

Women and Addiction: Gender Specific Care Models Care Models

Shelley Edgerton, LPC
Louisiana Department of
Corrections

Continuing Education Activity Disclosure

None of the planners, moderators, or presenters of this continuing education activity, have any financial relationships to disclose relating to the content of this activity

Learning Objectives

- **Examine offending pathways in relation to the female population**
- **List the components needed to support implementation of a gender-specific SUD program for women**
- **Discuss the challenges of implementing a prison-to-community MAT program**



LaSOR Funded Partnership with Louisiana Department of Corrections

The Louisiana Department of Corrections would like to thank the Louisiana Department of Health/Office of Behavioral Health for allowing the opportunity to enhance substance use treatment among our population.

These efforts in combating opioid & other substance use disorders among incarcerated individuals would not be possible without our ongoing and collaborative partnership.

The Criminal Justice System is Designed for Men

- Can we agree on this?
- Women make up approximately 7% of the prison population in the U.S., but incarceration of women is growing twice as fast as that of men
- Nearly 70% of women offenders suffer mental health disorders, versus just over 40% of male offenders
- Female offenders report heavier substance use patterns than male offenders (*i.e.*; increase IV use)

Differences Among Drug Use Linked to Female Offenders

- Female offenders tend to have a higher percentage of poor mental health (*i.e.*; depression)
- Have a higher percentage of experiencing emotional, physical abuse as a child
- Higher percentage of domestic violence & coercive relationships

Common Linkage to Women & Addiction

Early Victimization/Trauma



```
graph TD; A[Early Victimization/Trauma] --> B[Depression & other related mood disorders]; B --> C[Self-medicating behavior/drug abuse];
```

Depression & other related mood disorders

Self-medicating behavior/drug abuse

LA's Move Towards Gender Specific Modalities

- In 2016 the LA DOC received from La Dept. of Health SAMHSA funding pertaining to the State Targeted Response grant
- In 2017 LA DOC designed and implemented an intensive substance use program at LA's one & only female prison, one male prison and one male local jail
- In 2018 & 2020 the LA DOC continued to received SAMHSA funding in the State Opiate Response grants & expanded services to a female local jail & other male facilities

Louisiana Dept. of Corrections

LaSOR 2.0 Site Locations

Three State DOC Facilities in Louisiana:

- Louisiana State Penitentiary (LSP): Angola, LA
- **Louisiana Correctional Institution for Women (LCIW): Baker, LA**
- Dixon Correctional Institute (DCI): Jackson, LA

Four local jail facilities in Louisiana:

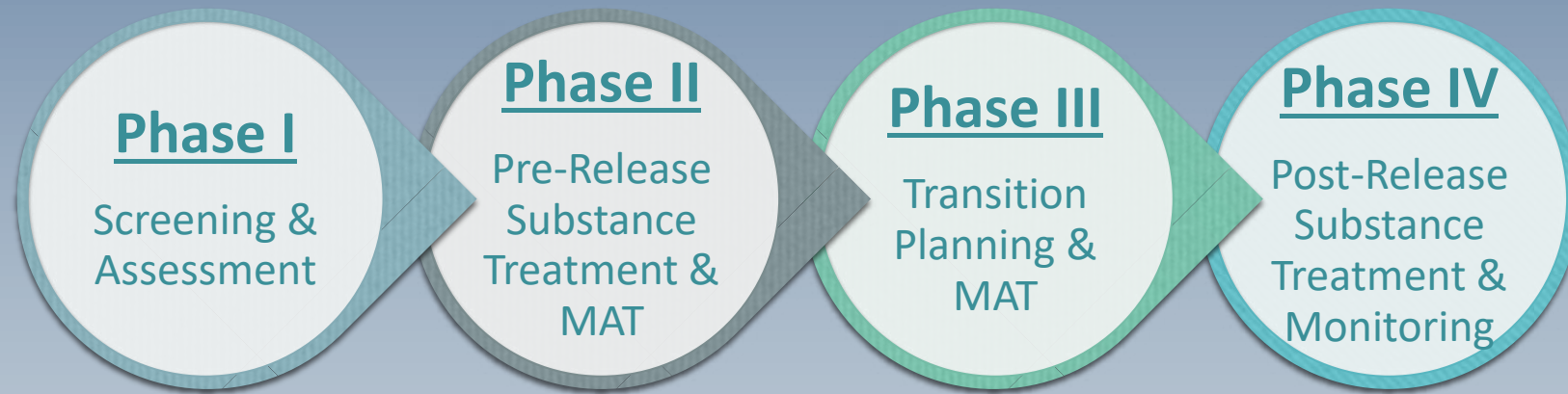
- Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center: (BDCC) Minden, LA
- Steve Hoyle Intensive Substance Abuse Program (SHISAP) at Bossier Parish Correctional Center: Plaindealing, LA
- **Louisiana Transitional Center for Women (LTCW): Tallulah, LA**
- Lafourche Parish Prison (LPP): Thibodeaux, LA

Expanding in 2022:

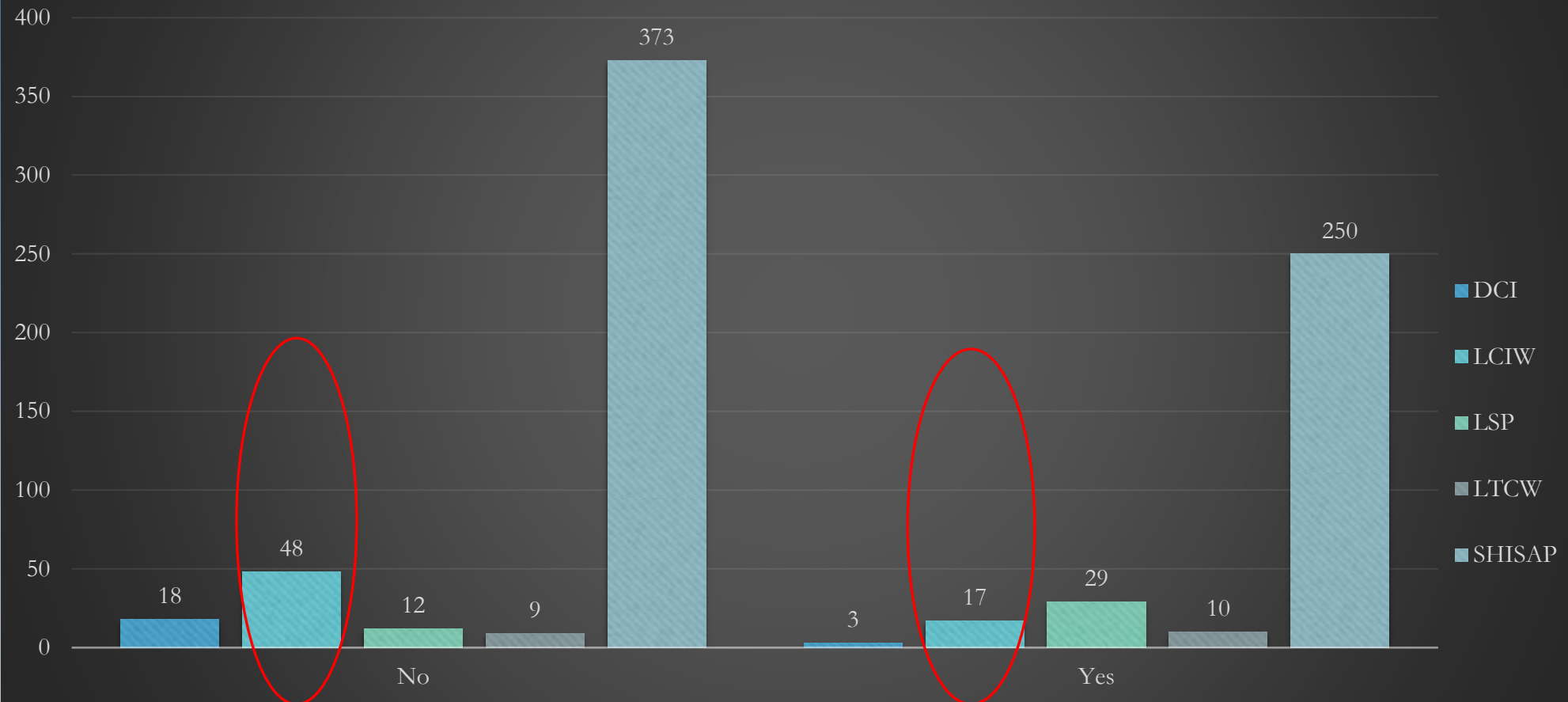
- **Caddo Parish Prison for Women**
- Plaquemines Parish Prison
- Lafayette Parish Prison

Louisiana Dept. of Corrections

LaSOR 2.0 Phases of Treatment



1st year recidivism Among Sites



Statistics

- Average age of participants is 36 years old
- 90% of women at intake reported experiencing any form of abuse
- 80% of women at intake reported experiencing unwanted sexual experiences
- Participants have a 25% chance of returning to incarceration
- 70% of offenses are non-violent (i.e. possession, distribution)

Program Structure

- Open Group
- MAT Clinic offering Naltrexone and Vivitrol
- Multidisciplinary team, Parole involvement, Facility physicians and mental health staff
- Small groups (4-8) participate in group 3 hours weekly
- Continuity of care post release

Gaps in Treatment

- ACE screenings
- Trauma informed care
- Gender specific care models
- Support system post release and family involvement while incarcerated
- Cooperation from community agencies and probation and parole involvement(education on addiction and MAT)
- Facility/COVID restrictions: space, security, and time

Client concerns

- Material is male specific: little to none female representation (wording and illustrations in workbooks)
- Minimal Sense of self worth
- Coping skills
- Mothering in addiction
- Grief, loss, divorce
- Autonomy

Revised Programming

- Gender specific intake to include ACES, PCES,
- Menstruation, Pregnancies, Family history, Drug history
- Revised wording on sensitive questions to encourage disclosure and safety
- Focusing on specific needs of women during incarceration and post release

STR PROGRAM
INTAKE SCREENING INTERVIEW

1. DOC#: _____ 2. Name: _____
2a. Preferred Name/Pronouns _____ 3. DOB: _____ 4. Age: _____
5. Admission Date: _____ 6. Discharge Date: _____
7. Home Town & State: _____ 8. Housing Location: _____

10. Upon Release: (a) Will You Be Homeless? ☐ Yes ☐ No Address: _____
(b) Will You Need An Interstate Compact? ☐ Yes ☐ No

<p>11. Ethnicity <input type="checkbox"/> European American <input type="checkbox"/> African American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic / Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Native American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>12. Marital Status <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Cohabitation <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>13. Education (a) High School Diploma Rec'd <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no diploma, Highest Grade Completed _____ If yes, which subject? _____ (c) HiSET/GED Rec'd <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (d) College Degree Rec'd <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (e) Trade, Certifications, etc. _____</p>	<p>Gender Specific</p> <p>14. Number of Children / Step Children (a) # of Children _____ (b) Names/Ages: _____</p> <p>15. Are All Children from Healthy Pregnancies? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>(a) Any children born while incarcerated? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>(b) Do you have parental rights of all your children? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Who has _____</p> <p>16. If you were to go home who would support your sobriety/supervision? _____</p> <p>17. Age of menstruation? _____</p> <p>18. If & while using illegal substances, did you ever have irregular menstrual cycles? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>19. When was your last cycle? _____</p> <p>20. Do you have irregular cycles now? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>15. If no, why? Comments: _____</p> <p>If yes, which children? Comments: _____ (a) _____</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Trauma Informed Care

- Menstruation onset and the occurrence of GAD/MDD
- Trauma during puberty presented higher risks of diagnosed anxiety disorders and trauma experienced during grade school showed higher diagnosing rates for depressive disorders (Marshall, 2016)
- Women are 2-3x more likely to develop PTSD with less trauma exposure than men. (Marshall,2016)
- Marshall (2016) found that trauma in adolescent girls increased after menarche.
- Death and sexual assault occurred during the post puberty stage (Marshall,2016)

The 5 NEEDS Post-Release

- Safety from Violence
- Appropriate Housing (*high recidivism linked to women that have male/female partners that use post-release*).
- Good mental & physical health
- Financial independence & employment
- Access to services

Conclusion

- Attention to women's pathways into incarceration is critical to assessment and case management
- The strengths of women offenders should be incorporated into any treatment plan and individualized as such
- Integration of gender-informed approaches will increase the efficacy of services and programming for women offenders

References

- Marshall A. D. (2016). Developmental Timing of Trauma Exposure Relative to Puberty and the Nature of Psychopathology Among Adolescent Girls. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 55(1), 25–32.e1.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaac.2015.10.004>
- Pasko, L. (2010). Damaged daughters: the history of girls' sexuality & the juvenile system. *Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology*. 100(3), 1009-1130.
- Salisbury, E.J., Van Voorhis, P. (2009). Gendered pathways: a quantitative investigation of women probationers' paths to incarceration. *Criminal Justice & Behavior*, 36(6), 541-566.

Contact Information:

Shelley Edgerton, LPC

Program Director

Opioid/MAT Substance Treatment Programs

Louisiana Department of Corrections

504 Mayflower Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Office: (225) 342-3823

Cell: (225) 241-9986

Email: shelley.edgerton@la.gov