

HOMELESSNESS AND NUISANCE BEHAVIOR IN INDIO, CALIFORNIA: THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH RESOURCE PROGRAM (CORP)

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Tom Cox, Coachella Valley Rescue Mission

Officer Jose Ibarra, Indio Police Department

Cody Telep, Arizona State University

Problem-Oriented Policing Conference

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Presentation Plan

2

- Scanning and analysis
 - ▣ Richard Twiss: What is the Community Outreach Resource Program (CORP) and how and why did it develop?

- Response
 - ▣ Jose Ibarra: What role do quality of life officers play in reducing disorder and homelessness through CORP?
 - ▣ Tom Cox: What role do service providers play in CORP?

- Assessment
 - ▣ Cody Telep: What is the impact of CORP on clients?

Assessment Plans

3

□ **Client-based**

□ **Client views through entrance, exit, and follow-up interviews**

- Entrance interviews completed at acceptance to CORP
- Exit interviews completed just prior to graduation ceremony
- Re-arrest/recidivism rates relative to “comparison” group
- Program completion/services utilized

□ **Place-based**

- Calls for service in areas targeted by quality of life officers relative to comparison sites

CORP Clients to Date

4

- 81 participants
 - ▣ 62 graduates at 3 graduations
 - ▣ Next graduation in early 2017

- 27 misdemeanors/infractions dismissed

- \$211,202.28 in fines and fees dismissed
 - ▣ Mean of \$2,607.44 per client

Interviews to Date: Quality of Life

5

On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate your quality of life at the following times?

Time	Entrance Interview Mean (Std. Dev.) n = 42	Exit Interview Mean (Std. Dev.) n = 24
One Year Ago	1.92 (1.88)	2.80 (2.34)
Entrance to CORP	6.74 (2.39)	4.85 (2.00)
Graduation from CORP	N/A	7.98 (1.52)
One Year from Now	8.78 (2.51)	9.10 (1.97)

Views of Indio Police

6

1-4 scale with 1 = strongly disagree and 4 = strongly agree

Time	Entrance Interview Mean (Std. Dev.) n = 42	Exit Interview Mean (Std. Dev.) n = 24
The police treated me with respect	3.30 (1.06)	3.48 (.90)
The police were fair	3.31 (.85)	3.43 (.90)
The police were concerned about me	2.96 (1.07)	3.52 (.93)
I trust the police	3.00 (1.02)	3.42 (.88)
The police helped me improve my life*	2.92 (1.09)	3.57 (.90)

*pre-post t-test $p < .05$

Agency Ratings

7

On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate your interactions with the following agencies and groups?

Agency	Entrance Interview Mean (Std. Dev.) n = 42	Exit Interview Mean (Std. Dev.) n = 26
Indio Police Department*	6.16 (3.27)	8.55 (2.70)
Public Defender's Office*	7.50 (2.25)	8.97 (1.83)
Riverside Co. Probation	7.59 (2.18)	8.98 (2.22)
Service Provider	9.30 (1.33)	9.66 (.73)
CORP Overall	N/A	9.40 (1.35)

*pre-post t-test $p < .05$

Employment and Housing

8

Describe your current employment status and describe your current living situation

Agency	Entrance Interview n = 41	Exit Interview n = 26
Employed full-time	7.5%	26.9%
Unemployed but actively seeking work	50%	38.5%
Current living situation is homeless	26.8%	0%
Living in non-shelter housing	12.1%	30.7%

Client Perspectives on CORP

9

- How (if at all) has CORP changed your life?
 - ▣ “They gave me hope and a future and cleared a large part of the wreckage of my past.”
 - ▣ “Now I can use that money [that would have gone to fines and fees] for a deposit on an apartment.”
 - ▣ “It changed my life. There is more opportunity for me to get a better job since I got my driver’s license back.”



Assessment to Date

10

- 81 clients have completed services and had more than \$211,000 in fines and fees dismissed
- Clients perceive a better quality of life at graduation and expect that to only improve in the future
- Clients have improved views of the Indio Police and the Public Defender's Office post-CORP
- Qualitative data suggest substantial impacts of CORP

Moving Forward with the Assessment

11

- Continue current efforts to assess the program with surveys/interviews, and data from police, courts, and service providers
 - ▣ June 2015 CORP graduates (n = 12): 67% had no police contacts in the 9 months post-commencement, and only 1 client was re-arrested

- Secure funding for program implementation and expansion of evaluation efforts
 - ▣ In-depth client and staff interviews
 - ▣ Quality of life officer ride-alongs

Thank You

12



INDIO POLICE

www.indiopd.org/CORP.asp

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