Program completion

Participants may be enrolled in the program for up to two years.

Participants who demonstrate the following are considered to have successfully completed the program.

- Live without reliance on alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Engage actively in their treatment and transition to services in their county of residence.
- Maintain treatment, housing, and basic needs independently without the needs of the program.
- Make healthy decisions regarding recovery and mental health stability.

Department of Corrections Reentry Disabilities Treatment Director

Michael Meulemans
608-240-5016
michael.meulemans@wisconsin.gov
See MyDOC for more information
(Home Page > Offender Mgmt > Programs)

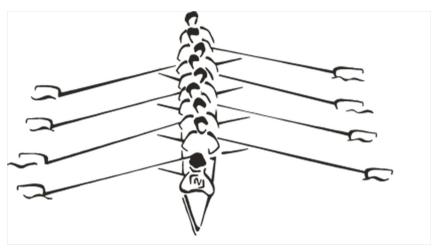
Department of Health Services OARS Program Specialists

Lila Schmidt

Dane County, Fox Valley, and Northern Regions
608-261-9314

lila.schmidt@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Boon Coleman Southeastern and Western Regions 608-266-3878 boon.coleman@dhs.wisconsin.gov



OARS2

Agent Opening Avenues to Reentry Success

A program offered by the
Wisconsin Department of Corrections
in partnership with the
Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Program Vision

To enhance public safety by supporting the successful transition, recovery, and self-sufficiency of offenders with mental health needs as they reintegrate into the community.



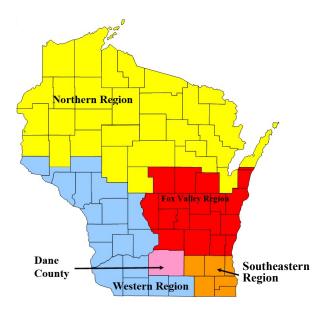


Program goals

- Enhance public safety by reducing recidivism and revocation rates.
- Improve continuity of care of participants with mental health needs as they transition back to or stabilize in the community.
- Encourage participant involvement in meaningful, healthy structured activities.
- Promote participant self-sufficiency.
- Decrease costs associated with return to incarceration.

Statewide programProgram capacity is limited. Participants must:

- Be on supervision, including alternative to revocations.
- Be at risk of incarceration (see referral form for description). (Revocations and pending felony charges will not be considered.)
- Have a minimum of six months of supervision.
- Have serious and persistent mental health needs.
- Rate moderate-to-high-risk of reoffending according to the Department of Corrections assessment.
- Demonstrate a general motivation and willingness to engage in treatment programming.
- Agree to participate in the program.



Program team members

The team develops an Individualized Service Plan to help the participant reintegrate into the community. Team members include:

- The participant.
- Institution social worker, if currently in custody.
- Community corrections agent.
- Case manager.
- Department of Health Services program specialist.
- Pro-social supports (family, friends, clergy, etc.).
- Treatment providers in the community.

Services provided

- Case management and social support
- Assistance obtaining and maintaining safe and affordable housing
- · Access to healthy and meaningful structured activities, including educational programs, volunteer opportunities, and employment
- Access to local transportation, budgeting, and financial resources
- Free Social Security application assistance for certain participants
- Treatment options to address individualized needs
- County referrals to eligible benefit programs and ongoing case management services
- Resources for medication and access to psychiatric care

Participant responsibilities

- Follow all rules of supervision.
- Meet with the assigned case manager and community corrections agent.
- Help develop and review Individualized Service Plan.
- Work with team to identify treatment and educational opportunities available in the community.
- Cooperate with treatment and take all medications as prescribed.
- Sign releases of information and consents for housing and treatment services.
- Be responsible and respectful with regards to any housing that is provided.
- Communicate with a team member regarding any concerns about the program expectations.