



ICPSR 25942

# Substance-Free Transitional Housing and Community Corrections in Washington County, Oregon, 2005-2008

Michael Finigan  
*NPC Research*

Sonia Worcel  
*NPC Research*

User Guide



National Institute of Justice  
Data Resources Program

# ICPSR

P.O. Box 1248  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106  
[www.icpsr.umich.edu](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu)



# Terms of Use

The terms of use for this study can be found at:  
<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/25942/terms>

## Information about Copyrighted Content

Some instruments administered as part of this study may contain in whole or substantially in part contents from copyrighted instruments. Reproductions of the instruments are provided as documentation for the analysis of the data associated with this collection. Restrictions on "fair use" apply to all copyrighted content. More information about the reproduction of copyrighted works by educators and librarians is available from the United States Copyright Office.

### NOTICE

#### WARNING CONCERNING COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement.



## **Bibliographic Description**

ICPSR Study No.: 25942

Title: Substance-Free Transitional Housing and Community Corrections in Washington County, Oregon, 2005-2008

Principal Investigator(s): Michael Finigan, NPC Research

Sonia Worcel, NPC Research

Funding Agency: United States Department of Justice. Office of Justice Programs. National Institute of Justice

Grant Number: 2005-DD-BX-1009

Bibliographic Citation: Finigan, Michael, and Sonia Worcel. Substance-Free Transitional Housing and Community Corrections in Washington County, Oregon, 2005-2008. ICPSR25942-v1. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2013.  
doi:10.3886/ICPSR25942.v1

## **Scope of Study**

Summary: The study investigated self-sufficiency, community adjustment, substance use, and criminal recidivism outcomes for substance abusing offenders served through the Washington County (Oregon) Community Corrections Department (WCCC) to document the value-added of providing substance-free transitional housing services. The study addressed the value-added of Oxford House and other transitional housing services to the combination of services offenders receive, and documented the relative costs and benefits of substance-free transitional housing services. Individuals were eligible for the study if they entered Oxford Houses, entered some other form of substance-free transitional housing, or could benefit from, but did not enter, any form of substance-free transitional housing. A total of 356 supervisees were eligible for the study; 301 agreed to participate in baseline interviews, and 238 participated in 12-month follow-up interviews. The study included both interview data collection and administrative records data collection. The research team also collected Housing Data (Part 2) from the housing section of the interviews and Treatment Data (Part 3) from a statewide treatment database.

Subject Term(s): alcohol abuse, alcohol consumption, drug use, employment, halfway houses, housing, mental health, neighborhood characteristics,

neighborhood conditions, parole, probation services, psychological wellbeing, substance abuse, substance abuse treatment

Smallest Geographic Unit: none

Geographic Coverage: Oregon, United States

Time Period: • 2005 - 2008

Date(s) of Collection: • 2005 - 2008

Unit of Observation: Individual (Part 1), Housing episode (Part 2), Treatment episode (Part 3)

Universe: All substance abusing offenders served by Washington County Community Corrections in Washington County, Oregon between 2005 and 2008.

Data Type: administrative records data  
event/transaction data  
survey data

Data Collection Notes: The Interview and Administrative Data (Part 1), Housing Data (Part 2), and Treatment Data (Part 3), can be linked using the A1 "PARTICIPANT ID" variable.

The study design included baseline, 6-month, and 12-month interviews with study participants. The 6-month interview data are not available as part of this data collection at this time. Additionally, Interview and Administrative Data (Part 1) are not available on all 301 baseline interview participants. Rather, Part 1 data are only available on the 238 individuals that participated in the baseline interviews and the 12-month follow-up interviews. The research team also collected Housing Data (Part 2) from the housing section of the interviews and Treatment Data (Part 3) from a statewide treatment database.

The stakeholder interview data and cost study component data referenced in the project's report (Worcel, Burrus, Finigan, 2009; NCJ 225802) are not available as part of this data collection.

## Methodology

**Purpose of the Study:** The current study investigated the value-added of providing substance-free transitional housing to offenders within this service rich environment. Specifically, the study investigated self-sufficiency, community adjustment, substance use, and criminal recidivism outcomes for substance abusing offenders served through the Washington County (Oregon) Community Corrections Department (WCCC) to document the value-added of providing substance-free transitional housing services. Specifically, the study addressed the following research questions:

1. What is the value-added of Oxford House and other transitional housing services to the combination of services offenders receive? Does participating in substance-free transitional housing services lead to measurable improvements in self-sufficiency and decreases in substance use and criminal offending?
2. What are the relative costs and benefits of substance-free transitional housing services to the taxpayer?

**Study Design:** The study included both interview data collection and administrative records data collection (Part 1). Interviews were conducted with study participants shortly after the start of their supervision and at 6- and 12-month follow-ups, however only baseline interview data and 12-month interview data are included in Part 1. The research team employed a comprehensive recruitment and tracking strategy that resulted in 301 eligible participants agreeing to participate in baseline interviews, and 238 participating in 12-month follow-up interviews. The interviews were primarily closed-ended, structured interviews that gathered information about living situations, demographics, health, substance use, self-sufficiency indicators (including employment and income information), and psychosocial indicators (including social support and stress). In addition to interview data collection, the study relied upon administrative records, which provided such information as criminal justice history and recidivism, substance abuse treatment entries, and usage of WCCC services. Data were collected for the 12-month period following the start of supervision.

The research team also collected Housing Data (Part 2) from the housing section of the interviews and Treatment Data (Part 3) from a statewide treatment database. Part 2 is a 901 case stacked dataset that lists each housing episode for each participant (multiple records per participant). Part 3 is a 243 case stacked dataset that lists each treatment episode for each participant (multiple records per participant). Participants with no treatment episodes are not included in the treatment data.

**Sample:** The study sample included offenders residing in Oxford Houses, offenders entering some other form of substance-free transitional housing, and offenders who could benefit from, but did not enter, any form of substance-free transitional housing between 2005 and 2008. A

total of 356 WCCC supervisees who began supervision during the sample building period were eligible for the study. Of 356 supervisees that were eligible for the study; 301 agreed to participate in baseline interviews, and 238 participated in 12-month follow-up interviews, resulting in a final sample size of 238.

Weight: None.

Sources of Information: Baseline and 12-month interviews with study participants.

The Washington County (Oregon) Community Corrections Department (WCCC) Database: The WCCC electronic database houses all information regarding supervisees' involvement with the department. The research team created a data extraction tool, and research staff accessed each study participant's electronic file and recorded the necessary data onto the data extraction tool. The data collected from this database included supervision start and end dates, number and type of conditions of supervision, number of office visits, number of technical violations, number and type of re-arrests, and number of jail days.

Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS): NPC made a data request to LEDS to gather criminal history data on study participants. This data was returned to NPC in paper form, and the research team extracted the information necessary to tally the total prior felony and misdemeanor arrests for study participants.

Oregon Justice Information System (OJIN): NPC has on-site access to OJIN, and this system was used as a crosscheck for the recidivism (re-arrests and jail days) information gathered from the WCCC database.

Client Processing Monitoring System (CPMS): NPC made a data request to CPMS to gather treatment admissions data on study participants; this data was returned to NPC in electronic form. The CPMS data was used to determine which study participants entered substance abuse treatment, and for those who entered, whether episodes were successfully completed.

Mode of Data Collection: record abstracts

face-to-face interview

telephone interview

Description of Variables: The Interview and Administrative Data (Part 1) contain a total of 603 variables including demographic and background information, employment and life skills information, physical health information, alcohol



and drug use, mental health information, readiness to change, social support, social support for recovery, environmental risk, environmental support, service utilization, contact with WCCC, perceived stress, and perceptions of control. Employment and life skills information included questions about educational attainment, employment status, public assistance receipt, and basic life skills (such as having a driver's license or a bank account). Physical health information included questions about hospital admissions and chronic medical problems. Alcohol and drug use information included the ASI Lite, a widely used measure of addiction severity. Participants were asked at baseline about their lifetime and 30-day use, and at follow-up on their 30-day use, of alcohol, alcohol to the point of intoxication, heroin, methadone, other opiates/analgesics, barbiturates, sedatives, cocaine, methamphetamine, other amphetamines, cannabis, hallucinogens, inhalants, and polysubstance use. Mental health information was gathered using the Psychiatric Subscale of the ASI Lite. This scale measured inpatient and outpatient treatment utilization, lifetime history of psychiatric problems, and whether the participant experienced psychiatric problems for the past 30 days including serious depression, anxiety, hallucinations, trouble controlling violent behavior and thoughts of suicide. Readiness to change information was collected using a 10-item scale that measured participants' readiness to change their substance use behavior. Social support information was collected using a shortened version of the Interpersonal Support Evaluation List, comprising 10 items from this standardized measure of social support. Social support for recovery information included a 4-item scale developed by NPC to determine the degree to which participants had social support for their abstinence and recovery and process. Environmental risk information included a 6-item scale developed by NPC to measure the risks present in participants' neighborhoods, including the prevalence of drug selling, the availability of jobs, and the safety of the neighborhood. Environmental support information included the Perceived Sense of Community Scale, a 30-item scale that measures participants' experiences in substance-free transitional housing. Service utilization information included questions about the types of services that participants may have needed and received, such as help with housing, transportation, job searching, medical services, or treatment services. Contact with WCCC information included several items to measure participants' perceptions of their supervision experience. Perceived stress measured overall stress levels using the Perceived Stress Scale, a 5-item standardized tool. Perceptions of control information included participants' feelings of control over their lives.

The Housing Data (Part 2) contain a total of 5 variables: case ID, participant ID, housing type, move-in date, and move-out date.

The Treatment Data (Part 3) contain a total of 6 variables: case ID, participant ID, treatment entry, entry date, closure date, and treatment completion.

Response Rates: A total of 356 supervisees were eligible for the study; 301 (85 percent) agreed to participate in baseline interviews, and 238 (80 percent) participated in 12-month follow-up interviews.

Presence of Common Scales: The study used the following scales:

- ASI Lite scale was used to measure addiction severity.
- The Psychiatric Subscale of the ASI Lite was used to measure mental health status. This scale measured inpatient and outpatient treatment utilization, lifetime history of psychiatric problems, and whether the participant experienced psychiatric problems for the past 30 days including serious depression.
- The University of Rhode Island Change Assessment (URICA) was used to measure participants' readiness to change their substance use behavior.
- The Interpersonal Support Evaluation List was used to measure social support.
- A Social support for recovery scale developed by NPC was used to determine the degree to which participants had social support for their abstinence and recovery and process.
- An Environmental risk scale was developed by NPC to measure the risks present in participants' neighborhoods, including the prevalence of drug selling, the availability of jobs, and the safety of the neighborhood.
- The Perceived Sense of Community Scale was used to measure participants' experiences in substance-free transitional housing.
- The Perceived Stress Scale was used to measure overall stress levels.
- Modified questions from the Family Empowerment Scale were used to measure participants' feelings of control over their lives.

Extent of Processing: Standardized missing values.

Checked for undocumented or out-of-range codes.

## **Access and Availability**

Note: A list of the data formats available for this study can be found in the [summary of holdings](#). Detailed file-level information (such as record length, case count, and variable count) is listed in the [file manifest](#).

Restrictions: The data are restricted from general dissemination. Users interested in obtaining these data must complete a Restricted Data Use Agreement form and specify the reasons for the request. A copy of the Restricted Data Use Agreement form can be requested by calling 800-999-0960. Researchers can also download this form as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file from the download page associated with this dataset.

Completed forms should be returned to: Director, National Archive of Criminal Justice Data, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, Institute for Social Research, P.O. Box 1248, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248, or by fax: 734-647-8200.

~~Original~~ Original ICPSR Release: 2013

- Dataset(s):
- DS1: Interview and Administrative Data
  - DS2: Housing Data
  - DS3: Treatment Data

## Publications

Final Reports and Other Publication Resources: A list of publications related to, or based on, this data collection can be accessed from the study's download page on the NACJD Web site or through the ICPSR Bibliography of Data-Related Literature at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/ICPSR/citations/index.html>. The list of citations includes links to abstracts and publications in Portable Document Format (PDF) files or text files when available.

Final reports and other publications describing research conducted on a variety of criminal justice topics are available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). NCJRS was established in 1972 by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), an agency of the U.S. Department of Justice, to provide research findings to criminal justice professionals and researchers. NCJRS operates specialized clearinghouses that are staffed by information specialists who supply a range of reference, referral, and distribution services. Publications can be obtained from NCJRS at NIJ/NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, MD, 20849-6000, 800-851-3420 or 301-519-5500. TTY Service for the Hearing Impaired is 877-712-9279 (toll-free) or 301-947-8374 (local). The URL for the NCJRS Web site is:

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/>

## NIJ Data Resources Program

About the DRP: The National Institute of Justice Data Resources Program (DRP) makes datasets from NIJ-funded research and evaluation projects available to the research community and sponsors research and training activities devoted to secondary data analysis. Datasets are archived by the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan.

The NACJD maintains a World Wide Web site with instructions for transferring files and sending messages. Criminal justice data funded by the Department of Justice are available via the Internet at this site at no

- ICPSR 25942 -

charge to the user. NACJD may be contacted at NACJD/ICPSR, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI, 48106-1248, 800-999-0960. The URL for the NACJD Web site is:

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>