



# NEWS RELEASE



## STATE OF NEW JERSEY State Parole Board

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## For Immediate Release

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## **N.J. STATE PAROLE BOARD RECEIVES GRANT TO ASSIST OFFENDERS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER**

### **\$3.2 Million Federal Grant Will Provide Offenders Struggling with Substance Use an Intensive Support Program to Assist Them with Their Recovery Efforts**

**TRENTON, NJ, April 25, 2022**—The New Jersey State Parole Board, in partnership with Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care (RUBHC), is the recipient of grant funding in the amount of \$3,278,813. The funding will provide support for peer recovery support services offered under the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program that assists offenders with substance use disorder.

The program will be comprised of a team of providers specifically dedicated to the needs of supervised offenders receiving Intensive Recovery Treatment Support (IRTS) services. Individuals will begin receiving services approximately six months prior to their release from incarceration, and services will continue 12 months post-release. Individualized case plans and participating Parole Officers will also address the specific needs of each client.

“We are grateful to the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (USDOJ/BIA) for providing the New Jersey State Parole Board and its partner, Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care, with this critical funding,” said State Parole Board Chairman Samuel J. Plumeri, Jr. “The aim of this program is to reduce the impact of dangerous substances on individuals and communities, make a meaningful reduction in overdose fatalities, and mitigate the impacts to crime victims.”

Funding will expand the current RUBHC IRTS program, which includes Medication-Assisted Treatment support. The IRTS program pairs peer health navigators with offenders who have a history of substance use disorder.

The target population to be served for this program is a minimum of 110 adult offenders who are released to parole supervision. Participation is voluntary for services up to 18 months during the three-year grant term.

In addition, given the demonstrated need for mental health treatment services, under the auspices of this grant, the IRTS team will include a mental health clinician to provide mental health services for offenders with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.

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For more information about the USDOJ/BIA grant, please visit <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/awards/15pbja-21-gg-04573-coap>.

The mission of the New Jersey State Parole Board is to promote public safety and foster the successful rehabilitation of offenders through the implementation of policies that result in effective parole case management. A multitude of innovative parole initiatives assist the Board in addressing the needs of the community, crime victims, and offenders through responsible decision-making and supervision processes. These initiatives assist the New Jersey State Parole Board in meeting its important goals which include increased public safety, sustained recidivism rate reductions, and the successful and sustainable reintegration of offenders.

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