



Building a bridge between
prisoner and possibility

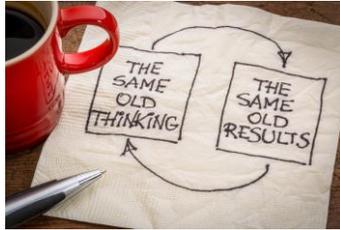
The DCS Mission

As an integral part of the criminal justice system, we protect and serve all Georgia citizens through effective and efficient offender supervision in our communities, while providing opportunities for successful outcomes.



In 2010, more than 1,500 offenders were released from Georgia's prisons with no supervision to follow.

They were given \$25 and a bus ticket and released into their communities, often after decades of incarceration.



Finding a Solution for Georgia

In 2011, the Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform was created and tasked with conducting annual comprehensive reviews of issues relating to criminal laws and proceedings in the state.

One of the Council's first recommendations was for the State Board of Pardons and Parole to develop and implement a program designed to allow for a mandatory period of community supervision for offenders who would otherwise remain incarcerated until their maximum release date.

In 2013, this was developed as Georgia's M.O.R.E. program.

What is M.O.R.E.?

M.O.R.E. is a collaborative program between the Georgia Department of Community Supervision, Georgia Department of Corrections, and Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles designed to allow for statutory and board mandated max-out offenders to relocate from a prison bed to intensive-community supervision at a Transitional Center (TC) up to eighteen months prior to the completion of their prison sentence.

While at the TC, participants are provided with guidance from their Community Supervision Officer, can obtain a license, find a job, participate in prescribed programming, and address any other needs that they may have.



M.O.R.E.'s MISSION

To lower the recidivism and re-arrest rate of max-out offenders by allowing participants to address their risks/needs and establish a continuum of care with community resource providers prior to their release.

M.O.R.E. in Action

M.O.R.E. provides support and programming for participants' criminogenic needs as identified by a risk/needs assessment. Because the program relies on an individual, one-on-one supervision approach, each participant's experience will be tailored to their unique set of needs.

The Next Generation Assessment: Criminogenic Needs Scale



ON THE BRIDGE

A "typical" M.O.R.E. experience

While incarcerated, offenders are screened to determine eligibility
Within 12-18 months of their maximum release date
Ineligible for or have been denied parole

Once screened and entered into the M.O.R.E. program, the offender is transferred to the TC
Every effort is made to place the offender in a TC in or near the city where he/she will
be residing in an effort to provide continuity of employment and services after
release

ON THE BRIDGE

A "typical" M.O.R.E. experience

DCS Community Supervision Officers provides supervision services for M.O.R.E. participants
living in each of Georgia's 13 TCs.
These CSOs locate and develop local community partners that will assist offenders in their
post-prison life

M.O.R.E. lasts 9-12 months
Allows enough time for offender to find employment and stable housing
Provides the offender with a meaningful term of community supervision

ON THE BRIDGE

A "typical" M.O.R.E. experience

During M.O.R.E., participants are able to find and
begin work while still incarcerated, pursue
educational and training opportunities, and find
a stable post-release residence.

Participants also receive help with diverse needs
such as getting driver's licenses and procuring
copies of important documents such as birth
certificates and social security cards.



**COLLABORATING
to identify resources**

- Share a commitment to bettering lives and improving cohesion of the state's criminal justice system
- Work together to identify available state and local level resources for the program's development and operation
- Form a network of resource providers specific to each jurisdiction
- Creating knowledge exchange of processes specific to localities and agencies

**NEXT STEPS
gathering the team & participants**

After identifying opportunities for collaboration with other agencies and resource providers, M.O.R.E.'s next stage of development was to identify a core team of program staff, and begin screening potential participants.

**DEVELOPING
the team**

The initial M.O.R.E. program team consisted of the following positions:

- Program Manager**
Oversees the program
- Hearing Examiner**
Tasked with preparing cases for reconsideration by the Parole Board
- DOC employee embedded in Offender Administration**
Assists in the identification and screening of offenders for the M.O.R.E. program
- Parole Investigator/Program Analyst**
Assists in the screening process

DEVELOPING the team

M.O.R.E. began with 11 Specialized Community Supervision Officers

One CSO placed in each of the 11 Male TCs to implement the program

Georgia's two Female TCs are serviced by the TC CSOs established at the nearest Male TCs

Assist TC staff in developing and providing of re-entry services within TCs and in the community

In conjunction with TC staff, make appropriate referrals to return offenders back to prison for non-compliant behavior at the TC

In conjunction with TC staff, make appropriate parole recommendations to the Parole Board for offenders who are parole eligible (for a supervision period of 6-12 months)

Supervise participants in the community who have been granted parole

Assist non-parole eligible offenders to transition back to the community by helping coordinate resources

What M.O.R.E. success looks like

\$6,010

Each offender placed in M.O.R.E. saves Georgia's state taxpayers this much per year, compared to housing the offender in a state prison.

3.8%

Recidivism rate of M.O.R.E. participants since the program's inception.

What M.O.R.E. success looks like for participants

Video interview with M.O.R.E. participant Marcus Grey

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