

## ***Monroe Correctional Facility Chemical Dependency/Re-Entry Program***

An effective, low cost, jail based substance abuse treatment program for short-term inmates in the County Jail setting, now incorporating proven Prison! Jail Re-Entry strategies - the benchmark in NYS

Initiated in 1994, operated by credentialed & specialized staff members

Imports current substance abuse/ co-occurring mental health disorders treatment technology into the correctional setting, along with applying the research on re-entry, keeping inmates busy with targeted activities

100 males, adults and minors  
45 females  
average LOS @ 4 months

Over 90 group activities per week, a high intensity stabilization

Components:

- Chemical Dependency/ Mental Health Education  
Behavioral Interventions  
Counseling /Therapy Groups  
Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, etc.
- Assessment and Referrals - Release and Transition Planning  
Specialty Tracks: Young Adults and Co-Occurring Disorders
- Specialty Groups: Cannabis, Veterans, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Transition, Personal Change, Anger and Domestic Violence Program, Living Skills, etc.

Emphasizing effective linkages to community agencies where the agency provides in - reach service to inmates while incarcerated, then coordinates care and follow up post release

Demonstrated outcomes, 50% reduction in six-month post release re-arrest rate, maintains to at least a year post release

Contact Craig Johnson M.S., L.M.H.C., C.A.S.A.C. @ 585-753-3080  
[cjohnson @monroecountv.gov](mailto:cjohnson@monroecountv.gov)

## **The Monroe Correctional Facility Chemical Dependency / Re-entry Program**

### ***What makes a program like this work?***

- Program design -  
There is a comprehensive design embracing a number of approaches. Not just a twelve step model program or a cognitive behavioral curriculum based model, but a program that encompassed both of these and much more. Included are closed and open ended groups, recovery based along with general groups, and individual and group counseling and skill development to keep inmates productive on individualized goals for 40% - 70% of their available time.
- Quality of Staff, management style, involvement of manager in programming  
Staff members include substance abuse and mental health specialists with a great deal of experience in community based agencies and with knowledge about community resources. Staff and management emphasize flexibility in applications and keep current on treatment technology and research.
- Involvement of community agencies -  
Over thirty community agencies and organizations assist in providing information services, counseling groups in house, and case management in-reach from the community. With the primary objective being the reduction of recidivism, releasees are often placed immediately in appropriate community based treatment and rehabilitation.
- Monitored outcomes -  
Successes are monitored through subjective critiques by the inmates themselves and through research to assess effectiveness, measured primarily through the reduction of post release re-arrest rates as compared to inmates not receiving treatment and case management services. More recently, the program design has evolved to include motivational models and stage specific interventions along with adherence to the implications of meta-analysis re-entry research.
- Support of security staff, and the integration of treatment processes into jail functions -  
Positive and negative reinforcement within the jail are utilized to support inmate behaviors that are success oriented, and the importance of programming is generally recognized and supported by jail administration, security staff and persons in the criminal justice community.
- Commitment -  
Over time, many programs wax and wane in terms of support from jail administration and/or the community. Effective chemical dependency/ re-entry treatment needs to be sustained over time as opposed to being seen as a quick fix or pet project. This emphasis has been formalized into operations since 1994.