Outpatient (IOP)

Treatment Overview

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