

Virginia's Intensive Case Monitoring Program (ICMP)

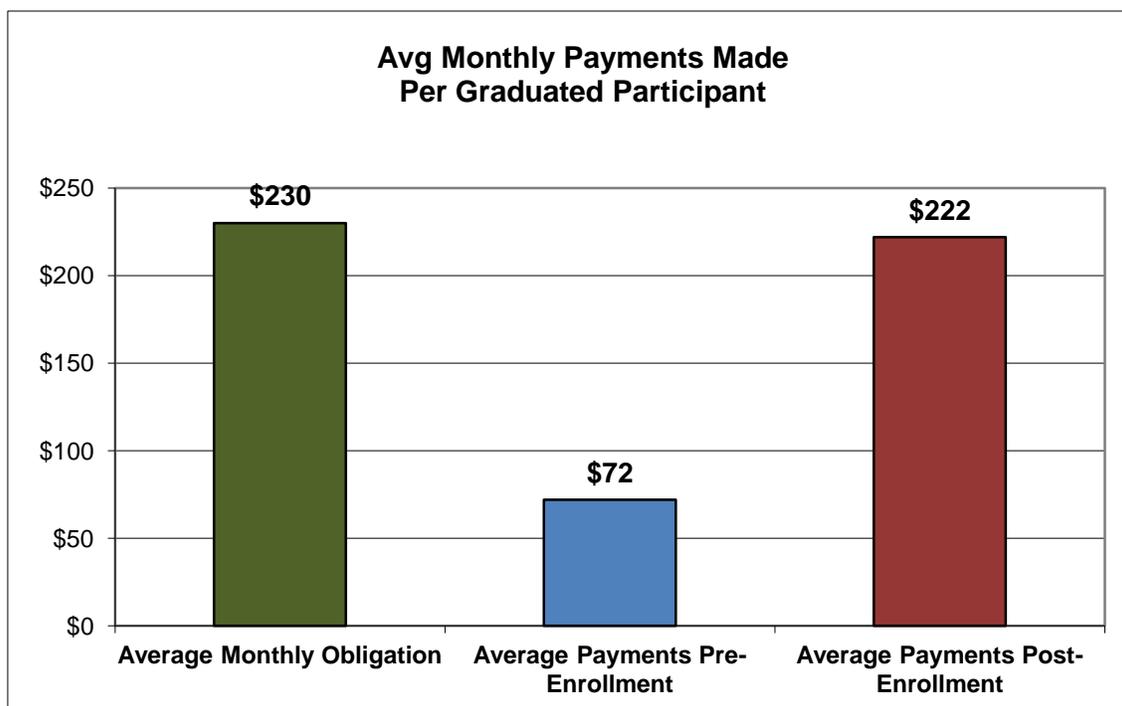
ICMP is an innovative program in the Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE) that provides judges with an alternative to incarceration when noncustodial parents (NCPs) fail to pay child support. Parents facing incarceration for failure to pay are entered into the ICMP by the court to be closely monitored by a Case Manager who, with the help of a network of community partners, also assists them in securing employment, housing, education, and other services needed to overcome barriers that have made them historically less likely to support their children.

ICMP was established by Virginia's General Assembly in 2008. Pilot programs were initiated in four judicial districts, where results quickly confirmed that ICMP participation had a positive impact on NCPs' child support payments. This, plus the cost savings to the Commonwealth by not incarcerating the parents, led to a decision to replicate the program in other judicial districts. To date, 16 additional ICMP sites have been established across the state.

Noncustodial parents who actively participate and establish an ability to pay support are released from the program by the court and graduate. Those who refuse to participate as ordered are dropped and, at the Judge's discretion, may be ordered to jail.

Graduates from ICMP show dramatic increases in their level of support for their children. Many are able to meet both their current support obligations and make modest payments toward their arrearages. To a lesser extent, even NCPs who are dropped from the program increase the amount of support paid. The increased financial support from ICMP participants provides basic necessities that help families move toward self sufficiency; and the Commonwealth saves the cost that in the past, would have been spent incarcerating these individuals.

Through February 2012, the 1075 participants ordered into the ICMP program have paid over \$3.3 million in child support.



Average Paid Monthly Per Participant

