



Project Status Report

Project : Westville Correctional Service Centre

Status : Sponsored Project

Project Leader: Rahila Khan

Supported By : Heather Slabbert

Location : Westville, Durban, KwaZulu Natal

Date : 25 January 2010

Overview

Following on from 2006, the project continued in 2009 in the Female Section of DCS. The following volunteers participated as facilitators:

Rahila Khan	Accredited Journey Practitioner (Project Leader)
Heather Slabbert	Accredited Journey Practitioner
Erin Christiansen-Pandey	Accredited Journey Practitioner
Damayanti Dewa	Accredited Journey Practitioner
Christine Andrews	Journey Graduate

Our services expanded into the following sections within the Female Facility during the course of the year viz., C1, C2, C3, B1, B2, B3 and A4. One practitioner was based at the Female Workshop. Keeness for Journeywork was still displayed by different members of staff and offenders.

CASELOAD DISTRIBUTION

Section A4, C, Workshop – Sentenced Offenders

TOTAL NUMBER OF FEMALES WORKED WITH	129
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Section B – Unsentenced/ Offenders with Short Sentences

TOTAL NUMBER OF FEMALES WORKED WITH	119
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In total 248 offenders received Journeywork.

Journeywork received - Groups

Table 1: Section C - Sentenced Offenders - Group Sessions

No. of Sessions Received	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
No. of Offenders	12	9	2	4	0	2	0	0	0	64

Table 2: Workshop- Sentenced Offenders - Group Sessions

No. of Sessions Received	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
No. of Offenders	45	22	13	9	2	2	2	0	1	209

Tables 1 and 2 show the number of offenders and the number of group sessions the offenders received

Journeywork received - Groups

Table 3: Section B1 - Sentenced Offenders - Group Sessions

No. of Sessions Received	1	2	3	Total
No. of Offenders	15	0	0	15

Table 4: Section B2 - Unsentenced Offenders - Group Sessions

No. of Sessions Received	1	2	3	Total
No. of Offenders	33	9	3	60

Tables 3 and 4 show the number of offenders and the number of group sessions the offenders received

Journeywork received - Groups

Table 5: Section B3 - Unsentenced Offenders - Group Sessions

No of sessions received	1	2	3	4	Total
No. of Offenders	38	7	3	4	65

Table 5 show the number of offenders and the number of group sessions the offenders received

Journeywork received - Individuals

Table 6: Section C: Sentenced Offenders
Individual Journey Sessions

Number of sessions	1	2	3	4	5	Total Number of sessions
Number of offenders	3	7	14	2	1	
Total Sessions	3	14	42	8	5	72

Table 7: Workshop: Sentenced Offenders
Individual Journey Sessions

Number of sessions	1	2	3	4	5	Total Number of sessions
Number of offenders	2	3	16	4	1	
Total Sessions	2	6	48	16	5	77

Tables 6 and 7 show the number of offenders and the number of sessions received for the period Feb-Oct 2009

Journeywork received - Individuals

**Table 8: Section B1: Sentenced Offenders
Individual Journey Sessions**

Number of sessions	1	2	3	4	Total Number of sessions
Number of offenders	1	0	0	0	
Total Sessions	1	0	0	0	1

**Table 9: Section B2: Unsentenced Offenders
Individual Journey Sessions**

Number of sessions	1	2	3	4	Total Number of sessions
Number of offenders	25	6	11	3	
Total Sessions	25	12	33	12	82

Tables 8 and 9 show the number of offenders and the number of sessions received for the period Feb-Oct 2009

Journeywork received - Individuals

**Table 10: Section B3: Unsentenced Offenders
Individual Journey Sessions**

Number of sessions	1	2	3	4	Total Number of sessions
Number of offenders	10	1	0	0	
Total Sessions	10	2	0	0	12

Table 10 shows the number of offenders and the number of sessions received for the period Feb-Oct 2009

OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

Growth of the Journey Outreach Programme from 2006 to 2009

	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
Number of Individuals	25	37	61	248	371
Number of Individual Sessions Received	72	124	153	244	593

In the group sessions offered in 2009, individual offenders received between one to nine group sessions. The size of groups worked with by practitioners varied from a minimum of three participants to as many as seventy five.

The above table indicates that in 2009 the number of individual offenders serviced has grown by approximately 60%. The bulk of the workload was divided amongst the three more senior practitioners who manage the various sections. During the course of the year, four practitioners came in twice a week, making a total of eight sessions. During the latter part of the year, owing to two practitioners and the Journey grad volunteer being on leave, DCS granted the remaining two practitioners an extra day to cover the shortfall. Once the third senior practitioner returned, the extra day was kept which meant three practitioners working three sessions a week, making a total of nine sessions.

Each sentenced offender who finished the programme received a Certificate of Completion. There were offenders who went the extra mile to assist the practitioners with translations, referrals, and supporting others. These were given special recognition in their certificate.

The Journey Programme became more structured and effective due to the teamwork of all stakeholders within the hierarchy of D.C.S. and the Journey Outreach Team.

The social workers and case supervisors are now taking cognisance of the individual reports submitted by Journey Outreach twice a year to gain new insight and understanding of the offenders' emotional well being and progress made over a period of time. This has been further endorsed by the members of staff in Care and Development.

PRACTITIONERS' FINDINGS

1. As members and offenders/detainees have become more exposed each year to Journeywork with the expansion of the programme, we have found more openness to the work. More members enquired about Journeywork for themselves.
2. Several offenders/detainees who had participated in the programme in previous years encouraged their peers to receive Journeywork.
3. We found the Members of staff throughout the female section to be most supportive of our work. Their referrals assisted the practitioners to spread the work more rapidly. Two Members had a session themselves, and many more voiced an interest for Journeywork.

Section B2

1. B2 was rather challenging to work in due to the quick turnover of offenders as they were mostly unsentenced. Many were there for a week or two and were then released. Follow-ups were difficult to do especially if the offender was gone to the hospital, had a visitor or did not come back the following week to continue on the programme.
2. The new rotational system of staff within DCS also impacted hugely in B2 and B3. The offenders did not take the programme seriously and as a result did not attend the follow up sessions. Although some members of staff were very proactive and referred offenders for their own good they still did not attend regularly. Some offenders did not understand the long term benefits of Journey work and were sometimes influenced by other offenders who were apathetic. Some offenders just wanted a quick fix and were distracted by other pressing issues such as not being able to collect their grant and that of their children's.
3. The Journey Programme was better received in Section B1. This was largely due to Mrs Cebekulu who was very proactive in getting the programme there and referred many offenders to the practitioners. She genuinely encouraged the offenders and became very involved in their welfare before and after the programme. This was her stance over the years and it was an absolute pleasure working and liaising with her.
4. It became evident that when the DCS member was positive and open in embracing the programme within a section, the offenders followed suit and benefited.

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5. Those detainees, who received Journeywork in Section B and were then sentenced, coped and adjusted well when they were eventually sentenced and transferred to Section C.
6. In Section B2, due to the circumstances of them being there for a short period of time only, it usually wasn't possible to complete one-on-one sessions. This proved to be insufficient to their needs.
7. Many of those in B2 had drug-related offences. They certainly needed more individual sessions. A couple of them were released and re-arrested for the same offence.

Section C

1. Those offenders who previously received Journeywork were very proactive and encouraged the other offenders to participate in the programme.
2. The atmosphere in this section became calmer and more relaxed. Last year there were some incidences of absenteeism by offenders who would say that they were attending either the Workshop or the Journey Outreach Programme and would not attend either. With a Journey Practitioner being available at the Workshop this diminished the level of absenteeism of the offenders. Offenders became more pro-active in participating in other programmes after receiving Journeywork. The same was evident in section B2 where one or two detainees assisted the members in distributing toiletries, linen etc. to their new peers. They displayed good leadership qualities. The reports elaborate more on the progress of each of these individuals.

Workshop

1. There was tremendous support from the Workshop manager, Mrs Sandra Holtzhausen. She referred offenders whom she felt would benefit from the programme. Other members also showed enthusiasm and support for the work.
2. Offenders encouraged one another to overcome their fears and take the challenge of revisiting painful past events in their lives. Back in their cells, some offenders expressed the desire to have Journeywork at the very moment they were experiencing painful emotions. They were then empowered to use the tools of the Journey in supporting themselves and others.

CHALLENGES

1. Locating offenders who had already registered for the Journey programme could be challenging. Many offenders were involved in other programmes, with school work or hospital visits whilst also on the Journey programme. They were not allowed free access and free movement between sections which created time delays.
2. Getting translators was a challenge. Sometimes the translator has difficulty with the practitioner's terminology.
3. The change in shifts by the staff due to the new rotational system proved challenging. Some of the new members did not fully understand the programme and its long term benefits for the offenders/detainees; and as a result they did not encourage them to participate.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That all managers and members of DCS staff in each section be briefed about the importance of The Journey Outreach Programme not only for the offenders but also for themselves.
2. We highly recommend that members receive Journeywork. When practitioners work with children in their private practices they also work with the mother/parent. In principle we encourage a similar partnering between offender/detainee and members of staff.

FINAL SUMMATION

This programme has grown substantially and is now recognised as an effective rehabilitation programme in the Female Facility of the Westville Correctional Centre.

This year's Presentation Day was well attended by:

- Mrs N. Manqele-Head of Female Facility
- Mrs N. Mkhize- Operations Manager
- Director J Taljaard- Development & Care
- Mr Poooben Pillay- Development of Programmes for Offenders
- Ms Dlamini – Head Social Worker & Acting Director of Care and Development
- Ms Myeza _ Case Management Committee
- Ms Mvelase- Assistant Social Worker
- Mrs Holtzhausen- Head of Workshop

The most prominent members of staff addressed the gathering and voiced their approval of the progress made. The Offenders again showed by their testimony how much this work is valued by them and has benefited them. The gratitude of the Offenders and the Members of staff for our effort and commitment was expressed.

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Quality Assurance is underway. This will be taken up again in February and pursued to conclusion.

Rahila Khan, the Project leader, delivered a presentation on the Journey Outreach Programme and its progression over the past 3-4 years at the Restorative Justice Workshop spearheaded by Reverend Bongani Hlatswayo on 20 November 2009.

CONCLUSION

Having one Journey Practitioner in charge of every section worked extremely well and gave new impetus to the programme and allowed us to reach far more offenders than before.

The request of Ms Dlamini that we offer more group sessions in Sections B1, B2 and B3 allowed the offenders to clear out some of their inner issues even if it was only in one session. More encouragement is required from the Unit managers for the offenders to participate in this programme.

The Journey Outreach team and DCS have come together as a cohesive unit. We have learnt enormously from this programme. The Journey Outreach Programme sets up the potential for this work in any Correctional Centre in South Africa and the statistics and paperwork are available to any Journey branch worldwide.

WAY FORWARD

Due to the growth and success of the programme in 2009, Journey Outreach has been offered an added partnership in setting up a pilot project viz. Restorative Justice with DCS in working with the victims of crime.

We intend to offer our programme to Members of Staff through a proposal to be tendered to The Directorate of the Employees Assistance Programme via DCS in 2010.

As we step into a brighter 2010, we, once again, trust in Grace, to allow us to surrender and stay open to all new opportunities.

FUNDING PROPOSAL FOR DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES WESTVILLE, DURBAN, S.A.

Time Frame: 1 year (Feb 2010 – Nov 2010)
Total weeks worked: 40

2010 BUDGET

Number of Practitioners: 4
Hours: 2 mornings of 3 hours each 9am – 12pm
Consultation/ Admin fees: R450 per morning per practitioner

Item	Two days Per week	Per month	Per Year 40 weeks	Total Cost
Consultation and admin fees	4 x R900.00 = R3600.00		R 144,000.00	
Sundry expenses		R250 x 10mths	R 2,500.00	
Year End Presentation Day			R 1,500.00	
				R148,000.00

NOTE: Additional practitioners joining the programme would warrant extra funding.

Any questions about or approval for use of the content in this report should be directed to the Journey Outreach – Africa office by email at africa@journeyoutreach.com or by phone +27 (0)11 608 2933

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