



RESEARCH ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.56868/jadhur.v2i3.144>

Community Involvement in the Rehabilitation and Treatment of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL): A Case Study of the Iriga District Jail, Philippine

Cherry Reamico Leonor

Criminal Justice Education, Graduate School, University of the Cordilleras, Baguio City, Philippines
chepiermco@yahoo.com.ph

Abstract

This study focuses on evaluating community involvement in rehabilitating and caring for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) at the Iriga District Jail in Camarines Sur's Fifth District, Philippines. The research employed a quantitative-methods of survey questionnaire, utilizing purposive and random sampling techniques to select participants of total 100 however 89 respondents replied considered and data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The findings revealed that community involvement activities were partially implemented, encompassing work and livelihood programs, moral and spiritual programs, education and training programs, sports and recreation programs, behavior modification programs, and health and welfare programs. Challenges identified included limited funds, inadequate physical facilities, limited government and community support, insufficient staff training, and organizational issues. To strengthen community involvement in prisoner rehabilitation, this study recommends psychological evaluations, job placement or referral, community service programs, client self-help organizations, environmental awareness programs, volunteer probation aides, and involving the client's family in the rehabilitation process. These findings offer insights into the current state of community involvement in prisoner rehabilitation and propose measures for improvement in Camarines Sur's Fifth District.

Keywords: Community Involvement, Rehabilitation, Persons Deprived of Liberty, Reintegration, Quality of life

INTRODUCTION

In the Philippines, crime, violence, and terrorism are significant concerns. The nation ranked among the bottom five in the Asia Pacific region's order and security index ranking in 2020 (Shambaugh, 2022). Additionally, the country had one of the highest incarceration rates per 100,000 people, with higher crime rates in poorer neighborhoods, areas with higher population densities, and places with higher unemployment rates (Poquiz et al., 2023). The number of index crimes, including murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson, has decreased from 139,111 in 2016 to 27,523 in the first nine months of the current year (Bartos, 2023; Bautista,2020). Furthermore, the number of crimes in the country decreased from 584,883 in 2016 to 383,189 in 2020 and 282,631 in the first eight months of 2021 (Bautista,2020). The government has also made efforts to address the issue of illegal drugs, detaining 307,521 drug personalities, including 13,244 high-value targets, and conducting 213,504 illegal drug operations worth PHP 64.09 billion between 2016 and 2021 (Bautista, 2020).

The Philippines has been recognized as having one of the world's most concentrated criminal justice systems (Villegas, 2023). The country's prison population has been increasing, with 106,323 inmates in 2012, 142,168 prisoners in 2016, and 215,000 total inmates in 2019 (World Prison Brief, 2020). Prisoners,



referred to as Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) under the Mandela rule, are entitled to humane treatment (Lamchek, 2018). The term PDLs was chosen to respect the fundamental dignity of the human person, as stated in Article 10 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Lamchek, 2018). The Bureau of Corrections Act of 2013, also known as Republic Act No. 10575, legally refers to PDLs as "detainee, inmate, or prisoner, or both" (Gazette, 2016).

The Philippines is a signatory to United Nations agreements and documents concerning political prisoners, emphasizing the importance of not exacerbating the suffering that comes with imprisonment and promoting the prisoners' reform and improvement (Strasser, 2019). The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (UNSMRTP) provide guidelines for ensuring opportunities for correction and reform, including specific rules for women and individuals with disabilities (Baldonado et al., 2022). The Philippine Constitution also addresses the need to address substandard and inadequate penal facilities and treatment (Gazette, 2016). Reintegration plays a crucial role in rehabilitation, as nearly all prisoners will be released at some point (Graffam et al., 2004). It involves preparing individuals for success after release and addressing various issues related to housing, family, health, education, employment, and community well-being (Maruna & Immarigeon, 2013). Community involvement holds promise, there are challenges and barriers that need to be addressed. These include stigma and discrimination against PDLs, limited resources and support services, coordination among stakeholders, and public perception and safety concerns. Understanding these challenges is crucial for designing effective community involvement programs (Harm & Phillips, 2001). Despite the growing recognition of community involvement in PDL rehabilitation, there is a need for more empirical research in the Philippine context. Limited studies specifically explore the extent of community involvement, identify implementation challenges, and propose measures for improvement. This study aims to fill this research gap by assessing and analyzing community involvement in rehabilitating and treating PDLs in the Fifth District of Camarines Sur. The study intends to determine and analyze the community involvement in rehabilitating and treating the Person Deprived of Liberty (PDL) in the Fifth District of Camarines Sur. Specifically, it will aim to answer the following specific objectives:

1. To assess the level of community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) at the Iriga District Jail, Fifth District of Camarines Sur.
2. To assess the level of community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) at the Iriga District Jail, Fifth District of Camarines Sur.
3. To identify problems encountered in the implementation of community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDLs, and to recommend measures to strengthen the implementation.



LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Sanders (2003) emphasizes the importance of collaboration between schools and the community to enhance the overall educational experience and outcomes. Smith (2020) highlights the value of community participation in early childhood education, ensuring equitable access to excellent educational opportunities for all children. The author discussed tactics such as community-based programs, parent-teacher collaborations, and advocacy initiatives, which contribute to building a more just and equitable early childhood education system despite resource limitations and time constraints.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) policy on preventing and responding to torture and cruel treatment inflicted on individuals deprived of their liberty emphasizes human dignity and rights. The ICRC condemns such acts as morally wrong and illegal, and its key principles include non-discrimination, documentation and monitoring, prevention and response measures, and cooperation with relevant authorities. The ICRC's commitment to protecting detainees and upholding human rights underscores the importance of collaboration to ensure dignity and the rule of law in all situations (Nisar et al., 2015).

In the study by Skeem et al. (2021), the significance of community involvement in the rehabilitation process for individuals who have been deprived of their liberty is explored. The authors emphasize the concept of quality of life as a crucial element in effective rehabilitation. They examine the role of community involvement and its impact on a person's social relationships, employment prospects, and general well-being. The study suggests that rehabilitation programs for this population can be significantly more effective by adopting a comprehensive strategy that incorporates community involvement. The article, published in the journal *Law and Human Behavior*, provides valuable insights into the importance of community involvement in the rehabilitation of individuals who have lost their freedom.

The importance of community involvement in the rehabilitation process for individuals who have been deprived of their liberty is examined by Green et al. (2020) and explored the relationship between community involvement and effective rehabilitation outcomes, highlighting the significance of interpersonal relationships, social networks, and neighborhood assets in facilitating the reintegration of individuals into society.

Doe et al. (2021) present the Quality-of-Life Factory (QLF), an innovative rehabilitation program that combines positive psychology and cognitive-behavioral therapy concepts to enhance the quality of life and reduce the risk of reoffending among offenders. The authors conducted a pilot study with 20 participants, which demonstrated significant success in achieving the program's goals. The participants in the QLF showed substantial improvements in their quality of life, as indicated by various self-report assessments. Additionally, the program contributed to a reduction in the participants' risk of reoffending, as measured by a tested risk assessment tool. Doe et al. (2021) emphasize the potential of the QLF as a viable rehabilitation strategy for offenders and call for further research to validate the findings of the pilot



study and assess the program's long-term effectiveness. The comprehensive nature of the QLF, addressing cognitive distortions, emotional issues, and social skills deficiencies, along with its group format that facilitates shared experiences and reciprocal learning, are highlighted as defining characteristics. The program, rooted in positive psychology, underscores the importance of building strengths and resilience.

Mansuri, G., & Rao(2003) conducted a thorough literature analysis to establish the effectiveness of community-based treatments in supporting successful reintegration of prisoners into society. The authors highlight a range of initiatives aimed at reducing recidivism rates, addressing substance addiction, enhancing economic opportunities, and improving mental health outcomes. The review examines the data supporting these interventions and investigates their impact on social support networks, criminal behavior, and overall well-being.

The promotion of general health and well-being among individuals, particularly those in correctional facilities, heavily relies on physical activity. Recent research has shown an increased interest in studying physical exercise among prisoners.

Baldonado et al. (2022) conducted a study focusing on inmates in the Santiago City District Jail in the Philippines and their participation in physical activity. By exploring the extent of physical activity engagement among prisoners and identifying the variables that influence their participation, Baldonado et al. (2022) contribute to the existing body of literature. The study sheds light on the quantity, nature, and types of physical activity that convicts engage in, as well as the challenges they face when trying to be physically active within a correctional facility. By specifically examining the Santiago City District Jail, the study enhances our understanding of physical activity in the prison population. It underscores the importance of promoting physical exercise in correctional settings and provides valuable insights for practitioners and policymakers in the field of corrections. Further research is needed to investigate the effects of physical exercise interventions on the physical and mental health of prisoners. Understanding the potential benefits of physical activity and developing strategies to overcome obstacles can aid in designing effective programs that encourage healthier lifestyles and reduce recidivism rates among prisoners.

DeMichele, (2014) highlights the significant impact of the community on the reintegration of inmates into society. The importance of community-based elements such as social support systems, career opportunities, and housing accessibility is emphasized to facilitate successful reentry. Farrington's evaluation of the relevant literature and research emphasizes the need for comprehensive community involvement in the reintegration process. The essay presents theoretical frameworks, empirical evidence, and argues for the value of community-based initiatives and programs to reduce recidivism rates and achieve better outcomes for individuals transitioning from prison to society. It serves as a valuable resource for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners seeking to understand and implement effective reentry strategies.



Community involvement plays a crucial role in conducting biomedical research on global health issues, as highlighted by Fregonese (2018). Despite significant progress in this field, the benefits of such research often do not reach the populations most affected by the health problems being investigated. This can be attributed to the limited community involvement in the research process. Engaging the community yields several advantages, including the production of culturally sensitive and relevant studies, improved participant recruitment and retention, increased trust between researchers and communities, and the translation of research findings into actionable steps while ensuring ethical conduct. However, various obstacles hinder effective community participation in research, such as inadequate funding, power imbalances, lack of trust, communication barriers, and linguistic and cultural challenges. Addressing these issues requires collaboration between researchers, funding organizations, decision-makers, and communities themselves. Key strategies to facilitate meaningful community involvement in research include early engagement in the planning phase, transparent and open communication, diverse representation of perspectives, allocation of sufficient resources and support, and incorporation of local cultural practices and knowledge. These approaches cater to community needs, build trust, and enhance the relevance and acceptance of research within the community (Mehdi and Ali, 2023).

Several studies have investigated the influence of social media on mental health. Smith (2018) discovered a positive association between excessive use of social media and symptoms of depression and anxiety. Similarly, Laurindo et al., (2022) reported a higher prevalence of body dissatisfaction among individuals who frequently engage with social media platforms. On the other hand, Moores & Popadiuk,(2011) argued that social media can also yield positive effects, such as enhanced social support and connectedness. These divergent findings underscore the necessity for additional research to gain a deeper understanding of the intricate relationship between social media usage and mental health outcomes.

As jailed populations are frequently exposed to different risk factors and experience particular difficulties that contribute to poor mental well-being, Baldonado et al., (2022) have emphasized the necessity to treat mental health issues among them.

Laurindo et al. (2022) discovered that having children, being a single parent, being younger in age, having less education, being imprisoned for a longer period of time, and having a history of substance abuse were all significant factors linked to higher levels of anxiety and depressive symptoms. These results highlight the significance of attending to the mental health requirements of detained women in Juiz de Fora-MG, Brazil. The study recognized the necessity for focused interventions that take into account the recognized risk factors, such as fostering social support, delivering substance abuse treatment, and providing educational opportunities. Interventions focusing on mental health promotion and support for incarcerated women are essential to mitigate the adverse effects of imprisonment on mental well-being and improve overall outcomes for this vulnerable population. Figure 1 shows the framework of the study

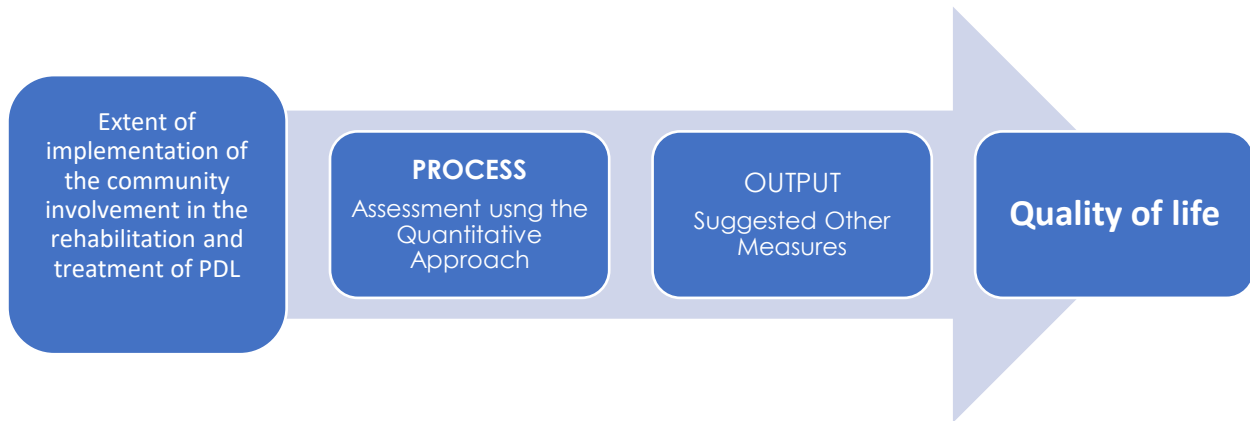


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

Analytical/Conceptual Framework

The conceptual/analytical paradigm used in the study is shown in Figure 1. The input mainly focuses on assessing and analyzing community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of those deprived of their liberty (PDL). By using the purposive and random criterion sampling method to choose the study participants, a quantitative approach is used throughout the process. The findings of this study will provide recommendations for steps that can be taken to enhance community involvement in PDLs' rehabilitation and treatment in order to improve their quality of life once they are released from prison. Increased respect and appreciation for the law will reduce PDLs' propensity to recidivate and help them prepare for reintegration into society, which will help them improve their quality of life despite their circumstances. The results of this study may be used as policymaking input for the Iriga City Jail and BuCor as a whole on additional steps to strengthen their reintegration program for the former PDL and aid in raising community members' quality of life. The goal of this is to assist PDLs in improving their quality of life despite their circumstances by increasing their respect and appreciation for the law, which will, in turn, lessen their propensity to recidivate and help them get ready for reintegration into society.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This study used a quantitative-methods research design to investigate the community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) in the Fifth District of Camarines Sur.

Sampling and Sample Size

The study employed purposive and random sampling methods to select the participants. The BuCor staff members directly involved in formulating and implementing rehabilitation programs were purposefully sampled of total 50 sample size. Random sampling was used to select PDLs from the Iriga



District Jail in the Fifth District of Camarines Sur of 50 sample size. The questionnaire was distributed among 100 participants however after data treatment 89 questionnaire found useful.

Data Collection Instrument

Survey questionnaire was used to collect the data on the opinions of the respondents regarding community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDLs. The questionnaire was designed to assess the extent of implementation, identify problems encountered, and explore recommended measures for strengthening community involvement. The questionnaire included both closed-ended and open-ended questions to gather quantitative and qualitative data. The researcher-made survey questionnaire was divided into two parts. The first part asks about the extent of implementation of community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDLs. A Likert-Scale was used with the following rating scales: 5 means Fully Implemented, 4 means Implemented, 3 means Partially Implemented, 2 means Slightly Implemented, and 1 means Not Implemented. This portion were answered by the two-groups of respondents.

Part II of the instrument elicits questions on the problems encountered in the implementation of community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDLs. A Likert-Scale was also used with the following rating scales: 5 means Very Serious, 4 means Serious, 3 means Moderately Serious, 2 means Less Serious, and 1 means Not Serious.

The researcher distributed the research instrument to the respondents with the assistance of BuCor personnel. The data gathered was collated, organized, and presented using tabular and textual presentation in conformity with the research problems to provide a total and clear picture of the variables used. All bits of information gathered were incorporated into the recommended measures of the study. The survey questionnaires were administered to the selected BuCor staff and PDLs. The researcher provided clear instructions on how to complete the questionnaire. Additionally, follow-up interviews were conducted with selected respondents to further verify and clarify the collected data.

Data Analysis

Quantitative data obtained from the closed-ended questions were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages. This analysis provided an overview of the extent of community involvement and identified common problems encountered in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDLs.

Ethical Statement

Ethical Considerations Prior to data collection, ethical approval was obtained from the relevant institutional review board. Informed consent was obtained from all participants, ensuring their voluntary participation, anonymity, and confidentiality. The researcher adhered to ethical guidelines throughout the study, considering the rights and welfare of the participants.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Questionnaire were distributed among 50 purposefully sample from the BuCor staff members who are directly involved in formulating and implementing rehabilitation programs and another 50 samples were randomly selected from the PDLs the Iriga District Jail in the Fifth District of Camarines Sur of 50 sample size, however after data treatment about 89 questionnaire found usable data. The table 1 shows the results of a survey of 89 Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) at the Iriga District Jail. The survey asked about the PDLs’ gender, civil status, age, years in prison, and physical activities. The results shows that the majority of the PDLs are male (69%) and married (47%). The PDLs are also relatively young, with the majority being between the ages of 21 and 30 (24%). The PDLs have also been in prison for a relatively short period of time, with the majority having been incarcerated for 0-3 years (23%). In terms of physical activities, the PDLs most commonly participate in volleyball (7%), table tennis (10%), and badminton (15%).

Table 1: Respondents Profile

Description	Variables	Frequency
Gender	Male	69
	Female	20
Civil Status	Married	47
	Single	35
	Others/in open relation	7
Age (Years)	20 Years	16
	21-30 Years	24
	31-40 Years	30
	Above 40 Years old	19
Years in Prison (Iriga District Jail)	0-3 Years	23
	4-7 Years	18
	Above 7 years in prison	6
Physical activities of the respondents in the Prison	Vally ball	07
	Table Tennis	10
	Badminton	15
	Others	14

N=89

Table 2 shows the extent of implementation of community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of the PDL with an average weighted score of 3.44 or partially implemented. In particular, the PDL respondents viewed the activities as partially implemented with 3.27 average weighted score while the BuCor personnel rated it with 3.80 interpreted as implemented.

Table 2. Community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of the PDL

Indicators	Respondents				Average	
	PDL		BuCor Personnel			
Moral and Spiritual Program	3.56	Implemented	4.67	Fully Implemented	4.11	Implemented
Education and Training Program	3.56	Implemented	3.67	Implemented	3.61	Implemented
Work and Livelihood Program	3.67	Implemented	4.67	Fully Implemented	4.17	Implemented
Sports and Recreation Program	3.33	Partially Implemented	3.67	Implemented	3.50	Partially Implemented
Health and Welfare Program	2.67	Partially Implemented	3.33	Partially Implemented	3.00	Partially Implemented
Behavior Modification Program	3.11	Partially Implemented	3.67	Implemented	3.39	Partially Implemented
Average	3.27	Partially Implemented	3.80	Implemented	3.53	Implemented

Legend: 4.51 – 5.00, Highly Effective; 3.51 – 4.50, Very Effective; 2.51 – 3.50 Moderately Effective; 1.51 – 2.50 Less Effective; 1.00 – 1.50, Not Effective

Among the various community involvement, the activities on work and livelihood program got 4.17, interpreted as implemented. The moral and spiritual programs was also rated as implemented which obtained 4.11 mean score. Similarly, the education and training program was also implemented as perceived by the respondents with 3.61 average rating. Other community involvement activities like sports and recreation program resulted to partially implemented with 3.50 mean score. This was followed by behavior modification program which obtained an average score of 3.39 interpreted also as partially implemented. Lastly, the health and welfare program resulted to partially implemented also with 3.00 average mean rating.

This also includes the administration of programs for enhancing work and livelihood skills in order to help prisoners become self-sufficient members of the prison community and to increase revenue for the organization. The Directorate for Work and Livelihood shall formalize this (DWL). DWL will be in charge of managing and regulating the voluntary participating agencies, nonprofits, and individuals. For the purpose of assisting the clients in generating additional income, the BuCor organized seminars and classes on a variety of skills, including candle making, novelty item creation, handicraft production, etc. In a similar



vein, classes in technical and vocational trades, such as refrigeration, auto mechanics, radio/television and electronics repairs, tailoring and dressmaking, basic computer training, etc., are offered in collaboration with neighborhood barangays, parish centers, schools, and civic organizations.

The term “moral and spiritual program” refers to the institutionalization of inmates’ moral and spiritual values by the Directorate for Moral and Spiritual Welfare (DMSW), which also includes the practice of religion. Religious Volunteer Organizations (RVO) and individuals who participate will be governed and managed by DMSW. Through seminars, lectures, or trainings provided or organized by the Agency, the BuCor carried out these rehabilitation activities. Active NGOs, schools, civic, and religious organizations support the activities.

The Directorate for Education and Training shall institutionalize the administration of formal and informal education and the development of inmates’ skills under the terms of the education and training program (DET). DET shall oversee and regulate all participating volunteer professors, teachers, instructors, and trainers. To assist clients in learning fundamental writing, reading, and math skills, the BuCor provides adult education classes in coordination with LGU programs. The module also includes any literacy teachings that occur during client sessions. This is specifically designed to assist clients who are “no read, no write” in becoming functionally literate. Likewise, linkages with educational foundations and other Gos and NGOs are regularly done for free school supplies, bags, and uniforms for client’s children and relatives. The term "sports and recreation program" refers to the management of recreational and physical activity to develop mental focus and physical agility in the spirit of sportsmanship. The Directorate for Sports and Recreation is responsible for institutionalizing this (DSR). DSR is responsible for overseeing and managing volunteer organizations, non-profits, and individuals. To improve clients’ physical well-being, the BuCor engages in physical activity through sports, games, and group play. The friendly competition between the officers and clients from the various offices in the sectors offers an enjoyable and healthy break.

The term "behavior modification program" refers to the management of programs for the development of an inmate’s character necessary for successful interpersonal interactions in the prison community. Therapeutic communities are a component of this program. By the Directorate for Behavior Modification, this will become institutionalized (DBM). DBM will oversee and regulate volunteer organizations, nonprofits, and private citizens. To help the clients sort out their issues, find solutions, reconcile conflicts, and find resolutions, individual and group counseling sessions were held. Individual or group interactions with agency officers could be used to accomplish this.

This includes providing inmates with the appropriate nutrition, hygiene, sanitation, cleanliness, and health promotion as part of the health and welfare program. This includes giving sick, mentally disabled, elderly, and disabled prisoners the proper medical attention or hospitalization. The Directorate for Health and Welfare Services is responsible for institutionalizing this (DHWS). DHWS shall oversee and regulate all voluntary participating agencies, non-governmental organizations, and individuals. In order to meet



some of the basic needs of patients and their families, medical missions are established to provide a variety of medical and health services, such as physical examinations and treatment, free medications and vitamins, dental examinations and treatment, drug dependency testing, and laboratory examinations.

One might assume that the BuCor of Iriga District Jail has implemented a coordinated and integrated treatment plan for these clients in order to facilitate their rehabilitation. The therapeutic community modality and restorative justice concepts are both used in this coordinated and integrated program. The Therapeutic Community Modality is a self-help social learning treatment model that may be helpful for patients who struggle with drug abuse as well as other behavioral issues like alcoholism, stealing, and other anti-social tendencies. Regarding a treatment model, it has four (4) categories: behavior management, intellectual/spiritual aspects, emotional and social aspects, and vocational/survival aspects. The Therapeutic Community Treatment Model's success depends heavily on the use of restorative justice.

Underscoring the principles of restorative justice, offenders are acknowledged to make restitution to victims and offer community services to assist in mending the rift caused by their actions. In particular circumstances, conferencing and mediation are also used to mend and/or restore the bonds between clients and their victims and the community. The integration of the Therapeutic Community treatment modality, Restorative Justice paradigm, and deployment of VPAs into one rehabilitation program has resulted in great success with the rehabilitation and reformation process for probationers, parolees, padrones, and first-time minor drug offenders. Problems encountered in the implementation of the community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDL

Table 3 shows the perceived problems encountered by the respondents in the implementation of the community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDL which obtained an average weighted score of 2.75 interpreted as Moderately Serious. The PDLs regard the identified problems as moderately serious with 3.13 score while the BuCor personnel considered it as less serious only with 2.38 mean rating. Table 3. Problems encountered in the implementation of the community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDL as Perceived by the Respondents.

Table 3. Problems encountered in the implementation of the community involvement in the rehabilitation and treatment of PDL

Indicators	Respondents				Average	
	PDL		BuCor Personnel			
Insufficiency of fund	4.00	Serious	3.67	Serious	3.83	Serious
Lack of available physical facilities	4.22	Serious	4.00	Serious	4.11	Serious



Lack of support from the government	3.11	Moderately Serious	3.33	Moderately Serious	3.22	Moderately Serious
Lack of support from the community	3.00	Moderately Serious	3.00	Moderately Serious	3.00	Moderately Serious
Inadequate trainings to the BuCor personnel in implementing the programs	2.78	Moderately Serious	1.67	Less Serious	2.22	Less Serious
No proper chain of command	3.11	Moderately Serious	1.33	Not Serious	2.22	Less Serious
Ambiguous policies	2.78	Moderately Serious	1.67	Less Serious	2.22	Less Serious
BuCor Officials leadership styles	2.88	Moderately Serious	1.67	Less Serious	2.27	Less Serious
Average	3.13	Moderately Serious	2.38	Less Serious	2.75	Moderately Serious

Legend: 4.51 – 5.00 Very Serious; 3.51 – 4.50 Serious; 2.51 – 3.50 Moderately Serious; 1.51 – 2.50 Less Serious; 1.00 – 1.50 Not Serious

The respondents considered the insufficiency of funds and lack of available physical facilities to be serious problems, with 3.83 and 4.11 weighted scores, respectively. While the lack of support from the government and the lack of support from the community were both regarded as moderately serious, they obtained 3.22 and 3.00 average ratings, respectively. The following issues were also determined to be less serious: BuCor officials' leadership styles received a weighted score of 2.27; insufficient training was given to BuCor staff in implementing the programs; there was no proper chain of command; and ambiguous policies received a weighted score of 2.22.

DISCUSSION

The results highlight several key challenges faced in the implementation of the rehabilitation programs. Firstly, the issue of insufficient funds and lack of available physical facilities is considered a serious concern by both PDLs and BuCor Personnel. This suggests that there is a need for increased financial support and infrastructure development to adequately support the programs. Additionally, the lack of support from the government and community is perceived as moderately serious by both groups. This emphasizes the importance of garnering stronger support and collaboration from external stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness of the rehabilitation efforts. The perception of inadequate training for BuCor personnel in implementing the programs. This indicates a need for comprehensive and targeted training programs to equip the staff with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively carry out their roles in the rehabilitation process. Furthermore, the presence of issues such as the absence of a proper chain of command, ambiguous policies, and less serious leadership styles among BuCor officials raises concerns



about the organizational structure and management within the correctional facility. Addressing these issues is crucial to ensure clear communication, consistent policies, and effective leadership, which are essential for the successful implementation of the rehabilitation programs. It is noteworthy that the following indicators received the highest scores: a) active participation in physical activity, b) relaxation, c) stress relief, and d) self-development. This result is consistent with the study Baldonado et al., (2022); Bales & Mears, (2008) which found that physically active inmates have significantly higher self-esteem and contentment with their psychological state than physically inactive inmates. The study by Laurindo et al., (2022) also found that there was a significant decrease in the rates of depression, stress, boredom, anxiety, aggression, and risk of recidivism among prisoners who regularly engaged in physical activity and community involvement plays a crucial role in conducting biomedical research on global health issues, (Fregonese, 2018). Quality of life of the PDL community improve with the consistently involvement of the community and government assistance as highlighted by (DeMichele, 2014) the significant impact of the community on the reintegration of inmates into society.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATION OF THE STUDY

The study found that the lack of funding and available physical facilities is a major barrier to the implementation of rehabilitation programs. The government and community should provide more financial support to correctional facilities to ensure that they have the resources they need to provide effective rehabilitation services. Additionally, correctional facilities should invest in the development of new physical facilities to support rehabilitation programs. BuCor personnel lack the training they need to effectively implement rehabilitation programs. Organizational structure and management of correctional facilities need to be improved. Physical activity is an important component of rehabilitation programs, therefore more opportunities to participate in physical activities, such as sports, yoga, and tai chi. Physical activity can help inmates improve their physical and mental health, reduce stress, and develop coping skills. Community involvement can help inmates develop social ties, learn new skills, and find support for their reintegration into society.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the study's findings, the implementation of rehabilitation programs within the correctional facility presents a varied landscape, with some programs showing effective execution, while others require improvement. One of the significant challenges encountered is the lack of financial resources and insufficient physical facilities, hindering the successful execution of these programs. Therefore, it is crucial to enhance the support from both the government and the community to ensure the success of rehabilitation efforts. Furthermore, improving the training of BuCor personnel is essential to bolster their capabilities in executing these programs effectively. Addressing organizational issues, such as the absence of a proper chain of command and ambiguous policies, is also vital and underscores the necessity for structural and managerial reforms within the correctional facility.



To address these challenges and enhance the reformation programs for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs), a comprehensive approach is recommended. This approach should incorporate a well-coordinated and integrated program based on the Therapeutic Community Modality, Restorative Justice Principles and Concepts, and the inclusion of Volunteer Probation Aides (PVAs). Incorporating community involvement in the PDLs' rehabilitation and treatment will also be beneficial, and the suggested additional measures should be considered to strengthen this aspect. By implementing these recommendations, the correctional facility can take significant strides towards enhancing the success and impact of rehabilitation programs, ultimately contributing to the betterment of PDLs' lives and their reintegration into society.

LIMITATION AND FUTURE STUDIES

The research was conducted in a specific context Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) in the Fifth District of Camarines Sur district of the Phillippe. Study sample was limited in the size and data collected from the BuCor staff members involved in formulating and implementing rehabilitation programs and PDLs from the Iriga District Jail in the Fifth District of Camarines Sur. Therefore, sample size was relatively small, which may affect the representativeness of the results. Hence more studies required on the large sample size. This study is quantitative however some qualitative studies required to develop deeper and personal experience with inmates and staff to discussed the matter in details. This study is focused on the community involvement however more variables such as education and health condition of the PDL can be discussed in the future studies.

Ethical Statement: This study received written consent of ethical approval from Iriga City District Jail. All participants were formally informed, and their consent was taken, which is confidential.

Consent to Participate: The author declared that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships which affect the work reported in this article. This study deals with human participants, and human data or human rights issues are discussed and evaluated.

Consent for Publication: We do not have any person's data in any form.

Competing Interests: The author declares that this work has no competing interests.

Grant information: The author declared that no grants supported this work.

throughout my journey to success.

Acknowledgment: I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to God for His unwavering guidance, blessings, and grace throughout the journey of creating this manuscript. Your divine presence has been my source of strength and inspiration, allowing me to navigate through challenges and overcome obstacles. I also want to express my deep appreciation to my two wonderful kids, Heart and Derex, for their unending support and understanding. Your love and encouragement have kept me motivated to give my very best. To my dear mama Tessie and papa Toyong, your guidance, sacrifices, and boundless love have shaped me into the person I am today. Your belief in me has been a driving force, and I am eternally thankful for everything you have done. Thank you, from the depths of my heart, to my precious kids and my beloved parents, for being my pillars of strength and for standing by me every step of the way.



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