



## ESH Young Adult Monitoring and Evaluation Outline

### Introduction

Enhanced Supervision Housing (ESH) is a housing option for inmates that require an enhanced level of supervision for safety and security reasons. ESH maintains a phased housing structure in which inmates can progress through each level with consistent and productive program participation and positive behavior. ESH programming is aimed at facilitating rehabilitation, addressing root causes of violence, promoting positive behavior and minimizing idleness. This type of unit currently serves a dual function: managing particularly violent inmates, and reducing violence within the General Population. The former provides less restrictive alternative housing for those inmates who drive institutional violence. The latter assists with providing a safer environment for the general population.

In compliance with BOC rule making, the Department proposes a regimen of reporting metrics for young adults in ESH, and a plan for evaluating and monitoring ESH as an alternative for managing young adults.

### ESH YA Reporting Metrics

| Area         | Metric   | Frequency         |
|--------------|--|-------------------|
| Security     | UOF incidents involving ESH YAs by injury class                          | Monthly           |
| Security     | Slashing/Stabbing incidents involving ESH YAs                            | Monthly           |
| Security     | Fights involving ESH YAs   | Monthly           |
| Services     | Service requests by ESH YAs by Service Type                              | Monthly           |
| Population   | ESH YA placements  | Monthly           |
| Population   | ESH YA level progression   | Monthly           |
| Population   | Average lengths of stay in ESH by level                                  | Monthly (running) |
| Programming  | ESH YA individuals participating in programming (blended units)          | Monthly           |
| Programming  | ESH YA unit participation rates (YA-only unit)                           | Monthly           |
| Adjudication | ESH YA adjudicated placements by reason                                  | Monthly           |
| Adjudication | ESH YA 45 day reviews completed  | Monthly           |
| Adjudication | Average time between last incident/infraction and inmate placement date. | Monthly (running) |
| Visits       | Visits received by ESH YAs   | Monthly           |

## Part 1: Improving Outcomes in ESH Inmates

### Purpose and Goals

Since September 2016, Enhanced Supervision Housing has been utilized as a housing option for the management of violent young adults. Creating a viable plan to monitor this population is integral to maintaining a safe environment for staff and the young adults housed in ESH. Tracking the inmates' progress allows for better insight into effective practices to manage and support this population.

### Variables

There are a series of variables that will be important to this process, which provide some quantitative understanding of inmate behavior. The below outline reflects what may be included and what these data can demonstrate.

- Inmate characteristics: a suite of variables describing the inmate population, including but not limited to age, gender, top charge, BradH status, SRG status, and time in custody.

- Instances of violence, including the following (note: “after” results are provided only if applicable). Violence data acts as a proxy variable of ESH success. If instances of violence decrease when aggregated, it suggests that programming within ESH may be having an effect.
  - Use of Force types A, B, and C before, during, and after entry to any ESH unit.
  - Slashing and stabbings before, during, and after entry to any ESH unit.
  - Inmate fights before, during, and after unit entry.
- Infractions before, during, and after unit entry.
- Mandatory inmate services received, including but not limited to law library access, medical and mental health access, education, or legal and personal phone calls. This can be compared to other units to ensure inmates are receiving a comparable amount of services, or measured in relation to violence metrics.
- Inmate programming, including participation and number of program hours per inmate.
- Number of visits inmates receive before and after entry within their booking case period.
- Duration of time inmates spend in ESH.
- Movement data, such as when inmates move from/to other specialized units, punitive segregation, or to the general population after completing all levels of ESH.
- Number of previous arrests per inmate.

### ***Limitations***

With current data limitations, there are extensive obstacles to completing a full scale evaluation. In order to perform a comprehensive analysis, there must be consistent inmate level data available for proper monitoring. Particularly, inmate specific data about services and program participation would be necessary. Additionally, there are few young adults who have been in ESH, and even fewer young adults who have completed all of the system levels. There is no existing list of these inmate completions either; all ESH completions would be inferred from existing housing data and inmate movements. As a result, evidence of program efficacy is inherently bounded. Due to these limitations, we will track the progress of ESH young adults based on the current information available.

### ***Methodology***

The ESH young adult population is derived from adjudication paperwork, and include inmates that began ESH in any housing unit prior to turning 22.

Though inmate tracking and monitoring will not have the same level of insight as an evaluation, there are still a number of measures to examine and an amalgam of descriptive statistics available. For violence statistics, we will utilize a non-parametric paired t-test, a statistical measure that demonstrates if the change before/after an event occurs is significant. Non-parametric t-tests are particularly useful for small populations with non-normal distributions, thus appropriate for the small population of young adults. The “event” refers to the inmate’s entry to ESH, and these will be measured by instances of violence as outlined in the Variables section. Overall descriptive statistics will also be provided to depict general inmate characteristics. These attributes describe the inmates but are not believed to represent the efficacy of ESH, and will not be analyzed as a result. These include age at first entry, ethnicity, sex, top charge, SRG status, BRAD H status, classification scores, and length of stay.

The young adult population is relatively small, with only 63 adjudicated young adult inmates having been housed in ESH to date, and all with different lengths of stay in the unit. To standardize results, measures will be taken by inmate days. Results will not have a definitive indication of success or failure, rather they may show trends of how ESH has managed young adult inmates thus far. After summing incidents and infractions, among some of the other variables previously mentioned, the non-parametric t-tests will present the before and during view of inmate behavior. The aforementioned descriptive characteristics of inmates will also be provided for all young adult entry until present as an overview of the population.

## **Evaluation Plan Part 2: ESH and GP Violence Reduction**

### ***Purpose and Goals***

The objective of this evaluation is to assess the effectiveness of ESH on reducing Uses of Force and Slashing/Stabbings incidents in general population (GP) units. The rationale of ESH is that only a small group of violent inmates account for a sizable proportion of violent incidents in GP units. Therefore, if these inmates are removed from GP units, the overall number of violent incidents in GP units should decrease.

## ***Methodology***

The evaluation will examine GP units from 2014 through the first quarter of 2017 that housed ESH inmates. “ESH” inmates are operationally defined as inmates who were ever housed in ESH units at some point during their incarceration. The evaluation will analyze longitudinal data. That is, distinct GP units over different points in time (weeks) will be analyzed. The binary outcome variables will include whether a unit-week experiences a Use of Force, or if the unit-week experiences a Slashing/Stabbing incident. The main predictor variable is whether the unit-week housed ESH inmates. Fixed effects logistic regression will be conducted to evaluate the effects of ESH on inmates through observing the probability of having a Use of Force and Slashing/Stabbing incident, controlling for unit individual characteristics and population size. Descriptive statistics and results from the fixed-effects logistic regression will present odds ratios, and statistical significance of results through p-values at the 95% confidence interval. This analysis will include all ESH inmates, as opposed to only young adults. Due to the small number of young adult ESH inmates, an analysis focusing on just YAs would be prone to error from sample size. There is no theoretical reason to expect null or contrary effects across the various age groups, and as a result this analysis should reflect on the young adult population as well.

## **Evaluation Plan Part 3: ESH as an Alternative for Punitive Segregation**

### ***Purpose and Goals***

As previously mentioned, ESH is a housing unit for inmates who pose a credible threat to safety, security, and good working order of the facility. ESH’s programming is specifically aimed at addressing violence and reducing idleness. Punitive segregation similarly seeks to handle violence by isolating inmates. However, with inmates locked in for significant time periods and no programming, they have a large amounts of idle time. Therefore, the third part of this evaluation assesses the efficacy of ESH in reducing Uses of Force and Slashing/Stabbing incidents relative to Punitive Segregation.

### ***Methodology***

The analysis will compare Uses of Force and Slashing/Stabbing rates among inmates housed in ESH units prior to and while in ESH. A control group of inmates who were housed in punitive segregation (PS) will also be used for comparative purposes. Inmates aged 18 to 21 who both passed through and were discharged from ESH and PS units during January 2014 to March 2017 will be included. Pearson's Chi Square and an Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) tests will be utilized to assess group differences for a series of inmate characteristics. Characteristics include age, sex, ethnicity, top charge, SRG status, Brad H status, and classification score. After running these statistical tests, aggregate rates of Uses of Force and Slashing/Stabbings will be generated for each group to compare involvement before and during time in the specialized units. Incident rates will be calculated as described in the methodology section of Part 1.