



## **BACKGROUND**

### **The Justice Mental Health Community Support Program**

#### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Justice Mental Health Community Support Program will provide direct and coordinated services for offenders with a history of serious violent offending and mental disorders. The Program forms an important component of a Serious Violent Offender Response implemented in select areas of the Province. The Program will work closely with Adult Probation, Municipal Police Services, Crown Prosecutors, RCMP, treatment and community services providers, and family members. One of the primary purposes of the program is to assist in the stabilization of offenders with emotional or behavioural problems so they can live crime free and contribute to their communities.

#### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

- Remission of psychopathology e.g. monitoring compliance regarding medications.
- Development of healthy and responsible inter-personal relations.
- Teach social and living skills e.g. establishing residential stabilization.
- Develop vocational interests.
- Maintain psychological health.
- Promoting engagement of community-based treatment and services addressing risk factors that promote offending.

#### **PROGRAM SERVICES-ACTIVITIES**

Services will align with four broad areas: assessment, acute crisis intervention, brief therapeutic intervention, and special mental health evaluations. Within this broader context services can include areas such as:

- In-reach supports and services for individuals with mental illness who are currently serving sentences of incarceration.
- Reintegration planning from custody to community or from community sentence to post-sentence which can include the development and maintenance of a relapse prevention plan.
- Create or ensure linkages between treatment, health care, and other service systems identified in the case plan.
- Coordination of transition plans with community supervision.
- Ensure the offender has successfully adapted to new housing, employment, and treatment services.