



# Nevada

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## PRISON PROGRAMS

Nevada Department of Corrections

Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center,  
Nevada Department of Corrections

# Prison Program



**Nevada Department of Corrections**

**Current FY19 Funding: \$326,400\* (statewide)**

## OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

There are three RSAT programs within Nevada that are operated as 6-month therapeutic communities: The TRUST (Team Recovery Under Structured Treatment) Program in the Southern Desert Prison in Indian Springs, the Phoenix Program within the Warm Springs Correctional Center in Carson City, and the STARS (Sisters Together Achieving Recovery and Sobriety)/New Light Program within the Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center. The STARS/New Light Program is described in a separate summary.

The TRUST Program serves 120 men. The Phoenix Program serves 72 men. These therapeutic communities offer structured environments that helps participants learn strategies to avoid substance use, restructure their thinking, and regulate their emotions while also developing social skills necessary to maintain healthy relationships.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, SCREENING/ASSESSMENT, AND TREATMENT PLANNING

Upon intake, newly incarcerated individuals work with staff to complete needs assessments and psychological, educational, and vocational tests. Nevada uses a computerized information system to obtain individuals' demographic information, current offense details, offense motivation, prior criminal history, prior medical and mental health history, and history of substance use disorder (SUD). The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) uses the computerized Offender Risk Assessment System (ORAS). Using this information, as well as other security considerations, people are classified into the facility program that will most benefit them. Once an individual is placed into an RSAT Program, staff conduct other assessments and screenings to fine tune treatment planning. These include Texas Christian University's criminal thinking form, motivation form, psychological form, and social functioning form.

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

Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) substance abuse programs partnered with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) to evaluate the programs facilitated within NDOC facilities using the evidence-based correctional program checklist (CPC). The CPC is designed to evaluate the extent to which correctional intervention programs adhere to evidence-based practices (EBPs), including the principles of effective intervention. UCCI's database of more than 1,000 evaluations of correctional intervention programs report the average score of all evaluated programs to be "moderate adherence to EBP."

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT**

NDOC hosted UCCI CPC evaluators four times between 2012 and 2017. The RSAT therapeutic community model programs scored "high adherence to EBP" and have maintained that scoring for three years.

## **MODALITY OF RSAT PROGRAM**

The TRUST and Phoenix programs are therapeutic programs that address SUD and ensure that all participants are enrolled in Medicaid and have access to primary healthcare and wraparound reintegration services upon release. All RSAT programs utilize cognitive behavioral theory by:

- teaching relapse prevention, problem-solving, coping and pro-social skills,
- modeling and providing feedback through role play,
- focusing on the present, and
- reinforcing pro-social behaviors.

Group size is kept small enough for all participants to practice new skills, and homework is part of all RSAT treatment programs. All staff are trained in enhancing intrinsic motivation, which begins with hiring staff with the right skills and attitudes. Residents are reinforced for behaving pro-socially through praise and opportunities for more responsibilities and freedom as they move successfully through the program. RSAT participants provide input on what they would like as rewards (e.g., first in chow line, first to phones, pizza night, etc.).

## **MAT PROGRAMMING**

In March 2017, the NDOC announced the launch of an 18-month naltrexone (Vivitrol) pilot program developed in partnership with the state's Department of Public Safety's Division of Parole and Probation (P&P) designed to address opioid addiction in Nevada communities. The program was made available to 100 eligible volunteers scheduled for release from two facilities with active substance use programs (Warm Springs Correctional Center in Carson City and Southern Desert Correctional Center in Las Vegas). Participants received an injection prior to release and a connection to a community provider after release for continued treatment.

The NDOC is planning a pilot program for Sublocade, an injectable version of buprenorphine, in three facilities, two of which have current RSAT programs. Once funding is secured, participants will be tracked upon release to monitor medication continuation and other reentry goals.

## CONTINUING CARE/REINTEGRATION

Continuing care/reintegration is a system-wide process that begins at intake and encompasses all efforts to assist RSAT participants in acquiring the skills, education, prosocial attitudes, and behaviors necessary to be successful in society. Successful reentry includes employment, reuniting with family members, stable housing, access to mental health and medical services, and the means to have a purposeful and meaningful life. Programming plays a crucial role in the reentry process. There is reentry-specific mental health, vocational, educational, and SUD programming.

### PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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*Information updated 2/11/2019*



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Nevada Department of Corrections**

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## OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

The Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center's RSAT Program is known as the STARS (Sisters Together Achieving Recovery and Sobriety)/New Light program, one of three therapeutic community RSAT programs offered at facilities in Nevada. STARS/New Light is a dedicated 120-bed intensive in-house substance use disorder (SUD) program. This therapeutic community offers a structured environment that helps participants learn strategies to avoid substance use, restructure their thinking, and regulate their emotions while also developing social skills necessary to maintain healthy relationships.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, SCREENING/ASSESSMENT, AND TREATMENT PLANNING

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## MODALITY OF RSAT PROGRAM

STARS/New Light is a dedicated 120 bed intensive in-house program that addresses SUD. It is a structured environment that helps participants learn strategies to avoid substance use, restructure their thinking, and regulate their emotions while also developing social skills necessary to maintain healthy relationships. The program utilizes cognitive-behavioral theory by teaching skills, modeling and providing feedback through role play, focusing on the present, and reinforcing prosocial behaviors. Group size is kept small enough for all participants to practice new skills, and homework is part of all RSAT treatment programs.

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