



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Protect the public, our staff and those within our custody and supervision

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Governor

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Director

TIME SENSITIVE: Idaho Department of Correction (IDOC) has been selected to participate in a telehealth smart phone application (“app”) pilot project. ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED- Clients need to sign up by the end of December to qualify for this free recovery support service.

The Idaho Department of Correction is pleased to announce that we have been selected to participate in a pilot-project that will provide telehealth services to justice-involved individuals struggling with a substance use disorder (SUD).

IDOC will work directly with The Addiction Policy Forum (<https://www.addictionpolicy.org/>) to allow clients under IDOC supervision free access to a smart phone app from January 2021 through July 2021. This pilot project is funded by the Foundation for Opioid Response Efforts (FORE at <https://forefdn.org/>). Any client with a substance use disorder qualifies to participate.

Connections is a free smartphone app scientifically proven to support individuals in recovery by reducing relapse and promoting pro-social engagement. It lets clients connect with trained counselors and peers, access eTherapy, set medication and appointment reminders, access recovery-oriented content, track sobriety, engage in discussion groups with folks from across the country, and attend support virtual meetings.

The Connections app complements treatment and recovery services—it does not replace them. It is provided free of charge, and the people within the app can remain anonymous.

Confidential Support: The client’s progress, utilization of the app, records, and requests for support are confidential. A trained counselor is on the other end of the technology to provide support from 7AM to 8 PM MST. If the client indicates the need for additional assistance, a licensed counselor will work directly with the client to assess needs. In these situations, the IDOC Central Office team may be notified so they can coordinate care with treatment teams. Contributions to online discussions are private.

Getting Started: The client can click on this link to submit their application. Clinical staff from the Addiction Policy Forum will begin onboarding in January and will contact the client to enroll: <https://intakeq.com/new/wm2gu8>

For additional questions or support, please email IDOCSUD@idoc.idaho.gov

Frequently Asked Questions:

How do I help my client enroll?

Provide the IntakeQ link electronically to the client and have them follow the steps to apply. The actual onboarding to the app will take place in January, when The Addiction Policy Forum will contact the client to enroll and download the app. They provide all clinical and technical support.

How will I know my client's level of participation?

For the purposes of this pilot project, only specific circumstances will be communicated to the Central Office SUD team. These circumstances include inactivity, recent substance use, skipping check-ins, or utilization of crisis services. Other alerts that will be immediately communicated include domestic violence, suicidal ideation or attempt, and abuse of a child, elderly, or individual with a disability.

How will I know if my client is demonstrating appropriate pro-social behaviors?

Addiction Policy Forum Staff will monitor all areas of the platform to ensure safety of the clients and adherence to the guidelines, including client's aliases, individual conversations, group messages, and wall posts. If staff identifies inappropriate comments, messages, or language being used, they will immediately hide them. If the client continues to post inappropriate comments or offensive language, APF staff will send an individualized message to the client with a reminder about the Code of Conduct. If the inappropriate posts continue, the individual may be removed from the app. The Central Office SUD team will be notified if a client is discharged for reasons of conduct. The Central Office SUD team will notify the supervising officer and the treatment provider.

Can I require a client to participate in this pilot program as a condition of P&P or under a court order?

Participation in the pilot project is voluntary. IDOC has signed a memo of understanding that includes not using any information collected from the app to sanction clients, nor to mandate participation. It is a recovery support service. It is designed to support engagement in treatment.

Is there a treatment modality specific to justice involved individual risks and needs?

The smart phone app includes access to CBT4CBT (<https://cvt4cvt.com/>). This curriculum is completed through the smart phone app and is validated as a best evidence practice for substance use disorders. It is an online curriculum that can be completed in 7 modules. The curriculum has specific versions available for alcohol use disorder, MAT, and all substance use disorders.

Is the client required to utilize the geo-tracking feature?

Participation in the app features is voluntary and clients may choose not to activate the geo-tracking feature as a component of their relapse prevention plan.

Participation is free for IDOC clients, but does this cover the smart phone itself?

No, this grant does not cover the cost of the actual device. Addiction Policy Forum does provide all tech support and clinical oversight.