

**FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

**SOP NUMBER: 220a  
SUBJECT: The S.T.A.R. PROGRAM**

**I. PURPOSE**

To establish guidelines for inmate participation in the S.T.A.R. (Striving to Achieve Recovery) Program.

**II. POLICY**

It is the policy of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office that programs are offered to meet the needs of inmates with substance abuse disorders. The S.T.A.R. program is a jail based, peer-led therapeutic community where participants live and work together on building skills to affect long-term recovery.

**III. PROCEDURE**

**A. Program Coordination and Staffing**

The Services Branch and the Director of Jail-Based Behavioral Health Services shall ensure that S.T.A.R. Program participants receive the most comprehensive services relating to substance abuse. The curriculum followed is evidenced-based and covers a myriad of topics relating to substance abuse and recovery. All deputies assigned to the housing unit are C.I.T. (Crisis Intervention Training) certified and are assigned for a period of at least 6 months.

**B. Eligibility to Apply for the Program**

1. Participation in the program is strictly voluntary. All applicants must meet the following criteria:
  - a. Be a resident of Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, or the Towns of Herndon or Vienna.
  - b. Have a Substance Use Disorder.
  - c. Be pre- or post-sentenced on non-violent charges.
  - d. Have no history of sex crimes.
  - e. Have a positive jail adjustment within the last 60 days.

**C. The Application Process**

1. The Supervisor, Inmate Programs and Recreation Section advertises openings in the unit.
2. Inmates send a request form indicating interest in program participation to the Supervisor, Inmate Programs and Recreation Section.
3. Inmates are pre-screened to see if they meet the basic admission criteria.
  - a. If inmates do not meet qualifications, the Supervisor, Inmate Programs and Recreation Section sends back the request form with an explanation of why they are not eligible.
  - b. Qualified inmates will be reviewed further.
4. The Chief, Services Branch convenes a meeting with the following individuals to review each candidate:
  - a. Supervisor, Classification Section

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- b. a Confinement Branch supervisor
  - c. Behavioral Health S.T.A.R. Trauma Specialist
  - d. S.T.A.R. Unit Peer Recovery Specialist
  - e. Supervisor, Inmate Programs and Recreation Section
- 5. If the group determines that the candidate is not a good fit at that time, the Supervisor, Inmate Programs and Recreation will return the request form to the inmate with an explanation of the reason and encourage them to re-apply, if applicable. If the group feels a candidate may be a good fit, the candidate is scheduled for an interview.
- 6. The candidates are interviewed by a panel of the following:
  - a. Behavioral Health S.T.A.R. Trauma Specialist
  - b. S.T.A.R. Unit Peer Recovery Specialists
  - c. Supervisor, Inmate Programs and Recreation Section
  - d. S.T.A.R. Program Mentors (participants)
- 7. Candidates meeting all criteria for the unit are moved to the unit on the 2100 Hours move that evening.
- D. Program participants are subject to all Adult Detention Center (ADC) rules. They are also subject to specific rules of the S.T.A.R. Program. Participants not following ADC and/or S.T.A.R. Program specific rules are subject to dismissal from the unit. The post deputy assigned to the unit will consult with Behavioral Health staff and the Supervisor, Inmate Programs and Recreation prior to dismissing a participant for violating S.T.A.R. Program specific rules. If a participant is removed from the unit, they can re-apply in sixty (60) days.
- E. Participant Incentives
  - 1. Once admitted to the unit, all ADC room and board fees are waived.
  - 2. Participants receive study items that are not allowed in other parts of the jail: binders, highlighters, rigid pens, etc.
  - 3. Participants have access to gym equipment and yoga mats.

**DATE APPROVED  
05/09/19**

**EFFECTIVE DATE  
05/10/19**



**STACEY A. KINCAID  
SHERIFF**