

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SERVICE
INTEGRATION ADMINISTRATION**

Offender Reentry Community Safety (ORCSP)

2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET



Reduction Option	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0
GF-State	(\$1,810,000)	(\$1,810,000)	(\$3,620,000)
Total	(\$1,810,000)	(\$1,810,000)	(\$3,620,000)

REDUCTION OPTION SUMMARY

As required by 2015-17 Biennial Budget Instructions, the Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration (BHSIA) is submitting the following reduction option that would eliminate the Offender Reentry Community Safety Program (ORCSP). Mental health services for ORCSP offenders will be eliminated. By implementing this reduction, BHSIA expects to eliminate services for 245 offenders annually. These offenders have significant mental health issues, are considered dangerous, and will be released from prison without enhanced planning, immediate treatment, and little housing support which will likely lead to increased public safety risk and recidivism.

REDUCTION OPTION DETAIL

BHSIA’s Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) was directed to contract with Regional Support Networks (RSNs) and community mental health agencies to plan and deliver support and treatment services for identified offenders releasing from prison. Support and treatment includes pre and post- release services. Services include pre-engagement, intensive case management, needs assessment, involuntary treatment act referrals, mental health services and treatment, sex offender treatment, chemical dependency treatment, housing assistance, educational services, medical and other non-medical treatment supports.

Program participants are offenders released from a Department of Corrections (DOC) facility who meet criteria of having a major mental disorder, are considered dangerous, and who agree to participate in the program. Typically, the participants have significant disabilities related to a mental health disorder and criminal histories that establish a risk to the community if not treated. Over 85 to 90 percent of the participants are Medicaid enrolled after release from incarceration. Mentally ill offenders are referred from DOC institutions and eligibility is determined by the Statewide Review Committee (co-chaired by DOC and the BHSIA Program Administrator).

The proposed reduction will eliminate the ORCSP, which predominately pays for services that are not reimbursable under Medicaid such as housing, room and board, and sex offender evaluations. However, if the client is Medicaid eligible the RSNs would continue to provide such services. By implementing this reduction, BHSIA expects to reduce mental health services for 245 offenders annually during the 2015-17 Biennium. Community Mental Health Agencies



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under contract with the RSNs would be required to reduce FTEs that support the offender reentry community safety program.

This reduction would be implemented by not contracting with RSNs for ORCSP mental health services on July 1, 2015. Regulatory authority for ORCSP is through Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 71.24 and RCW 71.24.470 allows contracting for services to the extent that funds are appropriated for this program.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

BHSIA maintains a number of partnerships for ORCSP. BHSIA and RSNs are responsible for local partnerships intended to carry out the legislative mandate for this program, including:

- Department of Corrections Institutions and Community Staff.
- Law Enforcement and Prosecutors
- State Hospitals
- Regional Support Networks, Community Behavioral Health Centers, and Chemical Dependency Agencies
- Sex Offender Treatment Providers
- Tribes

We do not expect any stakeholders or partners to support elimination of the ORCSP.



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