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A PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF CLIENT FLOW--  
MARYLAND AND CONNECTICUT  
TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION  
FOR ADDICTED PRISONERS PROGRAMS

WORKING PAPER

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## Introduction

Numerous studies have indicated that a large number of drug abusing offenders enter a state correctional system. A major study conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in 1974 showed that 61 percent of a sample of inmates from 190 state correctional institutions throughout the country had used illicit drugs (Barton, 1980). Many of these offenders were incarcerated in prisons offering little or no institutional drug abuse treatment services. Further, treatment services for those released on parole were also inadequate. It is believed that many of these offenders will return to illicit drug use and criminal activity.

In an attempt to address this problem, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration developed the Treatment and Rehabilitation For Addicted Prisoners (TRAP) program. The TRAP program sought to:

- improve coordination of treatment service delivery for offenders while incarcerated and on parole,
- improve the information base for use in parole hearings, parole plans, and parole supervision,
- decrease use of illicit drugs by inmates placed on parole through this program,
- decrease recidivism rates among program participants and graduates.

The TRAP program required a 12 to 18 month program for voluntary participants encompassing a six to nine month correctional phase and six to nine month parole phase. The inmates in the correctional phase must be housed in a "functional unit" setting design to treat a minimum of 30 inmates

at any given time. The following project elements were required for each TRAP project:

- ° a classification procedure to screen and identify all inmates with a history of drug abuse;
- ° a coordinating committee evenly composed of inmates and staff;
- ° supportive services for participating inmates (e.g., medical examinations, vocational training, educational training, etc.);
- ° three hours of group counseling and 3 hours of individual counseling for each participant each week, as well as alternative therapies;
- ° the utilizing of the Mutual Agreement Pact (MAP);
- ° a process for identifying and evaluating community based treatment resources for use by the participants; and
- ° use of urinalysis both in the correctional setting and during parole.

In 1978, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration awarded grants to Maryland and Connecticut to establish TRAP programs. The LEAA recognized the need for careful documentation and assessment of the first TRAP programs so that other states might benefit from their experiences. The Institute for Human Resources Research (IHRR) was awarded a grant to conduct the comprehensive evaluation of the Connecticut and Maryland TRAP programs. Later, the LEAA funded two additional TRAP programs in New York and New Jersey and the IHRR was awarded national evaluation grants to evaluate those programs also.

This paper presents some interim assessment information on the Maryland and Connecticut TRAP programs. The complete evaluation results will be published by mid 1982.

#### The Flow Model

The flow model employed in this analysis of TRAP clients is intended to track clients through each phase of TRAP:

- the institutional phase
- the community corrections phase
- the parole release phase

The analysis of client flow is most meaningful when it focuses on a cohort of clients who entered the program sufficiently long ago so that their progress can be observed over an extended period of time. Therefore, in this analysis, a cohort was selected for each program consisting of the first group of clients entering. This allows us to track the Maryland cohort for approximately 18 months after their admission to TRAP (October 1978 to April 1980). The Connecticut TRAP program started admitting clients eight months later than the Maryland program. Thus, the status of its first group of clients can only be assessed for approximately 10 to 11 months following their admission to TRAP (June/July 1979 to May 1980).

#### Maryland TRAP Client Flow

The Maryland TRAP program admitted a total of 235 clients into the institutional phase during the period October 2, 1978 to April 15, 1980. The 47 clients admitted during October 1978 form the cohort analyzed in this paper.

Figure 1 shows that 35 of the 47 clients entering the program graduated from the institutional phase and entered a community correction facility. One additional client was paroled prior to graduation. Of the other 11 clients who did not graduate, two escaped and nine were reclassified to a higher security status.

Eleven of the 35 clients who entered the community corrections phase had unfavorable outcomes. Eight were reclassified to a higher security status, two escaped, and one was shot and killed by police in a stolen care incident. Parole was achieved by 13 clients and 11 were still in community corrections as of April 15, 1980.

Of the 13 clients who were released on parole from the community corrections phase and the one inmate paroled directly from the institutional phase, three absconded from parole, two were rearrested, and one died of natural causes. Thus, eight of the 14 were in a satisfactory parole status as of April 15, 1980. The median length of time these 14 graduates had spent on parole was more than eight months.

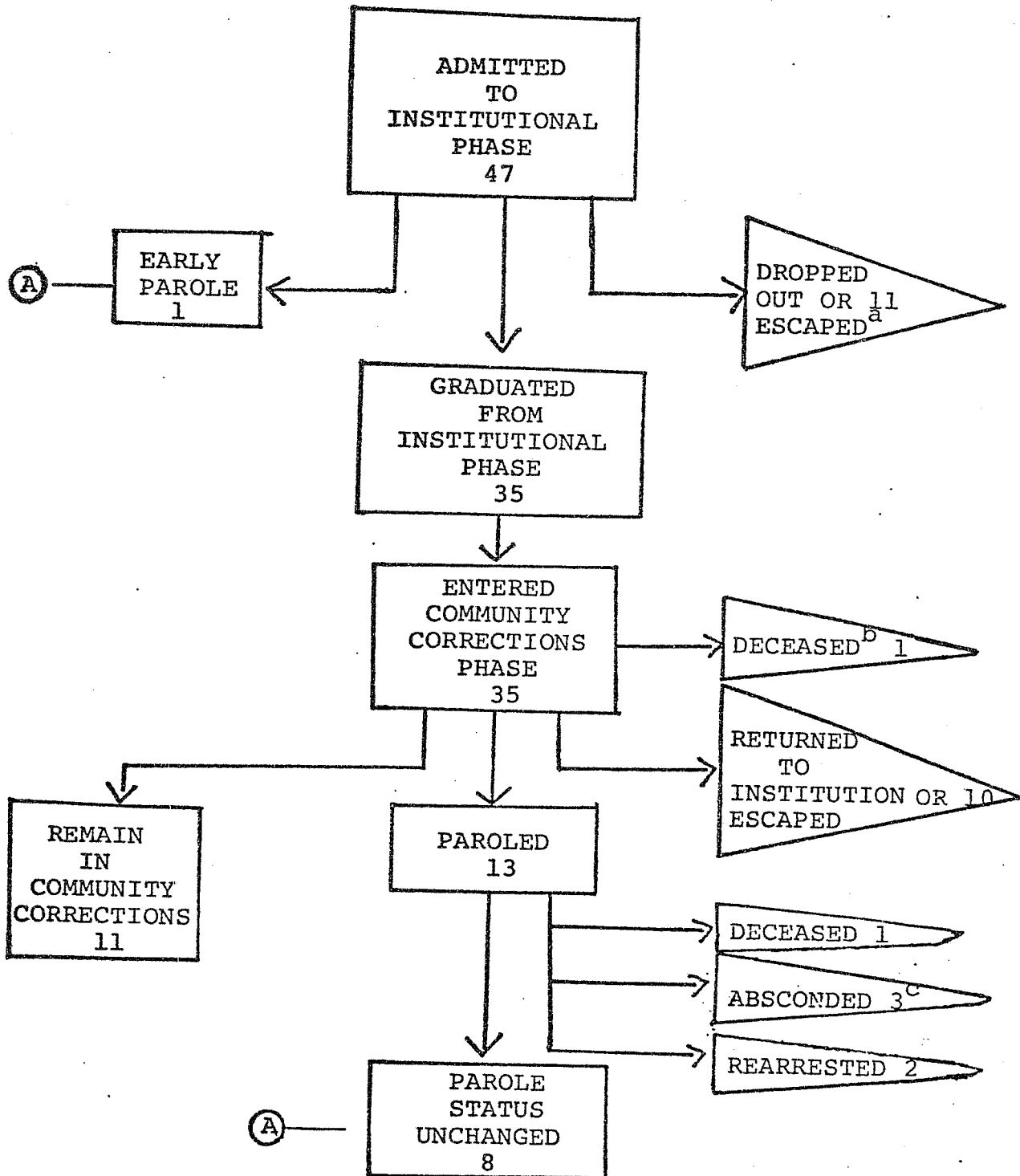
#### Connecticut TRAP Program

The Connecticut TRAP program admitted a total of 80 clients into the institutional phase during the period May 21, 1979 to May 15, 1980. This analysis focuses on the first 34 clients, all of which were admitted prior to July 31, 1979.

Figure 2 shows that 12 of the 34 clients entering the institutional phase graduated while eight were still in the

FIGURE 1

FLOW OF OCTOBER 1978 ADMISSIONS - MARYLAND TRAP PROGRAM  
(as of April 15, 1980)



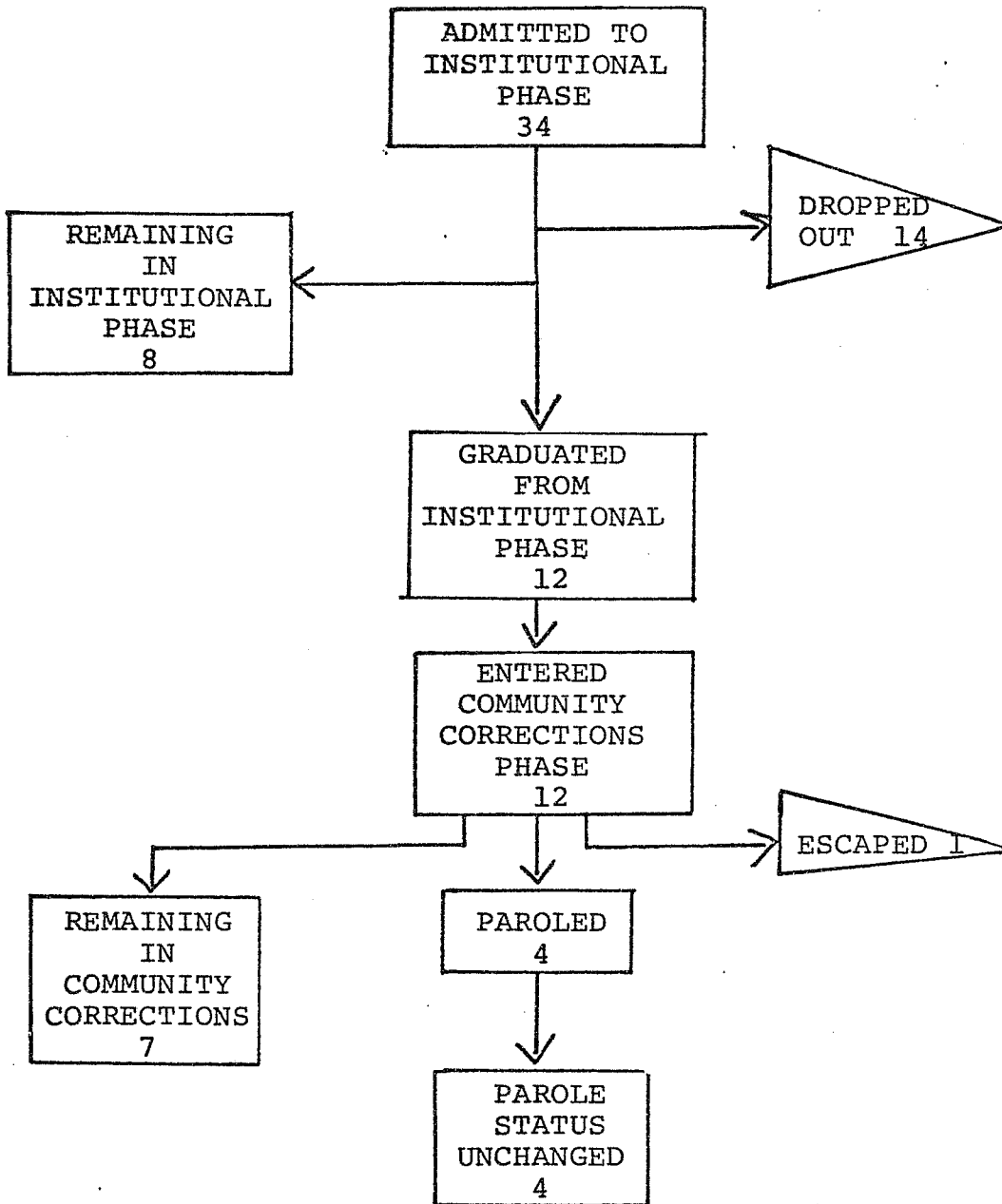
<sup>a</sup>Nine were reclassified to a higher security status, two escaped.

<sup>b</sup>Shot by police in a stolen car incident.

<sup>c</sup>One reentered the TRAP institutional phase.

FIGURE 2

FLOW OF FIRST 34 ADMISSIONS--CONNECTICUT TRAP PROGRAM  
(as of 5/15/80)





program as of May 15, 1980. The remaining 14 clients dropped-out for the following reasons: voluntary self-withdrawal, 7; program or institutional rule infraction, 5; and administrative transfer, 2.

One of the clients who entered the community corrections phase escaped. The remaining 11 clients were in a satisfactory status as of May 15, 1980; four were on parole and seven remained in community corrections.

All four of the clients on parole were in a satisfactory status as of May 15, 1980. The median time these clients had been on parole was less than two months. This is in sharp contrast to the Maryland parolees whose median time on parole was more than eight months. Thus, the time at risk for Maryland clients was considerably greater and outcome comparisons between the two TRAP programs would not be appropriate.

#### Discussion

It is, of course, difficult to reach conclusions concerning the efficacy of the TRAP model using these preliminary data. Large numbers of clients dropped-out or were forced-out of both the Maryland and Connecticut programs. However, the fact that programs are treating high risk clients must be considered. And it is by no means clear whether the outcome would be better or worse without TRAP treatment. This question will be addressed by a follow-up study comparing outcomes of TRAP clients with those of a matched comparison group.

REFERENCE

Barton, W. I. Drug histories and criminality: Survey of inmates of state correctional facilities. International Journal of the Addictions, 1980, 15(2), 233-258.