

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: 5/31/23, 11:15 AM
Received: May 28, 2023
Status: Posted
Posted: May 31, 2023
Category: C20
Tracking No. li8-8rkr-273m
Comments Due: May 30, 2023
Submission Type: Web

Docket: SSA-2023-0006

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request and Comment Request

Comment On: SSA-2023-0006-0001

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals

Document: SSA-2023-0006-0002

Comment from Isaac, Darcus

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General Comment

Social Security Administration [Docket No. SSA-2023-0006] Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals.

The SSA is requesting clearance to collect data necessary to evaluate an intervention. This intervention, under ICAP (Interventional Cooperative Agreement Program) is intending to directly impact inmates who suffer from SPMI (serious persistent mental illness), inside county jails potentially throughout the nation. Investigators guesstimate that untreated mental illness and repeated psychiatric traumas may be a factor in jail recidivism. The SSA have implemented a study utilizing the inmates of four county jails in the state of Georgia to ascertain whether there is a direct reliable connection between inmates who suffer from SPMI and jail recidivism. I am a bit concerned about the practical utility of this information and the potential for inadvertent dissemination of confidential information as a consequence of the accessibility by the many organizations that have access to such information. The SSA has partnered with the State of Georgia's CJCC (Criminal Justice Coordinating Council), Applied Research Services, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, MES (Medicaid Eligibility Specialists), FPM's (Forensic Peer Mentors) and various other non-federal groups. Each inmate who suffers from SPMI must subject his/her personal information amongst these organizations for assessments among other things. This project identified as SOAR (Social Outreach Access Recovery) utilized 90 total participants for the year in its study, but is that a realistic number considering the staggering numbers of inmates located in Fulton County Jail and Cobb County Jail alone. These are only two of the four jails comprised in this study. SPMI is a very serious issue, which has been inappropriately addressed for sometime now. Coordinating all of the participating agencies to coalesce their energies and intentions to facilitate the funding of these inmates, may very well be the greater challenge.