

The Implementation Of Therapeutic Community Modality As Rehabilitative Approach In Dipolog City Jail

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Abstract — This study determined the implementation of the Therapeutic Community Modality Program in Dipolog City Jail, in the province of Zamboanga del Norte. It utilized descriptive survey method using a validated and reliable questionnaire with 105 purposely selected respondents, comprising 85 PDLs and 20 jail officers. The data gathered were analyzed through statistical treatment such as frequency count, percentage computation, and weighted mean. The study revealed that, on the level of implementation, TCMP was very much implemented in Dipolog City Jail; hence, the city jail adheres to the mandate of the BJMP. It also revealed that behavior management and spiritual aspects were the most highly implemented TC rehabilitative approaches in the facility. Further, as to PDLs' involvement in the program, it showed that they were very much involved and that they are exceptionally participative in all TC activities. Even though there were problems encountered during the implementation, it was also observed that they were not severe. The main implementers of TCMP, namely BJMP, BuCor and PPA should provide supplementary and innovative approaches that enrich the sustainability of the TCM program. It is also recommended that an Extension Program should be conducted by any institution that could boost the morale and well-being of the PDLs.

Keywords — Therapeutic Community Modality, Rehabilitative approach, Implementation, Involvement, Persons Deprived of Liberty, Problems, Dipolog City Jail

I. Introduction

he Correction pillar is one of the components of the Philippine Criminal Justice and has the primary goal of rehabilitating and reforming the lives of Persons Deprived of Liberties or PDLs. Traditionally it has two approaches the Institutional; and the Non-Institutional. Jail, prisons and other correctional agencies implements rehabilitative programs and mechanisms designed to treat the PDLs manner and principle purposely to prepare them in reintegrating back into the community. Eventually, the third approach was introduced – the Therapeutic Community Modality, this type of method was initially designed for drugs and substance addicts or offenders but it was now applied to all PDLs confined in every reformation centers. The first prison-based TC was pioneered by Aichorn's work in a junior prison in Vienna in the early 20th century. Early experiments with in-prison TCs showed significant advantages: both in terms of lowering re-arrest rates as well as lowering re-addiction rates and enhancing physical and mental functioning. Reincarceration and substance abuse were both reduced in early studies of prison TCs' effects (Yates, 2021). TC was introduced in the Philippines during the 70's when the former Drug Abuse Research



Foundation, Inc. or DARE first applied the TC model in Cavite which is called "Bahay Pag-asa" to treat heroin addicts (Perfas, 2017). Therapeutic Community utilizes the "community" as a vehicle to foster behavioral and attitudinal change. In TC, the client receives the information and impetus to change from being part of the community. The expectation that the community places on it individual members reflects not only the needs of individual, but also the social and support needs of the community. This community mode provides social expectations, which are parallel to the social demands that the clients will confront upon discharge to their home community. It is a self-help social learning treatment model used to client with problems of drug abuse and other behavioral problems such as alcoholism, stealing and other anti-social tendencies as well as working with special group of individuals like those in jails (Therapeutic Community Modality Program (TCMP), 2013).

TC modality is incorporated in various rehabilitative programs in BuCor, in the BJMP, and in the Parole and Probation Administration. The Jail Bureau being the focus of this study, has issued a policy on the implementation of the Therapeutic Community Modality Training Program (TCMP) which has four distinct categories: behavior management; intellectual and spiritual aspects; emotional and psychological aspects; and vocational and survival aspects as well as the establishment of the National TC Center and its regional counterparts with the goal of positively changing their thinking and behavior through structured group processes. However, Peremne (2011) found that constant personnel reshuffles and career advancement through various avenues has greatly hampered the implementation and development of TCMP in the jail and somehow resulted to skepticism of TCMP as an effective tool in the treatment of drug dependent and drug dependent offenders and "multi-disciplinary" approaches are considered better treatment programs than TCMP. Thus, there is need to evaluate the implementation of the Therapeutic Community Modality Program in Dipolog City Jail, a jail facility in the province of Zamboanga del Norte. experts in your field of research.

Literature Review

Over the course of the past fifty years, the Therapeutic Community (TC) for addictions has evolved into what is now known as the mainstream of substance abuse treatment and human services. At the moment, TCs cater to a diverse clientele with a variety of issues; The staff's composition has changed as a result of advances in research on treatment outcomes, as has the length of residential treatment, the treatment goals, and, to a significant extent, the therapy approach itself. The approach of TC can be summarized by the phrase "community as method". The definition of community as method offered by theoretical writings is as follows: The purposive use of the community to teach individuals to use the community to change themselves. Thus, the fundamental assumption that underlies the concept of community as method is: individuals obtain maximum educational and therapeutic impact when they engage in, and learn to use, all of the diverse elements of the community as tools for self-change. Therefore, "community as a method" means that the community is both context and mediator for individual change and social learning.



Its membership establishes expectations or standards of participation in the community itself. Most community-based traditional TCs have either incorporated new interventions or expanded their social services to address the diverse needs of their members. These changes and additions include specific primary healthcare geared toward individuals with AIDS or who are HIV-positive, family services, relapse prevention training, aftercare services specifically for special populations such as substance-abusing inmates leaving prison treatment, mental health services, components of 12-step groups, and other evidence-based practices e.g., cognitive-behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing (De Leon & Utterainer, 2020).

Yates et al. (2021) stated that TCs have been provided within various settings: stand-alone services in the community; within homeless shelters; in mental health settings; and of course in prisons. The main distinguishing feature of TCs is the use of the community itself as a fundamental means of change («community-as-method»). There are a number of defining features of the community-as-method approach, including the use of a range of structured activities in which both staff and residents are expected to participate, and the use of peers as role models who set a positive example and show how to live in accordance with the philosophy and value system of TC. The TC is a 'high dosage' treatment. Changing the habits of a lifestyle embedded in self-destructive drug use and criminality is hard and difficult to sustain but each individual will face different challenges and obstacles in making those changes. Whilst some individuals may achieve change through 'low dosage' interventions - say a weekly recovery group meeting - others will require the sort of immersive and intensive intervention that a TC provides. According to Jayamaha et al. (2022), therapeutic communities are related to Asian cultures, making it more appropriate for narcotic offenders with SUD condemned to prison to control their SUD while serving their prison sentences. Moreover, the Drug Abuse Treatment Outcome Studies (2015) asserted that treatment programs such as TCs are found to be effective. Moreover, Lafadchan (2018) also stated the Therapeutic Community Modality Program is an outlet for inmates' self-expression; it is regarded as a learning opportunity and a program that promotes peace and order. The Length of time in treatment was found to be important for TCs, as well as for other modalities. However, Bondad (2020) argued that the objective of TCMP cannot be attained effectively and efficiently due to limited participation or involvement of inmates which is much needed. The inadequate involvement of inmates to TCMP activities would certainly lead to half-done or partial rehabilitation of released inmates which would result to possible re-incarceration.

II. Methodology

The study employed the quantitative-descriptive approach, in which, according to Calderon (1993), as cited by Eduardo (2018), the descriptive method is a purposive process of gathering, analyzing, classifying, and tabulating data about prevailing conditions, practices, beliefs, processes, trends, and cause-and-effect relationships and then making an adequate and accurate interpretation about such data with or without the aid of statistical methods. Accordingly, this



method is an appropriate tool for this type of research. The study utilized a research-made survey questionnaire in gathering data to determine the implementation of the Therapeutic Community Modality program employed in Dipolog City Jail. The research instrument was based on the TCMP manual and was validated by the panelists. It was pilot tested at ZN Correctional and Rehabilitation Center with 20 respondents. Cronbach's alpha reliability test shows that the instrument is reliable, with a value of .8823 and internal consistency interpreted as "good." Further, the questionnaire is composed of four parts that describe the respondent's profile, ascertain the level of implementation, determine the extent of PDL's participation in the program, and assess the severity of problems encountered during the implementation. One hundred five (105) respondents were purposely selected, consisting of PDLs and jail officers in Dipolog City Jail. Prior to the conduct of the study, a letter of consent was secured first in the office of the city jail warden, and approval from the regional director was also sought. The statistical tools used in the study were frequency, percentage computation, and weighted mean.

III. Results and Discussion

The study is focused on the implementation of the Therapeutic Community Modality Program in Dipolog City Jail with eighty-five (85) PDLs (Persons Deprived of Liberty) and twenty (20) Jail officers, as participants. Hence, presented below are the results of the study:

Respondents' Profile (Persons Deprived of Liberty)

Sex

Table 1 shows the profile of the respondents in terms of sex. Data reveals that there are only 4 or 4.17 % female participants in the study and 81 or 95.3 % of them are males. Hence, the majority of the respondents were male PDLs.

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Sex	f	Percentage	
Male	81	95.3 %	
Female	4	4.71 %	
Total	85	100 %	

Table 1. Profile of the PDL-Respondents in terms of Sex

Age

As gleaned in Table 2. PDLs aged between 23 to 27 and 33 to 37 which both has 25. 9 %, comprised the highest number of participants. Fourteen (14) of them are aged 28–32 (16.5%), and eleven (11) of them, or 12.9%, are aged between 38–42 years old. Respondents aged 43 and above represent 11.8 percent, and only 6.06 percent are young adults aged 18 to 22 years old. The study was predominantly participated with PDLs who are in their early 20s and late 30s.



Age Bracket	f	Percentage
18-22	6	7.06 %
23-27	22	25.9 %
28-32	14	16.5 %
33-37	22	25.9 %
38-42	11	12.9 %
43 ABOVE	10	11.8 %
Total	85	100 %

Table 2. Profile of the PDL -Respondents in Terms of Age

Number of Years Spent in Jail

Table 3 below revealed that most of the PDLs, of which 58 out of 85 or 68.2 %, have already served 3 years in jail, while 18 of them (21.2 %) have also been incarcerated beyond 3 years. Seven (7) PDLs (8.24 %) have been in jail for 6 months to a year, and only 2 (2.35 %) have served less than 6 months. This signifies that the majority have been detained for three years already or have been convicted and are serving their sentence.

Table 3. Profile of the PDL-Respondents in Terms of no. of Years Spent in Jail

No. of Years Spent in Jail	f	Percentage	
1 DAY - 6 MOS	2	2.35 %	
6 MOS – 1 YR.	7	8.24 %	
1 YR. – 3 YRS.	58	68.2 %	
3 YRS. ABOVE	18	21.2 %	
Total	85	100 %	

Profile of the Respondents (Jail Officers)

Sex

It is reflected in Table 4, that 20 jail officers have participated in the study; 13 or 65 % of them are males, and 7 or 35% are females which implies that majority of the respondents were male officers. Though the Jail Bureau is a male-dominated organization, women have equal representation in the said profession. Moreover, male jail officers oversee the male dormitory, and female jail officers handle the female dorm separately.



Sex	f	Percentage
Male	13	65 %
Female	7	35 %
Total	20	100 %

Table 4. Profile of the Jail Officers-Respondents in Terms of Sex

Age

As shown in Table 5 below, jail officers detailed in Dipolog City Jail are mostly above 43 years old, comprising 45 % of the total respondents. There are 4 personnel aged 28–32, and also 4 were aged 28–42 of which both represents the 20%. The remaining respondents were aged 28–32 years old (15 %). Evidently, most jail officers assigned in Dipolog City Jail are in their 40's already.

Table 5. Profile of the Jail Officers -Respondents in Terms of Age

Age Bracket	f	Percentage
23-27	0	0 %
28-32	4	20 %
33-37	3	15 %
38-42	4	20 %
43 ABOVE	9	45 %
Total	20	100 %

Educational Attainment

Table 6 presents the profile of the respondents with respect to their educational attainment. Among 20 jail officers, 8 or 40% were BS Education graduates, hence the majority. Only 5 or 25% are criminologists, 2 officers or 10 % are Nursing/Medical course graduates, and the other 10 % graduated from a business-related course. Three personnel have degrees in engineering, social science, and other fields, comprising 5 % each of the total number of participants. It shows that, despite the circumstance that the BSCriminology course is aligned with the Jail Bureau, only a few were hired. However, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology caters to various professions for a career opportunity in the government service.



Table 6. Profile of the Jail Officers -Respondents in Terms ofEducational/Attainment/Course

Educational Attainment/Course	f	Percentage
Nursing/Medical Course	2	10 %
Criminology	5	25 %
Education	8	40 %
Engineering	1	5 %
Business Related	2	10 %
Social Sciences	1	5 %
Others	1	5 %
Total	20	100 %

Years in the Service

As revealed in Table 7, most of the respondents have been in the service for 12 to 20 years and beyond. Five officers or 25% have been in the Bureau for 12–15 years, four or 20% have served for 16–19 years, and the other 20% have already served for more than 20 years. Meanwhile, 3 or 15% have served for 8 to 11 years and another 3 (15%) have been in the service for 4 to 7 years. Only 1 officer is new to the service. It is inherent that majority of them have substantial experience in jail management.

No. of Years in the Service	f	Percentage
1-3 yrs.	1	5 %
4 – 7 yrs	3	15 %
8 – 11 yrs	3	15 %
12-15 yrs	5	25 %
16 – 19 yrs	4	20 %
20 yrs. Above	4	20 %
Total	20	100 %

Trainings/Specializations Attended

Table 8 presents the training or specializations attended by jail officers. It revealed that 12 of them or 60 % have participated in relevant trainings associated with the Therapeutic Community Program, 7 or 35 % have attended trainings on Detention and Custody, and only 1 has attended a different training. It can be construed that the Jail Bureau provided various trainings on jail management, custody and safekeeping, rehabilitation programs of which TCMP belongs other germane courses that enhances the capability of the entire force.



Table 8. Profile of the Jail Officers -Respondents in Terms of Training/Specializations Attended

Training/Specializations Attended	f	Percentage
ТСМР	12	60 %
Detention/Custody	7	35 %
Others	1	5 %
Total	20	100 %

The Level of Implementation of Therapeutic Community Modality Program in Dipolog City Jail

Table 9. Level of Implementation of TCM Program in Dipolog City Jail

The Implementation of Thereneutic Community Modelity	PDL		Jail Officers	
The Implementation of Therapeutic Community Modality Program	Weighted	Description	Weighted	Description
Program	Mean	-	Mean	_
The holding of morning meetings, a TCM program, is done				
daily or thrice a week in Dipolog City Jail.	4.89	VMI	4.80	VMI
Presentation of experiences and ideas in front of the				
community circle during morning meetings.	4.87	VMI	4.80	VMI
Holding of open forum and affirmation (giving thanks) every				
morning meetings.	4.71	VMI	4.85	VMI
Pulling-up or calling-up the attention of a PDL who				
disobeyed jail rules during morning meetings.	4.54	VMI	4.80	VMI
Counselling and guidance by a TCMP focal person or any				
assigned jail officer through Pull-Ups.	4.66	VMI	4.75	VMI
Conduct of Bible Study or sharing of the "Verse of the Day"		VMI		VMI
among PDLs.	4.66		4.85	
Conduct of mass in person or via live stream.	4.68	VMI	4.80	VMI
Assembling of "Praise and Worship" services.	4.66	VMI	4.70	VMI
Saying the rosary every 6:00 0 clock in the evening.	4.66	VMI	4.70	VMI
Practicing other religious rites specifically for non-		VMI		VMI
Christians.	4.84		4.60	
"Sunning" every morning.	4.19	MI	4.75	VMI
Performing physical exercises.	4.14	MI	4.80	VMI
Showcasing of talents during Morning Meetings.	4.20	MI	4.60	VMI
Sports and board games are conducted.	4.36	VMI	4.55	VMI
Organization of other recreational activities such as Zumba		MI		VMI
dance, etc.	4.19		4.65	
Provision of livelihood programs such as gardening and other				
agricultural activities.	3.91	MI	4.45	VMI
Conduct of lectures on livelihood programs such bags,				
purses, towel and dressmaking.	4.14	MI	3.50	MI
Cleaning of individual bunkbeds, prison cells and mess halls				
and other routinary tasks.	4.41	VMI	4.80	VMI
Average Weighted Mean	4.48	VMI	4.65	VMI



Table 9 displays the level of implementation of the TCM Program in Dipolog City Jail. Results revealed that Therapeutic Community Modality program in the jail institution was Very Much Implemented with an average weighted mean of 4.48 and 4.65 respectively.

It relatively aligns with the study of Bondad (2020), that TCMP programs is Much Implemented in various jails throughout the provinces of Nueva Ecija. Magudayao and Battang (2013) stated that TC is practiced in 94% of BJMP manned Jails in Region 2. Additionally, Escabel et al. (2015) also averred that therapeutic modality programs are implemented in Batangas City Jail such as education, sport, religion, and livelihood skills training. Medical services are also given to inmates, and the jail offers an alternative learning system and holds regular mass. This indicates that the Therapeutic Community Modality Program, as mandated by the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, has been implemented in all jail facilities across the nation.

In contrary, Verdadero (2020) however revealed that various programs of TC Ladderized Program for probationers both on Relational or Behavioral Management and Cognitive or Intellectual is "Often" implemented.

Moreover, the study found that activities under the TC Program, specifically, the holding of morning meetings with a weighted mean of 4.89; the sharing of experiences during morning meetings with a weighted mean of 4.87; practicing other religious rites (4.84); open forum and affirmation (4.71); holy mass via in-person or live stream (4.68); guidance counselling, bible study, saying the rosary and praise and worship services with a similar weighted mean of 4.66; pull-ups (4.54); sports and board games (4.36); cleaning of beds or cells and other routinary tasks with a weighted mean of 4.41 are assessed as "Very Much Implemented" by the PDLs. Other activities were likewise described by the PDLs as "Much Implemented," of which physical exercises and conducting livelihood lectures both had the lowest weighted mean of 4.14. On the contrary, BJMP personnel perceived all TC activities as "Very Much Implemented" except for conducting livelihood lectures, which has a weighted mean of 3.50, which is interpreted as "Much Implemented."

Notably, the holding of morning meetings, open forum, affirmation, and bible study ranked first among in-jail programs with the highest weighted mean of 4.89 and 4.85, respectively. It corroborates with the study of Bondad (2020) that sharing of bible verses among the inmates got the highest mean.

Additionally, every morning meeting, PDLs are able to impart their experiences or thoughts, which allows openness among fellow PDLs and enhances their personalities and perspectives in life that serves as a catalyst in their quest for reformation. It aligns with the study of Dioses et al. (2019) that probationers under the TC program revolved around personality development trainings, and as a result of having internalized the program and developing a positive outlook on life, they exhibit positive actions. The results also show that sharing "verses of the day" among PDLs invigorates their beliefs and spiritual attachment.

Chan (2021) also established that intellectual and spiritual treatment using therapeutic community program modalities such as moral, spiritual, values formation; literacy and education; sports and physical fitness were effective in the rehabilitation of the respondents. Escabel, et al. (2015) also found that TC Programs in Batangas City Jail specifically work and educational therapy services, livelihood skill training, counseling & religious services, and medical services

are also deemed effective.

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Thus, this study confirms that behavioral management and spiritual upliftment are the optimal approaches among TC rehabilitative programs. This also in conformity with the findings of Mariano (2019) that participants in his study displayed behavioral changes or development in their behavior.

The Extent of PDL's Involvement in the Implementation of TC Program in the Dipolog City Jail

Table 10. Extent of PDL's Involvement in the Implementation of TC Program in theDipolog City Jail

	PDL		Jail Officers	
The Extent of PDL's Involvement in the Implementation of TC Program	Weigh	Descript	Weig	Descr
in the Dipolog City Jail	ted Mean	ion	hted	iption
			Mean	
Participation during morning meetings.	4.65	VMI	4.89	VMI
Take part of sharing of experiences/ideas in front of the community				
circle.	4.65	VMI	4.75	VMI
Participation in Open Forum and Affirmation.	4.60	VMI	4.50	VMI
During Pull-ups in morning meetings.	4.48	VMI	4.50	VMI
Guidance and Counselling.	4.48	VMI	4.65	VMI
Bible Study.	4.59	VMI	4.85	VMI
Mass and other Religious Activities.	4.55	VMI	4.80	VMI
Saying the rosary every 6:00 0 clock in the evening.	4.58	VMI	4.75	VMI
The conduct of "Sunning" and physical exercise every morning.	4.64	VMI	4.75	VMI
Participation during talent shows.	4.61	VMI	4.55	VMI
Sports and board games.	4.71	VMI	4.60	VMI
Recreational activities such as Zumba dance.	4.60	VMI	4.70	VMI
Gardening and other agricultural activities.	4.54	VMI	4.55	VMI
Lectures/Workshops for livelihood programs.	4.53	VMI	4.20	MI
Routinary tasks such cleaning and organizing stuff in cells.	4.84	VMI	4.75	VMI
Average Weighted Mean	4.60	VMI	4.65	VMI

Table 10 reveals the extent of PDLs' involvement of the implementation of TC program in the Dipolog city jail. It can be seen that PDLs are Very Much Involved in the TC program based on the average weighted mean of 4.60 and 4.65 as rated separately by PDLs and jail personnel. The results of the study contradict the findings of Bondad (2020), of which inmates in city and municipal jails in Nueva Ecija are "Quite Involved" in the implementation of TCMP.

PDLs confined in Dipolog City Jail are highly involved especially in doing their routine tasks such as cleaning and organizing, which has a weighted mean of 4.84. Next is engaging in sports or board games, with a weighted mean of 4.71, followed by participation during the morning meetings and sharing of experiences, both with a weighted mean of 4.65. Apparently, jail officers also observed that PDLs are Very Much Involved in morning meetings with a weighted mean of 4.89. Subsequent to that, officers have also stated that PDLs had much involvement during Bible study (4.85 weighted mean), mass and other religious activities (with a weighted mean of 4.80), and sharing of experiences or ideas, saying the rosary, sunning and routinary tasks (all has a weighted mean of 4.75). However, though PDLs are Very Much Involved in general, Pull-ups, guidance & counselling, and lectures on livelihood programs got the lowest weighted mean of 4.48. The study suggest that PDLs are exceptionally participative in all activities under the TCM program. They value the importance of the program towards rehabilitation and how it ultimately prepares them for re-entry into the community.

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The Degree on the Severity of Problems Encountered by Dipolog City Jail in the Implementation of TC Program

Degree On The	PDL		Jail Officers	
Severity Of Problems	Weighted Mean	Description	Weighted Mean	Description
Encountered By	8		8	1
Dipolog City Jail In				
The Implementation				
Of TC Program				
PDLs refuses to		NS		NS
participate in the				
program.	1.80		1.35	
The PDLs are hesitant		NS		NS
on the program.	1.80		1.25	
PDLs are not motivated		NS		NS
to participate/join.	1.75		1.25	
The PDLs are unwilling		NS		NS
to reform.	1.75		1.20	
Lack of rapport/trust of		NS		NS
PDLs towards their				
facilitators.	1.35		1.25	
Average Weighted		NS		NS
Mean	1.69		1.26	

 Table 11. Degree on the Severity of Problems Encountered by Dipolog City Jail in the Implementation of TC Program

Table 11 indicates the degree on the severity of problems encountered during the implementation of the TC program in Dipolog City Jail. Data revealed that problems during the implementation of the TC program were Not Severe based on the average weighted mean of 1.69 and 1.26, respectively. The finding is supported by the study of Bondad (2020), of which it determined that the problems on the implementation of TCMP in Nueva Ecija jail facilities are Slightly Serious.



Among the problems encountered in jail, refusal to participate and hesitancy on the program rank the highest with a weighted mean of 1.80. It was mentioned by the TC focal person that these issues are common for those who are first-time inmates or those who have recently been incarcerated but eventually learned to adapt as well. As viewed by the PDLs, the lack of rapport or trust towards their facilitators is a minimal issue with a weighted mean of 1.35, which means that they established a good relationship with the jail officers. Jail officers contrastingly observed, that there are PDLs that are unwilling to reform, with a weighted mean of 1.20.

Consequently, jail officers and PDLs asserted that even though problems do exist in the implementation, nonetheless, they are manageable and trivial because PDLs are committed and facilitators are likewise dedicated to the Therapeutic Community Modality Program. The study of Lafadchan (2018), further affirms that there are issues which need to be addressed in order to continuously attain its objectives. This somehow opposed the findings of Verdadero (2020) that majority of the respondents never encountered problems while undergoing Therapeutic Community Ladderized Program both under Relational or Behavioral Management and Cognitive or Intellectual.

IV. Conclusion

The study concludes that Dipolog City Jail effectively implements the Therapeutic Community Modality Program which adheres to the mandate of the BJMP to adopt the TCM program as one of the reformative methods. Behavior management and spiritual aspects topped among TC rehabilitative approaches employed. PDLs rehabilitated in this jail facility were committed to their reformation and ultimate reintegration into society. Problems existed during the implementation of TCMP, but they were not severe, and such issues were deemed manageable.

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