



Nevada Department of Corrections

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March 21, 2018

Nevada DOC Awarded Phase Two of Federal Grant to Lower Recidivism

The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC), in collaboration with the Governor's Re-Entry Task Force, has been awarded \$999,276 in federal grant money from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs for the 2nd phase of the Second Chance Act Statewide Adult Recidivism Reduction Program (SRR).

The 1st phase of the grant was awarded to NDOC in 2016. The funds were used to validate the Nevada Risk Assessment tools, develop a statewide framework for continuity of care programming and a policy initiative surrounding evidence-based programs for re-entry and substance abuse, as well as to develop community partnerships for continuity of care for offenders re-entering the community.

"The Statewide Recidivism Reduction (SRR) Grant aims to provide a statewide culture change in corrections – going from being punitive to being collaborative and rehabilitative," Nevada Department of Corrections Director James Dzurenda said. "The grant focuses on reducing recidivism and decreasing victimization of members of our community."

Phase two funds slated for NDOC will be used to continue the efforts begun in the first grant phase which include a comprehensive statewide reentry plan and case management system, evidence based programs and practices in the prisons, and a balanced approach for supervising returning citizens emphasizing public safety, offender accountability and community based programming.

"Since Nevada has implemented these initiatives, NDOC has seen a reduction in recidivism two years in a row, with more than 200 former inmates not reoffending," Dzurenda added. "It is encouraging to see that by focusing evidence-based programming on the offenders who commit the majority of crimes is in fact showing a positive impact on public safety."

NDOC will continue to work corroboratively with the Nevada Division of Parole and Probation, University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of Nevada, Reno and the state Department of Health and Human Services, Veteran Services Administration, and other key stakeholders through this effort.

As part of the Governor's Re-Entry Task Force Strategic Plan, NDOC has data-driven goals including the reduction in recidivism rates in the target population by 15% over the first two years, and 50% over a five-year period.