A PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF THE WAY HOME PROGRAM

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I. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report is a preliminary evaluation of the Way Home program (WH). This preliminary assessment of Way Home (WH) program performance is focused on the recidivism of WH clients, and a comparison of recidivism of WH clients and Delaware Department of Corrections (DOC) detainees. The evaluation has been conducted under contract between WH and the Health Services Policy Research Group (HSPRG) of the University of Delaware. Through its Operating Director, Barbara Carter, and its Board of Directors, the WH agreed to provide data on their clientele and services so that a preliminary assessment of the WH program could be undertaken. The DOC has also provided corresponding data on its detention and release programs so that similar dimensions of WH and DOC programmatic activities could be compared.

The Way Home program provides an array of support services to assist ex-offenders who are being released from incarceration at either the Sussex Correctional Institution, the Sussex Work Release Center, and Crest South so that they may make a satisfactory transition to their community. As a non-profit charitable organization, the Way Home program has been operating since 1994 under the administrative auspices of the Episcopal Diocese of Sussex County of Delaware. Its offices are located at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Pine and Academy Streets in Georgetown Delaware. The WH program has been financed by grants from Delaware Criminal Justice Council, local ministeriums, foundations, the Diocese of Delaware and charitable donations. Annually, approximately 25 clients participate in WH services, and virtually all clients have substance abuse problems. As a "wraparound" program, The Way Home activities encompass spiritual support and the case management services of job search, housing, transportation, and support services in the community. The major goals of the WH are to reduce the rate of recidivism (return to prison/jail or greater probation/parole restrictions) of clients and to help them to become productive members of the community.

This report should be viewed as a first step in an assessment of the performance of the Way Home program. Two factors account for conducting a preliminary assessment.

One is data limitations. Some of the existing data from both the WH and the DOC require refinements in measurement, and important data needed for statistical analyses which could reveal important explanatory factors regarding recidivism and social productiveness of ex-offenders in the community were not accessible. (An especially important potential source could be the "notes on ex-offenders by probation and parole officers" that is maintained by the DOC). Two, a longer time frame of WH operations would permit assessment of the longer-term impacts of its services upon clients. A second report is contemplated to consider the long-run recidivism and community productivity of ex-offenders who have participated in both the WH and DOC programs.

II. SCOPE OF THE REPORT

The preliminary assessment covers the period from 1999 through 2004 since comparable data is available for both WH and DOC. For the evaluation, recidivism is defined as the return of ex-offenders to incarceration (prison or jail). Recidivism can be due to either (a) an arrest, or (b) a parole/probation violation.

The assessment is conducted from two perspectives. First, a tabular display is presented for three dimensions of recidivism. The dimensions are (a) recidivism due to any incident (either arrest and/or parole/probation violation), (b) recidivism due only to arrests, and (c) recidivism due just to parole/probation. A second assessment perspective entails a statistical analysis of recidivism due to either arrest or parole/probation violation. The determinants of (or social factors that could explain the bases for) recidivism of WH clients and ex-offenders of DOC is assessed with statistical models. The models also allow a determination of whether recidivism is significantly different between WH clients and ex-offenders of DOC. For both perspectives, the assessment is based on the equivalent risks of released ex-offenders. That is, only ex-offenders released from Supervision Levels IV and V of the Delaware Department of Corrections detention (to be defined below) are included in the WH and DOC analyses.

III. OUTLINE OF THE REPORT

The evaluation encompasses the following four sections in which analyses are conducted as a comparison of WH and DOC. First, a profile of the participants of the two programs is presented. The two programs are compared by the commonly available variables. An additional profile of WH clients is given in the Appendix for variables that are available only for their clients. Second, the values of recidivism outcomes are examined for the two programs. Third, statistical analyses are conducted to determine the sources of recidivism as well as to assess the differential impact that WH and DOC have on the recidivism of ex-offenders. Finally, a summary of the findings is given, and conclusions about the outcomes and needed future research are presented.

IV. A PROFILE OF DETAINEES

This section provides an overview of the types of individuals who have been involved in the WH and DOC programs. As shown on Table 1, the comparison is limited to gender, age, marital status, and level of detention. An additional profile of the Way Home program clientele is given for variables that were currently unavailable for DOC detainees. An extensive profile by all categories of available variables for each program is shown in tabular form in the Appendix.

The percentages in Table 1 are based on the total number of individuals in Levels of Supervision IV and V combined and is administered by the DOC's Division of Probation and Parole. According to the sentencing guidelines of the Sentencing Accountability Commission of Delaware (SENTAC), depending on their risk to the community, criminal offenders are sentenced or placed at different levels of supervision by the personnel Division of Probation and Parole (i.e., probation and parole officers). Levels of probation/parole range from Level I that imposes the least restriction on the activities of offenders placed in probation or parole to Level IV that imposes the most restrictions on the activities of offenders who are assigned probation or parole. Level V is incarceration whereby offenders are sentenced to prison (more than one year of time in detention) or jail that entails a year or less of time in detention. (Parolees are released from prison after serving time in prison or jail, while probationers are assigned directly to DOC supervision because of their offense(s).

The following description is the DOC's summary of the various levels of supervision (with Levels I through IV include levels of probation) in Delaware:

Level I - Administrative Supervision

Offenders assigned to Level I are placed in the least restrictive form of supervision under the SENTAC sentencing system. These are generally first time offenders who pose little risk of re-offending. The majority of these offenders are required to pay either a fine, make restitution or attend a specific first offender program. Requirements are

also to monitor offenders' participation in designated programs, and make progress reports on same to the court.

Level II - Probation and Parole

Level II is the standard Probation/Parole supervision program. Offenders on Level II supervision are to meet with their Probation Officer on a regular schedule to comply with contact requirements based on risks/needs assessments. Level II Probation/Parole Officers serve in the traditional roles of counseling.

Level III - Intensive Supervision

The Intensive Supervision Unit (ISU) represents Level III of the SENTAC alternatives to incarceration. The officer to client ratio is 1:25. The purpose of the ISU is to closely supervise adult offenders in the community to prevent further criminal behavior while sentences are being served. Supervision is frequent and intense while also assisting the offender in making a successful return to the community. The ISU makes recommendations to move cases up or down the sanctioning levels based on the SENTAC guidelines, and upon individual client progress as documented by the supervising officer. The addition of the supervised Custody Unit to the intensive Supervision Unit will augment Probation/Parole's capabilities to more closely supervise Level III probationers in the community.

Level IV - House Arrest program

House Arrest is a community custody program which is for offenders who are to be restricted to an approved residence in which specific sanctions are to be imposed and enforced. The House Arrest Program is administered by Probation Officers, and includes continuous 24-hours a day, 7 days a week electronic and direct surveillance.

Level V - Incarceration

Incarceration includes the assignment of offender to either jail in which an individual is detained in a secure facility for a year or less, and prison in which an individual is detained in a secure facility for more than a year.

A. COMPARATIVE WH AND DOC PROFILE

TABLE 1
COMPARATIVE PROFILE OF WH AND DOC
RELEASED FROM LEVELS IV AND V IN 2004

Demographics	DOC	Way Home
% Men	84%	60%
% Married	15%	10%
% White	51%	50%
Average Age	32.5	35.6
% 18-25 years old	36%	30%
Total (N)	2,143	10

As shown in Table 1, ex-offenders of the Way Home program and the DOC who released from Level IV and V are comparable in average age and racial characteristics. The two groups differ slightly with respect to age structure and marital status. More DOC ex-offenders are married than WH participants, and a larger proportion of DOC ex-offenders are married than WH clients. A considerable difference exists between WH and DOC ex-offenders with respect to gender; 60% of WH clientele are males compared to 84% of DOC ex-offenders.

B. ADDITIONAL PROFILE OF THE WAY HOME PROGRAM

The following profile covers the participants in this study from September 1999 through December 2004. Information is not available for all 86 participants. See Appendix for tables.

Social and Demographic Characteristics

- Only 17% of clients have achieved an education level above high school, and 47% are high school graduate, excluding 6% who have obtained a GED.
- 40% of all clients have children.
- 87% of the clients indicated as having a religious background.
- The religious affiliations of the clients are very diverse, but with 94% designated as Christian.
- The job experience among clients is very diverse, ranging from retail services to construction.

Criminal Justice History Characteristics

- 97% of clients have had history of substance abuse.
- 47% of clients (self-) reported that they were abused as a child.
- 47% of clients (self-) reported that they were abused as an adult (59% were women.)
- 52% of clients (self-) reported that they had previous psychiatric treatment.
- The most recent arrests of clients prior to entering Way Home were 23% for theft and robbery charges, 11% for drug and alcohol related charges.

Post Release Status

- Upon release 3% of clients lived with relatives, while 19% lived in permanent housing, 28% lived in temporary housing, and 37% lived in shelters or welfare arrangements.

IV. ANNUAL RECIDIVISM OF EX-OFFENDERS

The preliminary assessment entails a consideration of several dimensions of recidivism. The following outcomes are presented for WH and DOC on Tables 2, 3 and 4: (1) recidivism of ex-offenders due to arrests and probation/parole violations, (2) recidivism of ex-offenders due only to arrests, and (3) recidivism of ex-offenders due only to probation/parole violations.

The following definitions and terms are utilized in the analyses:

1. Recidivism is the percentage of new entrants who in any selected period have committed an incident that entails a penalty as a result of either an arrest or a parole or probation violation. The penalty may be either incarceration in prison or jail (Level V). The recidivism rate is measured by (a) the number of individuals who commit an incident divided by the number of individuals who entered the WH or DOC in the period under analysis. For example, if WH had 25 individuals who entered their program and 5 committed probation violations (5 incidences) in the second period, then the recidivism rate would be 20% = 5/25.

Incident: An incident can be either (a) a new arrest of an ex-offender that occurs because the individual committed a criminal act that resulted in a conviction, or (2) an ex-offender has been cited for a probation/parole violation, in both cases, the ex-offender has been incarcerated as a consequence of the arrest or violation.

New Entrants: The number of offenders that have entered as a “participant” in the WH program during the selected period, or the number of ex-offenders who have been released within a particular time frame. All the ex-offenders (WH or DOC) were released from either LEVEL IV or V.

In all Tables, the ”No. of New Entrants” indicates the number of unique individuals who have entered as newly released ex-offenders into the WH program or released by DOC within the stipulated year. The numbers in any one stipulated year of entry do not

include cumulative totals, or additions, of previous years. That is, individuals included in a particular year as new entrants are not counted in the subsequent years of entry. The recidivism rates are given for a five year period that displays the additional recidivism over the 5 year period that began in the year specified by the column label. The row designated “Recidivism Year 1” corresponds to the year of entry, as given by the column title. Cumulative recidivism can be calculated by adding the column figures for each subsequent Recidivism Year (e.g. Year 2).

The following example applies to Table 2. The number of new entrants into WH in 2001 was 18 ex-offenders. First, in that year, as indicated by “Recidivism Year 1 in column 1999, the recidivism rate is 11% which is calculated by 11% = 2 (the number of the new entrants that recidivated) divided by 18 (the number of new entrants in 2001). Second, in the row “Recidivism Year 3”, the recidivism rate was 22%, which is derived by dividing the number of additional ex-offenders who committed an incident by the total number of new entrants of 2001 (i.e., 22% = 4/18). The (cumulative) total recidivism over a five year period for all 2001 new entrants can be derived by adding up the separate number of individuals that recidivated over each of the five years and dividing that number by the total new entrants of 1999 (56% = 12/18).

TABLE 2
RECIDIVISM (NEW ARRESTS OR VIOLATIONS)

Way Home						
	1999	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**
No. of Entrants	9	13	18	16	20	10
Recidivism Year 1	22%	39%	11%	25%	10%	10%
Recidivism Year 2	22%	8%	11%	6%	5%	n/a
Recidivism Year 3	22%	8%	22%	0%	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 4	0%	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 5	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 6	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Recidivism	67%	54%	44%	31%	15%	10%
Did not recidivate	33%	46%	56%	69%	85%	90%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
DOC						
	1999	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**
No. of Entrants	6,896	4,609	3,630	2,939	2,450	2,143
Recidivism Year 1	47%	41%	33%	30%	28%	21%
Recidivism Year 2	11%	9%	9%	9%	6%	n/a
Recidivism Year 3	5%	4%	5%	3%	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 4	3%	3%	2%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 5	2%	1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 6	1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Recidivism	68%	59%	50%	42%	34%	21%
Did not recidivate	32%	41%	50%	58%	66%	79%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

TABLE 3

RECIDIVISM INVOLVING ONLY NEW ARRESTS

Way Home						
	1999	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**
No. of Entrants	9	13	18	16	21	9
Recidivism Year 1	11%	39%	11%	19%	0%	0%
Recidivism Year 2	22%	8%	11%	6%	5%	n/a
Recidivism Year 3	22%	8%	17%	0%	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 4	0%	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 5	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 6	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Recidivism	56%	54%	39%	25%	5%	0%
Did not recidivate	44%	46%	61%	75%	95%	100%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
DOC						
	1999	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**
No. of Entrants	6,896	4,609	3,630	2,939	2,450	2,143
Recidivism Year 1	34%	28%	23%	20%	17%	12%
Recidivism Year 2	9%	8%	8%	8%	4%	n/a
Recidivism Year 3	4%	4%	4%	3%	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 4	3%	3%	2%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 5	2%	1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 6	1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Recidivism	53%	44%	37%	31%	21%	12%
Did not recidivate	47%	56%	63%	69%	78%	88%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

TABLE 4

RECIDIVISM INVOLVING ONLY PAROLE/PROBATION VIOLATIONS

Way Home						
	1999	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**
No. of Entrants	9	13	18	16	21	9
Recidivism Year 1	11%	0%	0%	6%	10%	10%
Recidivism Year 2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	n/a
Recidivism Year 3	0%	0%	6%	0%	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 4	0%	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 5	0%	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 6	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Recidivism	11%	0%	6%	6%	10%	10%
Did not recidivate	89%	100%	94%	95%	90%	90%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	DOC					
	1999	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**
No. of Entrants	6,896	4,609	3,630	2,939	2,450	2,143
Recidivism Year 1	13%	13%	11%	10%	12%	9%
Recidivism Year 2	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	n/a
Recidivism Year 3	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 4	<1%	<1%	<1%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 5	<1%	<1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Recidivism Year 6	<1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Recidivism	15%	15%	13%	11%	13%	9%
Did not recidivate	85%	86%	85%	89%	88%	91%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

OBSERVATIONS FROM TABLES 1, 2, AND 3

- The WH program has a different pattern of recidivism than DOC.
- In general, for all three measures of recidivism, WH has manifested a lower rate of recidivism than DOC in the early years after release from either Levels IV or V i.e., entry year, (although for entrants in the year 2000 a similar proportion of ex-offenders did recidivate in the first year).
- The general pattern is that WH had lower proportion of their clients who recidivated in the first year of their release than the ex-offenders of DOC.
- In the second and third year of program DOC had a lower rate of recidivism. However, this result is probably due to the higher recidivism of DOC ex-offenders in year one (That is, in comparison to WH, DOC had proportionally fewer ex-offenders who could recidivate in later years).
- The first year recidivism rate did decline substantially for WH clients in 2003 and 2004.
- For the year 2003 and 2004, the recidivism of WH clients appears to be due predominantly to parole/probation violations.
- The tabular results restrict very firm conclusions because of the time frame of 2002, 2003 and 2004 entrants do not cover a long (5 year) period.
- **However, the statistical analyses of recidivism allow consideration of the length of time, and the various analyses provide more conclusive evidence that WH has been more successful than DOC with respect to recidivism.**

V. STATISTICAL ANALYSES OF RECIDIVISM

Several statistical analyses have been conducted to assess the determinants of recidivism entailed in both the Way Home program and DOC ex-offenders. The analyses also allow an assessment of whether recidivism has been different for DOC and WH ex-offenders. These assessments were conducted with the testing of various statistical models to evaluate the impacts of demographic factors (as independent variables) on recidivism. With these models, the independent variables (or covariates) are offered as explanatory or causal factors that explains why recidivism occurs. The variables used to explain are given on Table 5. The chosen independent variables are common variables that were available for both DOC and WH ex-offenders.

Two separate models were tested to explore two questions regarding recidivism. One model (a logistic equation) was evaluated to determine what factors account for the recidivism of an ex-offender and whether WH clients were more or less likely to recidivate than DOC ex-offenders. A second model was employed to determine what social economic factors explain the extent to which the risk of recidivism changes over time. The statistical model is known under various names such as a survival analysis, hazard modeling, or duration analysis. These classes of models allow the study of the occurrence and timing of events. More specifically, they permit the determination of the effects of various forces on recidivism in which an incident (an arrest or a probation/parole violation) occurs for some ex-offenders but not for others over a period of time after release from Levels IV or V. The model that was tested also evaluates whether Way Home clients have a different pattern of recidivism over time.

Given the technical complexity of the two statistical analyses, the estimated equations/models are provided in the appendix, and the text merely reports the findings in colloquial language.

TABLE 5
INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

VARIABLE	**MEASUREMENT**	**VARIABLE**	**MEASUREMENT**
Supervision program	Way Home (WH), or Dept of Corrections (DOC)	Age	Number of years from birth date to the date of release from Level IV or V
Gender	Male or Female	Marital Status	Married or Not Married: (Divorced, Separated, Widowed, or Single)
Race	Caucasian or Non-Caucasian: (African American Hispanic, Asian, or Other)	DOC Level of Supervision upon release.	Levels IV or V

MODEL 1 – LOGISTIC REGRESSION MODEL

WHAT EXPLAINS WHETHER RECIDIVISM OCCURS

This model addresses whether an ex-offender recidivates or not within the five year time period. The following results were obtained:

1. **Way Home clients are very less likely to recidivate than DOC ex-offenders.** More technically, the predicted odds of Way Home clients to NOT recidivate are 2.33 times the odds for DOC ex-offenders. In other words, the odds of Way Home clients of NOT recidivating are 133% higher than the odds for DOC ex-offenders.

2. **Older ex-offenders are less likely to recidivate than younger ex-offenders**. For each year of age, the predicted odds of NOT recidivating increases for an ex-offender by 1.6% for each year of aging.

3. **Married ex-offenders were much less likely to recidivate than non-married ex-offenders**. More technically, the predicted odds of married ex-offenders to NOT recidivate are 1.22 times the odds for non-married ex-offenders. In other words, the odds of married ex-offenders of NOT recidivating are 22% higher than the odds for non-married ex-offenders.

4. **Female ex-offenders are less likely to recidivate than male ex-offenders**. More technically, the predicted odds of female ex-offenders to NOT recidivate are 1.34 times the odds for male ex-offenders. In other words, the odds of female ex-offenders of NOT recidivating are 22% higher than the odds for male ex-offenders.

5. **Caucasian ex-offenders are less likely to recidivate than non- Caucasian ex-offenders.** More technically, the predicted odds of Caucasian ex-offenders to NOT recidivate are 1.69 times the odds for non-Caucasian ex-offenders. In other words, the odds of Caucasian ex-offenders of NOT recidivating are 69% higher than the odds for non- Caucasian ex-offenders.

6. **Individuals released from Level V are less likely to recidivate than individuals released from Level IV**. More technically, the predicted odds of ex-offenders released from Level V to NOT recidivate are 2.38 times the odds for ex-offenders released from Level IV. In other words, the odds of ex-offenders released from Level V of NOT recidivating are138% higher than the odds for ex-offenders released from Level IV.

MODEL 2 – SURVIVAL ANALYSIS

A. WHAT EXPLAINS THE RISK OF RECIDIVISM OVER TIME

This model addresses the extent to which the risk of recidivism prevails for ex-offenders over a five year period (that is encompassed by the available data). Two analyses are derived from the estimated model. One is the risk of recidivism (referred to as the hazard ratio) that prevails for a particular characteristic as indicated by an independent variable. Typically, the risk involves a comparison of one category/dimension with another for a chosen characteristic, e.g., for gender it would be men versus women with the hazard ratio (or risk) expressed as a percentage. Second, the model can generate survival function which presents the expected length of time until an event (recidivism) occurs. The survival function yields the estimated probabilities that clients would survive over the selected period of time.

(A). The following results were obtained for the risk of (hazard ratio) of recidivism:

1. **Over a five year time period, the risk of recidivism for Way Home clients has been 53% of the risk of DOC ex-offenders.**

2. **Over a five year time period, for each year in age after release, the risk of recidivism of ex-offenders decline by 1.1%.**

3. **Over a five year time period, the risk of recidivism for married ex-offenders has been 89% of the risk of non-married ex-offenders.**

4. **Over a five year time period, the risk of recidivism for female ex-offenders has been 83% of the risk of male ex-offenders.**

5. **Over a five year time period, the risk of recidivism for Caucasian ex-offenders has been 72% of the risk of non- Caucasian ex-offenders.**

6. **Over a five year time period, the risk of recidivism for Individuals released from Level V has been 57% of the risk of Individuals released from Level IV.**

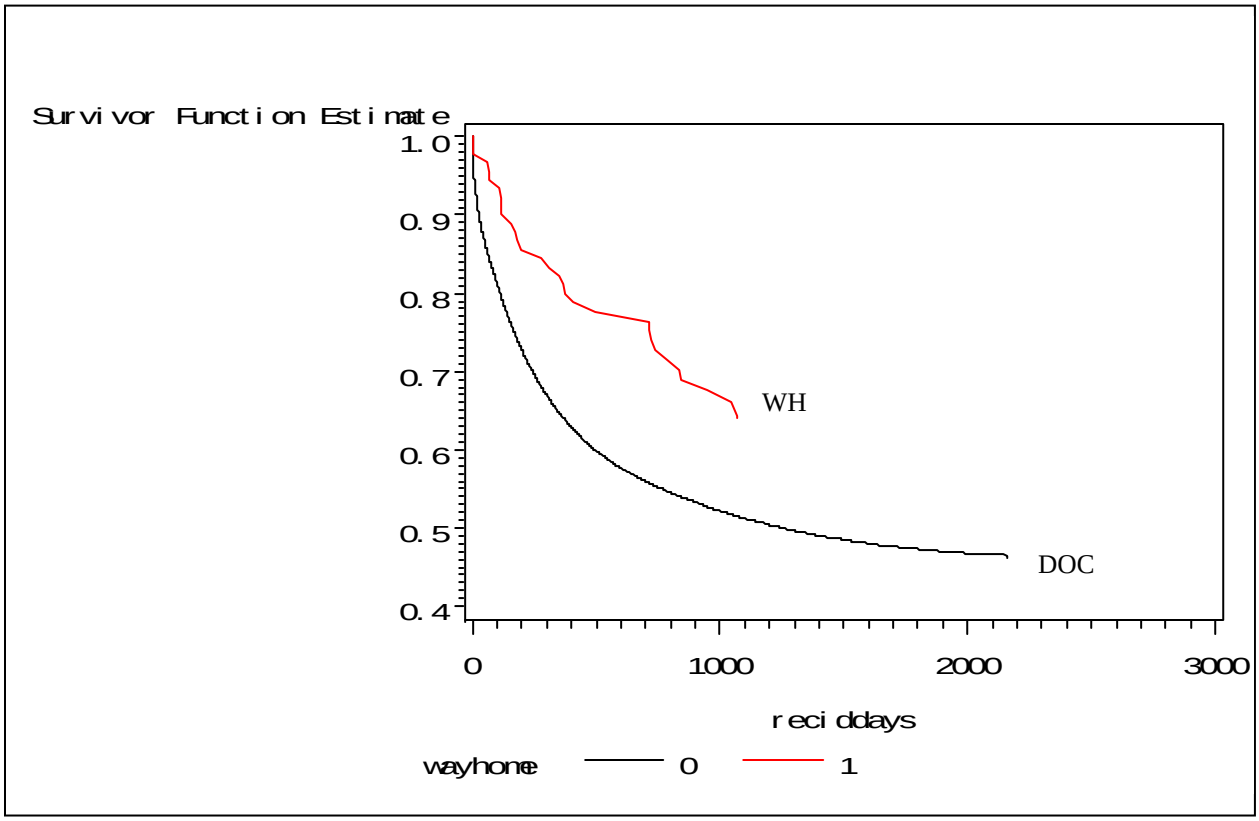
(B). The following results were obtained for the survival function of ex-offenders for recidivism:

Figure 1 presents a graph of the survival (or duration) functions of both the WH and DOC. The Way Home function is the top curve on the axis and the DOC is the bottom curve. In general, the survivor curves present the expected length of time until recidivism will occur after release. It is constructed on the bases of the actual length of time over that recidivism occurs and the occurrences of recidivism by all the ex-offenders (which produce probabilities). Thus the survival function represents the probabilities of ex-offenders (vertical axis) to experience recidivism over the number of days (horizontal axis) after release based on the actual manifestation of recividivism by the ex-offenders. An illustration can be made by tracing up the graph for a selected number of days. For 300 days (horizontal axis), the probability that a DOC ex-offender will "survive" or reach 300 days without recidivating is 0.65 (see the vertical axis) while for a WH client it is 0.80. Like wise for 1,000 days, the probability that a DOC ex-offender will "survive" or reach 1,000 days without recidivating is 0.50 (see the vertical axis) while for a WH client it is 0.65

Examination of Figure One reveals two dimensions worth noting. Firstly, WH has a "more productive" survivor function, meaning that for their clients there is higher probability that their clients will survive longer than DOC ex-offenders. That is, in comparison to DOC ex-offenders, WH clients will experience a longer time period before recidivating. Secondly and conversely, the risk of recidivism is considerably higher for DOC ex-offenders than WH clients as time passes. One thing should be clear is that the higher probability of WH clients to realize a longer time without recidivating should not obscure the major fact that a large portion of WH clients have not recidivated.

FIGURE 1

WAY HOME AND DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS SURVIVAL FUNCTIONS

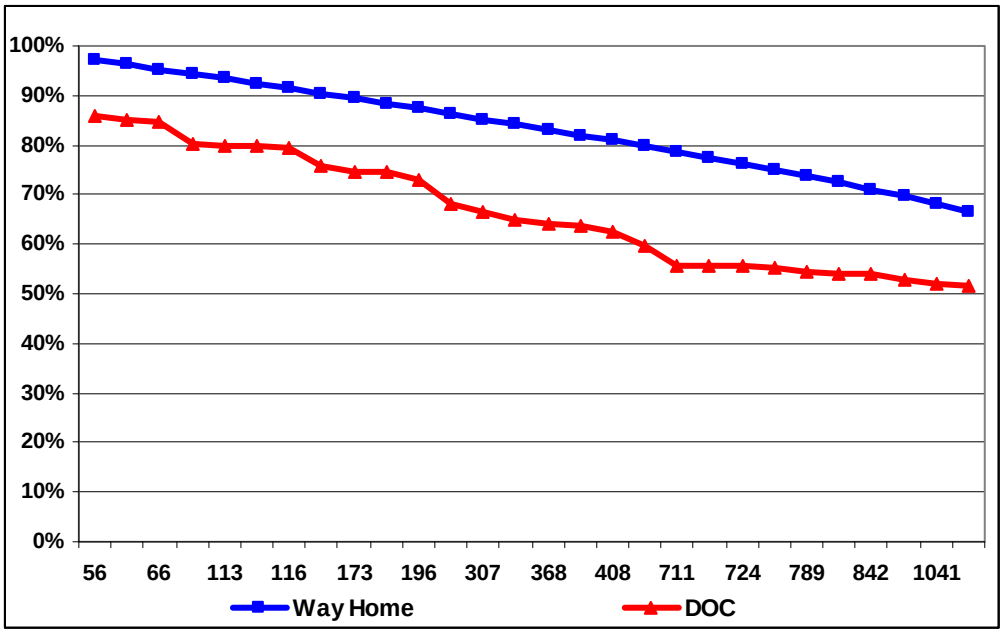


A numerical representation of the WH and DOC survivor functions is given in Table 6. Column 1 presents a randomly selected number of days in which recidivism could occur after the date of release from Level IV or V. Columns 2 and 3 show respectively the survival probabilities of WH clients and DOC ex-offenders. The second and third columns indicate clearly that for all the length of time (56 days to 1,066 days) WH clients have higher probabilities of remaining free from recidivism than DOC ex-offenders. Put differently, as time passes (in terms of days) after release, proportionally fewer WH clients will experience recidivism than DOC ex-offenders throughout the specified time period. Conversely, compared to WH clients, a higher proportion of DOC ex-offenders will recidivate not only earlier after release but also at any point in time after release.

TABLE 6
WH and DOC Survival Functions

Days Out of Level 4 and 5		
Days	**Way Home**	**DOC**
56	0.97229	0.85832
64	0.96293	0.84882
66	0.95344	0.84678
108	0.94368	0.80313
113	0.93387	0.79845
115	0.92407	0.79656
116	0.91420	0.79566
160	0.90423	0.75658
173	0.89413	0.74676
177	0.88386	0.74399
196	0.87337	0.72931
274	0.86279	0.68269
307	0.85226	0.66627
348	0.84159	0.64782
368	0.83069	0.64020
373	0.81970	0.63891
408	0.80858	0.62523
499	0.79714	0.59839
711	0.78508	0.55748
716	0.77311	0.55689
724	0.76120	0.55600
742	0.74923	0.55312
789	0.73702	0.54631

831	0.72412	0.54106
842	0.71095	0.53991
951	0.69704	0.52676
1041	0.68062	0.51818
1066	0.66364	0.51528



VI. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- The Way Home program performed more effectively than DOC on all dimensions of recidivism.

- WH clients manifested lower recidivism in the early years after release from either Level IV or V.

- WH clients were less likely than DOC ex-offenders to recidivate.

- For any point in time after release, WH clients had higher probability of not returning to incarceration. A higher proportion of WH clients were less likely to recidivate for the entire time frame after release.

- The statistical analyses also confirm other important determinants of recidivism. Women, Caucasians, married, and older ex-offenders and those released from Level V were less likely to experience recidivism and they manifested higher probabilities of avoiding recidivism than men, non-Caucasians, non-married and younger ex-offenders.

- The present analyses and findings represent a preliminary evaluation. A longer time frame for analysis is need for the WH programmatic experience so that more conclusive statements can be made regarding the WH performance. A longer time frame is required so that the pattern of recidivism can be tracked and its determinants be examined. The longer time frame would provide more data on clients who could manifest the recidivism outcome over a five year, and such data would permit an evaluation of a long-run perspective.

- For a more cogent and precise statistical analysis, we need to incorporate other variables that could be important determinants of the variation in recidivism of

WH clients and DOC ex-offenders. Some of the potentially important variables are: employment, types of employment, employment stability, income and income stability, substance abuse treatment in and out of detention, marital status and its stability, housing, post-detention counseling, access to transportation, social support and social environment, types of substance abuse, and extent intensity of alcohol and drugs usage. Some of these variables are readily available from Way home but must be extracted from DOC data sets.

- **MODEL 1: The LOGISTIC Procedure**

Model Information

Data Set	WORK.BOTH3
Response Variable	recidivate
Number of Response Levels	2
Model	binary logit
Optimization Technique	Fisher's scoring

Number of Observations Read	22753
Number of Observations Used	22753

Response Profile

Ordered Value	recidivate	Total Frequency
1	0	11028
2	1	11725

Probability modeled is recidivate=0.

Model Convergence Status

Convergence criterion (GCONV=1E-8) satisfied.

Model Fit Statistics

Criterion	Intercept Only	Intercept and Covariates
AIC	31523.001	30003.786
SC	31531.033	30060.014
-2 Log L	31521.001	29989.786

Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

Test	Chi-Square	DF	Pr > ChiSq
Likelihood Ratio	1531.2144	6	<.0001
Score	1486.5758	6	<.0001
Wald	1405.4627	6	<.0001

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-1.2710	0.0653	378.9223	<.0001
age	1	0.0155	0.00139	123.9638	<.0001
married	1	0.1951	0.0404	23.3345	<.0001
male	1	-0.2959	0.0385	58.9482	<.0001
white	1	0.5259	0.0275	365.7903	<.0001
level5	1	0.8649	0.0310	776.4619	<.0001
wayhome	**1**	**0.8468**	**0.2334**	**13.1590**	**0.0003**

Odds Ratio Estimates

Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
age	1.016	1.013	1.018
married	1.215	1.123	1.316
male	0.744	0.690	0.802
white	1.692	1.603	1.786
level5	2.375	2.235	2.524
wayhome	**2.332**	**1.476**	**3.685**

Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses

Percent Concordant	64.6	Somers' D	0.299
Percent Discordant	34.7	Gamma	0.301
Percent Tied	0.7	Tau-a	0.149
Pairs	129303300	c	0.649

Model 2: Survival Analysis

The PHREG Procedure

Model Information

Data Set	WORK.BOTH3
Dependent Variable	reciddays
Censoring Variable	recidivate
Censoring Value(s)	0
Ties Handling	EXACT

Number of Observations Read	22753
Number of Observations Used	22753

Summary of the Number of Event and Censored Values

Percent

Total	Event	Censored	Censored
22753	11725	11028	48.47

Convergence Status
Convergence criterion (GCONV=1E-8) satisfied.

Model Fit Statistics

Criterion	Without Covariates	With Covariates
-2 LOG L	173877.30	172362.84
AIC	173877.30	172374.84
SBC	173877.30	172419.06

Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

Test	Chi-Square	DF	Pr > ChiSq
Likelihood Ratio	1514.4616	6	<.0001
Score	1585.3791	6	<.0001
Wald	1551.2580	6	<.0001

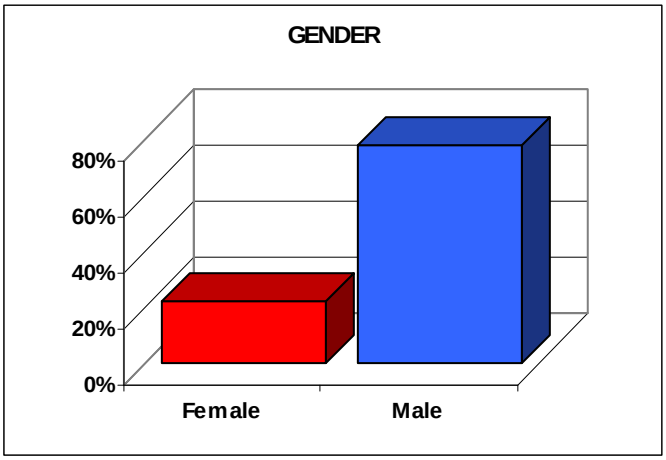
Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

Variable	DF	Parameter Estimate	Standard Error	Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq	Hazard Ratio
age	1	-0.01129	0.0009545	139.8477	<.0001	0.989
married	1	-0.11942	0.02888	17.0934	<.0001	0.887
male	1	0.18733	0.02722	47.3588	<.0001	1.206
white	1	-0.33440	0.01883	315.4651	<.0001	0.716
level5	1	-0.55858	0.01923	844.0923	<.0001	0.572
wayhome	**1**	**-0.63158**	**0.18298**	**11.9134**	**0.0006**	**0.532**

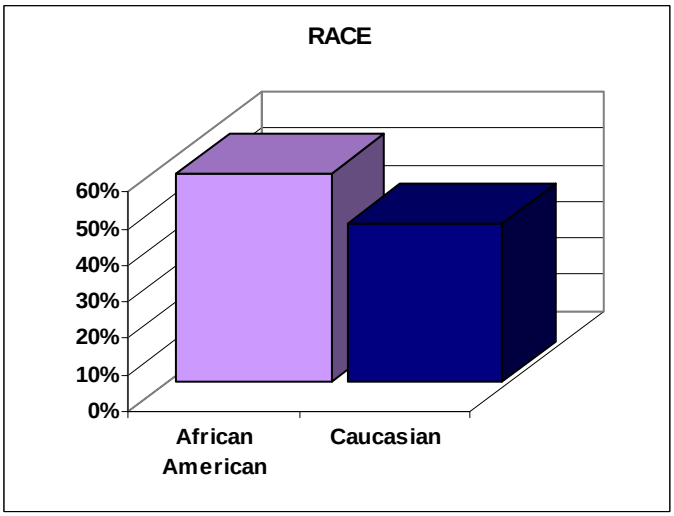
DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

Please note that the 86 participants profiled in the following are not all the Way Home participants, but those that were used in this study. Some participants were not used because they started in 2005, were released after 2004, could not be matched up with the DOC data, or participated in Way Home for less than 3 weeks.

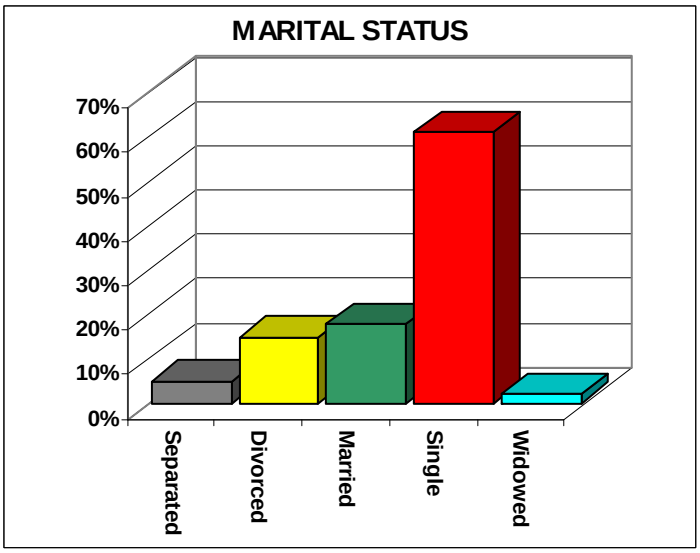
Gender	#	%
Female	19	22%
Male	67	78%
Total	86	100%



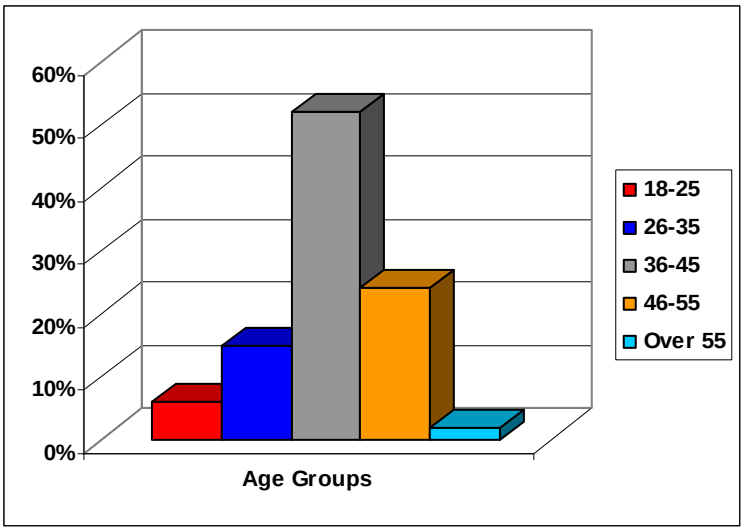
Race	#	%
African American	49	57%
Caucasian	37	43%
Total	48	100%

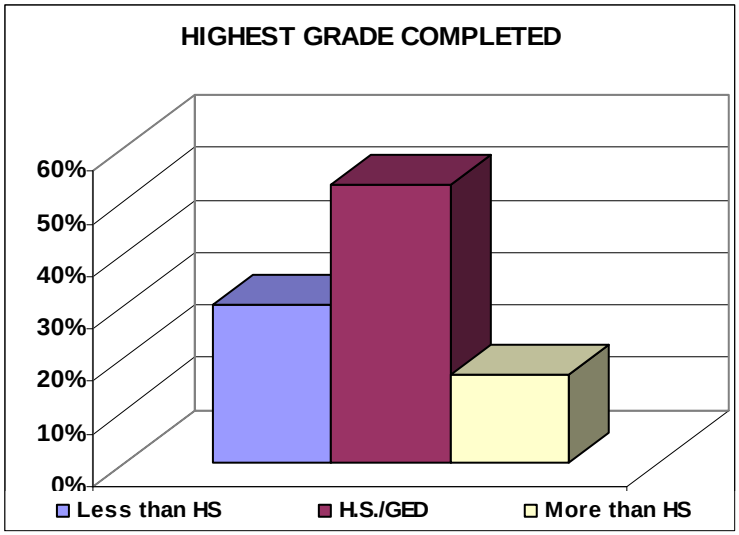


Marital Status	#	%
Separated	4	5%
Divorced	12	15%
Married	15	18%
Single	51	61%
Widowed	1	2%
Total	83	100%
Missing	3	2%

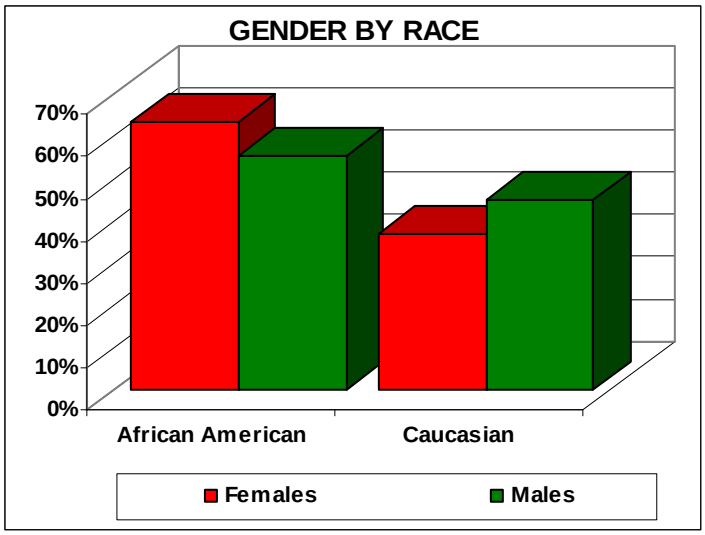


Age Groups	#	%
18-25	5	6%
26-35	13	15%
36-45	45	52%
46-55	21	24%
Over 55	2	2%
Total	86	100%
Average	41	

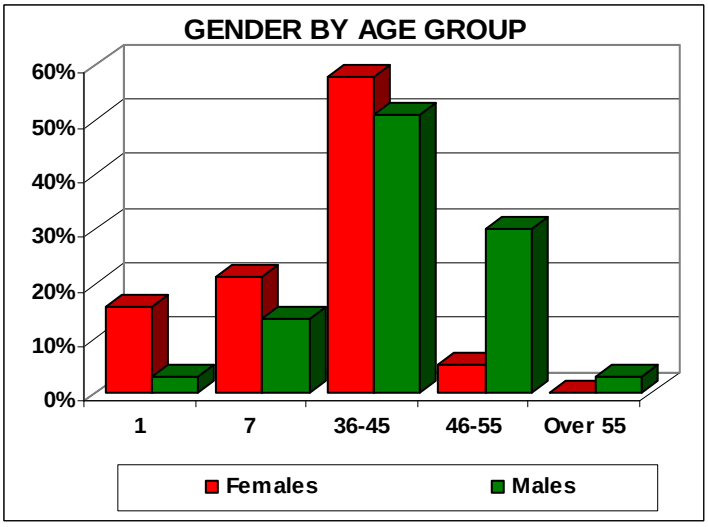




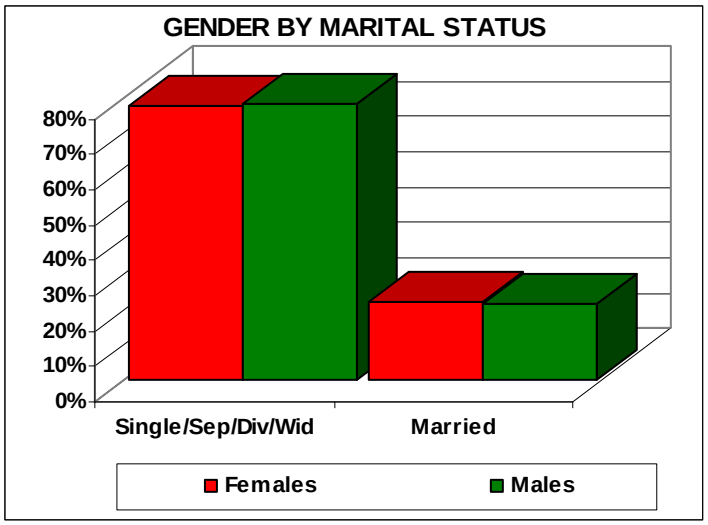
Education		
Highest Grade Completed	**#**	**%**
8	5	6%
9	7	8%
10	5	6%
11	8	10%
12	39	47%
13	8	10%
14	4	5%
15	2	2%
GED	5	6%
Total	83	100%
Missing: 3		



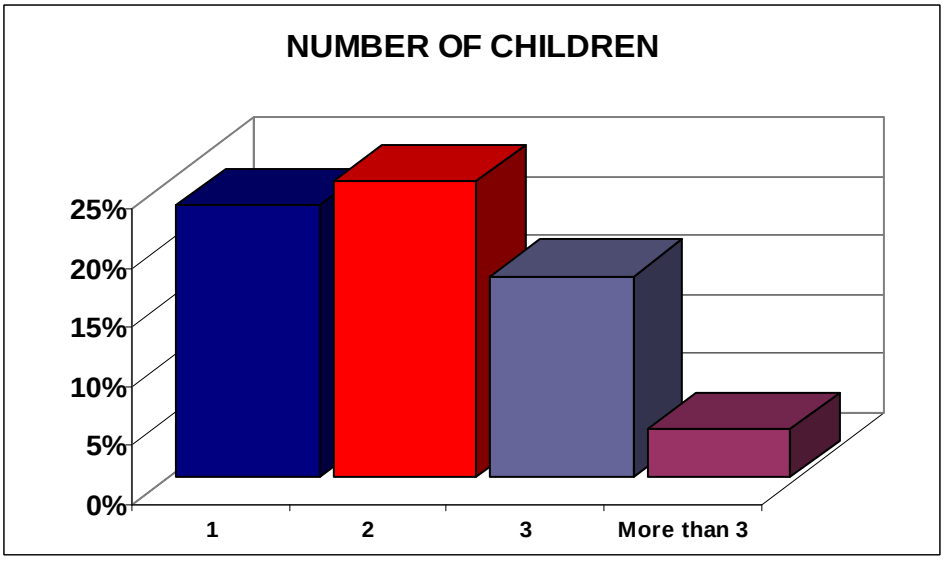
Gender By Race			
Race	**Females**	**Males**	**Total**
African American	12	37	49
Caucasian	7	30	37
Total	19	67	86



Gender by Age Group						
Gender	**19-21**	**24-35**	**36-45**	**46-55**	**Over 55**	**Total**
Females	3	4	11	1	0	19
Males	2	9	34	20	2	67
Total	5	13	45	21	2	86

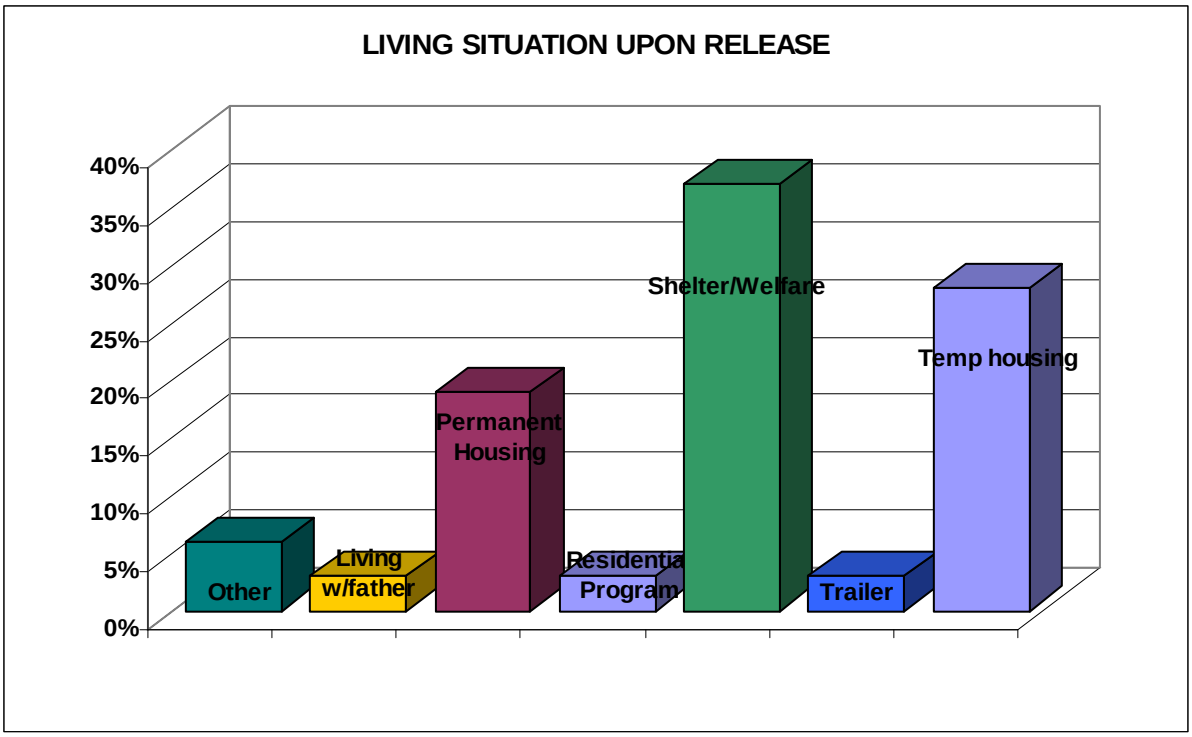


Marital Status by Gender			
Marital Status	**Females**	**Males**	**Total**
Separated	1	3	4
Divorced	2	10	12
Married	4	11	15
Single	10	41	51
Widowed	1	0	1
Total	18	65	83
Missing: 3			

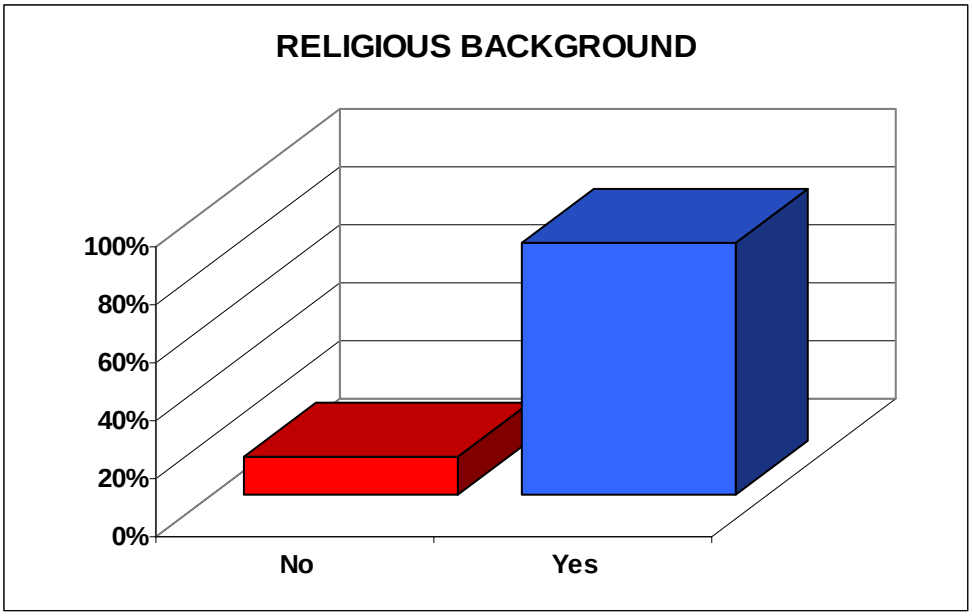


# of children	#	%
1	10	23%
2	7	25%
3	5	17%
More than 3	2	4%
Total	24	100%
Missing: 62		

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS



Living Situation Upon Release		
Response	#	%
Other	2	6%
Living w/father	1	3%
Permanent housing	6	19%
Residential program	1	3%
Shelter/Welfare	12	37%
Trailer	1	3%
Temp housing	9	28%
Total	32	100%
Missing: 54		

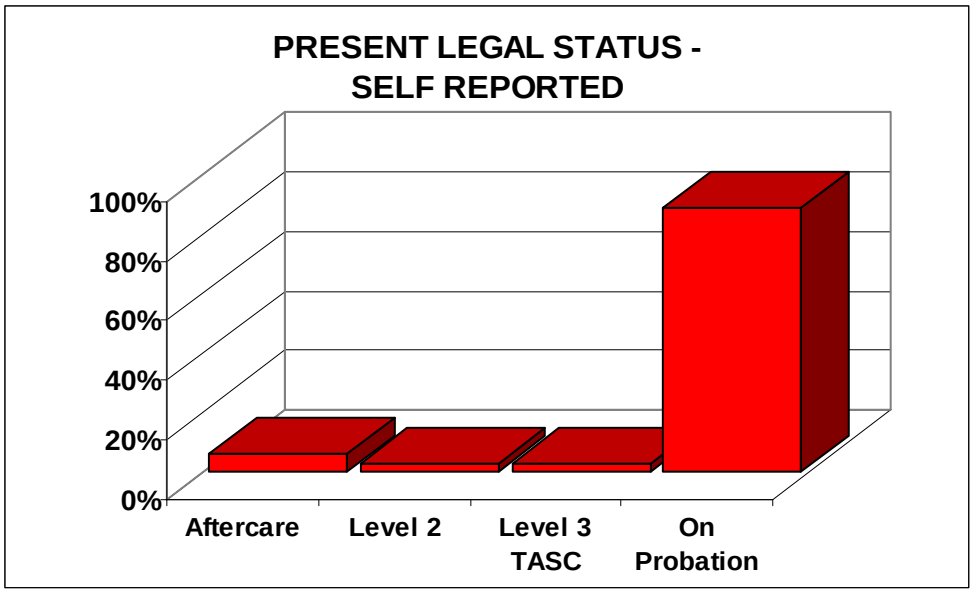


Religious Background		
Response	**#**	**%**
No	4	13%
Yes	27	87%
Total	31	100%
Missing: 55		

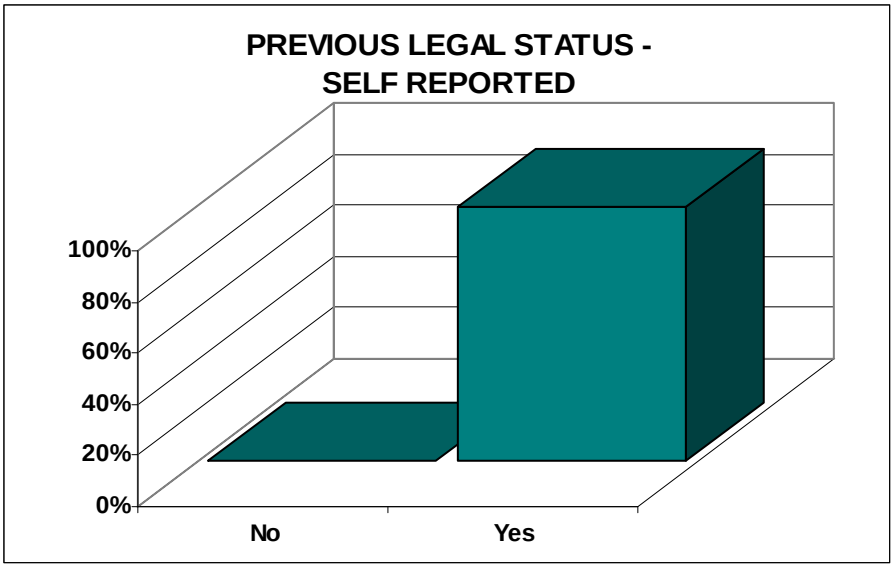
Church/Civic Affiliation		
Response	**#**	**%**
Agnostic	1	3%
Baptist	4	13%
Booker St.	1	3%
Catholic	5	17%
Christian	8	27%
Church of the Nazarene	1	3%
Holiness Church	1	3%
Methodist	5	17%
Muslin	1	3%
None preferred	1	3%
Pentecost	1	3%
Seven Day Adventist	1	3%
Total	30	100%
Missing: 56		

Previous Job Experience Occupation		
Response	**#**	**%**
Asbestos removal	1	3%
Assist Mgr, forklift	1	3%
Assist Public Works Director	1	3%
Bartender/waiter	1	3%
C.N.A.	2	6%
Clerk	1	3%
Concrete finisher	1	3%
Construction/Electric	1	3%
Construction/security	1	3%
Cook, Kitchen work	3	9%
Cut hair/cooking	1	3%
Delivering furniture, cooking, cashier	1	3%
Demolition, landscaper	1	3%
Dishwasher, truck driver	1	3%
Drywall finisher	1	3%
Farm work, dishwasher, prep food	1	3%
Gen Labor	1	3%
Housekeeping, cooking	1	3%
Iron worker, construction	1	3%
Laborer	1	3%
Lead kill/warm hang	1	3%
Line cook, dish washer	1	3%
Line haul/ painting	1	3%
Masonry	1	3%
McDonalds	1	3%
Painter/Iron Worker	1	3%
Total	29	100%
Missing:57		

LEGAL INDICATORS



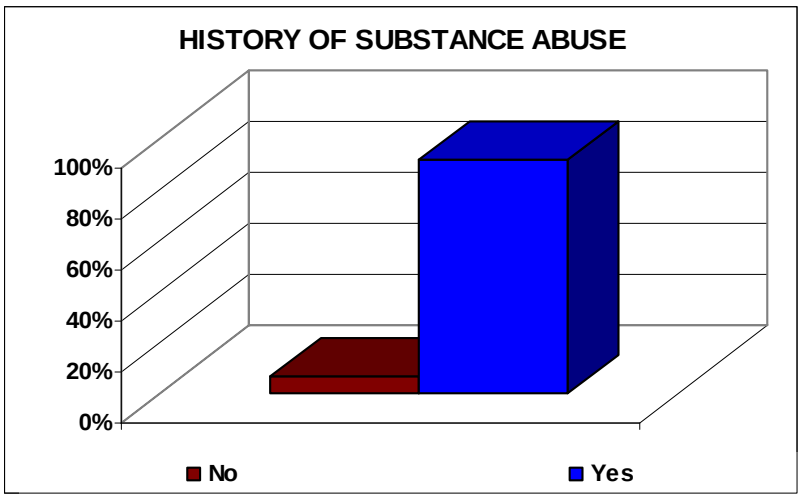
Present Legal Status – Self Reported		
Response	**#**	**%**
Aftercare	2	6%
Level 2	1	3%
Level 3 TASC	1	3%
On Probation	31	89%
Total	35	100%
Missing: 51		



Previous Legal History – Self Reported		
Response	**#**	**%**
No	0	0%
Yes	31	100%
Total	31	100%
Missing: 55		

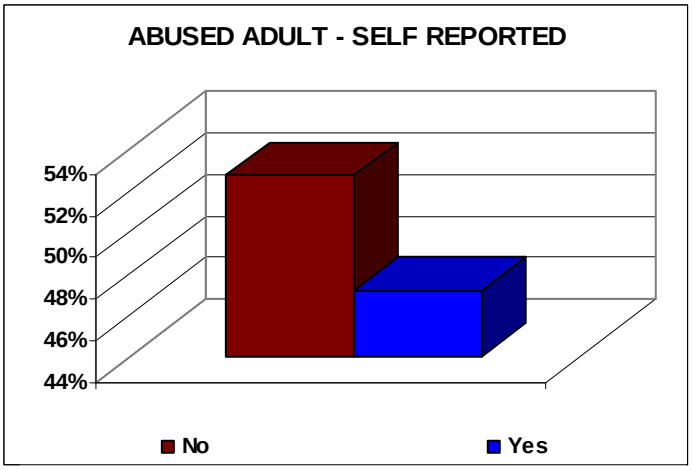
MOST RECENT CHARGES FROM DOC DATA		
CHARGE	**#**	**%**
ASSAULT	3	4%
BURGLARY	4	5%
CIV.CON.	2	2%
CONSPIRACY	1	1%
CRIMINAL CONTEMPT	1	1%
CRIMINAL IMPRISONMENT	1	1%
DUI ALCOHOL	3	4%
ESCAPE A	5	6%
FORGERY	1	1%
IDENTITY THEFT	1	1%
MURDER 1	1	1%
POSSESSION W/INTENT TO SELL	5	6%
RAPE 1ST	2	2%
RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT	1	1%
ROBBERY	7	8%
SHOPLIFFING	5	6%
TERRORISTIC THREATONING	1	1%
THEFT	3	4%
TRAFFICKING IN COCAINE	1	1%
UNKNOWN	6	6%
UNLAWFUL SEXUAL CONTACT	3	4%
VIOLATION OF PAROLE	28	33%
TOTAL	85	100%
Missing: 1		

HEALTH INDICATORS

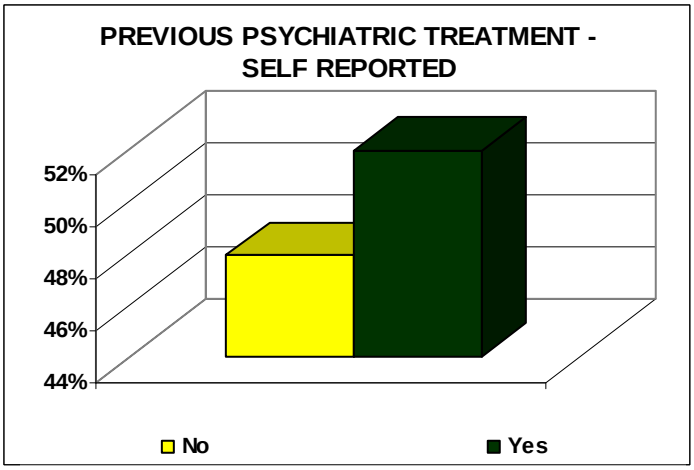


History of Substance Abuse		
Response	**#**	**%**
No	1	3%
Yes	34	97%
Total	35	100%
Missing: 51		

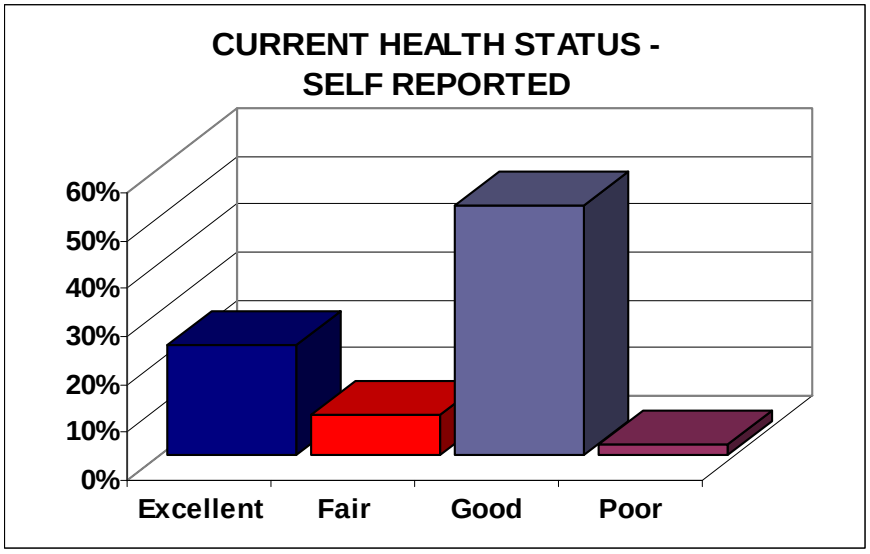
Abused Child - Self Reported		
Response	**#**	**%**
No	19	53%
Yes	17	47%
Total	36	100%
Abused Child – By Gender		
Responding "Yes"	**#**	**%**
Males	14	82%
Females	3	18%
Total	17	100%



Abused Adult - Self Reported		
Response	**#**	**%**
No	19	53%
Yes	17	47%
Total	36	100%
Abused Adult – By Gender		
Responding "Yes"	**#**	**%**
Males	7	41%
Females	10	59%
Total	17	100%

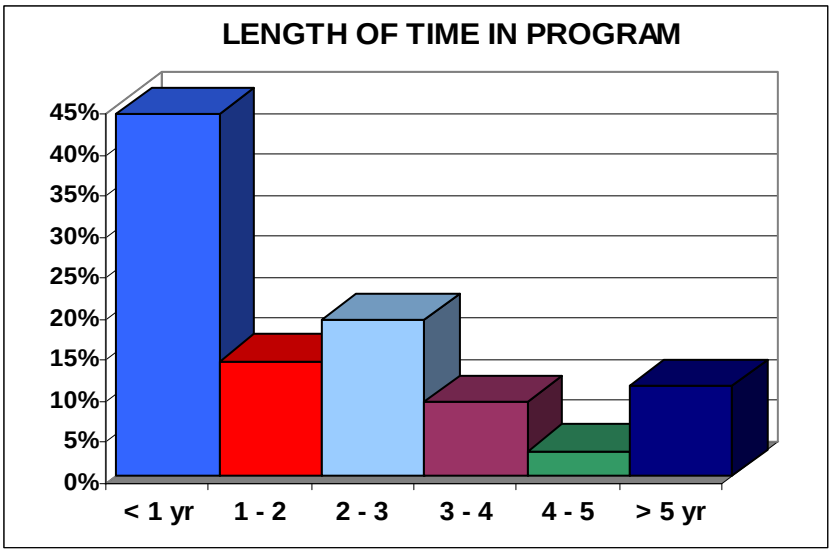


Previous Psychiatric Treatment – Self Reported		
Response	**#**	**%**
No	15	48%
Yes	16	52%
Total	31	100%



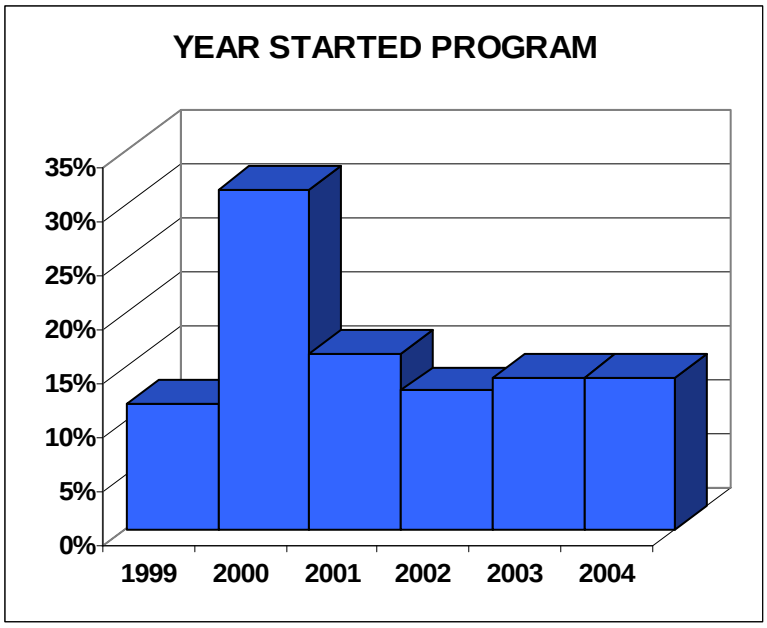
Current Health - Self Reported		
Response	**#**	**#**
Excellent	10	32%
Fair	4	13%
Good	16	52%
Poor	1	3%
Total	31	100%
Missing: 55		

PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS



Length of Time in Program		
# of Years	**#**	**%**
< 1 yr	38	44%
1 - 2 years	12	14%
2 - 3 years	16	19%
3 - 4 years	8	9%
4 - 5 years	3	3%
> 5 yr	9	11%
Total	86	100%

Length of Time in Program By Gender		
	Gender	
# of Years	**Females**	**Males**
< 1 yr	6	32
1 - 2 years	3	9
2 - 3 years	6	10
3 - 4 years	3	5
4 - 5 years	0	3
> 5 yr	1	8
Total	19	67



Year Started In Program		
Year	**#**	**%**
1999	10	12%
2000	27	31%
2001	14	16%
2002	11	13%
2003	12	14%
2004	12	14%
Total	86	100%

Year Started by Gender			
Year Started	**Females**	**Males**	**Total**
1999	2	8	10
2000	3	24	27
2001	1	13	14
2002	2	9	11
2003	5	7	12
2004	6	6	12
Total	19	67	86