

Offender Success

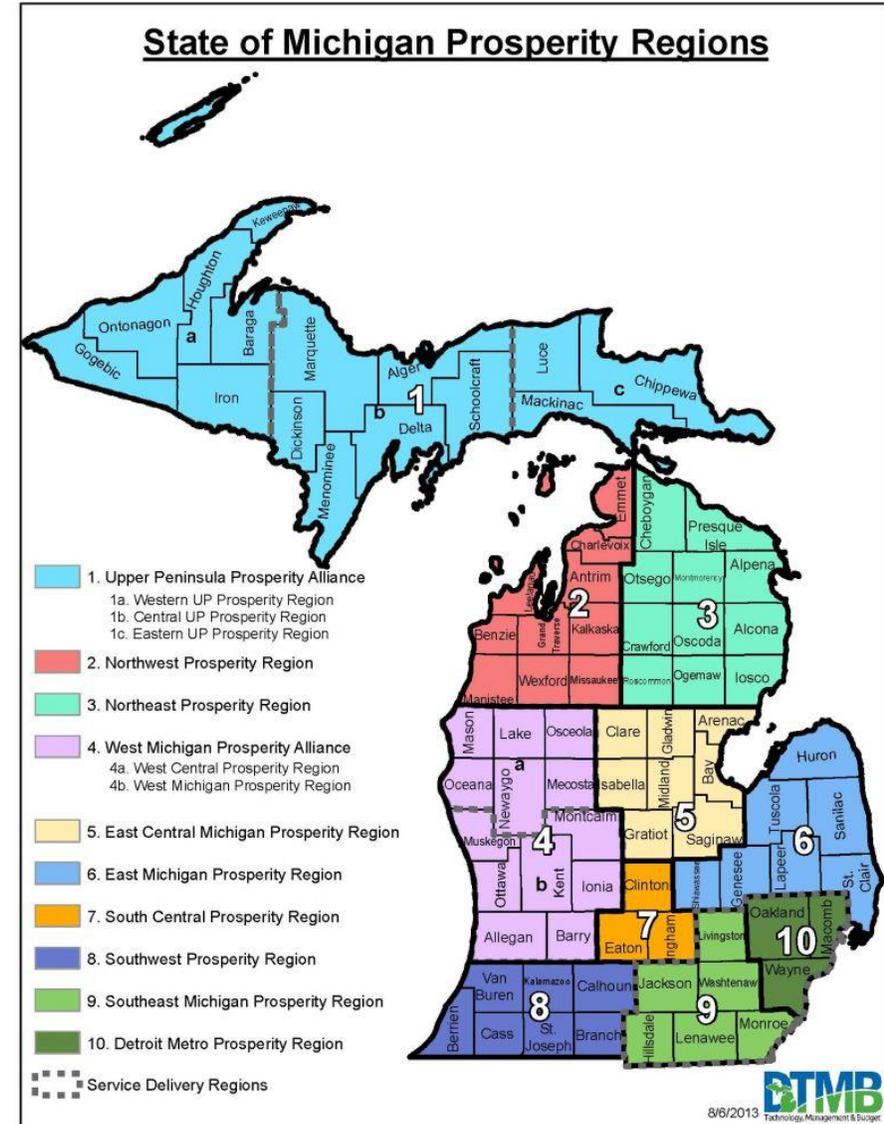


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OVERVIEW

MDOC contracts with various agencies across the state to facilitate the Offender Success Program.

- For Prosperity Region 4 Michigan Works! West Central is the Administrative Agency.
- Offender Success Program targets moderate to high-risk offenders who are returning to society.
- Parole Board designates an offender.
- A Parole Agent can also designate an offender.



HISTORY

Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative was implemented in 2009.

- MDOC created a site map, and the program was put out as an RFP through a competitive bid process.
- Michigan Works! West Central was awarded the contract and named the Admin Agency for the West-Central Site Area.
- MPRI became Prisoner Reentry once MDOC determined it was no longer an initiative and it was since renamed the Offender Success Program.
- MWWC remains the Admin Agency for what is now the Region 4 Offender Success Program. This includes the 13 counties within Region 4: Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osecola & Ottawa.
- The most recent contract was established 4/1/2017 and will end 3/31/2022 with the option of 4-1-year extensions.

Region 4 Offender Success Contracts

- Community Coordinator-Angie Sprank is the 2nd Community Coordinator for the Admin Agency, she was selected to fill this role in January of 2012. She is a contracted service provider.
- Program Manager-Ellen Williams. First Contract/Program Manager and was hired by the Admin on .
- 36 contracted providers who provide the various services that are later outlined. Some hold multiple contracts for a total of 65 contracts.

Region 4 Offender Success Steering Team

- 4 Co Chairs-Admin Director-Shelly Keene, 4b MDOC Regional Manager-Jon Timmers, Bellamy Creek Warden-Matthew Macauley, Community Representative-Returning Citizen Ross Hayes.
- Committee consists of over 30 individuals-MDOC, community partners, law enforcement, DHHS, Veteran's Services, County Commissioner, Prosecutor, Judge, religious entities, etc.

Region 4 Offender Success Advisory Councils

- Rural and Urban
- Housing
- Kent County-27 agencies represented.

HOUSING

Residential Stability

- 24/7 Structured Housing
 - Alternative Directions-Kent County
 - KPEP-Muskegon County
- Base Transitional Housing (TH)
 - Rentals, one motel, Recovery Beds
- Resource Navigator
 - Agencies and individuals contracted to provide housing navigation.
- Housing Supplies
 - Basic supplies. Such as-basic cookware, utensils, cleaning supplies, linens, etc.

Housing statistics

- FY21 (10/1/20 – 9/30/21)
- 281 entered housing
 - 255 successful (91 percent)
 - 104 24/7 structured; 97 percent successful
 - 150 TH; 87% successful
- 27 HCV, 18 current
 - 6 no longer needed, 3 unsuccessful
 - Last unsuccessful 2019
 - 89 percent successful

EMPLOYMENT

Vocational Assessment

- Assessment of academic and vocational skills.

Job Readiness

- Developing a resume, cover letter and soft skills enhancement (proper dress, hygiene), mock interviews.

Job Placement

- Guided job search, instruction/guidance on appropriate and realistic job choices, search methods, and resources.

Temporary Work Experience

- For those who lack work history. Transitional employment in public or private sector
- Goodwill West Michigan

On-The-Job Training

- An activity that reimburses the employer for the costs of skill development and training a new employee for a specific job. Expectation is employer will retain offender full-time.

Work Supplies

- Interview and work clothing including boots, work tools or other special training and work-related required items.
- GED

Contract various Employment Services Providers to provide these services.

- Every county has an Employment Provider.

Anyone placed in Transitional Housing receives Employment Services

KPM

- Key Performance Measures set by MDOC.
 - FY21-JP (qtr. 1 & 2) BM 55.4%. Region 4 54%
 - FY21-JR (qtr. 1 & 2) BM 37.4%. Region 4 45.7%
 - Statewide JP 48.9%. JR 45.7%
 - Average hourly wage Region 4-\$14.83. Statewide \$13.79
- Region 4 has met and/or exceeded KPM benchmarks.

SOCIAL SUPPORTS

Clothing Assistance

- Preferred method of purchase is a voucher.
- Goodwill, Salvation Army, other secondhand stores.

Hygiene/Food Assistance

- Basic items for personal hygiene. Basic food items to assist with transition.
- Focus on those in transitional housing or rural areas that don't have food banks, trucks, etc.
- Haircut vouchers.
- Laundry vouchers.

Identification

- Vital documents. Such as Birth Certificate, Social Security Card, State ID or Driver's License.
- State ID/Driver's License, Birth Certificates and Social Security Cards are being obtained prerelease.

Law Enforcement

- Night Hawk

Public Transportation

- Bus passes, bus tokens, vouchers and co-pays to access public transit or government subsidized.

Private Transportation

- Fuel cards, bicycles, and transport services negotiated at per trip or per mile rate.

Resource Navigators

- Agencies or individuals are contracted to provide these services.
- Every county has a Resource Navigator.

CLEAR/MENTORING

CLEAR

- Coalition, Leadership, Education, Advice, Rehabilitation
- CLEAR exists to break the cycle of recidivism by building community and law enforcement relationships to lead, educate, and mentor returning citizens, thereby creating safer communities and improving lives.
- CLEAR was started more than 10 years ago by Grand Rapids Police Department and MDOC.
 - Law enforcement and returning citizens come together once a week to share lunch and powerful conversation. They discuss the barriers they face; problem solve and offer each other support. Various agencies attend as well to share resources, employment opportunities, etc.
 - Group size can range from a few individuals to more than 20.
- CLEAR is offered in Kent, Muskegon and Ottawa Counties.
- Groups for men and women.
- In Ottawa County OS partners with Holland Police Department. The department provides officers to attend each group on a weekly basis and do not request funding for their time.
- Attending CLEAR is voluntary.
- The recidivism rate for those who attend 5 more meetings is 18 percent.

HEALTH & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Assessment

- Assessment of mental health must be made by a “Mental Health Professional” defined by the Mental Health Code.

Anger Management

- Structured approach. Group and Individual Services. Success tracking to demonstrate proficiency.
- Must be gender specific.

Cognitive Behavioral Groups

- Structured approach. Group and Individual Services. Success tracking to demonstrate proficiency. Identify: Cognitive Restructuring, Problem Solving, Social Skills Development, and Moral Development.
- Must be gender specific.

Family Counseling

- Structured approach. Group and Individual Services. Success tracking to demonstrate proficiency.
- Must be gender specific.

Batterer Intervention Services

- Includes both domestic violence risk assessment/intake and batterer prevention/intervention programming. Both types must adhere to Batterer Intervention Standards for the State of Michigan
- Must be gender-specific.

Trauma Counseling

- Structured approach. Group and Individual Services. Success tracking to demonstrate proficiency. Volunteer basis.
- Must be gender specific.
- First Region to pilot the program.
 - As of January 2022, 35 individuals enrolled.

Individual Counseling

- If a Mental Health Professional makes the determination that group therapy is not appropriate or is not available in the community for the Offender, Individual Counseling is allowable.

Psychiatric Evaluation

- This service may be used to determine the appropriate level of mental health.

REGION 4 TRUCK DRIVING PROGRAM

Program started June 2015 in Region 4.

- Initiated by Ross Luurtsema - Owner of ALTL. Inc. and Claren Lau-President of ALTL, Inc.
- 6 of us (ALTL, MDOC, Trucking School and Offender Success) developed and implemented the OS Truck Driving Program.

First enrollment January 2016.

To date, over 60 candidate enrolled in Region 4.

- 250 candidates statewide.

96% success rate in Region 4 (only 1 individual returned to prison).

- 96.2 percent success rate statewide.

Successful vetting process.

- 6 months on parole (under special circumstances)
- Support from Parole Agent.
- No violations or positive drug screens.
- No use of marijuana.
- Valid DL with no points.
- Work history.
- Interviewed by FCG Truck Driver Training, Inc.
- Must study, test at SOS and obtain Commercial Learner's Permit
- Pass DOT physical.

- All selected candidates will attend training at FCG Truck Driver Training, Inc.
- All selected candidates are required to have a travel pass to travel out-of-state, this is issued by MDOC. Parole staff can coordinate directly with the Truck Driving Company's dispatch center to get the itinerary and provide them with a copy of the travel pass.
 - Agents can have access to the company's GPS system to locate the vehicle at any given time.
- Welding Program recently established that mirrors the Truck Driving Program.
 - Currently 2 individuals enrolled and starting classes this spring.
 - Both fully funded by grants.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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