



Connecticut

CONTINUING CARE/REINTEGRATION PROGRAM
Connecticut Department of Corrections

Continuing Care/Reintegration Program



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Current FY18 Funding: \$150,000*

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

RSAT funding helps support the continuing care program offered to the Connecticut prison system's substance use disorder (SUD) program participants. These services are provided through the Wheeler Clinic, which delivers behavioral health and primary care services across Connecticut and links participants to the services they need in their communities. Upon release from one of four prisons, participants are offered the continuing care program.

At the time of this writing, there were a total of 350 individuals participating in the SUD treatment programs and 100 participating in the continuing care program.

Connecticut was first awarded RSAT funds in the 1990s at the Robinson Correctional Institution. Since then, SUD programs have expanded to three additional prisons, including:

- Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution (DUI unit)
- Osborn Correctional Institution
- York Correctional Institution (women's prison)

* Funding information estimated or extracted from best available information and may be subject to change

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, SCREENING/ASSESSMENT, AND TREATMENT PLANNING

The Connecticut Department of Corrections' (DOC's) addiction services provide a graduated system of SUD treatment programs. Each participant's needs are determined through a formal assessment. Based on those findings, they may receive one of four "tiers" of treatment:

- **Tier 1:** A nine session pre-release substance use treatment program focusing on reentry and reintegration issues for individuals returning to the community.
- **Tier 2:** An intensive outpatient program meeting four times a week with a curriculum that helps develop an understanding of addiction.
- **Tier 3:** A 4-month residential SUD treatment program designed to provide recovery and relapse prevention skills with a focus on reentry.
- **Tier 4:** A residential 6-month program in a modified therapeutic community setting.

Tiers 2, 3 and 4 offer reentry programs designed to provide a continuum of care and maintenance of recovery. To be eligible for the residential program (Tier 4), an individual must be in the state prison a minimum of 6 months and diagnosed with a SUD by a licensed and clinically trained mental health professional using the DSM-5, thorough biopsychosocial assessment, and other screening tools. Once an individual enters the program, service and reentry plans are developed based upon information already provided, other assessment details, and additional assessments, as needed.

MODALITY OF THE PROGRAM

Program participants have very structured days while in prison. They live in separate units with designated program staff, and case managers carry caseloads at the site. Staff use cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) and interventions and integrate co-occurring disorder (COD) and trauma-informed treatment. Groups include life skills, self-help, school, work, religious, and peer/mentor meetings, as well as required recreational activities. Participants live together, but they eat and participate in recreational activities with other incarcerated individuals.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

A structured peer/mentor program based on a Department of Correction curriculum allows participants to work toward a Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery Coach Program.

MAT PROGRAMMING

The DOC offers methadone in two locations. The DOC was recently approved to administer naltrexone (Vivitrol) to individuals prior to discharge.

CONTINUING CARE/REINTEGRATION

Participants who successfully complete the program voluntarily phase into continuing care services. Staff assess individuals just prior to release and connect them to the continuing care/reintegration services provided through Wheeler Clinic.

CONTINUING CARE PROVIDERS

Wheeler Clinic Community Health Center

Heather Arduini, LMFT

860-782-2476

Outpatient locations in Hartford, Bristol, New Britain, Waterbury, and Plainville, Connecticut, and more than 100 community-based programs cover the entire state.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Robinson Correctional Institution (CI)
This I Must Earn (TIME) Program
Counselor Supervisor Kendall Richardson
860-253-8284

Osborn CI
New Horizon
Counselor Supervisor Shawn Dougherty
860-814-4776

Willard-Cybulski CI
The Change Unit
Counselor Supervisor Yanike Whittingham
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York CI
Marilyn Baker Program
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