



DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

Denver City Council

Resolution Request 19-0673 and 19-0674

August 5, 2019

Community Corrections provides secure residential and non-residential reentry services in order to transition or divert individuals from incarceration.

- Legislation enacted in 1976 was driven by the increased demand for alternatives to prison beds.
- Successful collaborative partnership between the state and local governments and service providers
- Foundation of Colorado's model:
 - Local support and decision making –Who and What
 - Community Corrections Boards
- Client Population: Adult Offenders
 - Diversion – “halfway in” prison
 - Transition – “halfway out” of prison
 - Condition of Probation/Parole placements

- **24 hour structure** offering programming and supervision
- Allow for employment and wide range of **services** targeting criminogenic needs
- **Participants pay** into restitution, child support, supervision costs, and state/federal tax base.
- **Reduced costs as compared to prison or jail**
- **Specialized Behavioral Health programs** (drug/alcohol and mental health treatment)
- Risk **reduction**
- Gradual step down re-entry services
- >90% of incarcerated population return to their community

Community Corrections Agency Responsibilities

Colorado Division of Criminal Justice

- Funding to local jurisdictions /community corrections boards
- Standards / Audits
- Program oversight

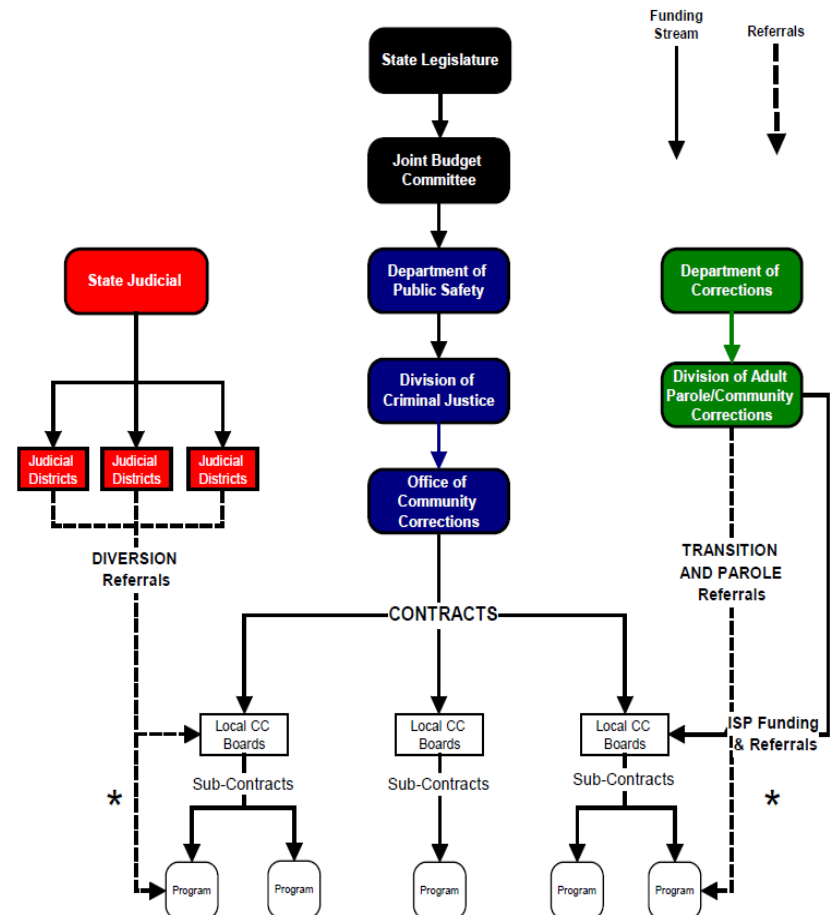
Colorado Department of Corrections/Judicial Departments

- Jurisdiction of offenders
- Program oversight

City and County of Denver

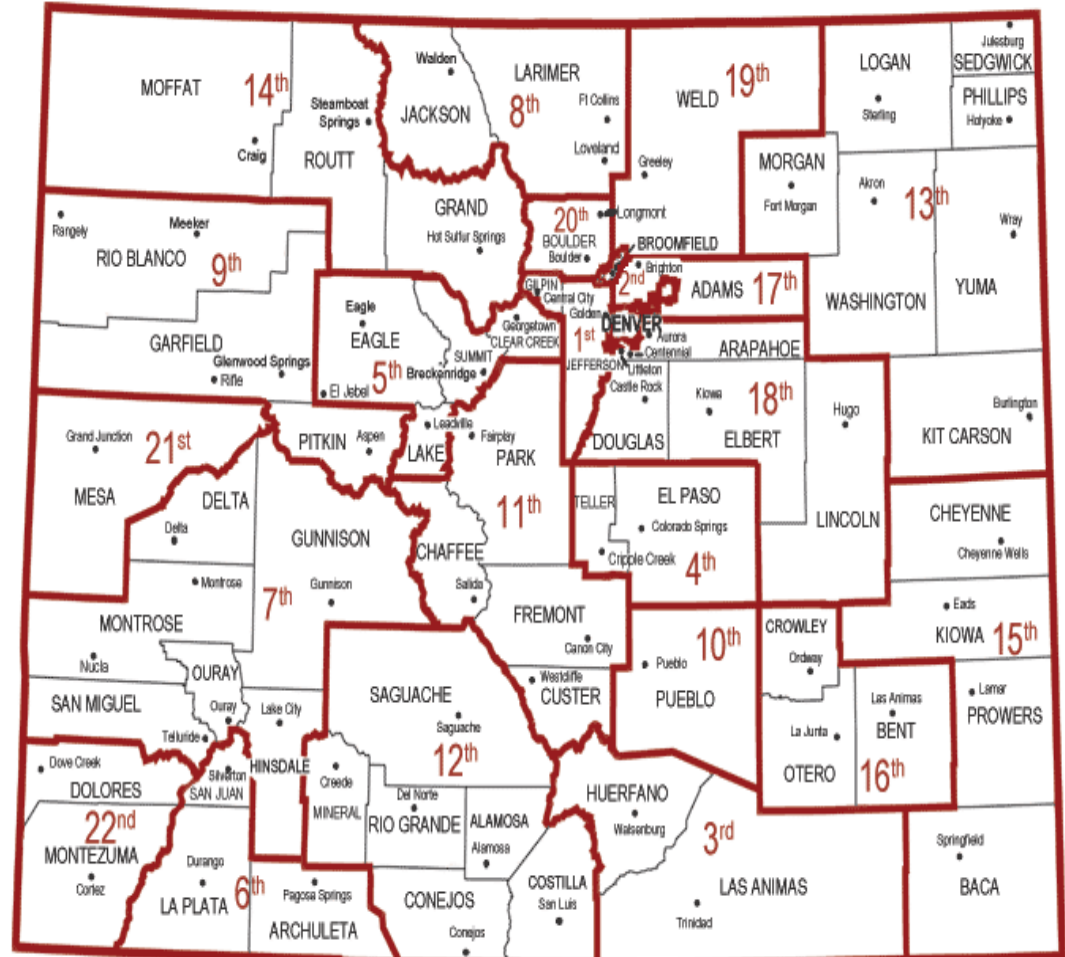
- Contracts with local providers for services
- Approves all placements
- Community Corrections Board
- Program Oversight

COLORADO COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Funding and Referral System



Community Corrections Boards

- Colorado Revised Statutes 17-27-103
- Established by Judicial District
- Establish standards of operation
- Authority to accept or reject offenders
- Approve or disapprove establishment and operations of any community corrections program



DRMC § 2-255.41. Appointment and qualification of members

21 Members appointed by Mayor, Confirmed by City Council

- 10 positions represent criminal justice/human services
 - District Attorney, Public Defender, DPD, Denver Sheriff, Chief PO-Denver Adult, Chief PO- Denver Juvenile, Director of Adult Parole, Colorado Department of Human Services-DYC, Denver Human Services, Denver Department of Safety
- (1) Locally Elected Official
- (1) Representative of Victim Services
- (1) Denver Public Schools
- (2) persons with experience/knowledge, expertise criminal justice
- (6) Citizens of City and County of Denver

- **Jane Prancan- Chair**
- **Jim Martinez – Vice Chair**
- Jorge Aleman
- Jason Anderson
- Mike Anderson
- Sarah Chaikin
- Shawn Cohn
- Daniel Diaz
- Patrick Firman
- David Johnson
- Deanna Maes
- Tutu Mulatu
- Dana Niemela
- Margaret Reiland
- Jason Romportl
- Paul Rosenthal
- Dianne Tramutola-Lawson
- Sylvia Sich
- Michael Song
- Deme Trujillo

- Programs provides safe alternatives for individuals to serve their sentences outside of the prison/jail walls.
- There is no perimeter fencing nor are individuals in cells.
- The facilities are designed as residential programs offering gradual individualized reintegration services including a variety of treatment, support, and skill building.

- Corecivic Inc. (4)
- GEO Care (Community Education Centers) (2)
- Independence House (2)
- University of Colorado Health Sciences ARTS (2)





CC Program Locations

Facility	# of Beds Zoning Permit	Council District
Independence House Pecos	75	1
University of Colo- Denver Addiction Research and Treatment Services Haven	36	2
University of Colo- Denver Addiction Research and Treatment Services Peer I	80	2
Community Education Centers- Tooley Hall	73	8
Corecivic Ulster	90	8
Corecivic Dahlia	120	8
Corecivic Fox	90	9
Corecivic Columbine	60	9
Community Education Centers Williams Street	84	9
Independence House Fillmore	40	10
Total	748	8

- Community Corrections is an effective alternative sentencing option and re-entry strategy
- < 2% termination for a new crime while in placement
- FY18 Risk Reduction (measured by reduction in Level of Service Inventory (LSI) scores:
 - Diversion- -14.3%,
 - Transition- 18.5%
 - Male-13.9%
 - Female -14.7%
- 1 year recidivism (FY2017 Cohort) For those that successfully complete the residential program three out of four remained crime-free after 12 months.

Residential service elements are individualized to include :

- Case Management
- Employment Assistance
- Life Skills
- Financial Planning
- Mental Health services
- Substance Use Treatment Services

Specialized services:

- Corecivic provides Intensive Residential Treatment (IRT) for substance use.
- GEO Williams Street Center provides gender responsive programming for women and is one of only two placement options for the female population.
- GEO Tooley Hall provides intensive Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)

- The program's contractual partners own the facilities in which individuals are placed as an alternative to incarceration. Due to zoning regulations, there are no other viable alternatives.
- If these contracts are not approved, up to 517 individuals, who can appropriately be monitored in a community-based community corrections bed, will be returned back to prison or jail.
- If these contracts are not approved, the program will be severely limited in its ability to place individuals in the community. This runs contrary to the program's ongoing efforts to create safe alternatives to incarceration.
- Potential dramatic increase in the economic burden placed on the city's taxpayers, resulting from increased incarceration of individuals returned to jail and prison due to fewer community-based alternatives. Additionally, with a reduction in community-based alternatives, there will be an increase in time people are in jail awaiting placement in one of the few remaining beds.
- Potential reduction in the ability to provide residential reentry services and substance abuse treatment to some of the city's more vulnerable residents.
- There are currently 200 people in prison and 40 individuals in jail approved for placement and awaiting a bed. If these contracts are not approved, those numbers will grow exponentially leaving people in jail longer and depriving them of needed community-based services and support

- Continue efforts with City Council and the Mayor's Office through the Group Living Code project to review land use and the zoning code thus allowing for increased sites that a community correctional facility can be located. This would address:
 - Future capacity needs
 - Increase reentry and supportive services including mental health and substance abuse treatment
 - Expansion of the service provider pool
 - Modernize structures
 - Most importantly, reducing the number of people in jail and prison that can be safely monitored in the community.
- Explore options of construction of facility on city property that could either be operated by the city or services outsourced.