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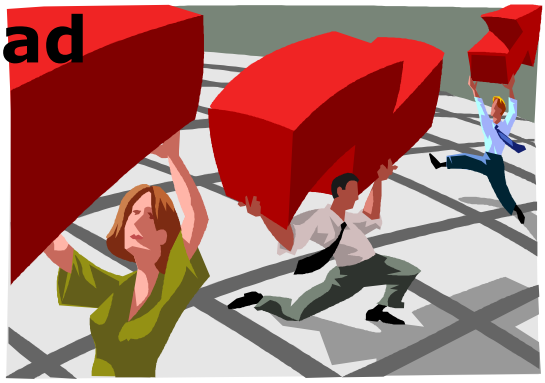
Data Download



ICON: It's Not Just for Corrections Anymore

The Iowa Correctional Offender Network (ICON) is a data collection system that was first deployed in community corrections in 2000 after two years of planning, and was integrated with the institutions in 2004. The purpose of ICON is to collect and organize the data necessary to make informed decisions.

Corrections owes it to the Iowa taxpayers to be good stewards with the funding they provide, and ICON helps accomplish that charge by telling us which correctional programs work and don't work, along with when, where, and with whom. ICON helps tell us what is the optimal level of security for each offender, both in the institutions and under community-based supervision.

Nationally, Iowa Corrections has one of the lowest rates of return-to-prison in the nation, and the information we receive from ICON is one of the reasons why. In recent years, the ICON system has begun interacting with other organizations and whole systems for the benefit of public safety and the taxpayers, including:

- Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) – County Attorneys obtain victim information and offender release information from prison, and DOC and the Iowa Courts Information System (ICIS) exchange Pre-Sentence Investigation orders and returned-to-courts information;
- Board of Parole (BOP) – ICON feeds information into the BOP docket and Release Plans, and ICON in turn receives Review Dates, BOP Risk Scores and Decision Codes;
- DOC and ICIS – Offender recidivism is tracked through ICIS;
- ICON sends Child Support Recovery a file to assist with locating offenders;
- ICON sends Medicaid a file to assist in the investigations of fraudulent usage of Medicaid; and
- ICON sends Iowa Vine data, which provides victims with information and notification.

Future information system interactions include:

- Exchanging offender address information between ICON and the Sex Offender Registry; and
- Standardizing crime code language among justice system partners to improve sharing of information.

Not only does Iowa Corrections depend on the information generated through ICON, but so do a number of other agencies. The results are taxpayer savings and improved public safety.