



For immediate release

State of Indiana Announces Successful Pilot Program with Corrisoft

Indianapolis – Today, the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC), in partnership with the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI), Dearborn-Ohio County Prosecutor’s Office, and the Southeast Regional Community Corrections agency, announced the successful completion of a pilot project with technology and services company Corrisoft. The pilot program took place in Dearborn, Ohio, and Switzerland counties and used technology to manage and monitor offenders returning to communities from incarceration.

IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon applauded the innovative use of technology to enhance offender supervision and reduce recidivism. “We strongly support the use of technology to boost our supervision efforts in the community. This technology marries supervision and cognitive-based services for successful re-entry,” Lemmon stated.

The pilot project, called the Alternative to Incarceration via Rehabilitation (AIR) program, began in September 2014 and was aimed at reducing recidivism among previous felony offenders by increasing communication with supervising agency staff and reintegration specialists. The AIR system coupled a specifically-configured and highly-controlled smartphone with a small, tamper-reporting tether worn by the offender.

In addition to communicating more than three times a day on average with supervising agency staff and reintegration specialists, offenders were connected with mental health professionals, substance abuse providers, food pantries, clothing banks and education resources, and housing and transportation assistance. The AIR program had an 87 percent completion rate out of 190 total offenders in the program. The average offender employment rate was 72.68 percent, a 39 percent increase over offenders not in the program. Only three criminal offenses were committed while on the program.

“As prosecutors, our number one concern is public safety,” said Aaron Negangard, Dearborn-Ohio County Prosecutor, who first championed the program. “We need effective tools to protect the public and modify offender behavior. Prison is one such tool and it can be quite effective; however, it cannot be the only tool. We need to take advantage of technology to offer cost-effective, evidence-based solutions that can help get people on the right track, and still protect the public. Corrisoft has proven itself to be one of those programs.”

The successful results of this pilot program will be shared with the Governor’s Task Force on Enforcement, Prevention and Treatment.

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