

# PERSONS INCARCERATED ENTERING RECOVERY (PIER)

## Overview

Recognizing the need for substance use disorder treatment within the Charleston County Detention Center, the Persons Incarcerated Entering Recovery (PIER) program was developed in 1996 as a joint effort between the Charleston County Detention Center, Charleston County Bond Court, and Charleston Center with funding largely provided by the Charleston County Sheriff's Office and Charleston County Council.

PIER's mission is to provide evidenced-based alcohol and other drug treatment to inmates of the Charleston County Detention Center. Individuals who participated in prison-based treatment followed by a community-based program post incarceration were 7 times more likely to be drug free and 3 times less likely to be arrested for criminal behavior than those not receiving treatment.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Butzin CA, O'Connell DJ, Martin SS, Inciardi JA. Effect of drug treatment during work release on new arrests and incarcerations. *J Crim Justice*. 2006;34(5):557-565

Services are offered to inmates who seek treatment voluntarily or who have been mandated to do so by the courts. In addition, program participants must have been assessed as possessing a need for services.

The program includes a male treatment unit for individuals with substance use disorders. Services for female inmates are also available.

## Costs

The fee for PIER services is \$500. Weekly payment plans are available.

Limited financial assistance is available for persons assessed as being unable to pay the full program fee.

## Program Information

Although it may vary by individual, patients will be involved in treatment for an average of 15 weeks. Follow-up outpatient treatment services are available at Charleston Center at no additional cost.

An initial screening evaluation is completed to assess need for services. Upon admittance, a comprehensive assessment will be conducted, which assists in identifying patient strengths to facilitate a successful treatment experience. An Individual Plan of Care will be developed that addresses factors impacting patient recovery.

### Services include:

- Group therapy session
- Addiction education session
- Individual counseling
- Transition planning
- Seeking Safety trauma groups
- 12-step mutual aid groups
- Peer groups

## Referrals/Outcomes

The PIER program accepts referrals from the courts, attorneys and detention center officers as well as self-referrals.

Graduates continue to show a dramatically decreased rate of repeat incarcerations.

**FOR INFORMATION  
AND REFERRALS**

**24-HOUR HELPLINE**

**(843) 722-0100**

**[cchelp@charlestoncounty.org](mailto:cchelp@charlestoncounty.org)**

