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Prison-based animal programs: a descriptive analysis

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University of Northern Colorado
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PRISON-BASED ANIMAL PROGRAMS:
A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts

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ABSTRACT

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There are many types of programs used in prisons. One such type is known as prison-based animal programs (PAPs). Prison-based animal programs bring animals into facilities in order to help offenders with emotional and behavioral problems. However promising these programs are, there is little empirical research. If these programs are to be continued, more research is needed. There has only been one national study looking at PAPs (Furst 2006). This current study will help fill the gap on PAP research. A national study was conducted using 302 randomly selected correctional facilities. Characteristics of PAPs were gathered through the use of a questionnaire. The results of this study showed similarities with the 2006 study. The most common types of prison-based animal programs in use are community service programs, service animal socialization programs, and those two combined as multimodal design programs. The majority of programs pair animals with inmates 24 hours a day. The most common animal used was dogs. An overwhelming number of respondents would recommend the program to another facility because of the number of benefits. There were very few negative aspects associated with PAPs. Overall, it seems that prison-based animal programs are a very promising technique, which not only benefits the participants, but also the animals, the institution, and the community.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

There is a correctional facility in Canon City, Colorado that mixes dogs on “doggie death row” with inmates as varied as murderers and mentally ill recluses. The dogs have a therapeutic effect, drawing inmates out of their cells (and shells) to therapy sessions. The wagging tails have a calming effect that relieves anxiety in a tense atmosphere. These dogs give and receive love without fear among some of Colorado’s most dangerous inmates (Mitchell, 2014b).

There are a large number of individuals who have resided or are currently residing in correctional facilities across the United States. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics (2014a), “an estimated 6,899,000 persons were under the supervision of adult correctional systems at yearend...” (p. 1). This number includes individuals in correctional facilities, jails, and probation or parole. “At yearend 2013, about 70% of the incarcerated population was under the jurisdiction of state or federal prisons (1,574,700)” (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2014a, p. 2). This was an increase from the prior year. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics (2014a), “Between 2012 and 2013, the U.S. prison population grew by 0.3% (4,300 prisoners)” (p. 3). A large part of this increase could be due to the number of offenders who recidivate, along with new offenders entering the criminal justice system. Oftentimes an offender gets arrested, serves his/her time, is released back into the community, only to commit another crime and get sentenced back into prison. It might seem like there is no hope of ever breaking this

criminal cycle. However, there are techniques aimed at helping offenders to break the cycle.

There are many different types of programs that are used for helping inmates with personal and emotional problems. While some focus on educating prisoners, providing vocational services, or addressing drug and alcohol addiction, prison-based animal programs (PAPs) involve animals to help offenders. In many cases, the program helps rehabilitate the animals, or at least train the animals for adoption or more specific training. There are a variety of PAPs all of which are aimed at helping offenders build personal and emotional skills that they are lacking, which could be a variable causing their criminal behavior. Prison therapy animals are “a piece of the outside world that some of these guys haven’t had in a long time” (Mitchell, 2014b, p. 1B). The different types of PAPs include: Visitation programs, Wildlife Rehabilitation programs, Livestock Care programs, Pet Adoption programs, Service Animal Socialization programs, Vocational programs, Community Service programs, Counseling programs, and Multimodal programs. These programs differ in the way that they are used, operated, and in their specific program goals (even though the main goal is the same for all of them).

Prison-based animal programs have been around for many, many years and have recently started to gain more popularity. This could be in large part due to the attention that they have been receiving in the media and what little research has been conducted on them. These programs are being implemented all over the nation, but the amount of research on them does not show this. Very few empirical studies have been conducted on PAPs. Those studies that have been conducted look at the benefits of the programs through anecdotal accounts. A limited number studies have tried evaluating the

effectiveness of programs through quantitative methods. Studying the effectiveness of PAPs involves looking at recidivism rates for those inmates who participate in such programs. Studying the recidivism rates of participants in these programs, could demonstrate a relationship between these programs and rehabilitation. However, recidivism records can be a very difficult thing to get access to, and in many cases the information is not maintained. What research that has been completed on this subject is focused on individual programs rather than all programs as a whole. The research that has been conducted varies in the types of programs that are investigated, and the methods and analysis used.

There has only been one national study that collected data on the characteristics of prison-based animal programs (Furst, 2006). This study presented herein builds upon the research done in the 2006 national study. This study updates what types of PAPs are currently being administered in the United States. A questionnaire was sent to randomly selected prisons across the nation. Both federal and state facilities were included in the sample. A stratified random sample was used to select the prisons for participation in this current study. Responses were analyzed both quantitatively and qualitatively. The research question for this study was: What are the characteristics of prison-based animal programs currently in use across the nation? It is speculated that service animal socialization and community service programs are going to be the most popular programs currently in operation. The results of this study can be related to the previous literature in the field, which suggests the prison-based animal programs are beneficial in many ways, not only for the participants (both inmates and animals), but the institution, and the community as well.

This research is important to the field of prison-based animal programs because it is a building block for future studies to evaluate specific programs. Programs cannot be evaluated if they are not first described. This study describes the current programs implemented, so that more research can focus deeper on each program. Once current programs have been evaluated more, changes can be made in the field to address any problems, and to help create more efficient programs. This study can also aid in the implementation of future programs. By collecting characteristics of the current programs in use, and with other studies focusing on specific programs, better programs can be implemented using similar characteristics that were found in older programs. The previous research studies, along with this current national study, can help future implementation of these types of programs. The current literature in the field of PAPs, as well as related subjects, is discussed in this thesis, along with the methods, results, and discussion of this present study.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

Assisting offenders with their many different ailments plays a very important role in the correctional system, as it allows criminal offenders opportunities to grow into productive members of society. One type of program that seems to be very promising brings animals and inmates together. These types of programs are known as prison-based animal programs (PAPs). While prison-based animal programs cannot be considered rehabilitation programs yet, because a link between the programs and recidivism rates has not been studied, these programs do help inmates with the personal and emotional skills that can have an effect on an individual's ability to be rehabilitated. However promising these types of programs are, there is little empirical research looking at their prominence within correctional systems across the United States. The present study aims to gain demographic information about prison-based animal programs across the nation and to describe the characteristics of the different types of programs that are currently being used. A similar study was done in 2006 by Furst ("Prison-Based Animal Programs: A National Survey", *The Prison Journal*), and this present study will add to that research to determine if program use has increased or perhaps decreased since the publication of her findings. More research will need to be done to evaluate all of the different types of prison-based programs, especially if they have indeed increased in popularity. The link between recidivism rates and rehabilitation also needs to be established. Multiple studies should compare the effectiveness of different types of programs to determine if these

programs are in fact effective at rehabilitating offenders and reducing recidivism rates. Currently these programs might have rehabilitating qualities but cannot be considered rehabilitation programs until the link between rehabilitation and recidivism rates is analyzed.

Even though there has been little research looking into the effectiveness of prison-based animal programs, there has been research looking at the basis of animal-based programs (animal-assisted therapy and its target populations). A history of prison-based animal programs will be discussed. What research that has been done in the field of prison-based animal programs will also be detailed based on the program type. This literature review is based on articles in the current fields of animal-assisted therapy and prison-based animal programs.

Animal-Assisted Therapy

Animal-assisted therapy (AAT) is the underlying basis for prison-based animal programs. Animal-assisted therapy is rooted in the idea that the human-animal bond (HAB) and interactions are beneficial and therapeutic. Animal-assisted therapy is also known by other names, such as human-animal interaction (HAI), animal-assisted interventions (AAI), and animal-assisted activities (AAA). However all of those names represent the same idea: humans interacting with animals for the benefit of that human, as well as in most cases, the animals. Much of the literature on the benefits animals have on humans is centered on individuals with certain mental disorders, the elderly, and children. Those three types of populations are the ones most commonly using animal-assisted therapy that are studied. How animal-assisted therapy benefits those three different populations is discussed below.

Animal-Assisted Therapy and Populations with Mental Disorders

Animal-assisted therapy is very common within the special needs community, and especially for those who are affected by mental disorders. There are certain types of mental disorders for which animal-assisted therapy can help alleviate the symptoms and create better and more normal lives. One of the major disorders in which animal-assisted therapy can be most effective is for individuals (both children and adults) with autism. Obrusnikove, Bibik, Cavalier, and Manley (2012) found that therapy-dog-assisted interventions can assist children with disabilities in creating emotional, physical, and social benefits. Many other studies have come to the same conclusion that animal-assisted therapy is very beneficial to both autistic children and adults (Solomon, 2010; Kern et al., 2011; Fung & Leung, 2014), and equine animal-assisted therapy seems to work well with children who have autism (Lanning, Baier, Ivey-Hatz, Krenek, Tubbs, 2014; Kern et al., 2011).

Another example of a mental disorder for which animal-assisted therapy can help is pervasive development disorders (PDD). Martin and Farnum (2002) looked at children with PDD who were receiving animal assisted therapy, and the “results show that children exhibited a more playful mood, were more focused, and were more aware of their social environments when in the presence of a therapy dog” (p. 657). Other researchers have come to the same conclusion that individuals with PDD, or other disorders such as severe emotional disorders (SED) can benefit greatly from animal-assisted therapy (Ewing, MacDonald, Taylor, & Bowers, 2007). Schizophrenia is another mental disorder in which animal-assisted therapy can help patients with their

psychosocial rehabilitation (Barack, Savorai, Mavashew, & Beni, 2001; Nathans-Barel, Feldman, Berger, Modai, & Silver, 2005; Chu, Liu, Sun, & Lin, 2009).

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is another disorder that is now increasing its support of using animal-assisted therapy. This is mainly due to the number of returning soldiers who are being diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder. These soldiers go through much trauma when deployed, and they are going to need assistance in returning to normalized society. PTSD causes many symptoms that make it impossible for soldiers to live in the real world without complications. According to Smith and Segal (2014) symptoms of PTSD include increased anxiety and emotional arousal, re-experiencing traumatic events, and avoiding reminders of the trauma (para. 10). There are many other symptoms that can plague someone with PTSD, like nightmares, headaches, sweating, flashbacks, disassociation, difficulty falling or staying asleep, irritability and outburst of anger, hypervigilance, and feeling jumpy (Smith & Segal, 2014, para. 11-13). Animal-assisted therapy is one of the therapy techniques that seem to work extremely well with soldiers and others who have post-traumatic stress disorder (Memishevijk & Hodzhikj, 2010; MacLean, 2011).

Animal-Assisted Therapy and the Elderly

The elderly face many challenges and animal-assisted therapy can help them deal with those challenges. Research indicates that animal-assisted therapy can make a difference in the lives of individuals with dementia and other mental health issues (Richeson, 2003; Kawamura, Niiyama, & Niiyama, 2007; Castellote, de Pedro-Cuesta, Virués-Ortega, Población, & Pastor-Barriuso, 2012; Püllen, Hunger, Koetter, Spate, & Richter, 2013; Nordgren & Engstrom, 2014). Most of these differences happen in the

form of the agitated state that individuals with dementia can feel. The animals associated with the therapy can help decrease the agitated behaviors and keep the dementia patients calmer. Animal-assisted therapy can also help with the cognitive behaviors of dementia patients (Nordengren & Engstrom, 2012). Animals help the elderly remember certain things which they might have forgotten otherwise due to the dementia. Even the elderly who do not have any mental or physical problems can benefit from animal-assisted therapy (Banks & Banks, 2002; Cherniack & Cherniack, 2014). Animal-assisted therapy helps the elderly by providing company from their normal isolation, while also giving them something to focus on to avoid boredom, and providing a soothing environment to help relieve agitation from their lives.

Animal-Assisted Therapy and Children

All children, even those without mental disorders, can benefit greatly from animal-assisted therapy, as well as the use of a companion animal. While companion animals are not considered animal-assisted therapy, the benefits from the interactions with the animals are still the same. Children develop differently, and animals can help children with the way that they view themselves and their surroundings. Van Houtte and Jarvis (1995) found that pets have a big part in the way children see themselves, and that pets can actually increase a child's autonomy, self-esteem, and self-concept (p. 477). Animals can actually have multiple beneficial impacts on the emotional development of children (Seigel, 2004; Harm, 2005; Daly, & Suggs, 2010; Endenburg, & Van Lith, 2011). As with the other populations, animal-assisted therapy and the use of animals can have an impact with the way that children view each other and certain behaviors. These behaviors can include the empathy that they show each other and others, and the type of

relationships they will have with each other. Rather than having negative relationships with other children, AAT can help children create positive relationships with other children, and adults. According to Sprinkle (2008), the use of animals in schools can change the way children think about violence and aggressive behaviors and can actually increase their empathy levels. This can be especially helpful if the child has grown up in an abusive or neglectful household (Parish-Plass, 2008; Balluerka, Muela, Amiano, & Caldenty, 2014). Animal-assisted therapy can also help children with their physical health (Braun, Stangler, Narveson, & Pettingell, 2009; Wohlfarth, Mutschler, Beetz, Kreuser, & Korsten-Reck, 2013).

By understanding how animal-assisted therapy is able to assist many different subgroups of a larger community, it can then be understood how animal-assisted therapy, and the techniques used would be able to help the subgroup of offenders. The same benefits that populations with mental disorders, the elderly, and children have from interactions with animals, inmates would also feel those same benefits from participating in prison-based animal programs. It is also then important to understand how prison-based animal programs came about, and their transformation over the years.

Prison-Based Animal Programs

History and Development

There is a long history of animals being used in prisons. However, in the early years, the animals were not used as a therapy technique. They were used strictly for farming and a way to get the inmates to work as laborers for cheap or even for free. These types of programs are distinctively different than the prison-based animal programs that are more commonly used today. According to Furst (2011), “The

interactions with farm animals do not generate the prosocial, redemptive, or therapeutic relationships... that are necessary for a program to receive the label of a PAP” (p. 33).

The first programs where animals were used for farming were created in the 1800s. The creation of these programs was due to the social turmoil that was happening in the United States after the Civil War and the passage of the 13th Amendment when white society believed that something needed to be done with the freed slaves, especially within the southern states. The criminal justice system was used as the solution. Newly freed slaves were once again imprisoned. According to Furst (2011), “Low-level disobedience, most commonly stealing, overwhelmed southern courts and southern prison populations turned black” (p. 37). These prisoners were forced to work on former plantations, newly turned into prisons. They would work the same land that they used to, only now instead of slaves working for free, they were prisoners working for punishment and retribution. These prisoners would use animals to work the same farm land that they worked while they were slaves. “They used horses to plough fields of crops and maintained herds of animals including cattle and pigs” (Furst, 2011, p. 37). The conditions of the new prisons were just as horrible, if not more so, as they were during the slave era.

Using prisoners just as farm laborers changed in the 1920s. The outside work force was struggling after World War II, so prisons started to be used as a source of cheap work force for production. According to Furst (2011), “As corporations struggle for survival in a global economy where outsourcing to other nations is common, bringing industry inside prisons keeps jobs in America while still maintaining the low wage benefits of transnational labor markets” (p. 43). The prisoners were also used as laborers outside the prisons. The prisoners were used to fix roads, work mines, and build railroad

tracks. These work groups were known as chain gangs, and were mainly used in the South. According to Furst (2011), “The conditions in the chain gangs were as deplorable as those of the prison camps, and like the camps, the chain gangs were designed to exploit inmate labor to maximize profit with minimal cost” (pp. 41-42). This type of work was considered a community service, and a restitution (the prisoners were paying back the community through labor for their crimes).

Besides the use of animals as farm labor, animals used to be kept as secret pets. Prisoners used to find small animals and take care of them. One popular story of an inmate taking care of an animal was of Robert Stroud, also known as the “Birdman of Alcatraz”. Not until the late 1970’s did the use of animals in prisons start to become a rehabilitation therapy tool in the form of a program. One of the first true PAPs was the People-Pet Partnership Program (PPP). The program was founded by Sister Pauline Quinn, and cofounded by Dr. Leo Bustard in 1979 (Furst, 2011). The program taught female inmates all about canines (behavior, grooming needs, and training). This program not only helped the inmates but it also helped homeless dogs. Strimple (2003) comments that:

The benefits of this program for the prisoners were threefold. The women experienced increased self-esteem, developed a marketable skill, and earned college credit. The community gained as well. Dogs that would have otherwise been killed were trained to help people with special needs. (p. 72).

Sister Pauline helped create 17 animal programs in correctional facilities (Strimple, 2003 p. 72). Another program that was created during that time was the national People-Animals-Love group. According to Furst (2011), “Shelter animals were paired with inmates at Lorton Prison who were allowed to keep the animal if transferred or released,

in what would be considered a pet adoption program” (p. 70). This program, like the PPP, contained training for the inmates.

Since the creation of the first true PAPs, they have blossomed across the nation. Many facilities have seen the benefits of PAPs, not only for the inmates, but the staff, community, and the animals themselves. While the number of prison-based animal programs is growing, there have only been a handful of studies looking at prison-based animal programs. Those studies are discussed below, organized by the type of program studied.

Studies on Prison-Based Animal Programs

There are several different types of programs that are considered prison-based animal programs. Currently the programs include: 1.) visitation programs, 2.) wildlife rehabilitation programs, 3.) livestock care programs, 4.) pet adoption programs, 5.) service animal socialization programs, 6.) vocational programs, 7.) community service programs, 8.) counseling programs, and 9.) multimodal programs. Four studies focused on both community service programs and service animal socialization programs (Britton & Button, 2005; Britton & Button, 2007; Furst, 2007; Gilger, 2007), two on service animal programs (Turner, 2007; Currie, 2008), two on community service programs (Foutnier, Geller, & Fortney, 2007; Chianese, 2009), two on counseling programs (Jasperson, 2010; Jasperson, 2011), and one vocational program (Bachi, 2014). One study analyzed public opinions of animal programs (Divin, 2009). One study, which this thesis is based on, looked at animal programs at a national level (Furst, 2006). As with most programs used in prisons, animal programs can be judged mainly on their ability to rehabilitate offenders and reduce recidivism rates. However, as this literature will show,

it can be very difficult, almost impossible, to demonstrate reduced recidivism rates for PAPs, which is why they are not yet considered rehabilitation programs. They are currently programs that are set in place to help inmates with emotional and behavioral problems. However, many studies suggest that animal programs are beneficial for inmates as a way to promote rehabilitation, which can lead to reduced recidivism rates.

Combined service animal socialization programs and community service programs. Community service programs and service animal socialization programs share some similarities, which is why they are often compared together. Both require the inmates to train and spend quality time with the animal. The main difference is what happens to the animals after the program. With service animal socialization programs, the animals go on to either more specialized training or are specifically adopted to a person/family in need of a service animal. With the community service programs, the animals are adopted out into the community (these animals are not going to go to a special needs person/family). Both programs are commonly called training programs (because both require the animals to be trained in the basics).

Britton and Button (2005) analyzed three dog training programs from two different prisons in Kansas (a male prison, Ellsworth Correctional Facility, and a female prison, Topeka Correctional Facility). Two of the training programs were service animal socialization programs and one was a community service program. The researchers conducted formal interviews with 38 inmates who participated in one of the three programs, seven staff/administrative personnel, and 28 individuals who were the recipients of the dogs once they had completed a program to look at the perceptions of the programs for those involved (Britton & Button, 2005, p. 83). For this specific article,

the researchers focused their results on only the participants from the men's facility, which included eighteen of the total participants, of which White males were more likely to commit sex offenses and the African American males were more likely to commit drug/property offenses (Britton & Button, 2005). The two authors looked at several variables through the interviews: motivations for becoming involved, challenges (visibility, conflict, giving up the dogs), and changes in behavior (the benefits).

According to Britton and Button (2005), "Not surprisingly, the most common impetus to becoming involved in the dog program is a love for dogs" (p. 85). Besides having a love for dogs, inmates also have a love of feeling free, something that in their current situations, they are not allowed. "The next most common motivation for getting into the program is the lure of the relative freedom allowed to dog handlers" (Britton & Button, 2005, p. 85). Britton and Button (2005) comment on other motivations that inmates used: "giving back to the community, easy work compared to other jobs, desire to keep busy, dog as therapy, learning opportunity, previous exposure to program, previous dog-training experience" (p. 85).

As with all types of programs, there are going to be some challenges that the program and the participants will have to face. With this specific program the challenges that were mentioned were visibility, conflict, and giving up the dogs. According to Britton and Button (2005), "The first set of challenges comes from the sense of hyper-surveillance inmates feel as a result of their participation in the program" (p. 87). Inmates believed that because they were in the program, they were being watched more closely. The second challenge that Britton and Button (2005) found was that other inmates can cause fights and tension with those participating in the program. Inmates would get into

fighters if they believed that an animal was being abused. The last challenge is what the inmates have to face when the dogs complete the program. “The final challenge that inmates face centers on the fact that the dogs’ stay in the institution is temporary—they are always returned to the CARES program, which in turn, places them with recipients” (Britton & Button, 2005, p. 89).

The major benefit that the authors found from the program is a change in behavior. According to Britton and Button (2005), “Many of those we interviewed believe that the strongest positive they received from the program is the change it effects in their attitudes and emotions” (p. 90). These benefits are not only felt by the inmates themselves, but are seen by the staff and administration involved in the program. Britton and Button (2005) comment that from an administrative perspective “it is relatively rare for inmates to believe that they have been changed for the better by prison (rather than in spite of it)” (p. 91). Another benefit from the program that was commented on was the benefit to the community. “The final benefit inmates perceive as a result of their participation in the program comes from giving back to the community” (Britton, & Button, 2005, p. 92). The dog training program gives inmates something to do that not only helps them, but the community as well. The results from this study are strictly anecdotal, analyzed qualitatively. There is no way to verify what the participants stated in the interviews. In this particular study, the researchers should compare the qualitative interview answers to those of the staff and the recipients of the dogs. It would also be beneficial to add some type of quantitative analysis to the study, to back up the anecdotal qualitative data. According to Britton, and Button (2005) in the future they are going to “add a quantitative component, testing for the effects of the program on variables such as

disciplinary infractions and recidivism” (p. 94). This should then be compared to see if the quantitative results match up with what inmates, staff, and recipients are saying about the program.

The second study that looked at both a service animal socialization program and community service program was also done by Britton and Button (2007) which looked at a women’s facility in Kansas (Topeka Correctional Facility). A larger study was done, but the current article only focused on 20 female inmates who were interviewed from two dog training programs, one a service animal socialization program, and the other a community service program. The researchers focused the study on the potential benefits and changes that an animal program can make. According to Britton and Button (2007), “In this paper we focus on those themes that emerged from the data that invoke the notions of personal change, institutional change, and the notion of giving back to the community” (p. 8). When it comes to personal change, the first benefit that the program can have on the inmates comes from the interactions with the animals. “Many inmates who participate in the program report that they have been profoundly changed by the experience. Part of this comes from the difference the dogs make in women’s day-to-day existence” (Britton & Button, 2007, p. 8). Again the most common benefit for the institution is just having the dogs present. According to Britton and Button (2007), “Dogs have the effect of “normalizing” the prison environment, as one staff member puts it, having the dogs in the institution “makes it less of a sterile environment, and more of an actual human environment” (pp. 10-11). The second benefit to the institution is the relationships that take place. Britton and Button (2007) state that “another way dogs change the institution is by improving relationships between staff members and inmates”

(p. 13). The authors found that the most common theme is the idea of the female inmates giving back to the community. Britton and Button (2007) found that “the most common theme in our interview invokes the notion of giving back to the community” (p. 15). This is something that inmates do not always feel like they get the opportunity to do while being incarcerated. As with the first study, the results are based solely on the testimony of the inmates. More research should be conducted, specifically quantitatively, to determine if the outcomes of the program stand up to the testimony of participants. This study did not give the specifics about the inmates that were interviewed. That information could be beneficial in the future, to see if the type of offense made any difference in the responses of the participants.

The third study that studied both a service animal socialization program and a community service program was done by Furst (2007) who wanted to determine if the inmates who participated in the two programs gave the animals human-like identities. Furst (2007) interviewed fifteen females participating in a service animal socialization program (ages 24 to 50, with the majority being white), seven males from the community service program (ages 21 to 33, with the majority being white), and conducted a focus group with fourteen inmates from the male community service program (p. 102). For the female program, the length of participation time ranged from six to sixty months, and the male program length of time ranged from nine to 36 months (Furst, 2007, p. 102). There were several themes that emerged from the focus group and the interviews. The themes that were discussed were: dogs as thinking, intelligent beings, dog as individuals, dogs as emotionally giving, dog as having a social role, and contributions to the development of a prosocial identity (Furst, 2007, pp. 103-105). Regarding the theme of dogs as emotionally

giving, a majority of the participants agreed that the animal provided social support, companionship, and they helped alleviate depression (Furst, 2007, p. 104). The dogs also played a role in helping inmates with their social interactions. Furst (2007) found that “participants’ recognize their dogs’ ability to serve as social facilitators; they told of increased communication with fellow participants, other inmates, and staff and administrators regarding their dogs” (p. 104). The participants also overwhelmingly said that program and the animals helped them feel empowered. Furst (2007) comments that, “another participant summed up the program by saying “it will turn your life around. It will make you happy and proud” (pp. 105-106).

The researcher was able to determine that the inmates who participated in the study, did in fact, give the animals human-like identities while participating in the program. According to Furst (2007), “Despite the relatively limited length of time and more communal nature of the relationships formed in PAPs, participants appear to assign the dogs they are paired with a human-like social identity that in turn impacts their own human self-identity” (p. 106). This study suggests that inmates who participate in an animal program receive benefits from the animal and that the inmates themselves recognize the benefits and the changes in themselves. A limitation of prison-based programs can sometimes be the amount of time that inmates are in the program. As it was just mentioned above, the relationships that are created in animal programs are only for a limited time. Research should be conducted looking at the length of time of participation, to see if there are more benefits for longer running programs. Do inmates in a longer running program seem to have better results, compared to those who only participate in a short running program?

The last study that looked at both service animal socialization programs and community service programs, analyzed four different programs. Gilger (2007), “sought to assess differences in self-efficacy between those prisoners participating in dog programs and those not participating in dog programs” (p. 35). This quantitative study differed from the previously referenced studies. The author used four different programs from three different facilities in Kansas (Ellsworth, Hutchinson, and Norton). According to Gilger (2007), “Participation for the current investigation were 136 male prisoners from Kansas correctional facilities, 85 who were in varying types of dog-relation programs, and 51 who met the criteria for the dog-related programs but were not involved in the programs at the time of the study” (p. 36). The three programs that were studied were two service animal socialization programs, and two community service programs. The researcher used three instruments for the study: a demographic questionnaire, a self-efficacy scale, and the career decision self-efficacy scale (Gilger, 2007, p. 46). There were four hypotheses to this study: 1) “those who did work with dogs would report higher levels of self-efficacy than those who did not work dogs”; 2) “new and novice handlers would report higher level of self-efficacy than those men not involved in dog programs”; 3) “men who had been working with dogs for some time (i.e., the current handlers) would report higher levels of self-efficacy than those men not involved in dog programs”; and finally 4) “the longer men had been involved in dog programs, the higher their self-efficacy score would be” (pp. 35-36).

The researcher’s findings were not what they predicted. According to Gilger (2007), “For the most part, this study did not find support for the conclusion that dog programs enhance male inmate’s self-efficacy scores” (p. 67). For the first hypothesis,

the participation in the program did not affect the self-efficacy of the participants according to the self-efficacy scale and the career-decision self-efficacy scale. The second hypothesis ended with the same conclusion: participation in the dog program did not change self-efficacy score. With the third hypothesis, the results showed that there was no significant experience between handlers and men not working with dogs. For the final hypothesis, there was some support that the longer inmates participated in the program, the higher the self-efficacy score would be. However, the support was not strong enough to prove causation, even though it does suggest a benefit of participating in a dog program (Gilger, 2007, pp. 65- 67). The researcher did give several reasons for why the results did not support the hypotheses that were tested. Those reasons include: participants did report improvement, which could not be shown quantitatively, the instruments used are not specifically tailored to inmates, and more time might have been needed for self-efficacy to increase (Gilger, 2007, pp. 67-68). Gilger (2007) suggests that, “the moderate relationship may indicate that self-efficacy may increase over time for those in such programs” (p. 68). Even though the researcher’s analysis did not support the four hypotheses, she concluded by saying that “though the numbers did not provide support, participants qualitatively reiterated the spirit-enhancing impact in previous literature” (Gilger, 2007, p. 71).

The biggest limitation to the study was that the researcher conducted the study long distance. It is possible that mistakes were made on the facility end that could have affected the results of the study. Gilger (2007) stated, “I cannot ensure volunteers at each facility followed these guidelines explicitly or consistently” (p. 69). Another concern for the study was the control group that was selected. Gilger (2007) noted that the control

group had more contact with animals in the program than would have been liked (p. 69). This could have seriously affected the results of the study. It is possible that the control group had such high scores for self-efficacy because they had been exposed to an animal program. For future research, the control group should only be comprised of inmates who have had no contact with the animal program that is being studied.

Service animal socialization programs. There were two studies that looked only at service animal socialization programs. The first study was conducted by Turner (2007) who studied the ICAAN program at an Ohio prison for adult males, and interviewed six of the participants (the majority being white, and all having different types of offenses) (p. 39). The study was aimed at exploring the experiences of the inmates. Turner (2007) stated that, “the following themes were found: 1) Patience; 2) Parenting Skills; 3) Helping Others; 4) Increased Self-Esteem; 5) Social Skills; 6) Normalizing Effect; 7) Calming Effect on the Environment” (p. 39). The program was found to increase the patience of the inmates who participated. “The offenders all stated that being a part of the ICAAN program taught them to be more patient” (Turner, 2007, p. 39). The patience that they learned in the program helps them outside of the program as well. According to Turner (2007), “Although patience is a skill that was developed by working with dogs, it can be transferred to interactions with people, as well” (p. 39). The patience that they learned also relates to their parenting skills. According to Turner (2007), “All six of the inmates in the ICAAN program have children, and they mentioned how participating in the program will help them to re-establish relationships with their children and be better parents” (p. 39). The other major finding from the study was the increase in self-esteem. According to Turner (2007), “To be selected is an honor and a privilege that the current

participants take pride in and helps to improve their self-esteem” (p. 40). The author received anecdotal comments from the inmates on how the program increased their social skills and allowed them to help others (Turner, 2007, pp. 40-41).

This is the third study to use qualitative interviews as the data source. It found many similarities with the other qualitative studies, which will be discussed later in this review. A minor comment to the study was the limitation to the sample size. Only six inmates were interviewed. That is a small number, even though the program itself was small and did not have that many participants. Hopefully in the future, the program will expand, and further research can be conducted with a larger sample size.

Currie (2008) conducted the second study at the Ellsworth Correctional Facility in Kansas. Again, interviews were collected as the main data source from current trainers (11 participants), former trainers removed from the program (three participants), inmate non-trainers (three participants), trainers who dropped out (five participants), staff (three participants), and the researcher (Currie, 2008, pp. 50, 66-69). The age ranges for all of the groups combined was 18 to 55 (Currie, 2008, p. 66). The researcher also used observations, a dog relationship scale, and video-taped dog graduations as part of the study. The reason five different groups were interviewed was to gain a whole understanding of the program (not just from those who are currently participating in the program, but also previous participants, and inmates not participating in the program). Currie (2008) believed that, “the training program potentially benefits several populations: inmate trainers, dogs in the program, correctional staff, other inmates, the facility, dog recipients, and the greater community” (p. 50). Currie’s (2008) main findings come from positive emotional outcomes and positive practical outcomes. Almost

96 percent of those interviewed supported the idea that the program has positive emotional outcomes, which was defined “...as strong, positive, emotional feelings inmates trainers experienced as a result of working with the dogs in the training program” (Currie, 2008, p. 100). Currie (2008) asserted that:

Positive emotional outcomes for inmate trainers include the following: (a) providing social support, (b) gaining a sense of pride, (c) serving as a feeling of giving back to society, (d) increasing personal patience, (e) humanizing the inmate trainers, and (f) improving self-esteem. (abstract).

Those results are similar to other studies, which support the idea that the programs do help the inmates who participate in a dog training program. The other results that Currie (2008) found relate to previous studies in terms of practical outcomes from prison-based animal programs. Again Currie (2008) asserted that:

Positive practical outcomes for inmate trainers emerged in the following areas: (a) improving responsibility, (b) having a positive impact on the prison environment, (c) providing opportunities to help others, (d) using goal setting, (e) gaining employability skills, and (f) having a positive effect on behavior (abstract).

Positives outcomes were not the only results found in the study. There were some negative emotional outcomes and practical outcomes that were associated with the program. “A few of the inmates experienced emotional difficulties giving up their dogs for adoption” (Currie, 2008, p. 108). According Currie (2008), “Two identified negative practical findings included: (a) the sometimes overwhelming amount of responsibility required of inmate trainers to keep, care for, and train a dog, and (b) inmate trainers’ concerns with other inmates who hassled them and their dogs” (p. 99). This research suggests that even though there might be some negative aspects that are associated with an animal program, there are more positive outcomes that come from the program.

As mentioned with the other qualitative studies using interviews, a limitation of the study is due to the subjective nature of the responses from the participants. It is always a possibility that the participants were not honest in their responses. The types of crimes of the participants were not gathered, as the aim was not to look at reasons for incarceration. It could be beneficial, as with other studies to look at the reasons for incarcerations and compare them to results/outcomes of the programs. It is possible that there is a relationship to the type of crime committed and the likelihood of success in a PAP. However, this question has not been addressed.

Community service programs. The first study that focused on just a community service program was done by Fournier, Geller, and Fortney (2007) who looked at a dog training program in Virginia to evaluate how it could affect the criminal behavior of inmates (p. 89). The study looked at the inmates records and the inmates who participated in the study completed self-measures (human-animal interaction scale, and social skills inventory), where 48 inmates participated (most were Caucasian, ranging from 21 to 46 years old) (Fournier et al., 2007). Half of the participants were part of the program, while the other half were on the waiting list (served as the control group). The researchers hypothesized that the program would create positive effects in behavior and psychosocial outcomes (Fournier e. al., 2007, p. 93). The authors found similar results as with the previous studies. According to Fournier et al. (2007), "Participation in the HAI program was associated with increased treatment progress in the therapeutic community, decreased institutional infractions, and improvement of social sensitivity" (pp. 97-98). The results that they received were also similar to previous studies mentioned. For the analysis of criminal behavior, the researchers found a small beneficial impact from the

program (Fournie et al., 2007). The researchers also had positive results for analyzing the inmates' social skills, which supported their hypothesis. According to Fournier et al. (2007), "Results supported this hypothesis, indicating that scores in one specific area of social skills, social sensitivity, did improve for the Treatment group from Pretest to Posttest, while the Control group scores decreased on this variable" (p. 99).

As with all studies, there are a few limitations. The first for this study is that participants could not be randomly selected (they were already participating in the program, or were on the waiting list). This can lead to biased results. The second limitation is with the group that was used for the control. Even though the participants were not part of the program, they were on the waiting list and had been exposed to the program. This could have affected the answers that were given on the scale. In future studies, both the control group and program group should be randomly picked from the prison population.

The second study that looked at a community service program was done by Chianese (2009), who evaluated the New Leash on Life Program at Orange County Juvenile Hall in Orange County, California. This is the only study in this review that looks at juveniles. Chianese (2009) reviewed probation department records of 445 girls to look at their recidivism rates, to determine if the program affected their recidivism rates (p. 21). The girls records were separated in three different groups: Those who participated in the animal program "puppy moms" (which was 28 girls), those who were present when a puppy was there for the program "puppy sisters" (301 girls), and girls who had no contact with the program or a puppy "no puppy" (116 girls) (Chianese, 2009, p. 24). The age range of the girls was between 11 and 19, with Hispanic being the

dominant race, followed by Caucasian (Chianese, 2009, p. 21). The crimes of the females were recorded, with a variety of offenses ranging from property crimes, personal crimes, vice crimes, probation violations, and a few miscellaneous crimes (Chianese, 2009, p. 21). There was a major difference between the groups that was expected, which was the amount of time spent at the facility. According to Chianese (2009) the longer a girl was at the facility, the more likely she was to have been exposed to a puppy and the program, and those who spent the most time there, were more likely to actually participate in the program (p. 24).

The researcher compared the data using Pearson's chi-square, z-test, and t-test (Chianese, 2009, p. 29). According to Chianese (2009), "The results of this evaluation show that girls who served as Puppy Moms had fewer referrals to probation after their release and committed less serious offenses than girls who had no exposure to a puppy" (p. 37). The group puppy sisters had to be excluded from the analysis because "Changes in the implementation of New Leash on Life made the "Puppy Sister" group ambiguous in terms of exposure to a puppy" (Chianese, 2009, p. 38). This research showed that participation in an animal program can affect recidivism rates in a positive way. There are many different things that can have an effect on recidivism rates, but this research shows that an animal program can be one of those things. The author does offer other possibilities that could have affected the recidivism rates, one of which could have been that several of the girls were pregnant when they participated in the program (Chianese, 2009, p. 40). A limitation with this program, as with the others, is that the participants could not be randomly selected, as they were already participating in the animal program.

Counseling program. Counseling programs are not used very often, and therefore are not researched very much. Counseling programs differ from many programs, because the only contact the inmates have with the animals is during a therapy session. There are two studies that researched counseling programs. Jaspersen (2010) looked at a pilot animal-assisted therapy program at the Utah State Prison. There were five female inmates, aged 26 to 42, who participated in the program, all of which were residents in the mental health inpatient program (Jaspersen, 2010, p. 42). There was a variety of disorders that the participants had: bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, and depression (Jaspersen, 2010, p. 424). According to Jaspersen (2010), “Group sessions focused on the development of social skills, coping skills, and self-awareness” (p. 425). The researcher was present during the group sessions, and conducted interviews with the group participants. The group met once a week for eight weeks.

The main finding from the study was that participation in the program helped the inmates with their emotions. Jaspersen (2010) found that, “the group members reported a large decrease in anxiety and depressive symptoms” (p. 425). This suggests that even though this is a different animal program from others, the inmates are still receiving benefits from the program. The sample size for the study was a limitation. The program should increase the number of participants in the health ward, and then conduct another study. Another limitation to the program is the quality of the interviews. All of the participants had some type of mental disorder, which could have affected the responses that were given. It is also possible that the researcher being present during the therapy sessions could have affected how the respondents acted, and answered questions. The

author also did not use any validating assessments to measure change (Jasperson, 2010, p. 429). So it is not possible to compare the participants in terms of what they were like before, to what they were like after the program. A solution to this dilemma would be to collect records of the participants prior to participating, and then collect records after they complete the programs. These records could include disciplinary reports, or comments/observations on behavior. Research could then compare the two records to determine if there were any changes (i.e. fewer disciplinary reports, or increased good behavior).

The previous author is also the same author of the second study looking at a counseling program. In fact, the study was conducted at the same facility. Jasperson (2011) looked at the same program, only it has been extended to females in the general population (not just the mental health section). Seventy-four inmates were looked at (ages 19 to 58), who either participated in the program, or did not participate in the program, but seven were not used in the analysis (Jasperson, 2011, pp. 96-98). The offenses for the participants varied, the most common being drug related offenses, followed by parole/probation offenses, and violent offenses (Jasperson, 2011, p. 85). The study conducted five rounds of the program (meeting once a week for eight weeks). The hypothesis of the study was “that an AAT group utilizing a dog as a therapeutic tool would decrease participants symptom distress, improve their interpersonal relationships and improve their perspective about their social role performance” (Jasperson, 2011, p. 93).

The researcher used an outcome questionnaire, and analyzed the results using SPSS. Three measures were looked at: system distress, interpersonal relations, and social

role. According to Jasperson (2011), "...there was no difference between the control and experimental groups indicating that having a dog present during the group process did not influence the reported improvements" (p. 101). The author did find that the counseling group had better outcomes. Jasperson (2011) stated that, "statistical analysis indicated that the psycho-educational group significantly improved participants' symptom distress, interpersonal relationships, and social role performance" (p. 101). So even though the group that participated in the program had better results from the counseling sessions, it could not be proven that the animals were the cause of that improvement. While there were quite a few participants in the study, a limitation could have been that a larger sample size was needed in order to compare the program group to the control group. However, this study did what it was supposed to do. It added to the first counseling study, which just looked at participants in the health section of the prison. The study broadened the horizons of the program by allowing the general population of the program to participate.

Vocational program. The only vocational program discussed was conducted by Bachi (2014) who studied participants of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation's Second Chances program, which is an equine vocational program at Blackburn Correctional Complex in Kentucky. The author used many methods in the data collected. Bachi (2014) administered a questionnaire, conducted interviews, and looked at the participant's DOC records to determine if the program prepares inmates for vocational opportunities once they are released. The author also tried to determine emotional and behavioral transitions through the program (Bachi, 2014, p. 43). Ninety-one participants were used for the first part of the study (filled out a questionnaire), 11 were used for the

second part of the study (interviews), and 206 participants for the sample group and 216 participants for the control group were used for the third part (DOC records) (Bachi, 2014, pp. 55-58).

Bachi (2014) came up with five themes from the study: emotional, behavioral, social, vocational and program evaluation (p. 150). For the theme of emotional features, the author found several variables: scared at the beginning, words to describe the relationship, issues with forming deep connections, exchange and reciprocity, physical dimension, and the benefits (Bachi, 2014, p.150). The main finding of all the different variables is that “Emotional features highlight the importance of providing alternative opportunities to experience companionship, which may help inmates process their relational issues and improve competencies” (Bachi, 2014, p. 164).

Bachi (2014) found two variables in the behavioral features theme: responsibility and commitment, and calmness/patience and conflict (p. 150). This theme suggests that inmates are able to act maturely while participating in the program. For the social features theme, Bachi (2014) named the variables of social learning via observation of herd dynamics; horses and the family unit, and relationships with other participants (p. 151). The findings suggest that working with the horses improve the lives of the inmates who participate in the program. The last two themes of program evaluation and vocational features showed many variables: motivation and expectations; educational component; program director; participant’s evaluation of program, advantages, limitations; and program enhancing employability upon release; vocational skills transferring to other settings; and issues with working in horse farms upon release (Bachi, 20014, p. 151). The author also found support for the idea that the program is beneficial

to the inmates. According to Bachi (2014), “Findings suggest that horses are approached as attachment figures, while higher levels of attachment to horses were achieved among older participants with stronger attachments to their mothers (pp. 151-152). In terms of recidivism, the author found positive results. “The recidivism findings suggests that participation in the program may contribute to secondary desistance, since program participants are at lower risk to recidivate, as compared with control group participants” (Bachi, 2014, p. 153). The author also found that the program is doing what it is supposed to, based on the program goals. Bachi (2014) found that, “the relationships between participants and horses in this program, center on caregiving, trust and dependability, as apparent in the program’s goals and the interviews findings (p. 157). All of the findings support the use of a prison-based animal program. According to Bachi (2014), “Findings provide preliminary support for the current program, because this prison-based equine-program offers a low-risk (no riding involved) and low cost (most costs are covered by the TRF) option to reduce prospects of recidivism” (p. 165).

One of the strengths of this program was that it used multiple methods in collecting data. According to Bachi (2014), “This combination of methods and data is intended to illuminate the responses to the research questions better than mono methods, which would not be able to capture the richness and complexity of the questioned phenomena” (p. 50). This allows comparisons to be made that can be considered reliable. The researcher did not just rely on quantitative analysis from the questionnaire, but also qualitative analysis from the interviews, and more quantitative analysis from the DOC records. All three of those methods can be combines to create a reliable overall picture. As mentioned previously, a limitation to the study is the quality of the questionnaire and

interview responses. It is possible that the participants lied on either, for a variety of different reasons. However, for this specific study, a third measure was used (DOC) records to corroborate with the other two.

Public opinion. As opposed to all the studies that have been mentioned above, this next study actually looked at public opinion of prison-based animal programs. This study did not have anything to do with a specific program or facility. Instead it looked at a broader sense of prison-based animal programs, and the public's opinion towards them. Divin (2009) wanted to explore which elements the public thought were beneficial when it comes to rehabilitative programs. The researcher looked at three hypotheses of PAPs: inmates need to be screened to determine suitability for a PAP, general public support for PAPs, and dogs are unique in helping to rehabilitate humans (Divin, 2009, p. 36). The researcher picked 120 adults from 14 different Yahoo Groups, due to the diversity of the members. The majority of the participants were female (69.2%), Caucasian (84%), and most had a dog at their primary residence (60.3%) (Divin, 2009, p. 44). The research used Survey Monkey, where the participants filled out a demographic questionnaire, a PAP Public Opinion Survey, and a Companion Animal Scale (only if they have owned a dog at their residence) (Divin, 2009, p. 39). Only 78 surveys were used. The author had three hypotheses. According to Divin (2009), "It was hypothesized that public support for PAPs would be low, that is, participants would have a mean score of 93 or lower on the PAP Public Opinion Survey (p. 46). This hypothesis was not supported, and in fact was the complete opposite. Divin (2009) found that, "Ninety-two percent of participants had a mean score above 93, indicating strong support for PAPs" (p. 46). This suggests that the public is aware of the importance of rehabilitating offenders, and supports the work that

prison-based animal programs do. The second hypothesis was "... that the PAP Public Opinion survey would break down into four separate factors" (Divin, 2009, p. 48). The researcher actually found five factors. Those five factors are: general public support for PAPs, importance of screening inmates for PAPs, negative support for PAPs, concern or fear for the animals' well-being, and efficacy of PAPs (Divin, 2009, p. 48). The third hypothesis was that if the participants scored high on the companion animal survey, they would also score higher on the PAP Public Opinion Survey, as opposed to those who scored low (Divin, 2009, p. 50). This hypothesis was also not supported. According to Divin (2009), "A weak negative correlation was found... indicating that high scorers on the Companion Animal Scale did not predict strong support for PAPs" (p. 50).

Overall, the author did not find the results as expected. This however is actually a good thing for prison-based animal programs. According to Divin (2009), "Public support for PAPs was overwhelmingly high, indicating that the public believes there to be some merit to PAPs rehabilitative qualities" (p. 51). This study combined with the majority of the studies previously mentioned show that there is a good reason why so many prisons across the nation are using prison-based animal programs. Results from this study could possibly be related to the current media coverage of prison-based animal programs. Just in the last year in Colorado, there have been two newspaper articles describing the benefits of these types of programs by looking at two specific inmates from Trinidad Correctional Facility and Centennial Correctional Facility, who made a difference in the program, and who the program changed for the better (Mitchell, 2014a; Mitchell, 2014b).

While this study was different from the rest, there are still some limitations. The biggest limitation was in picking individuals randomly from online sources. The second limitation to the study was the lack of variation between the participants. The majority were females, and white. This is not a true representation of the total public. A more varied sample selection would have been more generalizable for this study. Further research needs to be drawn on this subject. Public opinion on prison-based animal programs is very important, and yet the research is almost nonexistent. Larger studies need to be conducted to broaden the knowledge of what the public opinion of these programs is really like.

Prisons are not just using PAPs on a whim, there is some merit behind them, and obviously something seems to be working with them, because their use is continuing, and is possibly growing. That is where this present study will step in to look at prison-based programs across the nation in 2014, to determine their characteristics and popularity. There has only been one other study to look at PAPs across the nation, which is what this current study draws upon. The first national study will be detailed below.

National survey on prison-based animal programs. There has only been one national survey to collect demographic characteristics of all the types of prison-based animals program. This study was done by Furst in 2006, and is the muse for the present study. Furst (2006) sought to look at the current nature of PAPs that were being used across the nation. A letter and questionnaire were sent to each state's Department of Corrections asking that they fill out a response for every animal program that was used in that state. The results of the study were very enlightening, considering something to this scale had never been done before. According to Furst (2006):

Forty-six states (92%) returned surveys: 4 states did not respond: Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, and Texas. Of the 46 states that participated in the survey, 10 states reported having no PAPs: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Utah. Thirty-six states reported on 71 designs, or models, of PAPs, at 159 sites throughout the country. (p. 417).

The results of the questionnaires were broken down into six categories: typology, program profiles, preparticipation, postparticipation, funding, and positives and negatives. Furst (2006) found the most common design was the community service model (33.8%), used at 59 locations, which most commonly used dogs; the second most common model was the service animal socialization model (21.1%), used at 34 facility, and again, dogs were most commonly used (pp. 417-419). When it comes to the other types of programs, there were just a few of each. The third most common type was a multimodal, where vocational and service animal socialization were combined (used at 19 facilities) (Furst, 2006, p. 420).

One of the most interesting finds of the study for program profiles was that males were more likely to participate in a PAP. Furst (2006) states that, “according to the surveys of the 67 program models in which the gender of participants was specified, males (n = 37, 56.7%) are more likely than females (n = 15; 22.4%) to be participants in PAPs” (p. 420). When it came to the year that the program was created, the answers varied greatly. The earliest program that was listed started in 1885, followed by 1900, 1920, 1930, 1981, and then six in the late 1980s, 14 in the 1990s and 34 since 2000 (Furst, 2006, p. 420). This would suggest that in the last decade, the number of programs have increased greatly. It was previously mentioned that dogs were the most used for both the community service model and the service animal socialization model. Since those are the most common models used, that would make dogs the most common

animal. The next most common animals would be cats and horses (with both having an $n = 9$) (Furst, 2006, p. 420). When it came to the number of inmates that were participating in the program, the results were varied. The smallest number of inmates participating was two with the largest being 300 (Furst, 2006, p. 421). In many cases programs need some form of outside help, normally coming from a nonprofit organization. “Most PAP models ($n = 43$, 60.6%) include an association with a nonprofit organization that administers the program and provides the animals, supplies, and training” (Furst, 2006, p. 421). These nonprofit organizations are the ones that generally provide the animals, and funding (for supplies and training). Since the most common types of program models were the community service and the service organization, and because these programs have the inmates training the animals, the animals are going to spend most, if not all of their time with the inmates. According to Furst (2006), “Participants most commonly ($n = 30$, 42.3%) are paired with animals 24 hours a day” (p. 421).

Prison-based animal programs are not something that every inmate participates in. There are certain requirements that programs have set in place to ensure that the programs run smoothly. According to Furst (2006), “The vast majority of PAPs interview potential participants prior to their acceptance into the programs ($n = 51$; 71.8%) (p. 421). One way to ensure that programs run smoothly is to make sure that inmates are suitable for the program through the use of interviews and also their records. “Sixteen programs (22.5%) report that there are no crimes that make inmates ineligible to participate; 42 program models (59.2%) make inmates ineligible based on the nature of their convictions, and 13 (18.3%) did not respond to the question” (Furst, 2006, p. 422). Programs will also have eligibility requirements to make sure that programs run without

any major problems caused by inmates. According to Furst (2006), “Fifty-three (74.7%) programs report having additional eligibility requirements. The most common criteria are behavioral (i.e., remaining free from disciplinary infractions; n = 29; 54.7%)” (p. 422). For postparticipation, the questions asked about opportunities given to participants once they have completed the program. Most programs do not award some type of certificate (70.0%), or job referral service/link (23.9%), and only a handful knew any participant who worked with animals once released back into the community (33.8%) (Furst, 2006, p. 422).

Funding is very important for rehabilitative programs in prisons, which are not able to supply the funding for every program that is needed. According to Furst (2006), “Thirty-seven PAPs (52.1%) report receiving donations” (p. 423). Donations are very important in keeping many programs running. These donations come from a variety of different places. “Programs reported receiving donations from staff and inmate fundraisers, the general public, private veterinarians, and privately owned supply stores, including Walmart, PetCo, and PetSmart, and from corporations such as Iams® and Purina®” (Furst, 2006, p. 423). In order to keep running, many programs also collect fees. According to Furst (2006), only 28.2%, that’s 20 programs, reported collecting fees (p. 423). Fees are normally collected with service animal socialization programs and community service programs, where money is collected from the adoption of the animals. However, livestock programs can also sell product to receive money for the program (Furst, 2006, p. 423).

As with any type of program, there are going to be positives and negatives. For most, as long as the positives outweigh the negatives, the program is doing well. Furst

(2006) found that 60 out of 61 (98.4%) stated that they would recommend the program to other prisons (p. 423). There are many benefits that stem from prison-based animal programs. “Overwhelmingly, the most commonly cited benefit is the sense of responsibility instilled from caring for a dependent animal” (Furst, 2006, p. 423). Other benefits that were mentioned include: job skills, meaningful work, patience/anger management, self-esteem, empathy, parenting skills, communication skills, sense of pride/accomplishment, work ethic, humanizes/calms facility, self-control, relationship skills/trust, and reduces stress (Furst, 2006, p. 424). In the case of prison-based animal programs, there seem to be few negatives. According to Furst (2006), “Most ($f = 42$, 60.0%) reported no negative aspects associated with the PAP” (p. 423). Out of the negative aspects that were mentioned, the most common was staff resistance to the program (10.1%), challenges with the family (8.9%), lack of resources (8.9%), and constraints of running a program in a secure institution (6.3%) (Furst, 2006, pp. 423-424). This study is congruent with the other studies mentioned above, showing that prison-based animal programs are very beneficial to the inmates that participate in them.

Discussion of the Current Literature

Prison-based animal programs have been around for a while, even though they have not been the focus of much research. There is, however, a variety of literature looking at the benefits of animal-assisted therapy with other populations. Animal-assisted therapy was not originally used in prisons. It was something that was used on a variety of different subgroups from the community. The most common groups are people with mental-disorders, the elderly, and children. Animal-assisted therapy uses techniques with the animals that give participants something that they have never had before - relief and

ways to calm their symptoms and emotions. The mental-disorders that animal-assisted therapy is most commonly associated with are autism, pervasive development disorder, schizophrenia, and post-traumatic stress disorder. This is extremely beneficial knowledge since many prison inmates have some type of mental illness. According to Galanek (2013), “Large numbers of individuals in the U.S. prisons meet DSM criteria for severe psychiatric disorder. These individuals also have co-occurring personality and substance abuse disorders, medical conditions, and histories of exposure to social pathologies” (p. 195). A study done in 2006 by the Bureau of Justice Statistics found that over half of inmates (both prisons and jails) have some type of mental illness (p. 1). The research showed that animal-therapy helps individuals with mental illnesses; this would include those who are currently incarcerated. The elderly need companionship and animal-assisted therapy can provide that to them, along with helping with memory and physical problems. Children can also benefit greatly from the use of animal-assisted therapy. As children grow up, animals are able to help them develop properly. Animals can teach them about autonomy, self-esteem, and correct emotional behaviors. Animal-assisted therapy works the same in the correctional setting. It was then found that animal-assisted therapy was a great technique to use with prison inmates. It gives inmates an opportunity to deal with their emotions and skills in a prosocial manner.

When one compares the 2006 national survey on PAPA to the other studies analyzed, there does seem to be certain similarities. According to Furst’s (2006) national study the most common program type is community service, followed by service animal socialization (p. 417). It just so happens that there are more studies conducted on service animal socialization programs and community service programs. This confirms that the

Furst (2006) study was correct in which programs seem to be more popular, based on the number of these programs that were studied. If these types of programs are used more often, it would make sense they are also studied more often. There were also a couple of trends between the articles themselves. The majority of these articles used participants that were Caucasian. Based from that information, it could be suggested that Caucasians are more likely to participate in animal programs than other types of races. Also, many of the studies used interviews as measures. Due to the security and ethical concerns surrounding prison inmates, it can be very difficult to gain access to the records of inmates to collect quantitative data. This could be why, many of the studies used interviews to collect data. However, when it comes to qualitative analysis, it is possible to have errors occur. One of the first is the reliability of participants being honest and telling the truth. The second is the biasness of the research when analyzing the data. It is possible that the research interrupts something differently, which would affect the results. Another problem that can occur with interviews and researchers observing the study participants is the idea of the Hawthorne effect. This is where the presence of the researcher changes how the participants are going to behave, which will also affect the results. This does not mean that the results of these studies should not be taken seriously. These studies do add to the research of understanding prison-based animal programs. According to Bachman and Schutt (2011), "Qualitative methods can often be used to enrich experiments and surveys..." (p. 253). Even though there might be some limitations and concerns when using qualitative methods, it is easy to use them when looking at prison-based animal programs and inmates. Qualitative studies should be backed up using quantitative studies. Bachman and Schutt (2011) comment that

“qualitative data are often supplemented with many quantitative characteristics or activities” (p. 300).

More research still needs to be conducted in the field of prison-based animal programs. Even though prison-based animal programs are commonly being used, there is little research diving into their specifics. More research should focus on quantitative measures to determine the effectiveness of programs. Currently there seems to be more research looking at anecdotal accounts of benefits of these programs. Every program type needs to be evaluated in terms of effectiveness. Effectiveness is normally determined by recidivism rates of criminal offenders. Recidivism rates of participants need to be analyzed to determine if these types of programs can be considered rehabilitating programs. There also needs to be more research comparing program types to determine if there is a specific type of program that seems to be more effective at helping inmates. Furst (2011) suggests that, “the fast-paced growth of PAPs demands further empirical investigation of these programs. A true experimental research design may be able to connect pre- and post-program differences to PAP participation” (p. 156).

This study is aimed at collecting quantitative and qualitative data on the different types of programs that are currently being used across the nation. This will build on the 2006 national survey conducted by Furst. This research sought to answer the question of what are the current trends occurring in prison-based animal programs, and have these types of programs changed since 2006. This research is a broad look at prison-based animal programs as a whole. More in-depth research will need to be conducted on specific programs. Recidivism rates are not looked at in this present study, nor does the study try to evaluate the efficiency of any program. However this research adds to the

knowledge in the field on prison-based animal programs by giving a current look at the prison-based animal programs being used. This study will allow others to then conduct more in-depth research on specific programs. If PAPs are going to continue being used in correctional facilities, more research will need to be conducted to keep up with the use of prison-based animal programs.

CHAPTER III

METHODS

Introduction

Prison-based animal programs (PAPs) are not a new implementation within prison settings across the United States. However, the research regarding PAPs is slim. Research is limited and ranges between the types of research methods used and the program types that are analyzed. It has been discussed that there needs to be more research in the field of PAPs, especially if they are going to continue to be a popular resource in the rehabilitation of criminal offenders. This current study is aimed at building upon the knowledge that has already been gained on prison-based animal programs.

Both quantitative and qualitative measures were used to analyze a Prison Animal Program Questionnaire that was sent to 302 randomly selected correctional facilities across the nation. The questionnaire consisted of both multiple-choice answers and open-ended questions. These questions focused on how the program was run, who was involved, and the positive and negative aspects associated with it. The multiple-choice questions were analyzed quantitatively using Excel. The open-ended questions were analyzed by qualitatively coding the themes that emerged. The research question of this thesis was: What are the characteristics of prison-based animal programs currently in use across the nation? This current study was conducted to determine if there were any similarities between programs. Knowing what kinds of programs are currently being administered in prison settings can assist in more research on the subject and in the

creation of other similar programs. There has only been one other national study conducted on prison-based animal programs (PAPs) (Furst, 2006). The results of this study will be discussed in relation to the results found in the 2006 national study. The settings, participants, materials/measurement instrument, procedure, and data analysis of this current study is presented in detail below.

Setting and Participants

Correctional facilities were used as the setting for this study. Since PAPs are being used in correctional facilities, this study focused on them as the primary data source. The research was not conducted at the actual facilities, but instead a questionnaire was mailed to each of the randomly selected facilities, asking the heads of each of the facilities to fill out the questionnaire and return it in a pre-paid envelope. In order to protect each facilities' confidentiality, participants were instructed that when filling out the questionnaires, they remain anonymous and to not write anything personal about the inmates or the staff. Since the aim of the study was prison-based animal programs and the facility itself was to remain confidential, no demographic questions, such as name of facility, were asked about the facility itself. The questionnaire only asked questions about the elements of the program, and the state that the program was in (to help determine the response rate for each state). This study was conducted from the researcher's home, as well as at the University of Northern Colorado, in the Criminal Justice Department office (where the questionnaires were returned).

There were 302 correctional facilities out of 1025 selected for this study (see Appendix A: Sampling Frame). The sampling frame was comprised of the prisons and correctional facilities in every state, and was separated based on state and federal levels.

Not all states had federal facilities, which is why they were separated. This way the federal prisons could be represented in the sample as well, even though there were fewer of them. This list excluded jails, halfway houses, and conservation camps. Prison-based animal programs are aimed at assisting offenders who have already been sentenced and are currently serving the majority of their time in a prison facility. Therefore, the excluded facilities did not have PAPs, because inmates have either gone through the majority of their sentence, have just been sentenced, or are awaiting trial. Based on those reasons, those three types of facilities were excluded. The final list of prisons included both government and privately run state facilities, totaling 918 (S), and federal facilities, totaling 107 (F), with a total target population of 1025 facilities. Three hundred facilities were selected based on time and finance available. The best scenario would have been to send a questionnaire to every prison. However, that would have taken resources beyond what was available.

There were many ways that the sampled 300 facilities (29.27%) could have been selected from the target population of 1025 facilities. They could have been picked from all of the states being combined. However, this would not have given the sample a true representation of the nation. There would have been no guarantee that every state would have been included in the sample. Another way that the sample facilities could have been selected was by picking the number of institutions from each state. However, again, that would not have been a true representation of the nation because not every state has the same number of facilities.

Instead, a stratified random sampling method was used. The number of facilities that were picked from each state was dependent on that number of prisons in each state in

relation to the total number of facilities across the nation (total target population). This way, all states were weighted properly in the sample in order to truly represent the nation. The first thing that was needed in order to complete this sampling frame was to calculate the state and federal prison percentage of the total target population (A and B respectively). This was quickly calculated using the following equation: prison

percentage of total target population = $\frac{C}{1025} \times 100$, where C = the total number of state or

federal prisons (S and F respectively) and 1025 is the total target population. The calculation revealed that the state prison percentage of the total target population (A) needed to be 89.60 percent and the federal prison percentage of the total target population (B) needed to be 10.40 percent. The next step was to calculate the theoretical number of state and federal prisons that would need to be selected for the sampling frame. This calculation was done using the following equation: theoretical number of selected prisons = $\frac{E}{100} \times 300$, where E = state or federal prison percentage of total target population (A and B respectively) and 300 is the theoretical sample size. The equation yielded that 269 state prisons and 31 federal prisons would be theoretically selected.

With the overall conditions for the sampling frame set, the specifics for each state could be calculated, starting with calculating the percentage of total state and federal populations for each state. In order to obtain the state percentage of prison population for each state the following equation was used: state percentage of prison population (T)

= $\frac{X}{918} \times 100$, where X = the number of state prisons for each state and 918 is that total

number of state prisons across the nation (S). Using a similar equation, the federal

percentage of prison population for each state was calculated: federal percentage of prison population (P) = $\frac{Y}{107} \times 100$, where Y = the number of federal prisons for each state and 107 is the total number of federal prisons across the nation (F). These two calculations were done for every state (see results in Appendix A: Sampling Frame). The final calculation needed to complete the sampling frame was the theoretical number of selected state and federal prisons for each state (D and L respectively). The equation used to determine the theoretical number of selected state prisons (D) was:

$$D = \frac{T}{100} \times 269, \text{ where } T = \text{the state percentage of prison population and } 269 \text{ was the}$$

theoretical number of state prisons to be selected for the sampling frame. A similar equation was used to calculate the theoretical number of selected federal prisons (L):

$$L = \frac{P}{100} \times 31, \text{ where } P = \text{the federal percentage of prison population and } 31 \text{ was the}$$

theoretical number of federal prisons to be selected for the sampling frame. These two calculations were done for each state and the results were rounded to the nearest whole number (see results in Appendix A: Sampling Frame). The number of selected state and federal prisons was, 271 and 31, respectively, for a total sample of 302 state and federal prisons. In order to physically select the state and federal prisons for each state a random number generator was used to specify a starting point. The sampling intervals for each state and federal prisons were calculated using the following equations:

- sampling interval for state prisons = $\frac{X}{D}$, where X = the number of state prisons for each state and D = theoretical number of selected state prisons

- sampling interval for federal prisons = $\frac{Y}{L}$, where Y = the number of federal prisons for each state and L = theoretical number of selected federal prisons

Both of the sampling intervals were calculated for each state. The equations described herein were how all of the 302 state and federal sample facilities were selected from the sampling frame.

The prison facilities are the primary sampling unit (where the questionnaires are being sent). However, it is the wardens who were asked to fill out the questionnaires; therefore, they are the secondary sampling unit. No demographic information was needed from the facility heads because the focus of this study was on prison-based animal programs, not the participants themselves. However, due to asking the facility heads to fill out the questionnaire, this research was considered human subject research and Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval was needed. This process will be discussed more in the procedures section. Once the facilities were selected, the addresses were collected for each so that the materials for the study could be created. A pre-alert postcard and a questionnaire with a cover letter were sent to the facilities.

Materials/Measurement Instrument

There were three materials that were used for this study: a pre-alert postcard, a cover-letter, and a questionnaire. Several versions of both the pre-alert postcard and the cover-letter were created because many facilities did not use the title “warden”. When the addresses were gathered for each facility, a title for the head of the facility was collected (warden, superintendent, administrator, or director). The version of the pre-alert postcard,

and cover letter used was based on the title head for each facility. The questionnaire was the same for each facility.

The pre-alert postcard was created to be sent before the questionnaire, in the hopes that the head of the facility would be more likely to fill out the questionnaire having been alerted to its pending arrival. The pre-alert postcard let the participant know that they would be receiving a questionnaire asking about their facility's prison-based animal program (see Appendix B: Pre-Alert Postcard). The pre-alert postcard contained the logo of University of Northern Colorado to let the participants know that this research has been approved and is coming from an academic source that is a credible research institution, which could help with the response rate. The pre-alert postcard was part of a multiple contact strategy. According to Dillman, Smyth, and Christian (2014), "Multiple contacts are essential for maximizing response to mail surveys. They increase the likelihood that sample members are informed of the survey..." (p. 419). The pre-alert postcard was the first contact made to the sample. The second contact was the mailed questionnaire.

A cover letter was needed to explain the purpose of the questionnaire and it informed the participants (the head of the facility) of their rights as research participants (see Appendix C: Cover Letter). Participation in this study was strictly voluntary. However, if the participants did want to participate, they would remain anonymous (they could not be connected to a questionnaire). The questionnaire did not ask any personal questions about the facility head, nor did it ask any personal questions about inmates participating in the program. The cover letter contained standard informed consent information. The only demographic information asked was what state the program was

located in (this was to help in determining how many questionnaires were returned from each state, but it did not matter from which facility). Cover letters were designed to help increase the response rate. Bachman and Schutt (2011) suggest that, “a carefully prepared cover letter or initial statement should increase the response rate and results in more honest and complete answers to the survey questions” (p. 229).

The main material and measurement instrument that was used for this study was the questionnaire. The questionnaire was adapted from the first national study (Furst, 2006) to work with the current study parameters. A few minor changes were made to the questionnaire to fit this specific study (see Appendix D: Prison Animal Program Questionnaire). Rather than having the majority of the questions as open-ended questions (as with the original questionnaire), many of the questions were changed to fixed-choice questions. This was done to make it easier for the participants. According to Bachman and Schutt (2011), “With fixed-choice questions, respondents are also more likely to answer the question that researchers want them to answer. By including the response choices, the survey reduces ambiguity” (p. 210). There were still many open-ended questions that were used as contingent questions, so that the participant could explain more if a certain answer was selected. The closed-ended questions were analyzed quantitatively, while the open-ended questions were analyzed qualitatively. All of the questions revolve around the aspects of prison-based animal programs. The questions were about five main sections: program profiles, pre-participation, post-participation, funding, and positives/negatives. All of the questions were aimed at getting a whole understanding of the program: who all is involved, how does the program work, and the

benefits and negative aspects of the program (see Appendix D: Prison Animal Program Questionnaire).

Procedure

At the initial start of the thesis, the idea of studying prison-based animal programs was created. After further review of the current research, it was decided that another national study of prison-based animal programs would be conducted, with some minor changes to fit the needs of this thesis. Those changes included who the questionnaire would be sent to, and some changes to the questionnaire to better fit this study. The study question of this thesis is: What are the characteristics of prison-based animal programs currently in use across the nation? Institutional Review Board approval was requested since the facility heads were being asked to fill out the questionnaire, which is considered human subject research. An application was submitted for the exempt review category. Approval was granted on July 2, 2014 (see Appendix E: Institutional Review Board Approval Letter).

Once IRB approval was granted, the next step was to create a list of prisons for every state. As mentioned earlier, this list excluded those facilities that were not typical of most correctional facilities which have a rehabilitative program, like animal programs. The excluded facilities include jails, conservation camps, and halfway houses. These types of facilities are specific in their use, and are not where inmates spend the majority of their sentences being rehabilitated. After the facilities were randomly selected, the addresses and titles for the heads of the facilities were gathered through the use of facility websites or the state DOC websites.

As the sample facilities were being selected, the materials and the measurement device were being created for this study. A pre-alert postcard, cover-letter, and questionnaire were used in this study (see Appendix B: Pre- Alert Postcard, Appendix C: Cover Letter, and Appendix D: Questionnaire). All three were discussed in the materials and measurement section above. The pre-alert postcards were sent out two weeks in advance of the questionnaire mailing. This was to ensure plenty of time for the facilities to receive them before receiving the questionnaires, since the sample included facilities across the nation. The timing was also to make sure that the participant would remember the pre-alert postcard when the questionnaire was received. Dillman et al. (2014) suggested that, "...if a prenotice is to be used, it should be given enough time to arrive and be processed before the questionnaire arrives, but it is important to ensure the questionnaire is received before the prenotice is forgotten" (pp. 429-430). After the two week wait period, the questionnaires were sent out. The questionnaires were sent out October, 3, 2014. Questionnaire would be accepted until January 1st, 2015, giving participants ample time to fill out the questionnaires and return them. A pre-paid, pre-addressed envelope was mailed with the questionnaire. According Dillman et al. (2014), "First, it reduces costs to the respondent by making the return of the questionnaire as easy as possible" (p. 418). The participants would be more likely to return the questionnaire knowing that it was not going to cost them anything. "Second, it encourages trust that the questionnaire is important..." (Dillman et al., 2014, p. 418). Showing that the researcher is willing to pay to have the questionnaire returned, means that the researcher believes the questionnaire is important and that receiving the respondent's participation is also important. If the participant believes their participation is important, they will be more

likely to fill out and return the questionnaire. It was originally thought that after the questionnaires were sent out, there would be a waiting period until they were returned. However, complications did arise with certain states.

There were a few issues with the procedure that occurred after questionnaires had been sent out. There were several questionnaires that were returned, or I was contacted via email, informing me that I needed Department of Corrections (DOC) approval before the questionnaires could be filled out. The states that required DOC approval were Ohio, Texas, Virginia, Kentucky, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Colorado, New York, and Arizona. The Federal Bureau of Prisons also needed approval. Applications were sent to Ohio, Virginia, Kentucky, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Colorado, and Indiana. Due to timing, an application could not be submitted to New York or Arizona. After having contacted the Texas DOC, an application was not needed, but instead the DOC would fill out the questionnaire. The Federal Bureau of Prisons also filled out the questionnaire for the only federal facility that had a program. The Virginia DOC also determined that approval was not needed and the questionnaire was filled out just as a request for information. Specifically for these facilities, after having contacted the DOCs, it was determined that rather than going through the human subject research, the questionnaires would be treated as a request of information and would just be handled by the DOC for each facility. Minnesota decided that approval was not needed, that the questionnaires could be sent to the facilities, and it was up to the prison administrators to decide if they wanted to participate. Approval was granted from Ohio (see Appendix F: Ohio Department of Corrections Approval Letter), Nebraska (see Appendix G: Nebraska Department of Corrections Approval Letter), and Wisconsin (see Appendix H: Wisconsin

Department of Corrections Approval Letter). I did not receive a response from Kentucky and Colorado was the only state to deny approval. A change in the procedure did have to occur after one of the states (Ohio) requested that the questionnaire be placed online, so that the facilities could fill them out online. Due to this request, the questionnaire was also created on SurveyMonkey. There were only six participants that used the SurveyMonkey questionnaire. After the beginning of January 2015, no questionnaires were accepted, and analysis started. As questionnaires came in they were organized by state. The questionnaires were kept in a safe for security purposes, as required by the IRB. The process and techniques for the data analysis are discussed below.

Data Analysis

The Prison Animal Program Questionnaire had two different types of questions: fixed-response and open-ended, and two different analysis methods were used. Those questions that were fixed-responses and open-response that dealt with numbers were analyzed quantitatively. Those questions that were open-ended questions with written responses not dealing with numbers were analyzed qualitatively. The questionnaire consisted of 37 questions (many of which had contingency/follow up questions if a specific answer was chosen). The questions were broken into two sections for analysis: quantitative analysis and qualitative analysis (see Table 1: Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of Questions). Excel was used to code the quantitative answers, based on the selected choice given. Once all of the answers had been input, a total for each selected answer was created. This was done by using the $SUM=(x, y)$ equation in Excel for each response type of each of the questions. There were a few questions that required an

average to be calculated. The equation AVERAGE=(x, y) in Excel was used. There were a few responses that needed to be converted so that an average could be calculated.

Table 1

Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of Questions

Questions Analyzed Quantitatively	Questions Analyzed Quantitatively Continued	Questions Answered Qualitatively
2	19	1
3	20, 20a	8
4, 4a	21, 21a	9a
5	22, 22a	16a
6	23	17a
7	24	23a
9	25	24a
10	26	25a
11	27	26
12	28	27a
13	29	28a
14	30	29a
15, 15a	31, 31a	31a
16	32, 32a	33a
17	33	34
18	35	36a

For those questions that required qualitative analysis, the answers were coded based on the responses given, and major themes emerged, which will be discussed in the results section. Each questionnaire was read through several times to make sure that no themes were missed and the themes found were accurate (the researcher did not misinterpret what was written). A family member (who has no personal knowledge or experience with prison-based animal programs) also looked through the questionnaires and responses to make sure that the same themes were found, and that the responses were not misinterpreted. This research did not require the use of inferential statistics or any statistical tests. This research required only descriptive analysis.

Many questionnaires were returned by mail or email and I was contacted by some participants over the phone. I received 129 responses out of the 302 that were mailed resulting in a response rate of 42.7 percent (see Figure 1: Response Rate for Study). Out of those 129 responses, 63 questionnaires were completed for programs from 55 facilities (18.2%) of the sample population. There was only one questionnaire that could not be included in the analysis because it was received at the end of January 2015, after the data collection period had closed. That brings the total responses for analysis to 62 questionnaires (coming from 54 facilities, and 27 states). Out of those 129 received responses, 74 commented that the facility did not have a prison-based animal program. Responses were not received from 173 facilities, of which 10 facilities had an animal program, but did not fill out a questionnaire. Those facilities were considered as non-response, since they did not participate in the study. I did not hear any response from 163 of the facilities that were mailed a questionnaire (53.97%). Three of the states did not respond due to DOC approval not being granted (one denied approval, and two could not send applications because of the deadline – their review period did not fall within this study’s time frame). It is unknown why other states did not respond to the questionnaire. More of this topic will be mentioned in the discussion section, after the results of those questionnaire returned are discussed.

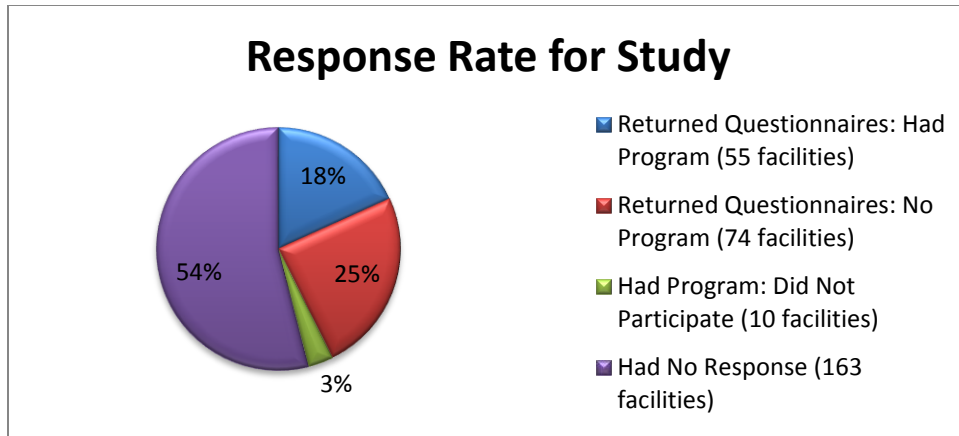


Figure 1. Response Rate for Study. The total sample size was 302 facilities. The different types of responses were categorized (returned questionnaires that had a program, returned questionnaires that had no program, had program but did not participate, and did not respond).

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

Results

Program Profiles

The analysis for this study included 62 completed questionnaires, from 54 different facilities. Having more questionnaires returned than there were facilities represented, meant that there are some facilities operating more than one prison-based animal program (PAP). The first question asked was what the name of the program was. Sixty-one respondents filled out the program name, and there were only five program names that were repeated, encompassing 15 questionnaires (24.19 percent of sample). Even though some of the questionnaires shared the same program name, they were treated as different programs since the other characteristics were different. This means that even though the programs share the same name they were not operated in the same manner. The program names that were repeated more than once were: Paws in Prison (n = 5), Canine Partners for Life (n = 3), New Leash on Life (n = 3), Paws 4 People (n = 2), and Pups on Parole (n = 2). The other 46 programs had different names (75.41% of sample). Out of the 62 responses that were returned from 54 facilities included in the analysis, there were 27 states represented (see Table 2: Returned Questionnaires Based on the 27 States Represented). There were programs from almost every region within the United States: Pacific, Rocky Mountain, Southwest, Northeast, Southeast, and Midwest (see Appendix I: State Response Rates for Prison Animal Program Questionnaire). The

only region not represented was the noncontiguous states of Alaska and Hawaii. The majority of the questionnaires came from the Southeast (n = 28) and Midwest (n = 14). The rest of the questionnaires came from the Rocky Mountains (n = 7), Southwest (n = 6), Pacific (n = 4), and the Northeast (n = 3).

Table 2

Returned Questionnaires Based on the 27 States Represented

States	Number of Responses (n)
Arkansas	5
California	2
Florida	2
Idaho	3
Indiana	2
Iowa	2
Louisiana	1
Maine	1
Maryland	9
Missouri	1
Montana	1
Nebraska	1
Nevada	3
North Carolina	3
North Dakota	1
Ohio	5
Oklahoma	1
Oregon	1
Pennsylvania	1
Rhode Island	1
South Carolina	4
South Dakota	1
Texas	5
Virginia	1
Washington	1
West Virginia	3
Wisconsin	1
Grand Total	62

Basic demographics. Fifty-nine programs gave the year that the program was implemented; with the average number of years that the programs have been implemented at 6.40 years. The program years ranged from 1848 to 2014 (see Figure 2: The Years Programs were Implemented). One program responded “forever”, which was excluded from the question analysis, and two programs did not respond. Many of the programs responded that they were used at more than one location. Out of 61 responses, 33 answered yes that the program was used at more than one location (54.10%), and 28 answered that the program was not used at more than one location (45.90%). The average number of facilities that a program was used at was 6.40, ranging from two facilities to 21 different facilities. Only one of the 33 responses that answered yes was excluded from this specific analysis because the response stated “few”.

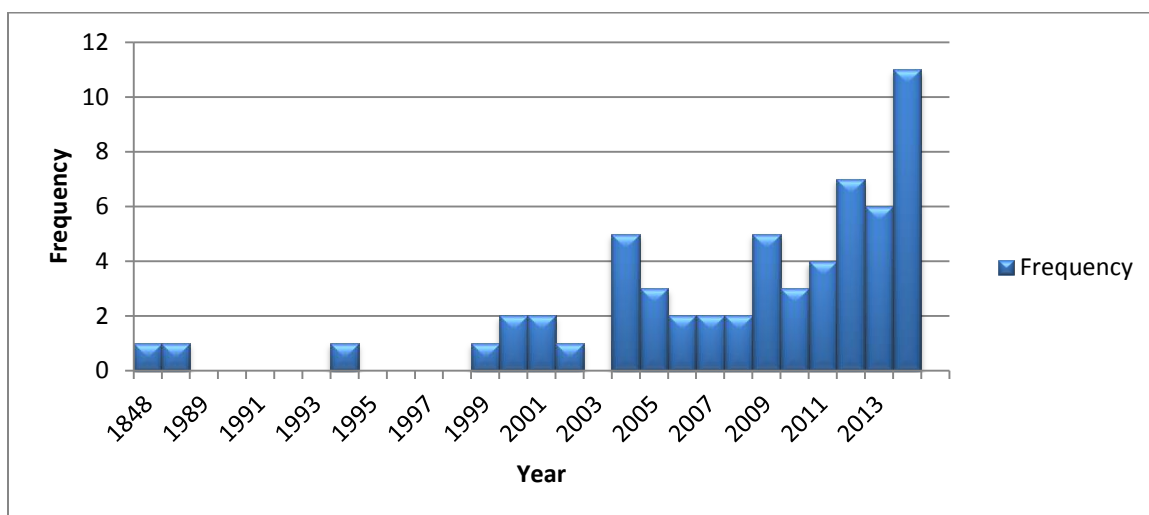


Figure 2: The Years Programs were Implemented.

Animals associated with prison-based animal programs. The next variable to be looked at was the type of animal used for the program. All of the programs responded to the question and there were five programs that identified more than one animal. The

majority of respondents answered dogs ($n = 58$), followed by cats ($n = 3$), horses ($n = 3$), farm animals ($n = 3$), and other ($n = 2$) (see Figure 3: Types of Animals Used). The two responses that picked “other” stated that birds and tortoises were used. For the five programs that picked more than one animal, two combined horses and farm animals, two combined cats and dogs, and only one combined dogs, cats, horses, and farm animals.

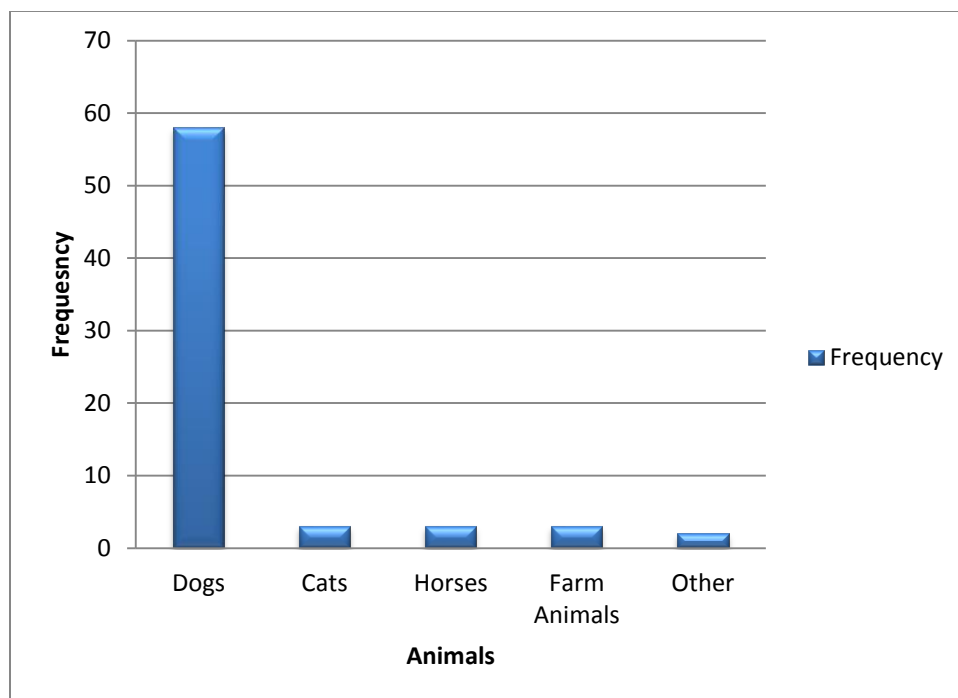


Figure 3: Types of Animals Used.

Program types. All 62 programs provided the design type used. The most common types of programs used were the community service programs ($n = 34$), service animal socialization programs ($n = 28$), and multimodal design programs ($n = 20$). The rest followed as pet adoption programs ($n = 12$), visitation programs ($n = 5$), other ($n = 5$), counseling programs ($n = 1$), and livestock care programs ($n = 1$) (see Figure 4: Types of Programs Used). Since the third most common program was multimodal designs (n

=20), many responses picked more than one type of program. The most common programs used in multimodal designs were community service programs (n = 16) followed by service animal socialization programs (n = 12), and vocational programs (n = 10). The other programs used in multimodal designs were pet adoption (n = 10), visitation programs (n = 4), livestock care programs (n = 1) counseling programs (n = 1), and other (n = 1). None picked wildlife rehabilitation program as an available program. Four responses picked the “other” category which included food production (n = 1), perimeter control (n = 1), tortoise rehabilitation (n = 1), production agriculture (n = 1), and mental health inmates take care of birds (n = 1).

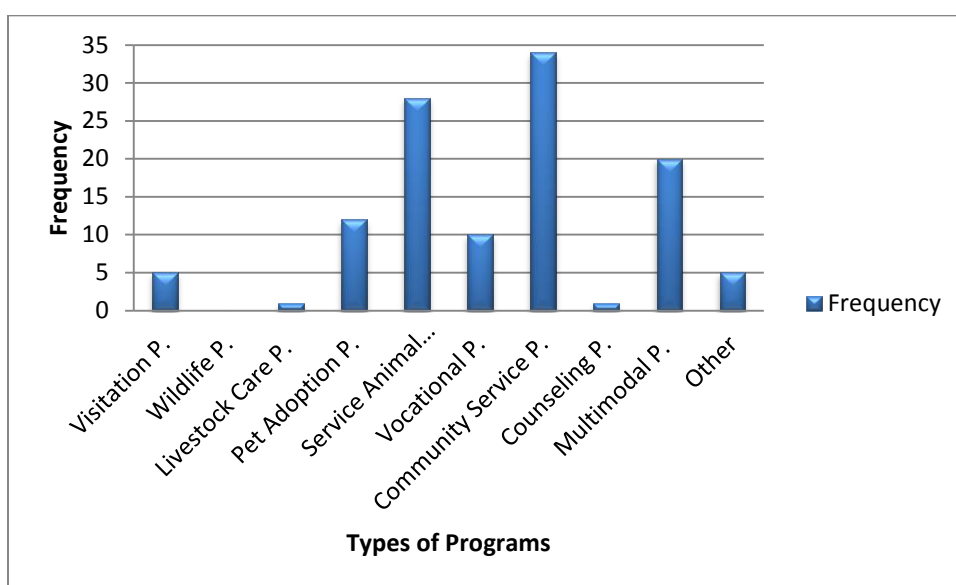


Figure 4: Types of Programs Used.

Animal participants. After having established the type of animal and type of program, the next variable looked at was the number of animals used. The most common number of animals used ranged between 15 or more (n = 22), followed by 1-5 (n = 18), 6-10 (n = 13), and 11-15 (n = 9) (see Figure 5: Number of Animals Used).

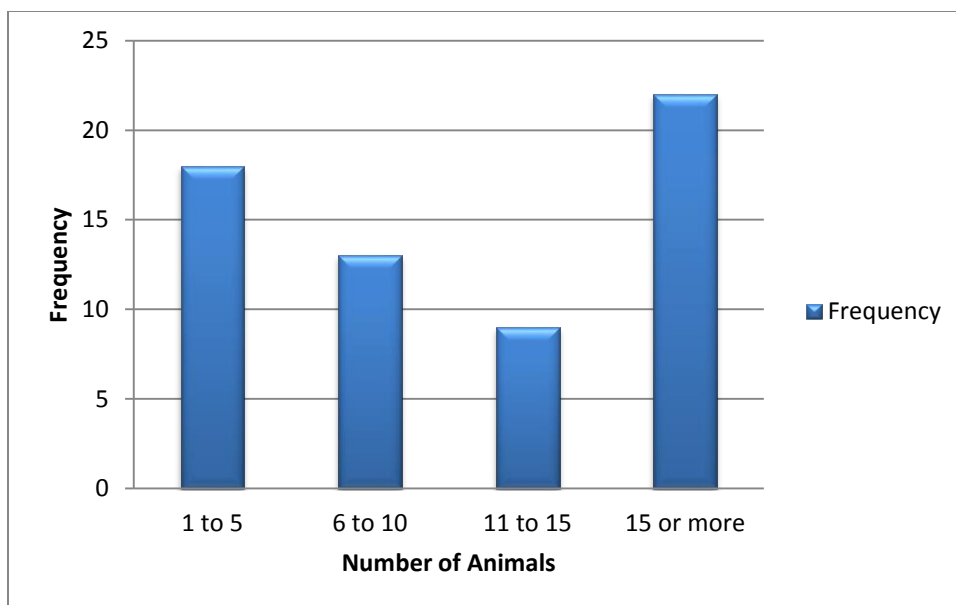


Figure 5: Number of Animals Used.

After having established how many animals were used, who provided the animals was looked at next, with sixty-two programs responding to the question (see Table 3: Who Provides the Animals). The most common answer was organizations/rescue groups /protective services/networks ($n = 37$), followed by shelters/pounds/humane societies/animal control ($n = 27$). The rest of the answers were private owners ($n = 4$), nonprofits ($n = 3$), raised at facility ($n = 1$), breeder ($n = 1$), and purchased ($n = 1$). There were many respondents that received animals from more than one type, which is why the numbers sum to more than 62. There were 12 programs that listed getting animals from more than one place.

Table 3

Who Provides the Animals?

Origins of Animals	Frequency (n)	Cumulative Frequency	%	Cumulative %
Organizations/ Rescue Groups/ Protective Services/ Networks	37	37	50.00	50.00
Shelters/ Pounds/ Humane Society/ Animal Control	27	64	36.49	86.49
Private Owners	4	68	5.41	91.89
Non-profit	3	71	4.05	95.95
Raised at Facility	1	72	1.35	97.30
Breeder	1	73	1.35	98.65
Purchased	1	74	1.35	100.00
Grand Total	74		100.00	

How many animals participated overall was then analyzed. There were four programs that did not respond to the question, and five responses that were taken out of the analysis because the response stated unknown. The average number of animals that had participated in the program out of 53 responses was 158.3, and ranged from two to 1,200.

Inmate participants. The number of inmates who had participated in the program overall was also analyzed. Out of 62 programs, four did not respond, and six were not included in the analysis because the respondent stated unknown, which left the number of programs analyzed for the question at 52. The average number of inmates who had participated in the program was 85.5, and ranged from five to 600. There was also a question asking if the inmates work with the same animal each session. Forty-seven

programs stated yes to this question (75.81%), and 15 programs stated no (24.19%). Out of the 15 “no” responses, all provided an answer to how many different animals the participants work with. The majority picked 1-5 (n= 10), with the others following as 6-10 (n = 3), and 11 or more (n = 2).

Sex and age of participants. The sex of the inmate participants was also analyzed. All 62 programs responded, but nine questionnaires responded that both male and females participated in the program. Males accounted for 38 programs (61.29% of sample), and females accounted for 15 programs (24.19 % of sample), and there were nine programs that responded both (14.75% of sample). The age of the inmate participants was looked at next. Fifty-eight programs responded to the question, and there were 10 programs that picked more than one answer. The most common age of inmates was 34-41 (n = 33), followed by 26-33 (n = 27), 42 or older (n = 12), 19-25 (n = 6), and younger than 18 (n = 4) (see Figure 6: Age of Participants). For those 10 programs that picked more than one answer, the most common was that all ages were included (n = 4), followed by just 26-33/ 34-42 (n = 2), 26-33/ 34-41/ 42 or older (n = 2), 3-42 /42 or older (n = 1), and 26-33/ 42 or older (n = 1).

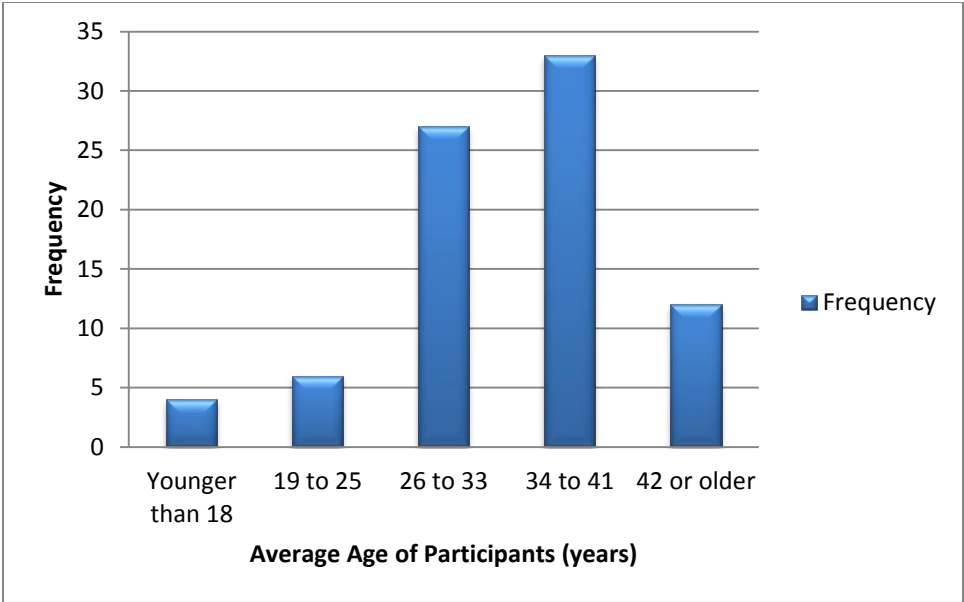


Figure 6: Age of Participants

Number of participants. The number of participants at a given time was also analyzed. All 62 programs responded to the question. The most common number of participants at a given time was 11-20 (n = 19, 30.65%), followed by 1-10 (n = 18, 29.03%), 41 or more (n = 14, 22.58%), 21-30 (n = 7, 11.29%), and 31-40 (n = 4, 6.45%) (see Figure 7: Number of Participants).

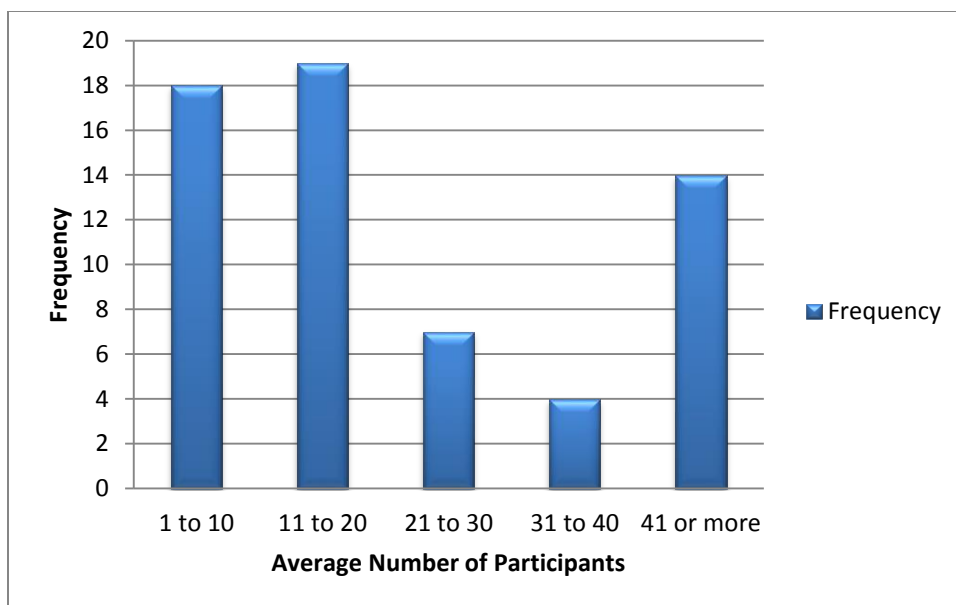


Figure 7: Number of Participants.

Inmates discharge from programs. The questionnaire also asked about any inmates who were discharged from the program. Out of the 62 responses, two did not respond, five answered zero, and seven were excluded from the analysis because they responded unknown. That left 48 programs for the analysis of how many inmates have been removed from the program. Of the 48 programs where inmates had to be removed the average was 37.1, and ranged from one to 470. The questionnaire then asked what the reasons were for being removed (see Table 4: Reasons Participants were removed from Programs). The seven programs that answered “unknown” for the number of inmates removed from the program, still provided responses to what the reasons were, and were included in the analysis of reasons. Eight programs did not give a response to the reasons why inmates were removed from the program, leaving 54 programs for analysis. Thirteen of the 54 programs only picked one behavioral misconduct answer; the rest picked more than one reason. The most common reason that inmates were removed from the program

were behavioral misconduct (n = 49), followed by left the facility (n = 38), lost interest (n = 14), other (n = 10), and medical reasons (n = 9). Out of the 10 programs that responded “other”, six programs did not elaborate, two stated that the inmates had been released, one stated the inmate could not follow instructions, and the last stated the inmate went into work release.

Table 4

Reasons Participants were removed from Programs

Reasons for Participant Discharge	Frequency (n)	Cumulative Frequency	%	Cumulative %
Behavioral Misconduct	49	49	40.83	40.83
Left the Facility	38	87	31.67	72.50
Lost Interest	14	101	11.67	84.17
Other	10	111	8.33	92.50
Medical Reasons	9	120	7.50	100.00
Grand Total	120		100.00	

Program timing. The first question about timing asked about the approximate number of hours per day that inmates participated with the animals. All 62 programs answered the question with the most common answer being 18-24 (n = 40, 64.51%). The next most common answer was 7-12 hours (n = 10, 16.13%), followed by 1-6 hours (n = 6, 9.68%), and 13-18 hours (n = 6, 9.68%) (see Figure 8: Average time participants interact with the animals).

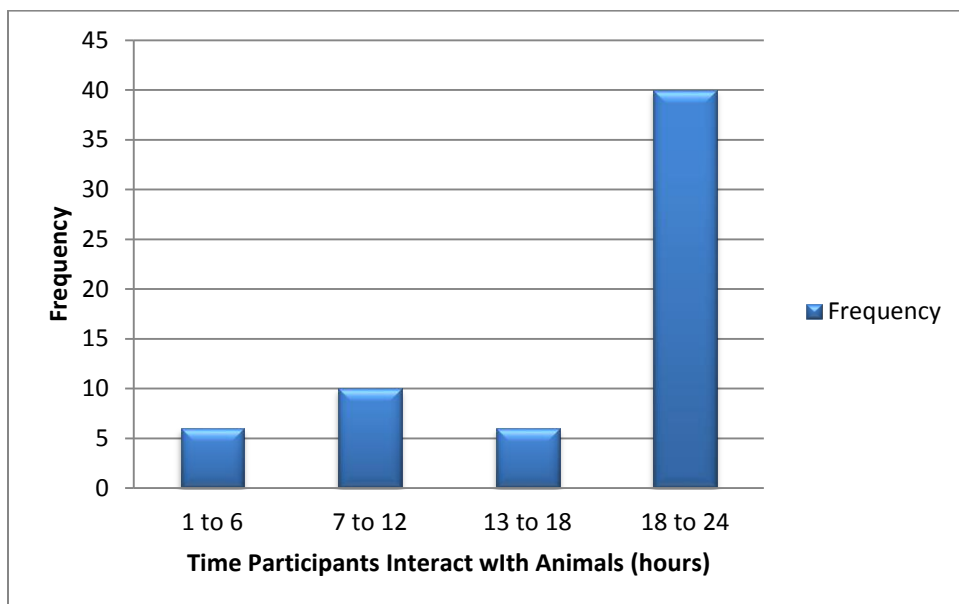


Figure 8: Average time participants interact with the animals.

Then the number of times per week the program holds sessions was analyzed. Sixty-one programs responded to the question. The most common answer was 1-2 (n = 32, 52.46%), followed by 7 or more (n = 19, 31.15%), 5-6 (n = 7, 11.48%), and 3-4 (n = 3, 4.91%) (see Figure 9: Number of Program Sessions per Week).

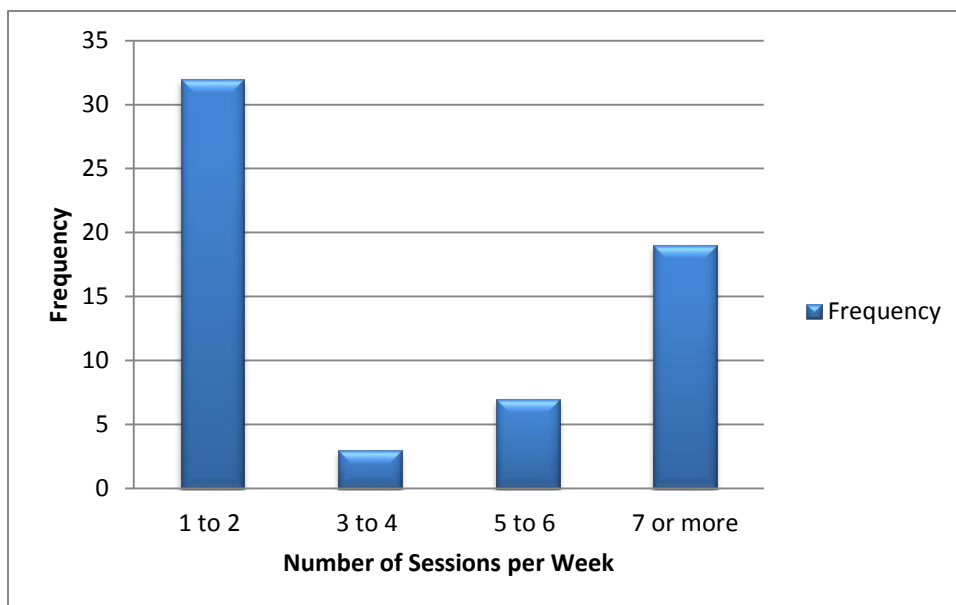


Figure 9: Number of Program Sessions per Week.

It was also asked if there was a maximum length of time that inmates can remain in the program. All 62 programs responded to the question, with eight answering yes (12.90 percent) and 54 programs answering no (87.10 percent). Out of the eight programs that responded yes, only seven elaborated and gave an amount of time. The average length of time that inmates could participate in the program was two years, with the answers ranging from .58 years to three years.

Program Funding

If the programs collected any fees was the first question about program funding. Sixteen programs responded yes to collecting fees (26.23%), and 45 programs responded no to collecting fees (73.77%). There was only one program that did not respond to the question. Out of the 16 programs that responded yes, all of them gave a response to from whom and how much. The most common response given was that the program collects a

percentage fee from adoption (n = 7). The price of the fee ranged from: \$300 (n = 1), \$160 (n = 1), \$150 (n = 3), \$100 (n = 1), and \$75 (n = 1). There was one response that stated that \$125 was collected for shots and neutering. Two responses stated that fees were collected from the owners.

Program affiliates. The next question asked if there were any nonprofit organizations or other non-DOC agencies that were affiliated with the program. All 62 programs answered, with 41 stating yes there was a different organization (66.13%), and 21 stating no there was not an organization (33.87%). Out of the 41 programs that answered yes, all provided the organization, with five providing more than one organization. Twenty responses stated that shelters/ protective services/ humane societies were involved, 13 responses stated that a foundation/ organization was involved, six responses stated that a disability service/service dog/therapy dog/guide dog was involved. Five responses stated that dog rescues were involved. Two responses stated that a veterinarian clinic was involved in the program.

Other funding. The last question regarding funding just asked if there was any other type of funding available for the program. Fifty-one programs responded, with 21 programs answering yes to there being other funding (41.18%) and 30 programs answering no to there not being other funding (58.82%). Out of the 21 programs that responded yes to there being other funding, 20 answered from whom, and one did not elaborate. There were four that responded that funding came from more than one source. The most common source of funding was donations (n = 9), followed by grants (n = 5), fund-raising (n = 4), state funding (n = 4), shelter-provided (n = 1), and sponsors (n = 1).

Pre-Participation

The first question analyzed looking at pre-participation was if there was a waiting list for the program. Sixty-one programs responded to the question, with 39 programs stating yes (63.90%), and 22 programs stating no (36.10%). Out of the 39 programs that responded that there was a waiting list, only 12 responses could be analyzed in terms of a specific time or number of inmates. The average time for a waiting list was three months ($n = 7$), or the average number of inmates on a waiting list was 18 ($n = 5$). There were three responses that stated unknown, and there were four that either stated next class ($n = 1$), next opening ($n = 1$), depends ($n = 1$), and varies ($n = 1$).

The questionnaire also asked if inmates were interviewed before the program. Fifty-nine (95.16%) programs answered yes and only three (4.84%) programs answered no to not interviewing inmates before the start of the program. Out of the 59 programs that responded that they interviewed the inmates, 45 respondents gave an answer to who conducted the interview, with 14 programs not responding to who interviews the inmates. Many of the questionnaires gave more than one response for who interviewed the inmates before the starting the program. The most common individuals to interview inmates were the program supervisor/ manager/ coordinator ($n = 18$). The second most common was the program staff ($n = 11$), followed by the agency's facilitator/manager/director ($n = 9$) in third. The other responses included: the housing unit manager ($n = 8$), a dog trainer ($n = 4$), a case manager ($n = 3$), a classification committee ($n = 3$), organization staff/volunteers ($n = 3$), the program counselor ($n = 2$), the warden ($n = 2$), custody staff ($n = 2$), social worker/psychiatrist ($n = 2$), K-9 officer receiving dog ($n = 1$), veterinarian ($n = 1$), and DOC staff ($n = 1$). It was also asked who selects the inmates for participation

in the program. All 62 programs responded to the question. There were many programs that gave more than one response. The most common individuals to select the inmates for the program were: program manager/director (n = 16), program staff (n = 15), interview committee (n = 12), program/unit coordinator (n = 9), the warden (n = 4), certified dog trainer (n = 4), case management (n = 3), inmate volunteers (n = 3), the sponsor (n = 3), program facilitator (n = 3), program counselor (n = 2), K-9 officer (n = 2), DOC (n = 2), a lieutenant (n = 2), the nonprofit agencies custody (n = 1), the shelter (n = 1), the housing unit manager (n = 1), the institution liaison (n = 1), and an occupational therapy manager (n = 1).

An overwhelming majority of the programs responded that there is no psychological survey instrument used before the program start (n = 60, 96.78%). There was only one program that did use a psychological survey instrument before the start of the program (1.61%), and one program did not respond (1.61%).

A majority of respondents stated that an inmate's crime makes them ineligible for the program (n = 54, 87.10%), and only eight responded that an inmate's crime did not make them ineligible for the program (12.90% of sample). All programs that responded yes (n = 54), answered the follow up question of what types of crimes made an inmate ineligible for the program, many providing more than one response (see Table 5: Types of Crimes that made Inmates' Ineligible for Participation). Many programs responded with more than one crime. The most common crime that made inmate's ineligible for the program was animal abuse/cruelty to animals/bestiality (n= 41), followed by sex offenses (n = 27), and then cruelty to children/child abuse (n = 17). The next answers were domestic violence (n = 11), violent offenses (n = 6), elderly abuse (n = 5), escape history

(n = 2), must be minimum security to participate (n = 2), stalking (n = 1), aggravated offenses (n = 1), and excessive sentences (n = 1).

Table 5

Types of Crimes that made Inmates' Ineligible for Participation

Types of Crimes for Ineligibility	Frequency (n)	Cumulative Frequency	%	Cumulative %
Animal Abuse/ Cruelty to Animals/ Bestiality	41	41	35.96	35.96
Sex Offenses/ PC 290 Within 10 Days	27	68	23.68	59.65
Cruelty to Children/ Child Abuse	17	85	14.91	74.56
Domestic Violence	11	96	9.65	84.21
Violent Offenses	6	102	5.26	89.47
Elderly Abuse/ Crimes Against Vulnerable Adults	5	107	4.39	93.86
Must be Minimum Security to Participate	2	109	1.75	95.61
Escape History	2	111	1.75	97.37
Excessive Sentences	1	112	0.88	98.25
Aggravated Offenses	1	113	0.88	99.12
Stalking	1	114	0.88	100.00
Grand Total	114		100.00	

The majority of programs responded that there are eligibility requirements for the program. Fifty-six programs (n = 94.92%) responded affirmatively to this question. Three programs (5.08%) responded that there are no eligibility requirements for the program, and three programs did not respond to the question. Out of the programs that did respond yes, 53 elaborated, and three did not elaborate on the follow up question. Many of the programs responded with more than one answer. Out of the programs that did elaborate, the most common eligibility requirements was good behavior/attitude/infraction free (n = 40), followed by the length of stay (n = 26), being level I, minimum/medium security (n = 13), mentally and physically fit (n = 10), GED/high school diploma (n = 8), job within

facility (n = 4), pass a class or test (n = 4), been at facility for a certain time (n = 4), no gang affiliation/ threat group (n = 2), volunteer/interest in program (n = 2), comply with DOC rules/regulations (n = 1), anger management class completion (n = 1), completed offender re-entry program (n = 1), and previous experience (n = 1).

Surprisingly only 26 programs responded that inmates are trained before participating in the program (42.00%), 35 programs responded that inmates are not trained before the program (56.45%) and one program did not respond to the question (1.61%) (see Figure 10: Programs that Train Inmates before Participation). Out of the 26 programs that responded that inmates were trained before the program, 21 programs named what the training was, and five did not elaborate on the training. The most common type of training was through the use of training materials (n = 7), followed by dog obedience training with a certified trainer (n = 6), shadowing current inmate trainer (n = 6), dog handling/safety (n = 5), ongoing handler training (n = 4), and an orientation (n = 1).

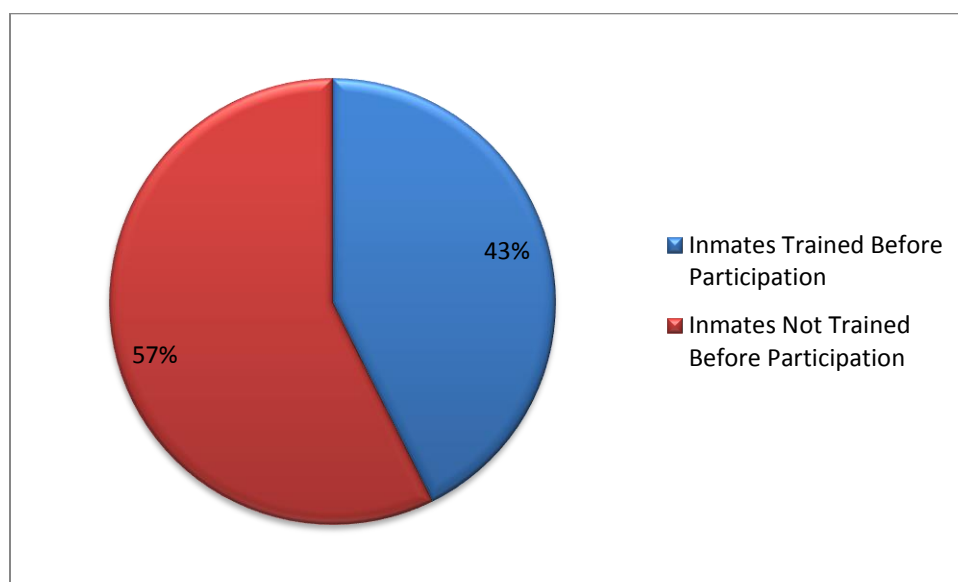


Figure 10: Programs that Train Inmates before Participation.

Post-Participation

It was asked if there was a survey used after inmates completed the program, and only three programs responded yes (4.84%). The rest of the programs responded no (n = 58, 93.55%), and only one program did not respond to the question (1.61 percent). Out of the three programs that responded yes to using a survey after completion of the program, only two responded to the follow up question of what the instrument was. One stated that a survey about the program was used. The other stated that tracking inmate's records for recidivism was used. Even though it is not considered a survey, it does show that follow up evaluation is taken after the program.

Out of 61 programs, 19 programs (31.15%) responded that a type of vocational certificate can be received after the program, and 42 programs (68.85%) responded that no vocational certificate is received. All 19 responses elaborated on the type of vocational certificate that participants could receive. The two most common types of certificates are a Department of Labor apprenticeship (n = 5) and a certificate of completion (n = 5). The third most common was a certificate from a University (n = 4), followed by a grooming certificate (n = 2), dog training certificate (n = 1), a national certificate (n = 1), and a dog rehabilitation certificate (n = 1). The questionnaire also asked if any previous participants who had been released are now working with animals. Sixty-one responses answered this question with 34 programs (55.73%) stating yes, and 27 programs (44.27%) stating no. Out of the 34 programs that responded yes, 32 elaborated on how many inmates. However three programs responded with "unknown" so they were not included in the calculations. Out of 29 programs, the average number of inmates who have been released and are working with animals is six, with the numbers

ranging from one to 30. It was asked if the program had a referral service or links to jobs for inmates upon release. Only nine out of 60 programs responded yes (15.00%). The other 51 programs responded no (85.00%). Even though nine programs answered yes to having a referral service, only six elaborated on how many inmates have used the referral service. Three programs stated unknown, two stated no participant had used the service, and one program stated that four participants had used the referral service.

Positive and Negatives

Participants were asked if they would recommend the program to another prison, and an overwhelming majority responded yes ($n = 61$, 98.39%). There was one program that responded that they would not recommend the program (1.61%). The one response that did not recommend the program elaborated by saying that the program was not as efficient as having electric fences because it cost too much having dogs that were trained in the facility patrol the perimeter. The participants were then asked how the program benefits the participants (both inmates and animals) in an open-ended question. Sixty out of the 62 programs responded, all giving more than one answer (see Table 6: Benefits to Participants of Prison-Based Animal Programs). The most common type of benefit to the participants was that the program teaches inmates skills ($n = 51$), followed by the animals are more adoptable/trained/socialized ($n = 17$), and that inmates give back to the community/someone/veterans ($n = 17$). The other responses follow: inmate behavior improves/less stress/stays out of trouble ($n = 15$), saves animals from being euthanized ($n = 11$), makes inmates more loving and empathetic ($n = 6$), gives inmates the feeling of unconditional love and companionship ($n = 5$), fills a need for inmates to love and nurture ($n = 3$), mentally rewarding ($n = 3$), dogs receive love and companionship ($n = 3$),

program is restorative justice (n = 2), provides work opportunities (n = 2), physical activity (n = 1), and reduces operation cost (n = 1).

Table 6

Benefits to Participants of Prison-Based Animal Programs

Benefits to the Participants	Frequency (n)	Cumulative Frequency	%	Cumulative %
Teaches Inmates Skills	51	51	37.23	37.23
Animals are More Adoptable/Trained/ Socialized	17	68	12.41	49.64
Inmates Give Back to Community/Someone Else/ Veterans	17	85	12.41	62.04
Inmate Behavior Improves from Less Stress/ Stay Out of Trouble	15	100	10.95	72.99
Saves Animals from Being Euthanized	11	111	8.03	81.02
Makes Inmates More Empathetic/ Loving	6	117	4.38	85.40
Gives Inmates the Feeling of Unconditional Love/ Companionship	5	122	3.65	89.05
Mentally Rewarding	3	125	2.19	91.24
Dogs Receive Love and Companionship	3	128	2.19	93.43
Fills a Need for Inmates to Love and Nurture	3	131	2.19	95.62
Restorative Justice	2	133	1.46	97.08
Provide Work Opportunity	2	135	1.46	98.54
Physical Activity	1	136	0.73	99.27
Reduces Operation Costs	1	137	0.73	100.00
Grand Total	137		100.00	

It was then asked if the program benefited the institution. All 62 programs responded that the program did benefit the institution (see Figure 11: Responses to the Question: Does the Program Benefit the Institution).

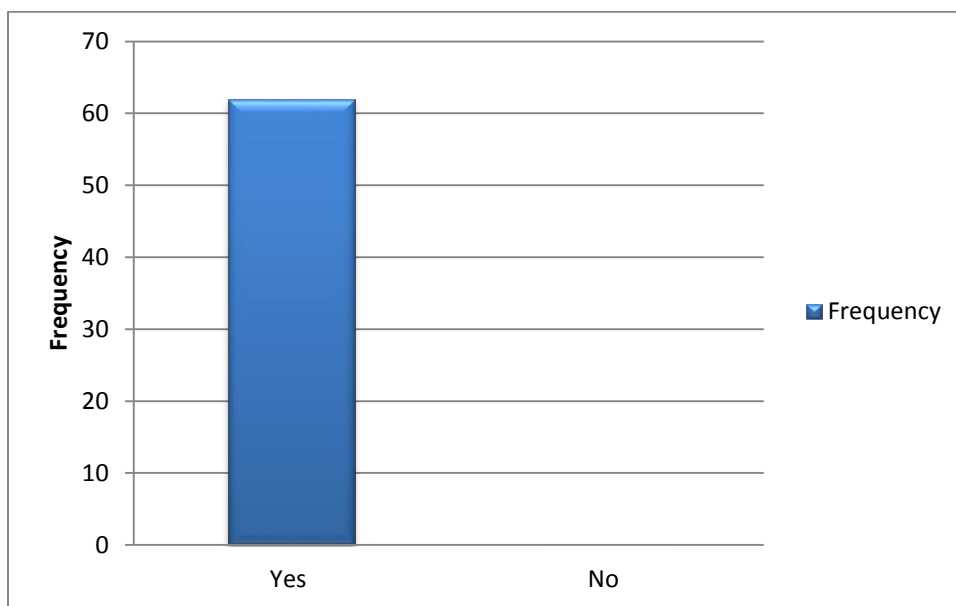


Figure 11: Responses to the Question: Does the Program Benefit the Institution

Respondents were then given a list of benefits to pick from; the majority picked more than one answer (see Table 7: Benefits to the Institutions). The most common benefit was better self-control of the inmates (n = 58), followed by less stress for the inmates (n = 54). The third most common was connection to the community (n = 40), and less stress for staff (n = 40), followed by income from program (n = 8), lower medication usage for participants (n = 7), and “other” (n = 7). Out of the seven responses that selected “other” the responses were food production, prevents escapes, sets standards for other inmates, helps mental health of inmates, helps the public and family perceptions of the institution, connects inmates and staff, and creates an honor program for the institution.

Table 7

Benefits to the Institutions

Benefits to the Institutions	Frequency (n)	Cumulative Frequency	%	Cumulative %
Better Self-Control of the Inmates	58	58	26.61	26.61
Less Stress for the Inmates	54	112	24.77	51.38
Connection to Community	44	156	20.18	71.56
Less Stress for the Staff	40	196	18.35	89.91
Income from the Program	8	204	3.67	93.58
Other	7	211	3.21	96.79
Lower Medication Usage for Participants	7	218	3.21	100.00
Grand Total	218		100.00	

The last question asked if there were any negative aspects to the program. Fifty-nine programs responded with only 15 stating yes, there are negative aspects (25.42%), and 44 stating no, there are no negative aspects (74.58%). Out of the 15 programs that stated yes to there being negative aspects of the program, all elaborated, some giving more than one answer (see Table 8: Negative Aspects to Prison-Based Animal Programs). The most common negative aspect was that the staff or inmates were afraid of dogs or just did not like dogs (n = 6), followed by the program being staff intensive (n = 5), and security concerns (n = 4). The rest of the responses included misuse of program (n = 3), expensive (n = 1), hard on dogs/they get bored (n = 1), drama occurring from program (n = 1), unfunded (n = 1), limited space (n = 1), housing challenges (n = 1), allergies (n = 1), and cleaning up after dogs (n = 1).

Table 8

Negative Aspects to Prison-Based Animal Programs

Negative Aspects to the Programs	Frequency (n)	Cumulative Frequency	%	Cumulative %
Staff or Inmates Afraid of Dogs/ Don't Like Dogs	6	6	23.08	23.08
Staff Intensive (Don't Want to Babysit)	5	11	19.23	42.31
Security Concerns (Dog Bites)	4	15	15.38	57.69
Misuse of Program	3	18	11.54	69.23
Expensive	1	19	3.85	73.08
Limited Space	1	20	3.85	76.92
Drama Occurring from Program	1	21	3.85	80.77
Cleaning Up After Dogs	1	22	3.85	84.62
Unfunded	1	23	3.85	88.46
Hard on Dogs/ They Get Bored	1	24	3.85	92.31
Allergies	1	25	3.85	96.15
Housing Challenges	1	26	3.85	100.00
Grand Total	26		100.00	

Participants were given the option to write additional comments about the program. Twenty programs responded with additional comments. The most common comment was that the program has a positive effect on the institution (n = 7), followed by the program has a positive effect on everyone who plays a role (n = 6). Other comments included that the program was great for the community (n = 3), inmates now have self-pride and a purpose/direction (n = 3), the program is very successful based on the number of animals adopted/service working (n = 2), benefits mental health of inmates (n = 1), the program tries to get the security dogs out to play (n = 1), great program (n = 1), doesn't cost the facility anything (n = 1), saves dogs (n = 1), looking to expand (n = 1), dogs are cycled through facilities to get experience with other handlers (n = 1), inmates are finally working together (n = 1), inmates request transfer to facility just to participate in the

program (n = 1), and there is not enough data to see if programs are helping recidivism rates (n = 1).

Discussion

To recap, this study was conducted to gain knowledge on the characteristics of current prison-based animal programs (PAPs) across the nation. The research question was: What are the characteristics of prison-based animal programs currently in use across the nation? A pre-alert postcard and a questionnaire with a cover-letter were sent to 302 correctional facilities across the nation. The sample was selected using a stratified random sampling method (see Appendix A: Sampling Frame). The study yielded 129 responses (42.72% of sample population). Seventy-four facilities responded that they did not have a program. The other 55 facilities responded with 63 questionnaires. There was one program that was excluded from the analysis because it was received after the data collection period had ended. That brought the total data for analysis to 62 questionnaires from 54 facilities (17.88% of the 302 sampled facilities). The results of the data analysis were categorized into five categories: program profiles, funding, pre-participation, post-participation, and negatives and positives. The main findings and discussion about them are presented below.

The 62 programs represented 27 different states (See Appendix I: State Response Rate for Prison Animal Program Questionnaire). The regions of the United States that were represented in the data were: the Pacific, Rocky Mountain, Southwest, Northeast, Southeast, and Midwest. The majority of the questionnaires came from the Southeast (n = 28) and the Midwest (n = 14). Both of those regions had eight states represented, equaling 16 states out of the 27 states that were represented in the study. This could suggest that PAPs are used more often in the Southeast and Midwest regions of the

United States. This could be because the correctional facilities in those areas are more open to using such rehabilitative techniques. It is also possible that the sample participants in those regions were more willing to participate in the study.

When the programs were implemented was very revealing. The program years ranged from 1848 to 2014, with the average number of years a program has existed at 6.40 years. This suggests that many of the programs in the sample have been implemented in the past six years. Since 2006, 38 new programs have been implemented across the nation out of the 62 programs analyzed. This supports the idea that programs have been increasing since 2006. Many of the programs that were included in this analysis were implemented since 2009. It would have been interesting to compare the 74 responses that there was no program in terms of location. This could show the regions that do not operate PAPs yet. However the majority did not write their location, so it is unknown what state the facilities were in.

Since 2006, more states have implemented prison-based animal programs. According to Furst (2006), "Of the 46 states that participated, 10 states' surveys indicated no PAPs were being administered: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Utah" (p. 417). If those states are compared with the results from the current study, there are a few that now operate PAPs: Arkansas, Maine, Mississippi, and Rhode Island. This shows that prison-based animal programs have been expanding since 2006 even to those states that use to not have any PAPs. This current study also shows that prison-based animal programs have been expanding even in those states that had PAPs in 2006. Furst (2006) found that Maryland had one program, North Carolina had two, West Virginia had one, Florida had

one, Nevada had two, and Idaho had one (pp. 418-419). For this current study, Maryland had nine programs, North Carolina had three programs, West Virginia had three programs, Florida had two programs, Nevada had three programs, and Idaho had three programs. The only state that did not increase in the number of PAPs was Ohio, where this study found five programs, but the 2006 study found 10. This does not mean that Ohio has decreased the number of PAPs in operation, only that this study received questionnaires from fewer facilities. It is still possible that Ohio operates more PAPs, but that those facilities were not part of the sample, or did not participate in the study. This study also found that Texas responded with 5 programs, but was missing in the 2006 study. The same goes for Louisiana, which was missing in the 2006 study but responded with one program for the current study. These results support the researcher's belief that prison-based animal programs have increased in use since 2006. Even though, the number of programs overall received for this study could not support that belief, the individual state numbers makes it possible to believe there has been an increase in the implementation of PAPs.

In recent years, these types of programs are becoming more known, and more have started to show up across the nation. These newer programs also explains the wide range of inmate and animal participants overall for the programs. The range for the number of animals that have participated in PAPs was two to 1,200. The number of inmates that had participated in the programs ranged from five to 600. The implementation year for the programs can explain this difference. The longer a program has been in operation, the more participants the program is going to have. Those programs that were implemented a long time ago have higher numbers of participants.

The programs that have just recently been implemented, which have not had the time to increase participation rates, have a lower number of overall participants.

Even though the sample size for facilities with PAPs was small, that does not mean that these types of programs are not being implemented and operated across the nation. It is quite possible that out of the 163 facilities that did not respond to the study, many do operate a prison-based animal program. There are many reasons, besides not having a PAP that a facility could have had for not filling out a questionnaire. The respondent may not have been interested in participating in the study, or may not have had time to fill out the questionnaire, or may not have ever received the questionnaire. It should also be considered that by asking the wardens to fill out the questionnaires, they would not know the specific information that the questionnaire asked about. It is known for several states that the questionnaires were not filled out because DOC approval was not obtained. It is possible that there were more states that required DOC approval, but did not contact the researcher to inform me of this.

When the types of programs were analyzed the results indicated similarities to the previous national study on PAPs (Furst, 2006). The most common type of programs were community service programs, and service animal socialization programs, either as individual programs, or combined multimodal programs. This matches the results found by Furst (2006), who discovered the community service model to be the most common, followed by the service animal socialization model (pp. 418-419). This also makes sense when the literature in the field is examined. The majority of studies synthesized had been conducted on combined community service programs and service animal socialization, followed by individual community service programs and then individual service animal

socialization programs. The results for this study also indicate that the community service program was used more for individual programs, and was also the most common for multimodal designs. The second most common program used was the service animal socialization, both as an individual program and for the multimodal design. These programs could be more commonly used because they are very similar. They both have inmate participants training animals, either for adoption in the community (community service model), or specialized training (service animal socialization). In some cases for the service animal socialization programs, the animals are trained to help individuals with disabilities (blindness, autism, etc.), and are then adopted by families with someone in need. Other animals are trained as bomb dogs, or drug sniffing dogs, which are not adopted, but actually go on for more specialized training for law enforcement agencies. Both of these types of programs help not only the inmates and the animals, but also the community (either the families that adopt the animals, or the agencies that the dogs go on to work at with their specialized training). This supports the researcher's other belief that since 2006, the community service program and the service animal socialization program would still be the most popular.

Dogs are still the most common animal used in PAPs. In 2006 dogs accounted for 47 programs out of 71 programs (66.20%) (Furst, 2006, p. 420). For this current study dogs accounted for 58 programs out of 62 programs (93.55%). Dogs represented more of the current study population than the 2006 study. This could be because dogs are very popular pets, and are easy to train and handle. Of course there are other programs that use different animals. For instance, this study found a program that used tortoises, and another program that uses birds. Cats, horses, and farm animals are also found in

programs. The Furst (2006) study found programs that actually used llamas (pp. 420-421).

Since the most common programs are community service and service animal socialization, the majority of fees are collected from the adoption. Sixteen of the programs answered yes to collecting fees. This would make sense since most animal adoptions involve some type of fee. These fees can help keep the program running, so that more animals and inmates can be helped. Furst (2006) found that 20 programs collected fees from adoptions or training/service fees (p. 423). It is possible that a low number of programs stated that fees were collected, because the program/the institution were not the ones who collected the fees. Most programs that adopt animals out have the organization deal with the adoption, which would mean that the organization collected the fees, not the program or institution.

The current study found that the majority of other funding came from donations. This was also similar to the Furst (2006) study, which found that 37 programs collected donations (p. 423). This study only found that nine programs received donations. Many of these programs do not need much funding to operate because of how they are designed. The animals are provided by shelters or agencies, so the correctional facility does not need to pay for them. The only constant money that is required for the programs is the food for the animals. Some money might need to go to training inmates. However, only 26 programs indicated that inmates were trained before participating in the program. Animals are most commonly provided by rescue groups/protective services/networks/organizations, and also shelters/pounds/humane societies/animal control. These types of organizations save animals (either from being euthanized, rescued

from the streets, or rescued from abusive homes). Once the animals have been rescued they need to be rehabilitated so that they can then be adopted out. It is certainly a healthy thing to have inmates, who are doing facing their own emotional and behavioral problems, help animals with theirs.

It is interesting that programs seem to be used more in male facilities. The data in this study indicated that males ($n = 47$) participated more than females ($n = 24$), with 9 of those involving both males and female participants. This finding supported the Furst (2006) study. Furst (2006) found that 38 programs included males, 15 programs included females, and 14 programs included both males and females. Since males account for more of the prison population, there would be more programs focusing on them. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (2014b) found that in 2013 there were 1,463,454 male offenders incarcerated, but there were only 111,287 female offenders incarcerated (p. 2). That is a big difference in populations, which could account for males being more involved in PAPs.

It is important to understand how many hours a day an inmate works with animals, since it only makes sense that the more time that an inmate spends with the animal the more benefits the inmate will receive. In most cases, inmates work with the animals 24 hours a day. This is especially true for programs like the community service program and service animal socialization program, where the inmates are training the animals. Spending all day with an animal can change an inmates' mood better than if the inmate only sees the animal for one hour a week. This study found that most inmates spend 18 to 24 hours a day with the animal ($n = 40$). This is supported by Furst (2006) who also found that participants are most commonly paired with animals 24 hours a day

(n = 30) (p. 421). There are those programs where inmates do not spend all day with the animals, in which case, it is then important that the inmates remain in the programs longer. The longer an inmate remains in the program, the more benefits they will receive. This idea was supported by Gilger (2007), whose study found some support that the longer an inmate participated in the program, the higher inmates self-efficacy would be. It takes a time commitment, not only for the inmates, but for the program staff helping them. This is something that PAPs excel at. This study found that the average maximum length of time that inmates can spend in a program is two years, but ranged from over half a year to three years. This is consistent with the Furst (2006) study that found, “the length of participating ranges from 3 months to 36 months” (p. 421). The longer an inmate remains in the program the longer the benefits of the program will have to stick with the inmate.

There are certain types of crimes that do make an inmate ineligible to participate in a PAP. This study found that the most common crimes that make an offender ineligible to participate in the program were animal abuse, sex offenses and cruelty to children. This matches the Furst (2006) study that found that those three types of offenses were also the most common to make an inmate ineligible to participate in a PAP. It is interesting that these types of crimes make inmates ineligible for participation in PAPs, when they might be the ones who would most benefit from the programs. Many offenders who committed these three types of crimes were often abused themselves in childhood. There is evidence that supports the idea that abused children, and later adults can benefit from animal-assisted therapy (Parish-Plass, 2008; Balluerka et al., 2014). Even though these types of offenders could benefit from PAPs, the facility cannot risk incidents

occurring from these types of higher risk. Part of the standards of the program is that the animals are protected. There are many other inmates who would not abuse the program, than there are inmates who would abuse the program. So in order to protect the animals, but also make sure that the program stays operational and helps the participants, there are certain offenders who are not eligible because of their crimes. This is a compromise that prison-based animal programs make: Not allowing several types of offenders to participate in order to give many others the opportunity to participate.

Probably one of the biggest findings of the study was how many of the programs stated that they would recommend the program to other facilities. Out of the 62 programs, 61 stated that they would recommend the program. This shows that the prison staff and the participants in this study see the benefits of the program and believe that the programs are worth it. The only program that stated it would not recommend the program was because it was a dog patrol program. It was stated that the program cost too much compared to just using electric fences. This type of program was different than other programs. For all other types of programs, the participants recommended that the program be used at other facilities. This shows overwhelming support for prison-based animal programs. This could be because of all of the benefits that the programs identified. The programs benefit the participants (the animals and the inmates), the institution, and the community. There were many different types of benefits that were listed for the participants. The most common benefits that were mentioned were the skills that inmates are taught, the animals being more adoptable, inmates' behaviors improving, and inmates giving back to the community. The major benefits to the institution were better self-control of the inmates, less stress for the inmates and staff, and connection to the

community. The jobs of the correctional officers are made easier when the inmates are self-controlled and have less stress. This could mean less violent incidents where officers could possibly get hurt, however this was not analyzed. The benefits listed are very similar to previous studies conducted. Improved behavior (better self-control) and social skills were very common themes found among previous studies (Britton & Button, 2005; Britton & Button, 2007; Turner, 2007; Currie, 2008; Fournier et al., 2007; Jaspersen, 2010; Jaspersen, 2011; Bachi, 2014).

Connection to the community is a very important benefit. In past years, the community has had no real connection to correctional facilities. Correctional facilities are kept separate, for the public's fear of who is being housed in the facilities. Inmates are treated as a throw away subgroup, as homeless animals are treated. The community does not understand what goes on in correctional facilities; they only want to see the results (fewer inmates recidivating). Prison-based animal programs can "open a door" to the correctional facilities, allowing the public to get a glimpse of the good work that inmates are doing with animals. This can be seen with the news articles that have been published about PAPs. The prisons are proud of these programs and they are willing to show the media and the community. Prison-based animal programs also give inmates the chance to see the community and to show the community their new and improved mindsets that they have gained from participating in PAPs. These new skills are very important to becoming productive members of society once they are released.

There are going to be negative aspects for almost all programs. For PAPs, the negative aspects include that either the staff or other inmates were afraid of the animals or just did not like the animals, and/or the program is staff intensive. Considering the

negative aspects for other programs, these are not very problematic. Even though the program does require the use of staff time, if the program benefits the institution and the inmates, the program is worth it. In most cases, the staffs of the programs are officer volunteers, meaning that they want to help the program. They are not being forced to work with the program. If they want to help the program it means that they are willing to put in the effort and time. Other negative aspects that were brought up were security concerns and misuse of the program. There are eligibility requirements that inmates must follow to help protect the program and the facility. There are also certain crimes that make inmates ineligible to participate in the study. Both of these help protect the facility from security risks and the program from being misused. However, the staff of the program still needs to be diligent in watching the participants to make sure that the program does run smoothly. As with any program, there are always going to be incidents reported. These incidents do not mean that the program is a security risk, just that the incidents need to be investigated to see if any changes need to be made to the program to make the security better.

Limitations to this Research

There were several limitations to this study. In hindsight there would have been changes to this study to improve the response rate, and the ease of the procedure. The first limitation was that a reminder post-card was not sent out. With the timing, and not being able to track the facility responses that did come in, a reminder card was not used. Some of the reasons as to why a facility may not have returned a questionnaire were mentioned above. By providing a reminder post-card, it is possible that more filled out questionnaires could have been returned. A reminder post-card could have improved the

response rate for those who wanted to participate, but had forgotten to fill out the questionnaires.

The second limitation was that part way through the data collection period, the questionnaire needed to be put on Survey Monkey per the request of one state. It could have been more beneficial to give all of the sample facilities the option to fill out the questionnaire online in the beginning. However, it was decided based on time, resources, and access to emails, that the questionnaire would not be put online. Only a few used the SurveyMonkey option because it was requested. All the other facilities did not know about the SurveyMonkey option. Giving all the facilities the option could have possibly improved the response rate. It is possible that many facilities did not respond to the questionnaire, because they did not want to fill it out by hand and then take the time to return it. It could have been easier for the participants to fill out the questionnaire online and simply submit when they were finished. However, a written mailed request would have still been needed. Prison facilities should still be given a paper questionnaire, but should be given the option of also submitting the questionnaire electronically. A concern about using SurveyMonkey, is trying to get the email message with the link through the government system (it is extremely difficult to do so). This is why the initial contact of using mail is still needed. The paper copy of the questionnaire should still be used, but then a link could be provided that would allow the respondent to use the SurveyMonkey. This could solve the concern about getting the email link through to the participant.

The third limitation to the study was that after the questionnaire had been sent out, some responses were returned stating that DOC approval was needed. Since the study asked the heads of the facilities to fill out the questionnaire, the study was considered

human subject research. Some states not only require IRB approval but their own DOC approval. For some states it was not possible to apply for DOC approval due to timing. It is possible that the study might have had more responses if the questionnaire had been sent to the state's DOC to be filled out. The DOCs would have the information for all the programs in all of the facilities. If the questionnaire had been sent to the DOC it would have been treated as a research for information, instead of human subject research.

A fourth limitation to this study was in establishing the reliability and validity of the measurement instrument. Having only one previous national study on PAPs, means there is no previous studies to assist in establishing validity and reliability. According to Bui (2014), "Validity refers to the extent to which the instrument measures what it was intended to measure" (p. 150). While the questionnaire seems to have face validity (appears to measure the characteristics of prison-based animal programs), more needs to be done to help establish the measurement validity. Another concern would be with establishing criterion validity, which compares the measures to already validated measures of the same variable(s). Since there has only been one other national study on prison-based animal programs nationwide, there is no previous validated measure to compare this study's result. Even though this current study received similar results to the 2006 study, it does not establish criterion validity. The same goes for the reliability of the measurement instrument. "Reliability refers to the extent to which an instrument consistently measures what it was intended to measure" (Bui, 2014, p. 150). Just because the questionnaire received similar results to the 2006 study, more is still needed to establish the reliability of the questionnaire. This is a step in the right direction for both validity and reliability since the only two prison-based animal program studies, both

using a very similar questionnaire, received similar results. However, the only way to improve the validity and reliability of the measurement instrument is to continue using the questionnaire for future research. It will help establish the reliability and validity of the measurement instrument, if it is continually used, and continues to receive similar results.

Recommendations for Future Research

Prison-based animal programs seem to be a very useful tool for the correctional system. These types of programs not only help the inmate participants, but also the animals and the community. The institutions themselves also seem to benefit from the programs. However, there is very little research looking at PAPs. More research needs to be conducted in this field if these types of programs are going to be continually used. There are several methods of research that should be used. Looking at prison-based animal programs as a whole, like this current study, can help identify how PAPs change as a whole throughout the years. These types of studies should be done every few years to watch the trends of prison-based animal programs. The limitations of this study, mentioned above, should be taken into account for future studies. Future studies should send the questionnaire to state DOCs, not individual facilities. A higher response rate can be achieved if the researcher does not have to go through all of the different DOC approval processes for the different states. Sending the questionnaire to the state DOCs ensures that the study is not considered human subject research, and the DOC will still be able to answer the necessary questions. Even though it would be better for the questionnaires to be sent to state DOC, if a future study does send the questionnaires to

facilities, the individual facility responses should be kept track of, so that a reminder post-card can be sent to those facilities that have yet to return a questionnaire.

Future studies should also use a multiple contact method. According to Dillman, et al. (2014) multiple contacts can include, "...a prenotice letter, questionnaire mailing, thank-you postcard, replacement questionnaire mailing, and a final reminder" (p.420). Not all of these types of contacts need to be used; however at least using some of them can help increase the response rate. If, like this study, future studies are lacking on resources, it may not be feasible to use all the contact methods. However, using more than one contact will be beneficial to future studies.

Studies on individual programs are also vital to the research in PAPs.

Determining the effectiveness of prison-based programs can be very difficult for a variety of reasons. The effectiveness of prison programs is generally determined by the recidivism rates of the participants. The recidivism rates for participants are compared with control groups who did not participate in the program to see if there is any difference. If those who participated in the program have lower recidivism rate than the control, the program is considered effective. However, there is always concern with these types of programs in terms of selection bias, since not all inmates are allowed to participate in the programs. Those who are allowed to participate in these programs might already be predisposed to have lower recidivism rates in the end. A true experiment design would lower chances of selection bias, but is very difficult to achieve within prisons and for PAPs (because there are selection rules for those who are allowed to participate and those who cannot).

Another variable that can be looked at to determine the effectiveness of a program is the resources that are required for the program. If a program uses multiple resources, but does not show differing results, the program can be considered ineffective. There are so many variables that affect an offender's recidivism rate, and it can be hard to demonstrate a correlation between a type of program and having an effect on recidivism. Even if a correlation is identified between a program (the problem variable that the program is aimed at) and recidivism rates that does not identify the cause of the problem. Research on individual programs needs to be done in order to address the association between PAPs and recidivism rates. This would require long term studies which focus on offenders' years after they have participated in the PAP, to determine if they are still offending. It is very important that those programs that future long-term studies look at use a follow-up method after the program. Part of the problem currently for looking at programs long term is that programs do not have psychological survey used after the program, nor do they collect follow-up information on participants. It is hard to do long term studies, if there is nothing to gather and compare. Future research should also look at the operations for current PAPs. A prison-based animal program may still be effective even if recidivism rates cannot be examined. If the program is meant to help the inmates (that is the stated goal), and it does help the inmates like it is supposed to, it can be considered successful. In this sense, the success of the program is measured by the personal changes that are observed in the participants. Most PAPs are considered successful programs because they help the inmates.

Another area that needs to be researched regarding prison-based animal programs is theoretical frameworks. There are many theories behind how offenders started their

lives of crimes, for example attachment theory or general strain theory. While there is plenty of research looking at how these theories relate to inmates and their problems (Marshall & Mazzucco, 1995; Hudson & Ward, 1997; Bumby & Hansen 1997; Smallbone & Dadds, 1998; Lyn & Burton, 2004; Schimmenti et al., 2014; Listwan, Sullivan, Agnew, Cullen, & Colvin, 2011; Ackerman & Sacks, 2012; Morris, Carriaga, Diamond, Piquero, & Piquero, 2012; Zweig, Yahner, Visher, & Lattimore, 2015), there are no studies relating theoretical frameworks to prison-based animal programs and the inmates that participate in them. These types of studies could help shed even more light onto why prison-based animal programs seem to be beneficial to the inmate participants of prison-based animal programs.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

In what seems like a never ending cycle of crime, offenders need to be given the chance to change so they can be successful once they are released back into the community. Prison-based animal programs (PAPs) are a technique that is gaining ground in the correctional field. Prison-based animal programs bring animals into correctional facilities for a variety of reasons. There are many types of PAPs: Visitation programs, Wildlife Rehabilitation programs, Livestock Care programs, Pet Adoption programs, Service Animal Socialization programs, Vocational programs, Community Service programs, Counseling programs, and Multimodal programs. All of these programs bring animals in the correctional facilities to help the inmates. In the majority of these programs, the animals are also benefiting from the program. These types of programs can even help the correctional institution and the community.

Even though PAPs have been around for a while, research into the subject is just getting started. There is not much research conducted on prison-based animal programs. There are several studies that look at a variety of PAPs. There is only one study that was conducted nationally. This study is what the current study built upon. Although there is not much research on prison-based animal programs, there is a plethora of research on the foundation of PAPs which is animal-assisted therapy. The current literature on both subjects (animal-assisted therapy and prison-based animal programs) was discussed in detail. The majority of studies conducted on prison-based animal programs showed that

there are many benefits of PAPs, not only to the inmates, but also the animals, facility, and the community. More research needs to be conducted on PAPs as a whole, as well as individual programs. More long term studies need to be conducted looking at the effectiveness of PAPs on reducing recidivism rates. All of the previous literature was a building stone for this specific study that was conducted nationally and looked at the characteristics of current prison-based animal programs.

This current study was a major step for the field of prison-based animal programs. It showed the major characteristics of current PAPs. Knowing this information can open the door to further research. The research question for this study was: What are the characteristics of prison-based animal programs currently in use across the nation? A pre-alert postcard and questionnaire with a cover letter were sent to 302 randomly selected correctional facilities across the nation. A stratified random sampling technique was used to collect the sample population from the target population. This study yielded a response rate of 129 (42.72% of sample). However, 74 of those responses indicated that no program was used at the facility. That left 63 questionnaires from 55 facilities. One questionnaire was excluded from the analysis because it was received late. There were 62 questionnaires returned from 54 different facilities in 27 different states that were used in the analysis for this study. In order to keep the confidentiality of the prisons, the names and demographics of the prisons were not gathered. The participants were also asked not give specific information about individual participants of the programs. The questions revolved around five different themes: program profiles, funding, pre-participating, post-participation, and positives and negatives. Responses were analyzed both quantitatively (through Excel) and qualitatively. There was a small setback to the study when several

states require DOC approval. Overall the study was conducted successfully, with the results showing the current trends of PAPs. There were limitations to this study, which can be addressed for future studies. However, these limitations, did not affect the quality of the collected data.

The major results of this program indicate that PAPs have beneficial qualities not only to the inmates, but for all of those involved in the program. This includes the institution itself, the inmates, the animals, the community, and the individuals who receive the animals. The animals are saved, and then rehabilitated in the correctional facilities, by inmates who themselves are being rehabilitated. The inmates are given a chance that they have never been given before. They have a chance to positively help someone else, while also helping themselves. There are many similarities between the prison-based animal programs analyzed in this study and those studied in a 2006 national study by Furst. The most common types of programs that were used in 2006 were the community service program, the service animal socialization program, and multimodal design programs (Furst, 2006). This is still true today of PAPs. The majority of programs were community service programs, services animal socialization programs, or a combination of both. Dogs are still the most common animal used in PAPs. Since the majority of programs were community services or service animal socialization, or a combination of both, the fees that were associated with programs was from adoption. Donations were also a very common source of funding. Males account for the majority of participants, which was true back in 2006 as well. The majority of programs have participants working with the animals 24 hours a day, since most programs have the participants training the animals, which requires a great deal of time.

Overall prison-based animal programs are very promising. More PAPs need to be implemented in correctional facilities that do not currently have one. They need to be given the chance to prove how promising they are. Future research can assist with this. This current study will help future research into prison-based animal programs by showing the current trends of PAPs. Not only to the inmates benefit from the program, but the institution, animals, and the community also benefit from PAPs as well. No other type of program can truly say that everyone involved benefits in some way. Prison-based animal programs are making a difference, and need to be given the chance to continue to make a difference for more offenders. Furst (2006) made the final comment that, “having inmates and animals help each other in a symbolic relationship results in a win-win-win situation, with not only the inmate and animal benefiting but the larger community as well” (p. 425).

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APPENDIX A

SAMPLING FRAME

States	# of State Prisons (S)	% of Prison Population (T)	Theoretical # of Selected Prisons (D)	Actual # of Selected Prisons	Sampling Interval Calculation	# of Federal Prisons (F)	% of Prison Population (P)	Theoretical # of Selected Prisons (L)	Actual # of Selected Prisons	Sampling Interval Calculation
Alabama	16	1.7%	4.6	5	3	3	3%	1	1	n/a
Alaska	10	1.1%	3.0	3	3	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Arizona	16	1.7%	4.6	5	3	3	3%	1	1	n/a
Arkansas	15	1.6%	4.3	4	4	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
California	32	3.5%	9.4	9	4	10	9.4%	2.9	3	3
Colorado	21	2.3%	6.2	6	4	2	2%	0.6	1	n/a
Connecticut	12	1.3%	3.5	4	3	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Delaware	4	0.4%	1	1	n/a	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Florida	59	6.4%	17.2	17	4	6	6%	2	2	3
Georgia	51	5.6%	15.1	15	3	4	4%	1	1	n/a
Hawaii	5	0.6%	2	2	3	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Idaho	8	0.9%	2	2	4	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Illinois	25	2.7%	7.3	7	4	4	4%	1	1	n/a
Indiana	16	1.7%	4.6	5	3	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Iowa	9	1%	3	3	3	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Kansas	8	.9%	2	2	4	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Kentucky	11	1.2%	3.2	3	4	5	5%	2	2	3
Louisiana	9	1%	2.7	3	3	2	2%	0.6	1	n/a
Maine	3	0.3%	0.8	1	n/a	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Maryland	14	1.5%	4.0	4	4	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Massachusetts	13	3.8%	3.8	4	2	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Michigan	29	3.2%	8.6	9	3	1	1%	.3	0	n/a
Minnesota	9	1%	2.7	3	3	4	4%	1	1	n/a
Mississippi	20	2.2%	5.9	6	3	2	2%	0.6	1	n/a

States	# of State Prisons (S)	% of Prison Population (T)	Theoretical # of Selected Prisons (D)	Actual # of Selected Prisons	Sampling Interval Calculation	# of Federal Prisons (F)	% of Prison Population (P)	Theoretical # of Selected Prisons (L)	Actual # of Selected Prisons	Sampling Interval Calculation
Missouri	18	2.0%	5	5	4	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Montana	5	0.6%	2	2	3	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Nebraska	5	0.6%	2	2	3	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Nevada	7	0.8%	2	2	4	0	0%	0	0	n/a
New Hampshire	3	0.3%	0.8	1	n/a	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
New Jersey	8	0.9%	2	2	4	2	2%	0.6	1	n/a
New Mexico	11	1.2%	3.2	3	4	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
New York	55	6.0%	16	16	3	4	4%	0.1	1	n/a
North Carolina	42	4.6%	12	12	4	2	2%	0.6	1	n/a
North Dakota	4	0.4%	1	1	n/a	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Ohio	24	2.6%	7.0	7	4	2	2%	0.6	1	n/a
Oklahoma	21	2.3%	6.2	6	4	2	2%	0.6	1	n/a
Oregon	12	1.3%	3.5	4	3	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Pennsylvania	71	7.7%	21	21	6	8	8%	3	3	3
Rhode Island	6	0.7%	2	2	3	0	0%	0	0	n/a
South Carolina	21	2.3%	6.2	6	4	4	4%	1	1	n/a
South Dakota	4	0.4%	1	1	n/a	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a

States	# of State Prisons (S)	% of Prison Population (T)	Theoretical # of Selected Prisons (D)	Actual # of Selected Prisons	Sampling Interval Calculation	# of Federal Prisons (F)	% of Prison Population (P)	Theoretical # of Selected Prisons (L)	Actual # of Selected Prisons	Sampling Interval Calculation
Tennessee	15	1.6%	4.3	4	4	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Texas	65	7.1%	19	19	4	15	14%	4.3	4	4
Utah	2	0.2%	1	1	n/a	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Vermont	7	0.8%	2	2	4	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Virginia	34	3.7%	10	10	3	2	2%	0.6	1	n/a
Washington	12	1.3%	3.5	3.5	3	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
West Virginia	13	1.4%	3.8	3.8	3	6	6%	2	2	3
Wisconsin	34	3.7%	10	10	3	1	1%	0.3	0	n/a
Wyoming	4	0.4%	1	1	n/a	0	0%	0	0	n/a
Total = 50	Total = 918			Total = 271		Total = 107			Total = 31	

Sample Size Total: 302

States Percentage for Sampling: 89.60%

Federal Percentage for Sampling: 10.40%

Breakdown of Calculations:

How to Calculate the State and Federal Prison Populations Percent's:

State prison percentage of total population (A) = $(S / 1025) * 100$, where S = total number of all state prisons, and 1025 is the total prison population (state prisons and federal prisons).

Federal prison percentage of total population (B) = $(F / 1025) * 100$, where F = total number of federal prisons, and 1025 is the total prison population (state prisons and federal prisons).

How to Calculate the Theoretical Amount of Prisons:

Theoretical amount of state prisons to be selected = $(A/100) * 300$, Where A = state prison percentage of total population. The number of theoretical amount of state prisons to be selected is 269.

Theoretical amount of federal prisons to be selected = $(B/100)*300$, Where B = federal prison percentage of total population. The number of theoretical amount of federal prisons to be selected is 31.

How to Calculate Each States Percentage of Population:

State percentage of prison population (T) = $(X / 918) * 100$, where X = the number of prisons for each state, and 918 is the total number of prisons for all states (S).

Federal percentage of prison populations (P) = $(Y / 107) * 100$, Y = number of federal prisons for the state, 107 is the total number of federal prisons for all states (F).

How to Calculate the Theoretical number of Selected Prisons:

Theoretical number of selected state prisons (D) = $(T/100) * 269$, Where T = the state's percentage of prison population, and .269 is the theoretical weighted amount of state prisons to be selected. The calculated number will be rounded to the closest whole number, to get the actual number of prisons to be selected.

Theoretical number of selected federal prisons (L) = $(P/100) * 31$, Where P = the federal percentage of prison population, and .031 is the theoretical weighted amount of state prisons to be selected. The calculated number will be rounded to the closest whole number, to get the actual number of prisons to be selected.

How to Calculate the Sampling Interval:

Sampling interval for state prisons = X / D . The sampling interval will be used to select the prisons.

Sampling interval for federal prisons = Y / L . The sampling interval will be used to select the prisons.

APPENDIX B

PRE-ALERT POSTCARD



Dear Facility Warden,

I am a Criminal Justice graduate student at the University of Northern Colorado. I am conducting my thesis on prison-based animal programs. This postcard alerts you that in about one to two weeks a questionnaire with a prepaid return envelope will be mailed to you asking questions regarding your facility's prison-based animal program(s). The questionnaire(s) should only take 15-30 minutes to complete. Your participation is strictly voluntary, but will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time,

Alicia Loe, MACJ Candidate

303-903-1409; loe4702@bears.unco.edu

Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD

Thesis Advisor

APPENDIX C

COVER LETTER

UNIVERSITY of
NORTHERN COLORADO



College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Criminal Justice

9/15/2014

Dear Facility Warden:

My name is Alicia Loe and I am a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice graduate student at the University of Northern Colorado. For my thesis I am examining prison-based animal programs. Because of your knowledge of the programs currently being administered in prison settings, I invite you to participate in this research study by completing the attached questionnaire(s).

The following questionnaire will take approximately 15-30 minutes to complete. There is no compensation for responding to the questionnaire(s). There are also no known risks to participating in this study. The questionnaire(s) will not be asking you any personal questions, but to ensure that all information will remain confidential, please do not include your name or any personal information on the questionnaire(s). Copies of the questionnaires will only be provided to the University of Northern Colorado professor supervising my research. If you choose to participate in this project, please answer all of the questions as honestly and to the best of your knowledge as possible. Please return the completed questionnaire(s) promptly in the enclosed, self-addressed stamped envelope. Participation is strictly voluntary and you may refuse to participate at any time.

Thank you for taking the time to assist me in my educational endeavors. The data collected will provide useful information regarding the characteristics of different prison-based animal programs around the nation. Completion and return of the questionnaire will indicate your willingness to participate in this study. If you require additional information or have questions please contact me or Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick at the numbers or emails listed below. You may keep this form for future reference. If you have any concerns about your selection or treatment as a research participant, please contact the Office of Sponsored Program, Kepner Hall, University of Northern Colorado Greeley, CO 80639; 970-351-2161.

If you would like a summarized copy of this study please email Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick, giving a valid email address. You can still remain anonymous by not including a name or any personal information in your request. Please just state that you would like a copy, and provide the email you would like the copy to be sent to. Dr. Fitzpatrick will be the only one that will have access to the email you provide. This email address will only be used to send you a copy of the study. It will not be used to contact you for any other purpose.

Yours sincerely,

Alicia Loe 303-903-1409
loe4702@bears.unco.edu

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. 970-351-2575
colleen.fitzpatrick@unco.edu

APPENDIX D

PRISON ANIMAL PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE

UNIVERSITY of
NORTHERN COLORADO
 EST. 1889
 Celebrating 125 Years

Prison Animal Program Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. Please fill out one questionnaire for each program. Multiple copies have been provided. Once you have completed the questionnaire(s), please return in the prepaid, pre-addressed envelope that has been provided.

1. Name of program: _____
2. What state is the program located in? _____
3. Year the program was first implemented at this location: _____
4. Is the program used at more than one location? Yes _____ No _____
 - a. If yes, how many different locations? _____
5. What types of animal(s) are used? Please check all that apply
 - a. Dogs _____
 - b. Cats _____
 - c. Horses _____
 - d. Farm animals _____
 - e. Other _____
 - i. If other, please list the animal(s) used: _____
6. Please mark which one of the following PAP designs most accurately describes the program:

X	Program Type	Description
	Visitation Program	Animals brought to facility by humane society or nonprofit organization at specified times
	Wildlife Rehabilitation Program	Participants care for injured wildlife, which are then released
	Livestock Care Program	Farm animal care such as milking and calf raising; fish breeding
	Pet Adoption Program	Animals are adopted and cared for by individual inmates

	Service Animal Socialization Program	Assistance/work puppies or dogs are raised and taught basic commands; dog goes on to specialized training
	Vocational Program	Participants are trained/certified in animal grooming/handling/care
	Community Service Program	Participants train and care for animals (including dogs and wild horses) which are then adopted out to the community
	Counseling Program	Participants attend a group therapy session where a single dog is present
	Multimodal Program	Check off each of the above types that describes a component of this current program
	Other	Please describe:

7. How many animals are involved with the program at any given time?
- 1-5 _____
 - 6-10 _____
 - 11-15 _____
 - 15 or more _____
8. Who provides the animal(s)? _____
9. Does the program collect fees related to the animals? Yes _____ No _____
- If yes, from whom and how much? _____

10. Approximately how many animals have been used since the program's inception? _____
11. Approximately how many inmates have participated in the program since its inception? _____
12. Are the inmate's male _____ female _____?
13. What is the average age of the participants?
- Younger than 18 _____
 - 19-25 _____
 - 26-33 _____
 - 34-41 _____
 - 42 or older _____

14. How many inmates participate in the program at any given time?

- a. 1-10 _____
- b. 11-20 _____
- c. 21-30 _____
- d. 31-40 _____
- e. 41 or more _____

15. Approximately how many participants have been discharged or removed from the program?

a. What were the reasons? (Pick those that apply)

- i. Behavioral Misconduct _____
- ii. Lost Interest _____
- iii. Medical Reasons _____
- iv. Left the facility _____
- v. Other _____

16. Are there any nonprofit organizations or other non-DOC agencies affiliated with the program?

Yes _____ No _____

a. If yes, please name the organization(s): _____

17. Is there any other type of funding? Yes _____ No _____

a. If yes, from whom? _____

18. Please indicate the approximate number of hours per day the inmates participate with the animal(s):

- a. 1-6 _____
- b. 7-12 _____
- c. 13-18 _____
- d. 18-24 _____

19. How many times a week does the program hold sessions?

- a. 1-2 _____
- b. 3-4 _____
- c. 5-6 _____
- d. 7 or more _____

20. Do the inmates work with the same animal(s) each session? Yes _____ No _____

- a. If no, how many different animals do the participants work with at any given time?
 - i. 1-5 _____
 - ii. 6-10 _____
 - iii. 11 or more _____

21. Is there a maximum length of time that inmates can remain in the program? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, how long? _____
22. Is there a waiting list for the program? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, how long? _____
23. Are inmates interviewed before being accepted? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, who does the interview? _____
24. Is there a psychological survey instrument used before the program starts? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, what instrument? _____
25. Is there a survey used after inmates complete the program? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, what instrument? _____
26. Who selects the inmates for participation? _____

27. Does an inmate's crime make them ineligible for the program? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, please specify the specific type of crime(s) that are ineligible for participation:

28. Are there eligibility requirements for the program? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, please list requirements: _____

29. Are the inmates trained before participating in the program? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, please describe training: _____

30. Can participants receive a vocational certificate after completing the program? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, what type of certificate? _____
31. Do you know of any previous participants who have completed the program and have been released that are now working with animals? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, approximately how many? _____
32. Does the program have a referral service or a link to jobs within the community upon release of the participants? Yes _____ No _____
a. If yes, approximately how many have used the service? _____

33. Would you recommend this type of program to another prison? Yes _____ No _____

a. If no, please explain why? _____

34. How does the program benefit the participants (including the animals)? _____

35. Do you think the program benefits the institution? Yes _____ No _____

a. If yes, please check all benefits that you think apply:

i. Better self-control of the inmates _____

ii. Less stress for the inmates _____

iii. Less stress for staff _____

iv. Lower medication usage for participants _____

v. Connection to community _____

vi. Income from the program _____

vii. Other: _____

36. Are there any negative aspects to the program (from the staff, inmates, activities, animals, or any others involved)? Yes _____ No _____

a. If yes, please list the negative aspects: _____

37. Additional comments about the program: _____

APPENDIX E

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD APPROVAL LETTER

UNIVERSITY of
NORTHERN COLORADO



Institutional Review Board

DATE: July 8, 2014

TO: Alicia Loe, BA

FROM: University of Northern Colorado (UNCO) IRB

PROJECT TITLE: [614662-2] Prison-based animal programs: A descriptive analysis

SUBMISSION TYPE: Amendment/Modification

ACTION: APPROVAL/VERIFICATION OF EXEMPT STATUS

DECISION DATE: July 2, 2014

Thank you for your submission of Amendment/Modification materials for this project.

The University of Northern Colorado (UNCO) IRB approves this project and verifies its status as EXEMPT according to federal IRB regulations.

Dear Ms. Loe,

Thank you for your modifications. Everything looks good and you are approved to begin data collection. Good luck with your research.

Sincerely,

Nancy White, PhD, IRB Co-Chair

We will retain a copy of this correspondence within our records for a duration of 4 years.

If you have any questions, please contact Sherry May at 970-351-1910 or

Sherry.May@unco.edu. Please include your project title and reference number in all correspondence with this committee.

This letter has been electronically signed in accordance with all applicable regulations, and a copy is retained within University of Northern Colorado (UNCO) IRB's records.

APPENDIX F

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS APPROVAL LETTER

Ohio | Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction

John R. Kasich, Governor
Gary C. Mohr, Director

Kathleen A. Lamb, Ph.D.
Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
770 West Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43222

Wednesday, October 08, 2014

Ms. Alicia Loe
Candelaria Hall 2285
Campus Box 147
Greeley, CO 80639

Dear Ms. Loe:

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that your proposal, "Prison-Based Animal Programs: A Descriptive Analysis" has been approved by ODRC's Human Subjects Research Review Committee, under the condition that a few revisions must be performed prior to beginning the study. We feel that this exploratory study is a useful and informative project, possibly leading to additional studies on the effects of animal-based prison programs on inmates.

Our committee recommends that you use an online survey administration tool, such as Survey Monkey, to conduct your study. A key task of our committee is to ensure that time incurred by staff during study participation is as minimal as possible. Given that some prisons have multiple animal programs, it would be most helpful if wardens could fill out the information in an electronic format to make the data collection more efficient. Additionally, a minor change is needed on the survey form. In questions seven and eighteen, there is overlap in the number categories on answers c and d, which can be easily fixed. Please let us know if setting up the survey in Survey Monkey or a similar tool is feasible, as well as complete the minor revision on the survey form. You may also wish to time the completion of the survey electronically if a prison has multiple animal programs, to give a concise estimate of time completion for the survey letter. The research project description should also be amended to reflect that the data will be collected online. Once you inform us these tasks are completed, then I will go about getting the approvals from our Managing Director of Operations for the prisons, as well as the wardens of the selected institutions. Then you may proceed with data collection.

Please feel free to call or send email if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

Operation Support Center · 770 W. Broad Street · Columbus, Ohio 43222
www.drc.ohio.gov

Ohio | Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction
John R. Kasich, Governor
Gary C. Mohr, Director

Kathleen A. Lamb, Ph.D.

Kathleen A. Lamb, Ph.D.
Human Subjects Research Review Committee Chair

APPENDIX G

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS APPROVAL LETTER



Dave Heineman, Governor
Michael L. Kenney, Director

10/17/2014

Ms. Alicia Loe
University of Northern Colorado
Department of Criminal Justice
501 20 St.
Candelaria 0215
Greeley, CO 80639

Dear Ms. Loe:

The Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) has approved your request for Project #2014-013, "Prison-Based Animal Programs: A Descriptive Analysis." Because neither you, nor any other members of your research team, will physically be entering an NDCS facility, no identification cards or background checks are required for this project.

You have 60 business days from receipt of this letter to begin your research, or project approval will be suspended and you must re-apply for permission to conduct research. In accordance with the information provided on your NDCS "Requirement for Research" form, approval for this project will expire on March 31, 2015. All identifying information and data provided by NDCS must be destroyed by this date, unless PRA approves a request for extension.

Your primary contacts for this project will be Denise Skrobecki, Warden for the Nebraska Correctional Center for Women (NCCW), and Audra Jensen, Administrative Assistant at NCCW. They will be able to provide you with the information requested in your survey. If you wish to communicate by e-mail, Ms. Skrobecki can be reached at denise.skrobecki@nebraska.gov and Ms. Jensen can be reached at audra.jensen@nebraska.gov. Both can also be reached by phone at 402-362-3317.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if there is anything else I can do to help facilitate your research, please feel free to contact me by phone, at 402-479-5760, or via e-mail, at abby.vandenberg@nebraska.gov.

Sincerely,

Abby L. Vandenberg, Ph. D.

cc: Michael Kenney, Director; NDCS
Denise Skrobecki, Warden; NCCW
Audra Jensen, Administrative Assistant; NCCW
Jeffry Beaty, Director of Planning, Research, and Accreditation; NDCS

Abby L. Vandenberg: Research Manager
Nebraska Department of Correctional Services
PO Box 94661 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4661 Phone: (402) 479-5760
An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

APPENDIX H

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS APPROVAL LETTER

Scott Walker
Governor

Edward F. Wall
Secretary



State of Wisconsin
Department of Corrections

Mailing Address

3099 E. Washington Ave.
Post Office Box 7925
Madison, WI 53707-7925
Telephone (608) 240-5000
Fax (608) 240-3300

November 11, 2014

Alicia Loe
University of Northern Colorado
Candelaria Hall 2285, Campus Box 147
Greeley, CO 80639

Dear Ms. Loe:

The Department of Corrections Research Review Committee (RRC) has reviewed and approved your request entitled *Prison-based animal programs: A descriptive analysis*. Of the institutions identified in your request, only McNaughton Correctional Center currently has an animal program, and only that facility has been approved to participate in this research. This request is approved contingent upon the following conditions:

- All information collected will be maintained confidential, with no offender or staff identifying information presented in any form or manner in subsequent publications or reports.
- A draft of the study results will be submitted to me, at the above address, prior to any formal publication.

Please feel free to contact Megan Jones at (608) 240-5806 if you have any further questions or concerns.

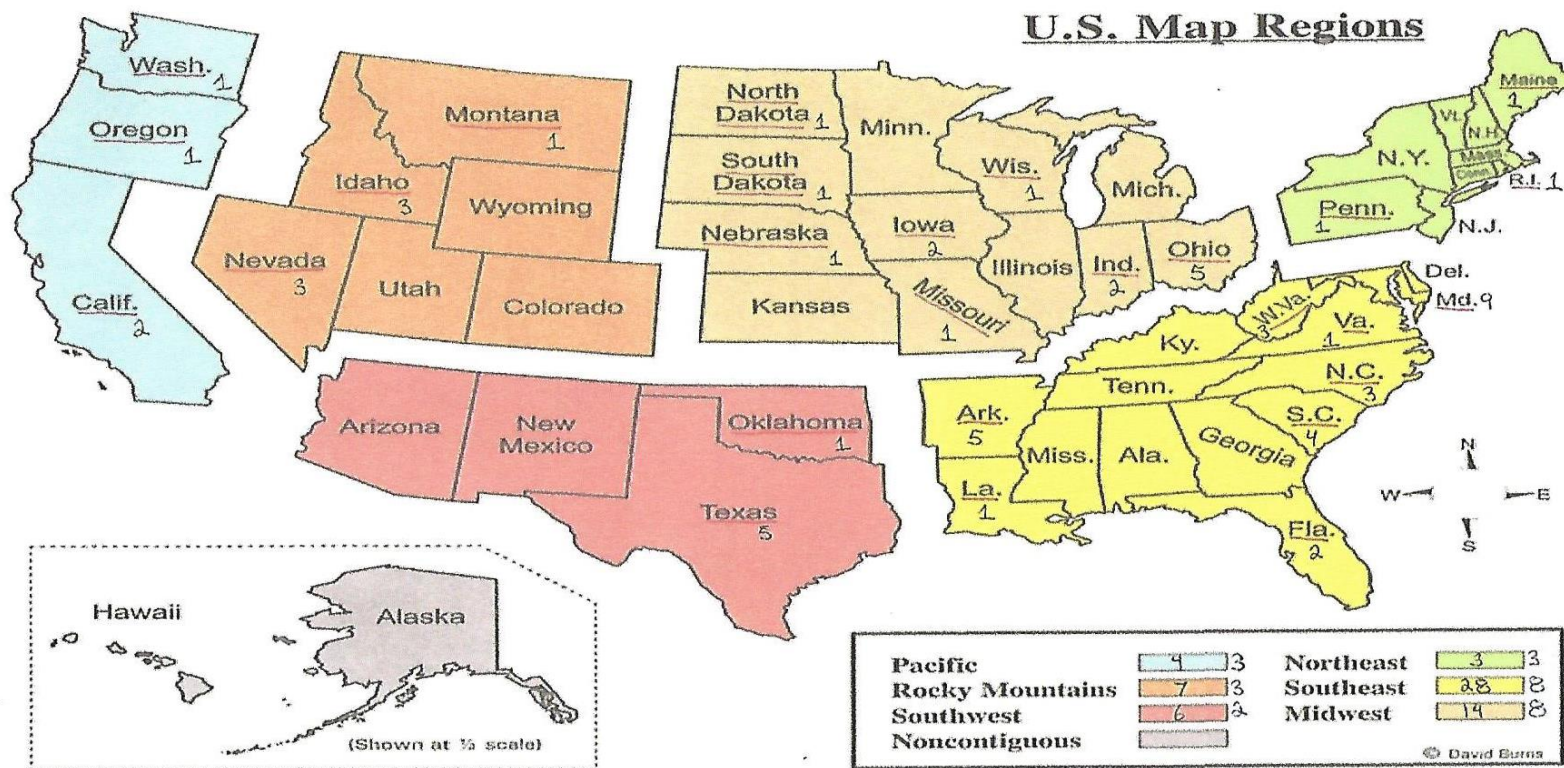
Sincerely,

p.t. Gabrielle Kaiser
p.p. Tony Streveler
Office of the Secretary

cc: John Paquin, Assistant Administrator- DAI
Quala Champagne, Warden- WCCS
Brad Kosbab, Superintendent- MCC
Dawn Woeshnick- RRC
Diana Kiesling- RRC
Lindsay Wallace- RRC
Jenna Rogers- RRC
Wes Ray- RRC
Megan Jones, Chair- RRC

APPENDIX I

**STATE RESPONSE RATE FOR PRISON ANIMAL PROGRAM
QUESTIONNAIRE**



This map shows the number of questionnaires returned from each state, grouped by region. The number of questionnaires from each state is written by the state, with the state name being underlined. For each region, the number of states that returned questionnaires and the number of questionnaires returned was written next to the region in the category box. The number of states was written in blue, and the number of questionnaires was written in black.