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Corrections **FAST FACTS**

Treatment programs help offenders learn skills to better manage their anger and emotions and to become effective problem-solvers.

Programs and Treatments that Work (2007 update)

Studies provide solid evidence that our approach to correctional programs and treatment is effective.*

In 2006-07 the percentage of offenders who successfully completed:

- day parole was 83.5%
- full parole was 70.5%
- statutory release was 58.1%

In 2006-07:

- 3.9% of day paroles ended with a non-violent offence, and 0.6% with a violent offence.
- 9.2% of full paroles ended with a non-violent offence, and 0.5% with a violent offence.
- 9.0% of statutory releases ended with a non-violent offence, and 2.2% with a violent offence.

Programs and Treatments that Work

In Canada's penitentiaries, treatment programs help inmates turn their lives around. There's no question that most offenders have moderate to severe social challenges. Trying to change attitudes and behaviours is a big challenge, but the payoff is great. When treatment programs work, it means that society is safer. The chances that someone will re-offend after serving his or her sentence are reduced.

A Treatment to Fit the Crime

Treatment programs in Canada's penitentiaries are based on science – social and behavioural research. The Correctional Service of Canada has tools to determine offenders' level of risk and their treatment needs. Success depends on delivering the right treatment, at the right time.

The needs of offenders are assessed as soon as they begin their prison term. A Correctional Plan is designed for each offender. This plan includes treatment to address the specific problems related to their criminal history. Special programs are in place for women, Aboriginal people, and sex offenders.

* Source: *Corrections and Conditional Release Statistical Overview*, December 2007.

Programs and Treatments that Work

Supervision in the Community

Research has shown that offenders do much better after their release if there is some support in place to help them cope with the many challenges of starting a new life. People who stay in prison until the very end of their sentence and have no supervision in the community are at a much greater risk of committing another crime. Since almost all offenders eventually get released from prison, it is certainly in society's interest to make their re-integration a success. When under supervision in the community, offenders must follow strict rules. They have to report regularly to a parole officer and the police. Usually conditions are imposed, such as avoiding alcohol or certain people. Parole officers also help offenders make important connections to community services, such as counselling, education, training, and job search assistance.

Treatment Works

Treatment programs based on social and behavioral science may not be fool-proof, but they are proven to be effective in helping offenders turn their lives around.

Public safety is always our first priority and treatments that work support that goal.

The more positive social ties offenders have in a community, the more likely they are to succeed after serving their sentence.

The staff of Correctional Service of Canada use information from various partners in the criminal justice system, such as the police, courts and psychologists to help determine the treatment needs of offenders.

The transition to life after prison is safer when there is supervision in the community.

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