



17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
United States of America

Organization of American States

P. 202.458.3000
www.oas.org

**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION
CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

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**ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION:
ELEMENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE POLICY**

Alternatives to Incarceration: Elements of an Effective Policy



OAS/CICAD 58th Session

Trujillo, Peru

November 12, 2015

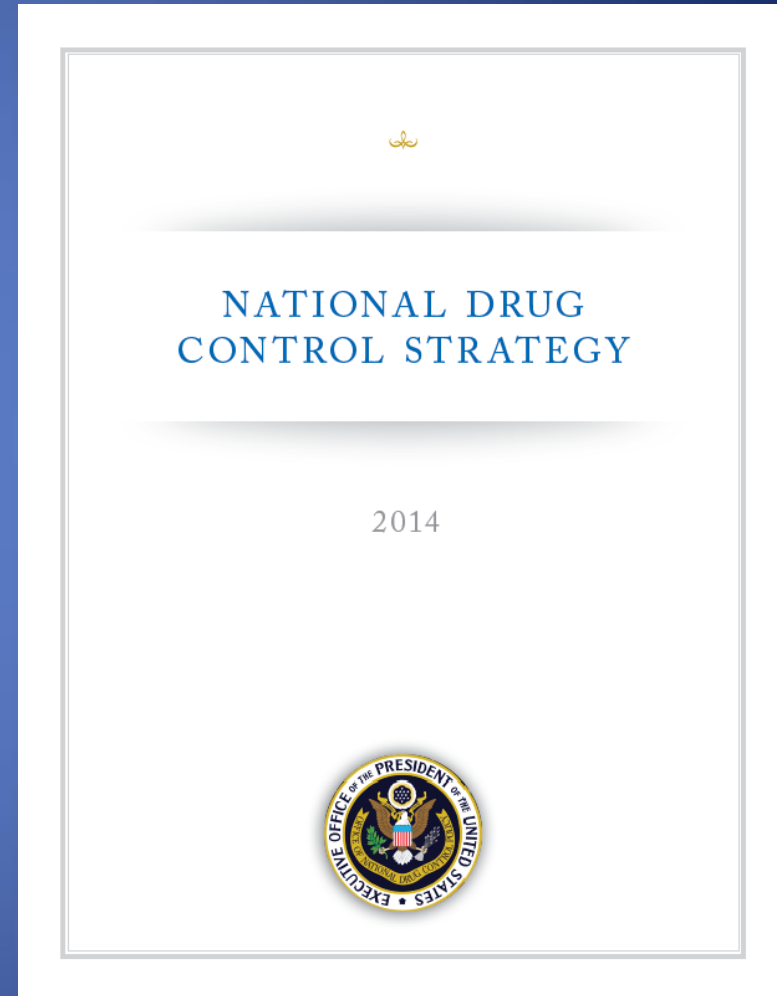
Richard Baum

U.S. Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)



National Drug Control Strategy

- The U.S. President's science-based plan to reform drug policy:
 - 1) Strengthen Efforts to Prevent Drug Use in Our Communities
 - 2) Seek Early Intervention Opportunities in Health Care
 - 3) Integrate Treatment into Health Care and Expand Support for Recovery
 - 4) Break the Cycle of Drug Use, Crime, Delinquency, and Incarceration
 - 5) Disrupt domestic Drug Trafficking
 - 6) Strengthen International Partnerships
 - 7) Improve Information Systems





Breaking the Cycle of Drug Use and Crime

Drug use is a public health issue, not just a criminal justice problem

- We cannot arrest our way out of the drug problem
- Support evidence-based **alternatives to incarceration – both pre- and post-trial**
- **Utilize behavioral and medical assisted treatment** for justice involved individuals with substance use disorders, in and out of prison
- **Help formerly incarcerated individuals** reenter society by removing the full range of obstacles to housing, education, work and health care



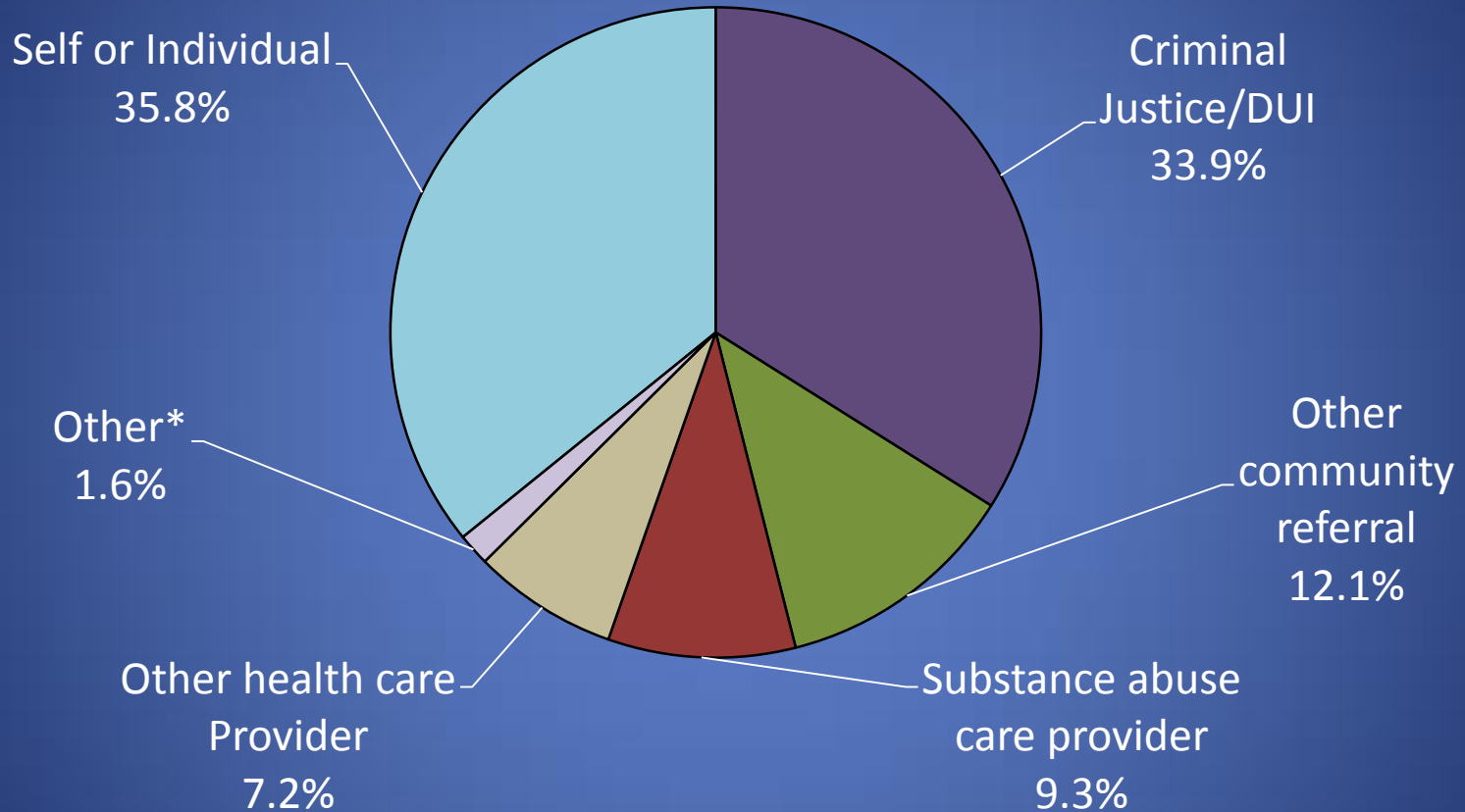
The Challenge & Response in the U.S.

- **Nearly 7 million adults** on probation, parole, or incarcerated in jail or prison.¹
- In many cases, individuals with substance use disorders are sent to jail or prison when drug treatment—or alternatives such as drug courts—can achieve **better outcomes at reduced costs**.
- Support a **range of interventions** for individuals with substance use disorders at every stage of the criminal justice system.
- DOJ's **Smart on Crime Initiative** pursues modifications to Federal charging policies for low-level nonviolent offenders, sentencing reform, and addressing persistent disparities in impact of the criminal justice system.

¹ Glaze, L.E. & Heverman, E.J. (2013). Correctional populations in the United States, 2012. Bureau of Justice Statistics, NCJ 243936. Retrieved from <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cpus12.pdf>



Sources of Referral to Treatment, 2012



Total 2012 admissions = 1.7 million

**Other referrals include school (educational) and employer EAP.*

Source: SAMHSA, 2012 Treatment Episode Data Set (July 2014).



Guidance from U.N. Commission on Narcotic Drugs

- Recommends that governments review their drug sentencing practices to ensure they allow for alternatives to incarceration.
- Calls for mechanisms to “break down the silos” between health and justice agencies so they can work together better to provide health services for those under criminal justice supervision.
- Highlights need to train justice officials on the effectiveness of evidence-based treatment for substance use disorders.
- Encourages sharing of best practices and research on alternatives to incarceration for those with substance use disorders.
- **Outcome: Resolution provides guidance to all governments – these reforms clearly aligned with U.N. Conventions.**

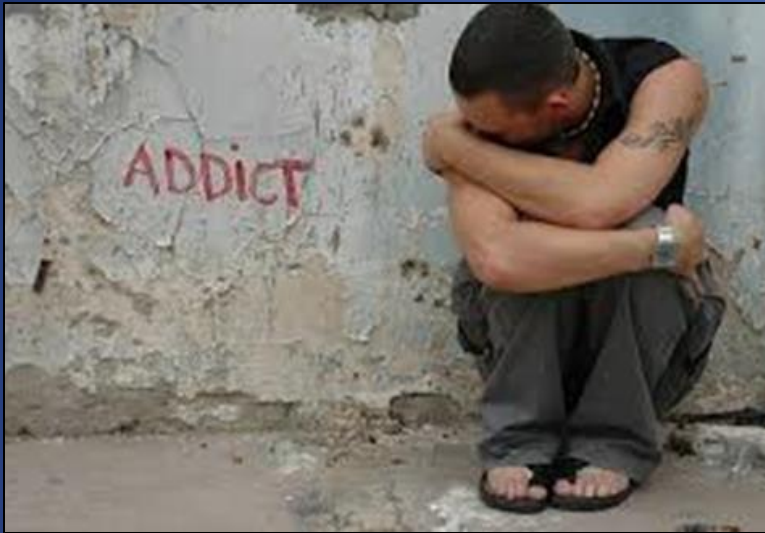


Effective Programs Address...

1. Stigma
2. Laws & Policies
3. Funding
4. Technical Capacity
5. Individual Assessment



1. Stigma



- Addict
- Hitting Bottom
- Junkie

- Drunk
- Addict
- Alcoholic





Knowledge of Addiction: 20th Century *Versus* 21st Century Approach

Myths & Misconceptions

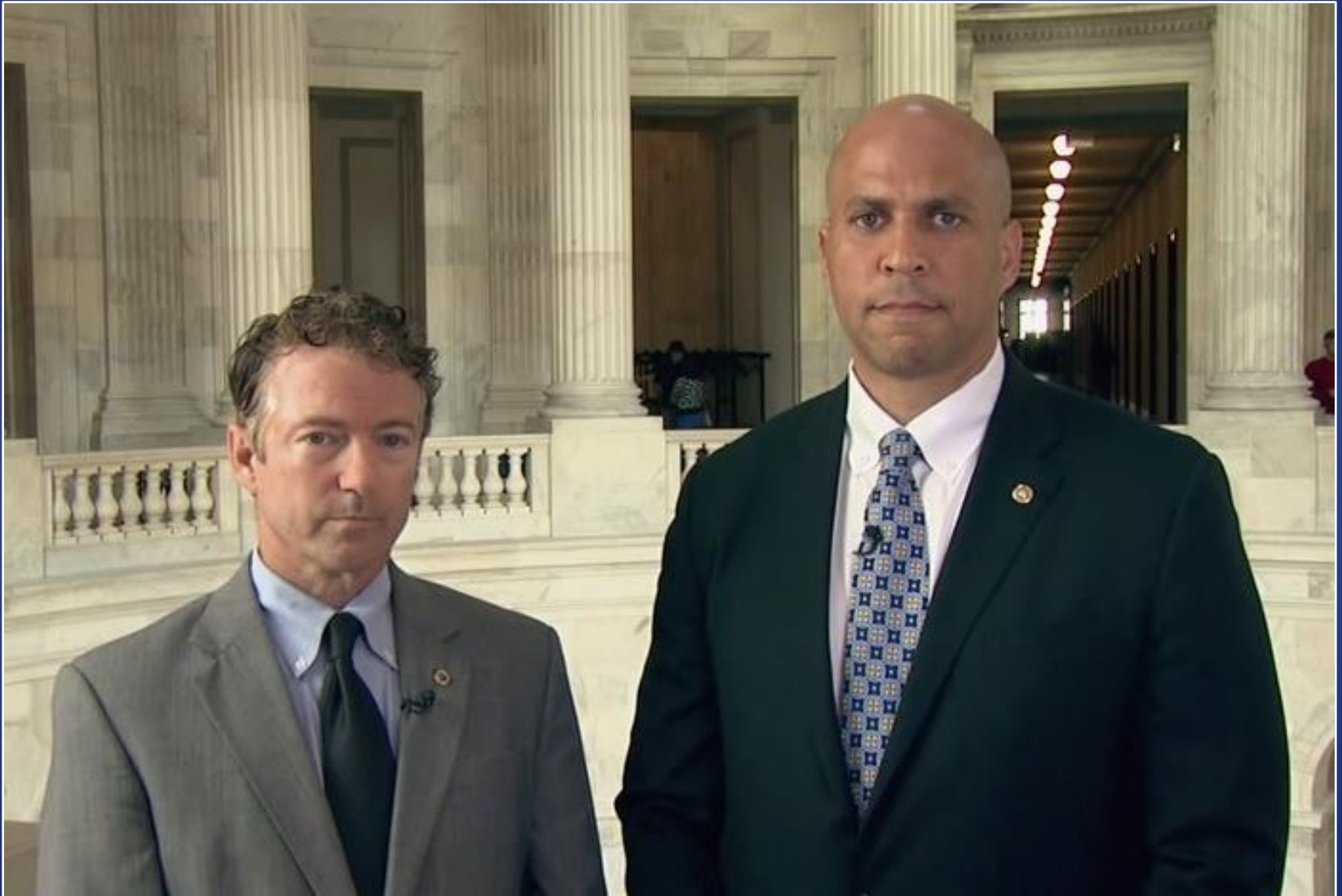
- Morally Flawed
- Lacking in Willpower
- Punitive Responses

What Does the Science Tell Us?

- Disease of the Brain
- Health Problem
- Therapeutic Responses



2. Laws & Policies





Addressing Those Already in Prison

Early Release: DOJ recently announced the release of 6,000 inmates through the retroactive application of sentencing guidelines.

--Transition via halfway houses, home confinement

Treatment: A range of treatment options is provided in Federal prisons, including MAT, residential, etc.

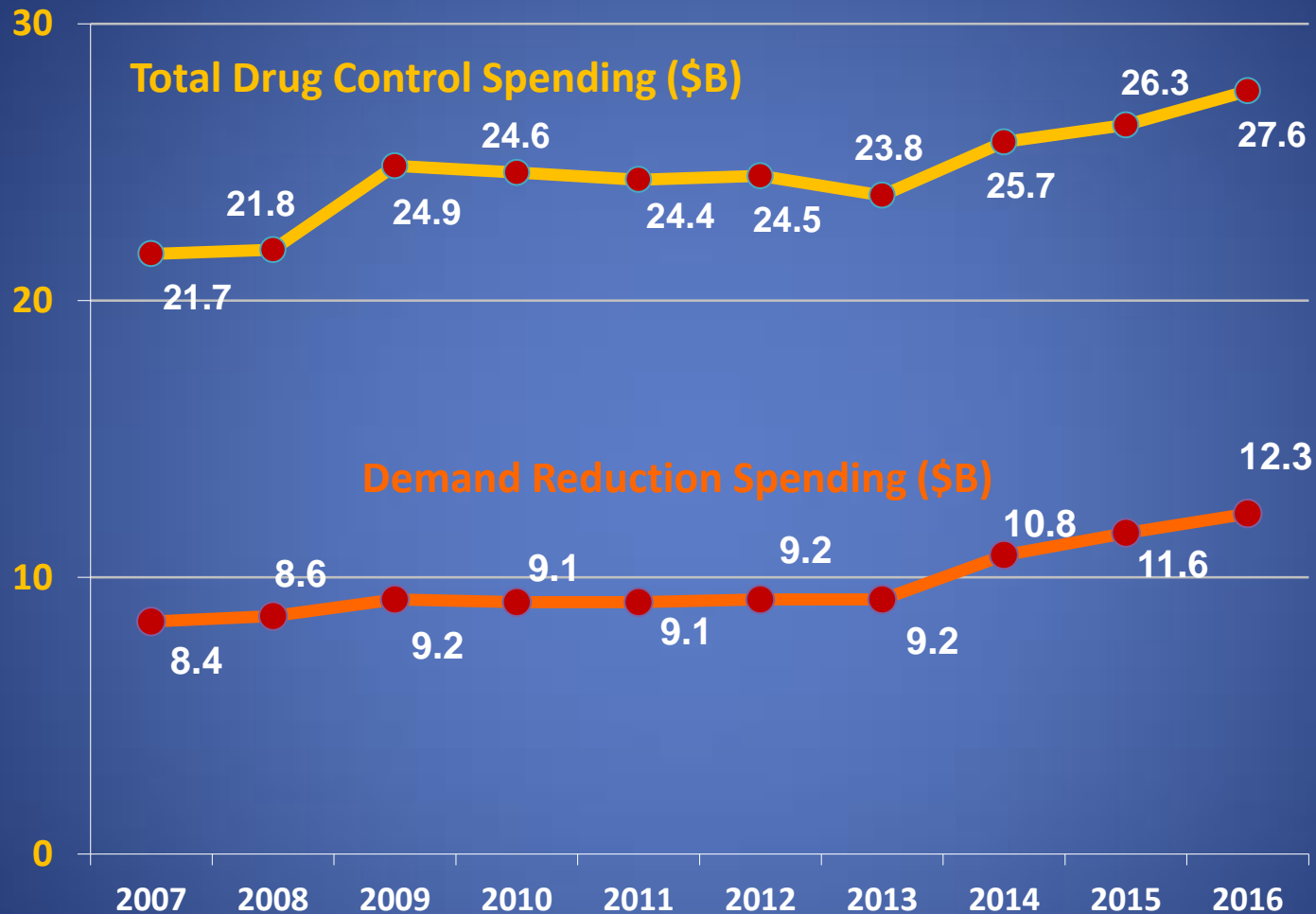
--Transition Services assure a continuation of treatment after prison to help ensure effective re-entry.

--DOJ also funding increased mental health services in Federal prisons and reentry aid to states to support their ongoing reform efforts.



3. Funding

(Dollars in Billions)



NOTE: The years denoted are fiscal years (FY); FY 2015 information represents enacted Budget authority, and FY 2016 information represents Budget authority requested by the President.



4. Technical Capacity

- ✓ **Medications** are an important element of treatment for many patients, especially for individuals with opioid use disorders and are combined with counseling and other behavioral treatments
- ✓ **Behavioral therapies**—including individual, family, or group counseling—are the most commonly used forms of substance use treatment
- ✓ **Drug use** during treatment must be **monitored** continuously, as lapses during treatment do occur
- ✓ Treatment programs should test patients for the presence of **HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B and C, Tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases**, as well as provide targeted risk-reduction counseling, linking patients to treatment if necessary



5. Individual Assessment

- ✓ **No single treatment** is appropriate for everyone
- ✓ Many individuals with substance use disorders also have **co-occurring mental health disorders**
- ✓ Effective treatment attends to **multiple needs** of the individual, not just his or her substance use disorder
- ✓ An individual's treatment and services plan must be assessed continually and modified as necessary to ensure that it meets his or her **changing needs**



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