

2023 PROGRAM OUTCOMES

VENTURA COUNTY & EAST COUNTY REPORTING & RESOURCE CENTERS



AGENCY

Ventura County Probation

POPULATION

Individuals on probation

PROGRAM SUMMARY

In Ventura County, GEO Reentry Services provides comprehensive programming tailored to meet the risk and needs of individuals on probation. At the foundation of our programs is evidence-based programming designed to address criminogenic needs as identified through the assessment process. The program model at the Ventura County Reporting & Resource Center (RRC) and the smaller East County satellite RRC in Simi Valley includes individual and group Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT), substance testing, substance use disorder counseling, anger management, employment readiness, education services, parenting and family reintegration, life skills and cognitive restructuring, Moral Reconciliation Therapy® (MRT), Thinking for a Change, and aftercare. Programming is delivered through group and individual sessions.

The following reflects annual (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) program data and intermediate outcomes for the Ventura County and East County RRCs.

PARTICIPANTS SERVED

VENTURA COUNTY	254
EAST COUNTY	82

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

VENTURA COUNTY	85
EAST COUNTY	28

DISCHARGE RESULTS



- Positive Completion: includes successful and completion discharges, agency-ordered terminations, external transfers, and other discharges
- Non-completion: includes absconds, jail terminations, and unsuccessful discharges

SERVICE ATTENDANCE RATES

Below is the breakdown of service attendance and participation for the RRC population based on those scheduled for the service.



VENTURA COUNTY	84%
EAST COUNTY	76%



VENTURA COUNTY	73%
EAST COUNTY	70%



VENTURA COUNTY	85%
EAST COUNTY	79%

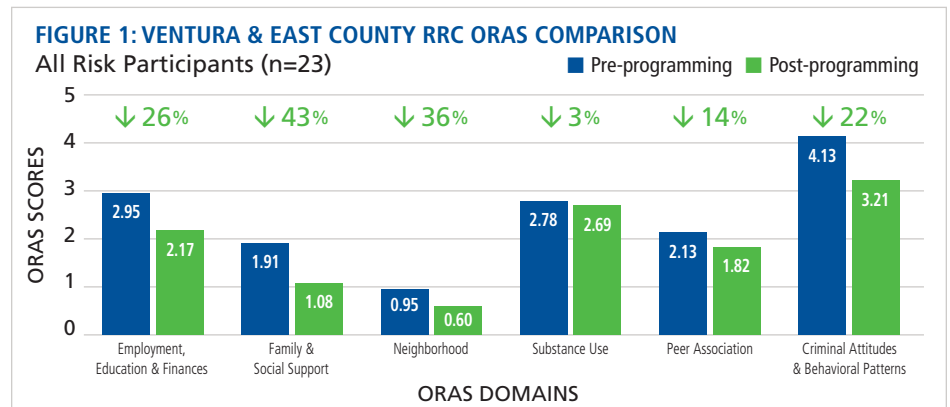
COMMUNITY RESOURCE REFERRALS

During the reporting period, the Ventura County RRC provided 577 valuable resource referrals and East County provided 171 referrals to assist with participant stabilization in the community. The top referral types from both locations include:

- Employment
- Medical
- Food
- Mental Health
- Housing
- Transportation

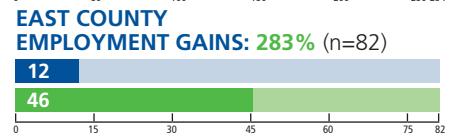
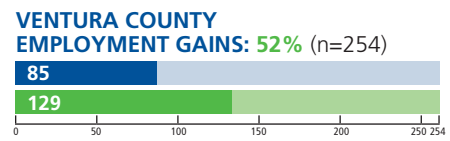
RISK REDUCTION ASSESSMENT RESULTS

The RRCs utilize the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS), created by Edward J. Latessa Ph.D. and the University of Cincinnati, Center for Criminal Justice Research, to help staff assess participant's risk of re-offending, target interventions, and inform responses to behavior. ORAS is a set of dynamic risk/needs assessment tools that helps identify factors that drive a person toward negative or criminal behaviors. During the reporting period, programming at the RRCs helped participants reduce their risk scores by an average of 24%.



EMPLOYMENT

A goal of the RRCs is to assist participants in securing employment and/or enrolling in school. During the reporting period, the number of participants employed nearly doubled in Ventura County and more than tripled in East County, based on total individuals served.



Employed at: ■ Starting Point ■ Program Exit

DRUG & ALCOHOL TEST RESULTS

Participants at the Ventura County RRC with a court order are required to test for alcohol and illicit substances. East County RRC does not conduct urine analyses, and a limited number of breath alcohol tests were conducted on court-ordered participants. Below is the breakdown of negative and positive results during the reporting period for Ventura.



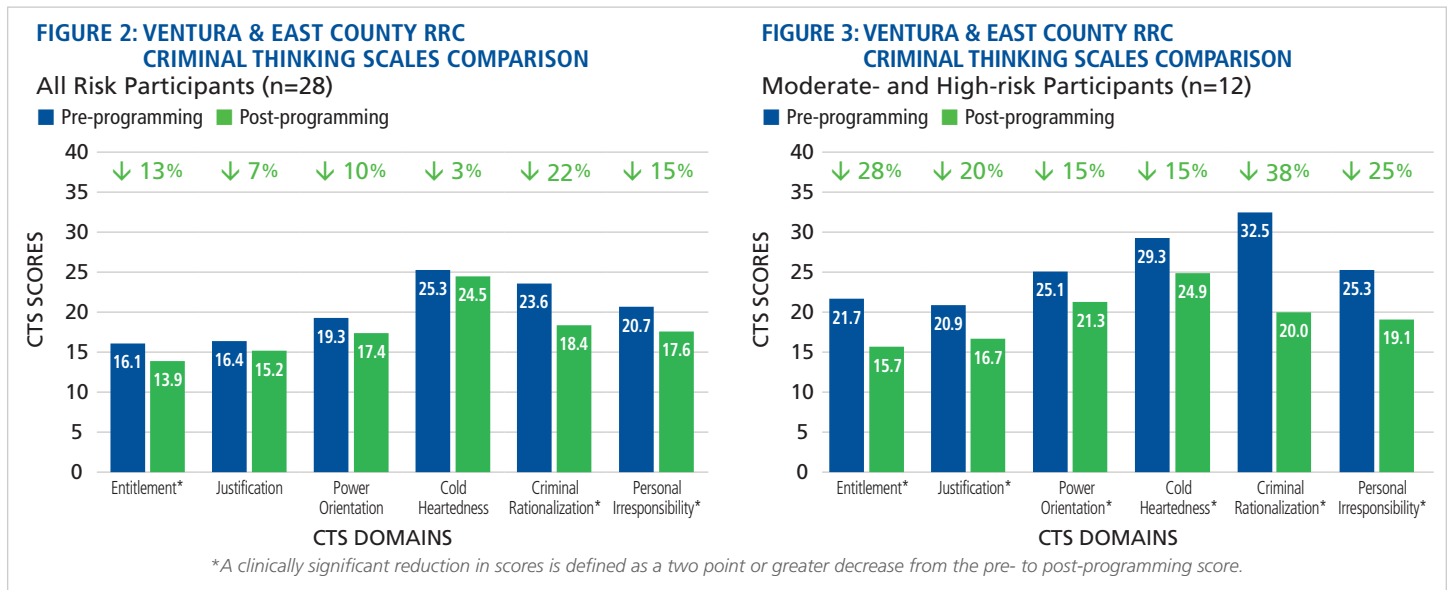
VENTURA & EAST COUNTY RRC PROGRAMS REDUCE CRIMINAL THINKING

Criminal thinking domains, such as antisocial cognitions and antisocial attitudes, are frequent targets for change in correctional treatment, and are described in current theories of criminal behavior.¹ The research on “What Works” to reduce recidivism indicates that antisocial cognition and antisocial attitudes (criminal thinking) are among the top three risk factors as drivers of recidivism. The Texas Christian University Criminal Thinking Scales (CTS), a reliable and validated instrument, measures the effect of GEO Reentry’s programming on antisocial cognition and attitudes. The results of this report indicate that GEO Reentry’s programming reduced criminal thinking patterns as measured by the CTS, and therefore lowers the potential for future recidivism.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Research evaluators analyzed the pre- and post-programming CTS scores for 28 individuals, regardless of risk, and a subset of 12 individuals with moderate- to high-risk in at least one domain at intake, who participated in programming at the Ventura County and East County RRCs between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. The average number of days between pre- and post-assessment was 367 days.

- **FIGURE 2** illustrates the results of 28 individuals regardless of risk level. **These 28 participants averaged a 12% reduction across all six domains. Three of six domains showed a clinically significant reduction (two points or greater) in participant risk levels.**
- **FIGURE 3** illustrates the results of 12 individuals with moderate- to high-risk scores in at least one domain at starting point. Participant risk level is determined by the recommended score ranges outlined by research (see table). **These participants had a clinically significant reduction, averaging 23% (6.2 points) across all six domains.**



CTS DOMAINS	DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDED RISK SCORE RANGES ²		
		LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
ENTITLEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Focuses on a sense of ownership and privilege · High scores are associated with the individual’s belief that the world “owes them” and they deserve special consideration 	10-17	18-20	21-40
JUSTIFICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Refers to patterns of thought that minimize the seriousness of antisocial acts and by justifying actions based on external circumstances · High scores may be associated with perceived social injustice 	10-18	19-22	23-40
POWER ORIENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Measures the need of power and control · High scores are associated with higher levels of aggression and controlling behaviors 	10-22	23-37	28-40
COLD HEARTEDNESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · High scores reflect a lack of emotional involvement 	10-20	21-23	24-40
CRIMINAL RATIONALIZATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · High scores are associated with negative attitude towards the law and authority figures 	10-28	29-35	36-40
PERSONAL IRRESPONSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Assesses the degree to which an individual is willing to accept ownership for criminal actions · High scores are associated with non-acceptance of criminal actions and often blaming others 	10-18	19-24	25-40

IN THEIR WORDS

Below is a sample of participant testimonials from the January 2024 survey.

“The program is easy to follow and accomplish for anyone who really wants to change, and the staff are great. That plays a big part in someone’s recovery, like me. I look forward to coming in for my meetings and appointments.”

“Every step has surpassed my expectations, leading me to find my best way.”

“The program keeps me positive. It helps me to trust and respect others, worry only about things I have control of, and most of all, maintain my sobriety.”

“I truly believe the staff helps me and others to become better individuals.”

¹ Knight, K., Garner, B.R., Simpson D.W. Morey, J.T., & Flynn, P.M. (2006). “An assessment for criminal thinking” *Crime & Delinquency*, Vol. 52, No. 1, 159-177.

² Knight, K., Ekelund, B., Barbour, P. (2015). “Simplifying Assessment in Criminal Justice and Treatment Settings: Using TCU Tools to Ensure Effective Services”.

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