



DRUG POLICY RESEARCH CENTER

Can a 24/7 Sobriety program pay for itself? An assessment of program requirements, costs, and burden

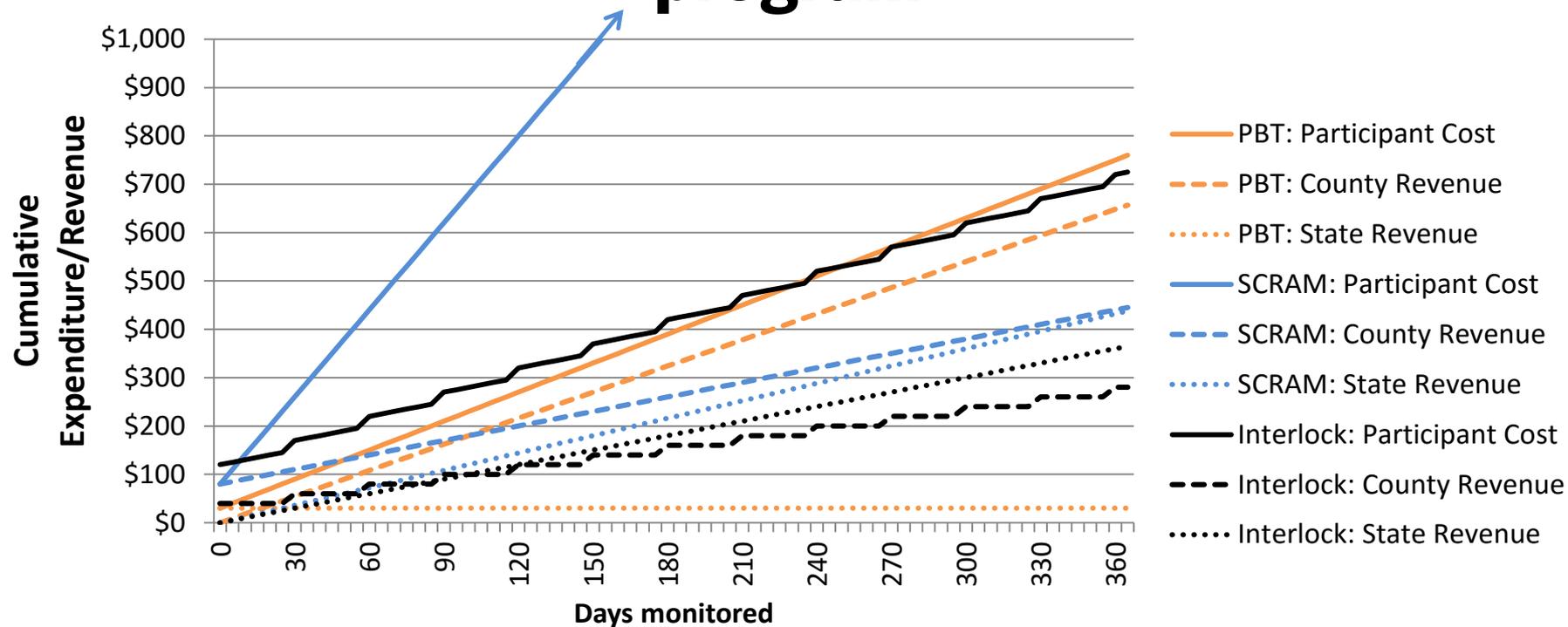
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South Dakota's program more than pays for itself

- **At the state level**, after initial investment, fee revenues pay the program's entire budget
- **Counties with large programs** benefit from economies of scale
- **For smaller counties without existing jails**, fees may not cover its costs, but they can be (and are) reimbursed by the state for costs exceeding revenue
- **From a social welfare perspective**, the program's benefits far outweigh its costs

Revenue directly relates to the size of the program



	PBT	SCRAM	Interlock
Direct monetary cost to participants	$2x+30$	$6x+80$	$x+120$
Revenue to the AGO	30	$1.2x$	x
Revenue to county	$1.8x$	$80+1x$	$40+20 \times \lfloor x/30 \rfloor$
Marginal revenue to product/service vendors	$0.2x$	$3.8x$	Unknown

Costs depend on the program's specifics and vary from site to site

- Program administrator salary, insurance, and benefits
- Test technician training
- Data management
- Facilities cost
- Test technician wages
- Testing devices and maintenance components
- Device costs (PBT, CAM, Interlock, Remote PBT)
- Costs associated with the program's effect on jail occupancy
- Police/deputy labor time serving warrants

The most important investment is in coordination

- Effectiveness depends closely on local fidelity
 - Law enforcement, courts, corrections, probation, treatment must understand and fulfill their responsibilities
- The program hinges on consistency, certainty and immediacy
- Delayed or inconsistent consequences, the perception of randomness or arbitrariness, and a lack of understanding of requirements among participants undermine the program
 - These are all a consequence of poor coordination