

2015 Prisoner & Family Ministry Report

February 8, 2015

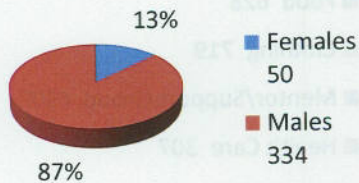
PFM Combined Re-entry Clients served and Demographics

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois – Prisoner & Family Ministry has served 1,477 Re-entry clients from January 2013 – December 2015 in the Marion, Metro: East St. Louis and Rockford Illinois locations.

Re-Entry Clients - Marion, Metro E. St. Louis and Rockford

The following information is a breakdown of 384 new clients that joined our services from January 2015 – December 2015 calendar year.

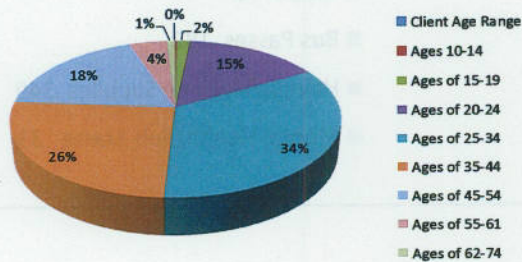
384 New Clients Served in 2015



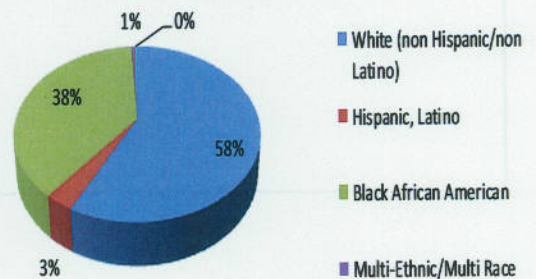
Client Primary Language Demographics 2015



Client Age Demographics 2015

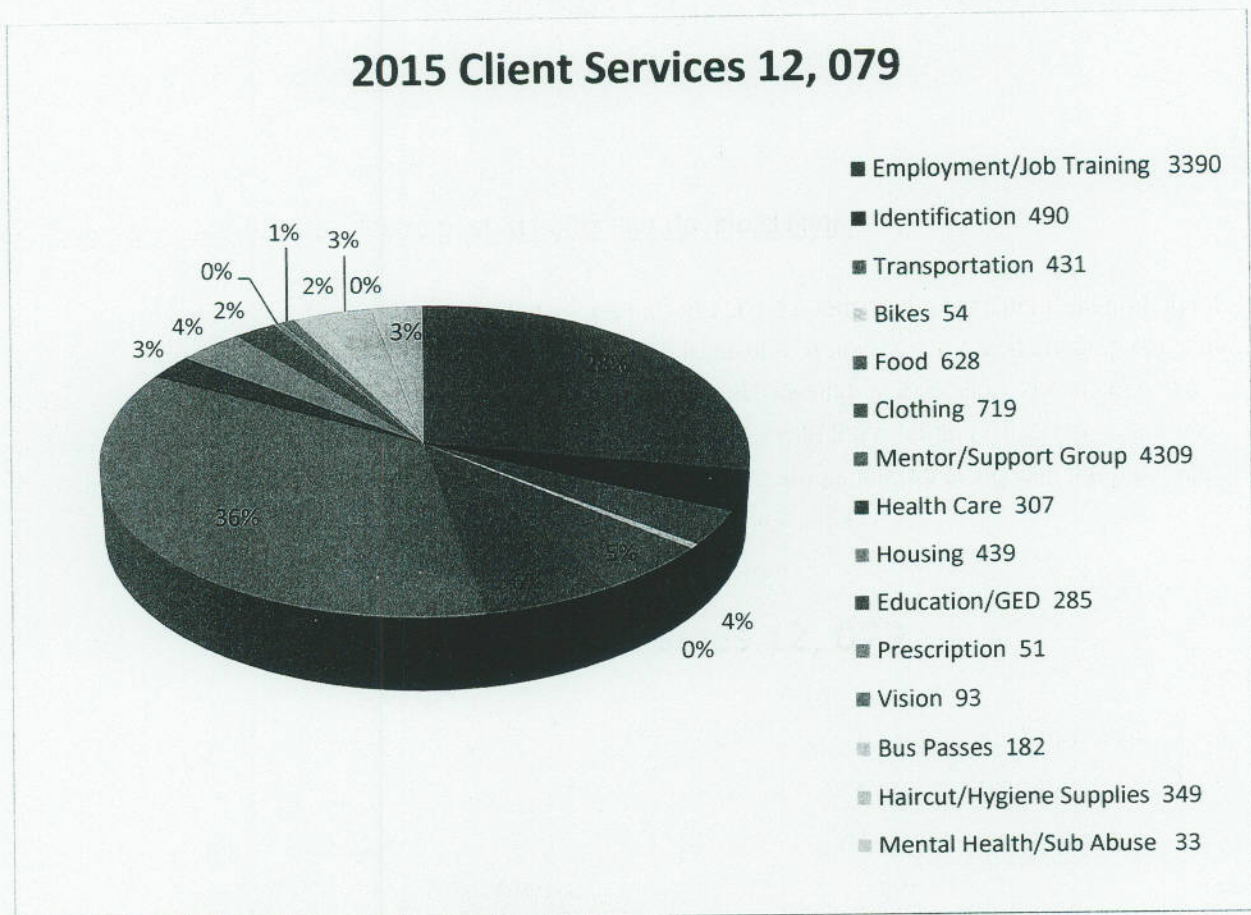


Client Race Demographics 2015



Re-Entry Services – Marion, Metro East St Louis and Rockford Illinois

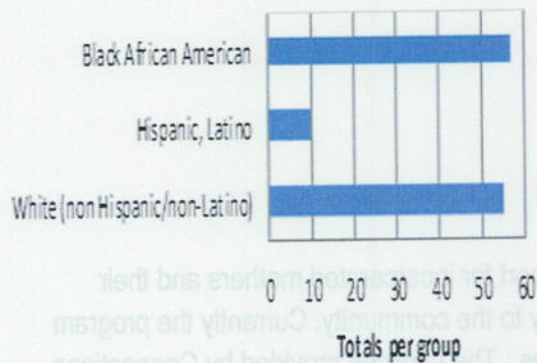
LSSI's Re-entry Services takes into account all of the individualized needs that a person re-integrating into the community may need in order to be successful in their transition. A holistic approach encompasses the following areas which are vital for re-entry success: employment, housing, stabilization, social networks, and structure. Re-entry Specialists explore up to 21 areas of need with the returning citizen to create an individualized plan to meet their transitional goals. Those services are as follows along with the percentage they serve in the total services of 12, 079 Services provided to the clients.



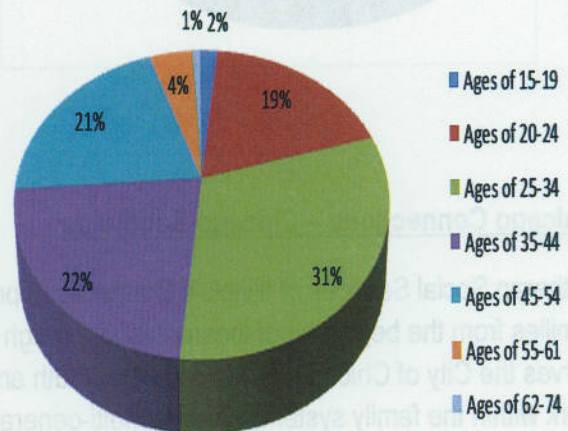
PFM Combined Homeward Bound Clients

Homeward Bound is based on a permanent supportive housing model that has been blended with re-entry services. Re-entry Specialists work with the returning juveniles/adults to assess needs and to create goals for stability. LSSI not only assists in finding homes connecting with shelters and local landlords, but own 5 homes in Marion, IL as well. The following numbers are based off the 215 calendar year of service. PFM served 122 clients in the Homeward Bound Program. 23 of those clients were placed in an LSSI-PFM Marion Home.

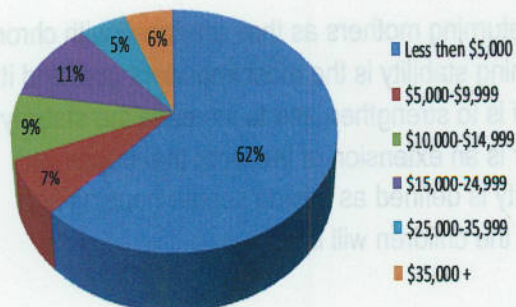
2015 HB Client Race Demographics



2015 HB Client Age

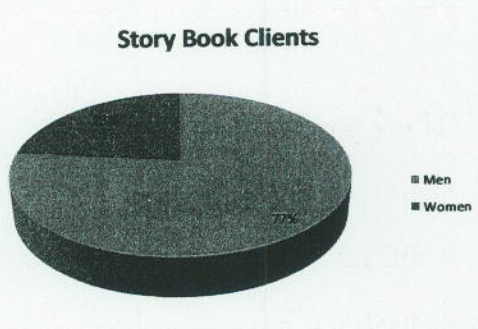


2015 HB Income Demographics



Story Book Program – State Wide Program

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois' Storybook Project is a unique, yet simple program offered to incarcerated parents and their children. With the help of dedicated, well-trained volunteers and donated children's books, incarcerated moms and dads (and grandparents at some facilities) select and read books aloud into a voice recorder. A CD of the recording is made. Then the books and CDs are mailed to the children at no cost to the offender or his/her family. In 2015 LSSI-PFM Story book program reached 11,048 incarcerated parents and their families.



Chicago Connections – Chicago Southside

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois's Connections provides support for incarcerated mothers and their families from the beginning of incarceration through their reentry to the community. Currently the program serves the City of Chicago, particularly the South and West sides. The services provided by Connections work within the family system; which is multi-generational, complex, and in a state of distress. While much of the work may be with the adults, the children are the key beneficiaries of all services as stable adults are more capable of caring for the children's social and emotional needs.

The Visits to Mom program provides free transportation to children whose mothers are incarcerated. Monthly bus trips are scheduled to Decatur and Logan Correctional Centers and each child has an opportunity to visit their mother up to 3-4 times per year. 768 mothers and their families were served through the Visits to mom program in 2015.

Family Support Services are provided to caregivers and to returning mothers as they are faced with chronic financial and personal crisis. As mothers return home, attaining stability is the most important goal and it provides them the best chance to succeed. The goal for staff is to strengthen and to increase the stability of the mother and the family. The re-entry work with the mother is an extension of the work that began with the family system while the mother was incarcerated. Stability is defined as having secure housing and employment as well as completing the decision about where the children will live.

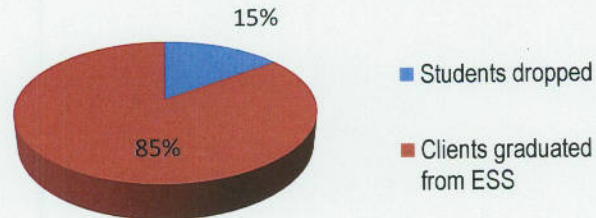
Employment Programs

Employment Skills School – Marion and Rockford Illinois

A 40-day curriculum-based program designed especially for returning citizens who are seeking employment. Activities include all aspects of employment training, an open computer lab for employment and educational related activities, intensive career development services, and periodic career counseling services for at least a year.

In the 2015 calendar year ESS enrolled 112 students. 95 of those students graduated. 100% of the students graduated with improved computer skills and knowledge based on the testing throughout the ESS program.

2015 Employment Skills School Enrollment 112



Bikes to Work – Marion, Illinois

An extension of the Employment Skills School program is the Bikes to Work program. This volunteer-based program takes bikes that are donated to the program by the community and returning citizens have the opportunity to restore the bikes. They are able to practice their employment skills, learn some mechanics, and build their resumes for employment. In addition, if the individual is in need of transportation, then a bicycle is provided to them free of charge. In 2015 118 signed up to receive a bike. The program was able to distribute 78 bikes by the December 31, 2015 end of year date. Some of those participants who were on the list received their bikes after Jan. 1, 2016.

Green Re-Entry Opportunities – Marion Illinois

LSSI-PFM sponsors a community garden that provides these individuals with the ability to learn agriculture, practice employment skills, and build experience for their resume. All food grown in the gardens is donated to local food pantries and non-profit kitchens. This past 2015 calendar year the program harvested and donated 4,465lbs of organic vegetables.

The new addition of a Greenhouse provided an increase in our harvest from the past year. 54 Volunteers made up from AmeriCorps members, community members and clients, served in the garden donating a total of 7,053.5 volunteer hours.