



Mississippi

PRISON PROGRAM

Bolivar County Regional Correctional Facility

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Current FY19 Funding: \$183,593 (\$61,198 county board match)*

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

The RSAT Program at the Bolivar County Regional Correctional Facility (BCRCF) was first funded in 2005. It has 66 beds for incarcerated men. At present, 24 are occupied. In the last calendar year, approximately 75 men completed the program, which lasts 6 months.

Participants are housed in a designated area where they eat and attend classes away from the general population. Depending on the specifics of their sentencing, successful completion of the program may result in a participant receiving time off the original sentence.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

The Bolivar program has a recidivism rate of 9 percent, the lowest of any program in Mississippi.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, SCREENING/ASSESSMENT, AND TREATMENT PLANNING

To be eligible for the Bolivar County RSAT Program, individuals must have been ordered at sentencing to complete a substance use disorder (SUD) program. They must also be within 18 months of scheduled release. In addition, if the charge is felony DUI and the person is within three years of release, he can voluntarily submit a request for the RSAT, or it can be recommended from a lead state agency.

An initial assessment is done by the RSAT counselor using standard Mississippi Department of Mental Health forms to determine background and specific needs. Once an initial assessment is done, the counselor will compose a service plan based on the participant's needs assessment, substance use history, and short- and long-term goals. The treatment plan includes three objectives and three intervention services. Participants are considered to have completed the program when the treatment plan objectives have been met.

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

MODALITY OF RSAT PROGRAM

BCRCF uses a holistic model with a primary orientation in the 12-step model. The program includes basic recovery skills along with supplementary groups addressing anger management, life skills and empowerment, stress management, spirituality, and art. Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) is the basis of group therapy. Group sessions last 90 minutes, with all materials provided. Each group therapy session is followed with a related reinforcement activity to be completed by the next day.

CONTINUING CARE/REINTEGRATION

The RSAT continuing care coordinator conducts a continuing care needs assessment. RSAT alumni who are not at their release date upon completion return to the general population and go back to the RSAT dorm for classes two days a week. The coordinator provides referral information that allows the program participant to schedule an appointment with the area mental health center. Many use the state prison to facilitate access to services such as medications, obtaining a Social Security card or driver's license, and transportation to meetings with a parole officer.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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