



## Community Corrections Program Overview

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"Community corrections program" defined under 11-12-1-1:

*"means a community-based program that provides preventive services, services to offenders, services to persons charged with a crime or an act of delinquency, services to persons diverted from the criminal or delinquency process, services to persons sentenced to imprisonment, or services to victims of crime or delinquency, and is operated under a community corrections plan of a county and funded at least in part by the state subsidy provided in IC 11-12-2."*

Q: What is a Community Corrections Program?

- Community Corrections is a community-based supervision agency used for the primary purpose of providing sentencing alternatives for felony offenders in lieu of incarceration. Community Corrections serves an important role in rehabilitation through transitional programming and as an intermediate sanction for Parole, Probation, Courts, and other community-based supervision or programs.
- Community Corrections serves 3 critical roles in the criminal justice system.
  - **Sentence Alternative:** Community Corrections is community-based supervision that serves as a sentencing or placement alternative to incarceration, allowing restricted privileges and access to the community during which time evidence-based interventions are establishing long-term behavior change.
  - **Intermediate Sanction:** As an important element of best practices, Community Corrections serves as an intermediate sanction for Parole, Probation, Courts, and other community-based supervision or programs. The Levels of Supervision within a Community Corrections agency are often utilized to apply graduated sanctions by phasing and individual into more restrictive Levels of Supervision in lieu of a revocation, jail, or return to prison.
  - **Re-Entry & Transitional Services:** Community Corrections agencies may contract with the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) to provide re-entry & transitional services for IDOC's Work Release program. Agencies are also able to assist IDOC offenders transitioning back into their communities by supervising offenders who are participating in the Community Transition Program.

Q: How are Community Corrections programs established?

*Authority IC 11-12*

- The Community Corrections Act was established in 1979. Due to each county's unique needs, varying resources, and priorities within their criminal justice system, the Community Corrections Act requires that their local jurisdiction establish a community-based board of criminal justice stakeholders to oversee, monitor, and evaluate the programs.
- The community-based board, known as the Community Corrections Advisory Board, is established through a county ordinance, by laws, and an approved IDOC Community Corrections Plan.

Q: What is a Community Corrections Advisory Board?

- The Community Corrections Advisory Board is a community based board comprised of local criminal justice department heads or designees and stakeholders of the local criminal justice departments including a victim, former Community Corrections participant, and treatment/service provider representation. The membership and authority is outlined under IC 11-12-2.
- The Community Corrections Advisory Board primary duties consist of:
  - Appointing the Community Corrections Director;
  - Formulation of a Community Corrections Plan which is a comprehensive operational overview of the structure, administration, program elements, and program capacity;
  - Applying for and administering Community Corrections grant funding;



- Administration of the program budget and expenses including applying for and administering the Community Corrections and Justice Reinvestment Grant Funding provided by the Department and user fees;
- Report and assess the effectiveness of the programs on an annual basis and determine if the program should continue with the appointed Community Corrections Director; and
- Support, monitor, and evaluate the Community Corrections Program on its effectiveness of programs and services provided and determine if they should continue.

#### Q: What is a Community Corrections Plan?

- The Community Corrections Plan is a comprehensive operational overview of the structure, administration, monitoring, goals, budget, and evaluation of a local community corrections agency.
- For funding purposes, the approved Community Corrections Plan is summarized through IDOC's grant application process and its required supplemental documentation.

#### Q: How are Community Corrections Programs funded?

- Community Corrections programs are supported, at least in part, by the Community Corrections and Justice Reinvestment Grants administered by the Department's Community Corrections Division.
- The Department receives a state appropriation from the Indiana General Assembly that is administered by IDOC's Community Corrections Division as outlined in IC 11-12. The purpose of funds are to encourage counties to develop a coordinated local corrections-criminal justice system and provide effective alternatives to imprisonment at the state level.
- Under IC 11-12-2-2, grants are made available to established Community Corrections Advisory Boards to fund:
  - *Operations of a Community Corrections Program*
  - *Operations of a Court Supervised Recidivism Reduction Program (Problem Solving Court)*
- Grant funds are also available to provide support or supplemental funding to:
  - *Probation Departments*
  - *Pretrial Diversion Programs*
  - *Jail Treatment Programs*
- While there is no required match for funding, Community Corrections budgets are often supplemented through county general funds, user fees collected from the program, and other grants.

#### Q: Who is referred to Community Corrections?

- Under IC 35-38-2.6-4.2, the Community Corrections Advisory Board establishes the program's eligibility criteria and collaborates with their criminal justice partners to ensure the target population is placed and participants are appropriate for the program. The Community Corrections target population consists of moderate to very high-risk felony offenders (primarily referred to as participants) who, without a Community Corrections program, would be incarcerated.

Cases are referred through:

- Community Corrections sentence under the Direct Placement statute IC 35-38-2.6-4.2
- As a condition of a Probation sentence for:
  - monitoring
  - as a graduated sanction alternative to jail in lieu of or resulting from a court order.
  - a collaborative resource effort for services, programming, or treatment.
- Community Transition Program under IC 11-10-11.5
- IDOC State Work Release Contract



Q: What types of supervision does Community Corrections provide?

- Under IC 35-38-2.6-2: Community Corrections consists of the following:
  - residential and work release programs, electronic monitoring (home detention) programs, day treatment, or day reporting programs
- Due to targeting high risk felony populations, Community Corrections provides a more restrictive supervision environment than that of traditional probation or parole. In alignment with best practices, the supervision levels provide options to increase or reduce supervision between case management, electronic monitoring, and residential center or work release placement.
  - **Residential Center** (Also known as work release): A secure facility which allows participants limited access to the community for job searching, employment, programs, treatments, services, errands, or incentives.
  - **24/7 Electronic Monitoring** through:
    - **GPS monitoring device** that tracks the participants whereabouts and alerts the Community Corrections program if the participant removes the device, enters a victim zone, or any established restricted zone.
    - **Home Detention monitoring device** which allows the participant limited access to the community for job searching, employment, programs, treatments, services, errands, or incentives. The device is zoned to the participant's residence and the participant is only able to leave with an approved schedule acknowledged by the device. The Community Corrections program is alerted if the participant leaves the home unscheduled or does not return by the established curfew.
    - **Intensive Case Management Supervision:** (Also known as Day Reporting/Day Treatment\*) A highly structured component using risk-based supervision, case management, graduated sanctions, incentives, treatment, and services coordination at a central location to assist offenders in rehabilitation.

*\*Day Reporting or Day Treatment definitions and practices have changed with new research and improved supervision strategies. Day Reporting typically required daily check in to the center. Best practices show that interventions, treatment, and supervision should be specific to the needs and risk of the individual. The term "day reporting" no longer is applicable as office appointments, check ins, and services vary in frequency to be consistent with best practices.*

Q: What programs, services, or treatment are available in Community Corrections Programs:

- Due to higher risk populations, Community Corrections Programs need more interventions, programs, and treatments to reduce recidivism. Programs vary from county to county based on the program budget, community resources, technological capabilities, human resource policies, and staffing support outlined in their Community Corrections Plan.
- Under the authority of IC 11-12-1-2, Community Corrections Programs may provide evidence-based treatments, services, programs, and practices that are proven to reduce the risk for recidivism.
  - **Cognitive Intervention Programs and Interventions**
    - Research based strategies that reduce criminal thinking. Examples: Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Thinking for Change, etc.
  - **Treatment and Services**
    - Mental health treatment either in house or through a local provider.
    - Drug or alcohol abuse treatment either in house or through a local provider including:
      - addiction counseling
      - inpatient detoxification
      - medication assisted treatment, including a federal Food and Drug Administration approved long acting, nonaddictive medication for the treatment of opioid or alcohol dependence
      - housing services
  - **Educational Programs**



- High School Equivalency Programs.
- Skills based education.
  - Skills that are vital to successful re-entry Examples: Resume Classes, Mock Interviews, Job Searches, Time Management, etc.
- Additionally, most Community Corrections agencies provide:
  - **Public Safety Accountability**
    - Field visits are conducted to ensure that the participant is working, living, or visiting approved locations.
    - Home visits are conducted to ensure that the participant is abiding by the program rules by ensuring there is no risk for criminal activity through verification of the resident's home and that there are no weapons or drugs accessible.
    - Random drug testing either conducted in-house or referred out to an external agency to ensure the participant is abiding by the program rules and not engaging in criminal activity.
  - **Stability Services**
    - Wrap around services that as specific to the needs of the individual that assist in successful re-entry Examples: housing assistance, obtaining an I.D., social security card, or driver's license, transportation assistance, access to medical care through recovery works.

### What is the Department's role?

- Under IC 11-12-2-5, The Department may expense up to 3% of the appropriation to provide staffing, training, and technical support to the counties. The Department monitors compliance of the grant funding and measures performance and data outcomes for Community Corrections. While the Department provides state aid and program support, the programs themselves are administered locally. The local Community Corrections Directors report to their local Community Corrections Advisory Board, however Community Corrections staff are county employees. In addition, participants sentenced or referred to Community Corrections are not supervised or managed by the Department, nor does the Department determine who is placed or removed from the program.
- The Department, in partnership with state and local criminal justice agencies and Community Corrections Advisory Boards, work collaboratively to develop community corrections programs utilized by local courts and the Department of Correction (IDOC) to supervise, sanction, and treat offenders in the community as an alternative to incarceration.

### What is the difference between Community Corrections and Probation?

- In Indiana, Community Corrections is the intermediate supervision between Probation and incarceration. Community Corrections' primary goal is to divert from prison while as Probation's is to divert from jail.



Community Corrections		Probation	
Statutes:	IC 11-12	Statutes:	IC 35-38
Diversion from	Prison	Diversion from	Jail
Sentencing	Direct Commitment or Condition of Probation with earned credit time	Sentencing	Suspended time
Administered by	Community Corrections Director	Administered by	Chief Probation Officer
Training and Technical Assistance	IDOC Community Corrections Division	Training and Technical Assistance	Indiana Office of Court Services
Standards Issued by	IDOC Community Corrections Division	Standards Issued by	Indiana Office of Court Services
Levels of Supervision	Home Detention or GPS Electronic Monitoring Work Release Day Reporting Treatment (intensive supervision)	Levels of Supervision	Probation Supervision <i>*Electronic Monitoring can be utilized as an intermediate sanction</i>
Target Population	Targeting moderate to high-risk offenders (based on IRAS) who would otherwise be sentenced to prison	Target Population	Targeting low to moderate risk infractions, misdemeanor, and felony offenses
Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IRAS Assessment</li> <li>• Case Planning</li> <li>• Higher dosage of programming, treatment, and services required.</li> <li>• Field Checks</li> </ul>	Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IRAS Assessment</li> <li>• Case Planning</li> </ul>
Sanctions & Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agency Disciplinary Hearing Board to deprive earned credit time</li> <li>• Movement amongst levels of supervision (least restrictive to most restrictive)</li> <li>• Technical Violation petitioned to the court               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return to CC on more restrictive supervision</li> <li>• Petition to Revoke Placement and enter incarceration</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <i>*incarceration may be prison or jail*</i>	Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Probation Hearing with the court</li> <li>• Probation Violation petitioned to the court</li> <li>• Return to Probation with more conditions of placement</li> <li>• Extend probation period by no more than 1 year</li> <li>• Order the execution of time for all or part of the initial suspended time</li> </ul> <i>*Order of execution may result in a commitment to Community Corrections, jail, or prison depending on the offense*</i>
Data provided to	IDOC Community Corrections Division	Data provided to	Indiana Office of Court Services