

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

“Volunteering in Prison”

John R. Kasich, Governor

Gary C. Mohr, Director



Ohio HB 113 passed by the 127th Ohio General Assembly in March 2008. This bill requires the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) to permit representatives of nonprofit faith-based, business, professional, civic, educational, and community organizations that are registered with DRC to enter institutions and provide voluntary offender reentry programs and services.

While the new law requires DRC to recruit nonprofit organizations from all faiths and beliefs, it prohibits the agency from endorsing or sponsoring any faith-based reentry program or endorsing any specific religious message. DRC may not require an inmate to participate in a faith-based program.

Under HB113, the agency is expected to issue an annual report on progress implementing the recommendations of the Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force to members of the Correctional Institution Inspection Committee. The Task Force, which included representatives from six state agencies, the legislature, and the faith community, was charged with completing the following duties within one year of its inception (October 2006):

- Study faith-based and community solutions to correctional system problems by focusing on programs and services for incarcerated individuals and their families, diversion programs, and faith-based/ nonprofit programs and services;
- Examine existing faith-based/nonprofit programs in Ohio prisons and other states and the possibility of program replication;
- Develop model programs to reduce adult recidivism.

The Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force concluded its examination and made recommendations of changes to the system in four major areas: 1) alternatives to incarceration, 2) prison programming, 3) reentry programming, and 4) infrastructure.

This annual report represents the accomplishments and achievements made by DRC in 2010, to meet the recommendations of the Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force. DRC is committed to building a seamless continuum from courts to facilities back to the community. This is a critical goal of the agency. We trust that you will find the information provided in this report helpful in assessing the efforts to address the reentry needs of offenders.

Sincerely,

Gary C. Mohr
DRC Director

Table of Contents

Director’s Letter.....	iii
Recommendation 1.....	1
Recommendation 2.....	2
Recommendation 3.....	3
Recommendation 4.....	4
Recommendation 5.....	4
Recommendation 6.....	5
Recommendation 7.....	6
Recommendation 8.....	6
Recommendation 9.....	7
Recommendation 10.....	8
Recommendation 11.....	9
Recommendation 12.....	11
Recommendation 13.....	13
Recommendation 14.....	14
Recommendation 15.....	15
Recommendation 16.....	16
Conclusion.....	17
Addendums.....	18

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction should be encouraged, wherever practical, to utilize faith-based and community programs that address documented criminogenic needs. This agency, in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, should make available to the faith community examples of evidence-based programming that have been shown to impact offenders' lives.

Recommendation 2: The Director of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction should work with wardens to develop programs that will facilitate a cultural change in institutions to encourage collaboration with faith-based and community service providers.

Recommendation 3: The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction should develop a marketing plan to assist in recruiting volunteers from the community and faith-based institutions. The plan should also discuss educating volunteers about the justice system.

Recommendation 4: The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction should develop a standard training program for staff, volunteers, and the community to facilitate working in institutions together.

Recommendation 5: Revise Ohio law to remove unnecessary and unreasonable collateral sanctions which inhibit offenders' successful reentry.

Recommendation 6: Improvement should be made in the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction with regard to communication about programs and services between staff and volunteers; staff and the community; and other parts of the criminal justice system and the community.

Recommendation 7: Revise statutes to increase judicial use of community options for non-violent offenders so prison space can be reserved for violent offenders.

Recommendation 8: Encourage faith-based and community programs to supplement existing community and diversionary programs for offenders and provide services that are not currently available.

Recommendation 9: State agencies need to take a more active role in linking with the faith-based community to develop programs to meet the gaps in services to adult and juvenile offenders.

Recommendations (continued)

Recommendation 10: The Departments of Rehabilitation and Correction, Youth Services, and Job and Family Services should, in partnership, expand efforts to work with the employment centers and faith community to increase practical employment opportunities for offenders in the community. A job placement program should be implemented, focusing on the following:

- Providing information on job fairs to ex-offenders.
- Education of businesses/employers on the benefits of hiring ex-offenders.
- Incentives for employers to hire ex-offenders (i.e., tax breaks).
- Increased involvement of faith-based and community groups.

Recommendation 11: The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction should work with the faith community and faith volunteers to develop and expand programs within the institutions.

Recommendation 12: The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction should expand partnerships with national organizations including faith-based and community organizations to provide programming in state institutions.

Recommendation 13: The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction should involve the faith community, when appropriate, in the development of release plans for the offender that flow from the institution to community reentry.

Recommendation 14: Develop methods to increase and encourage the involvement of the faith community in various reentry efforts, and to encourage collaboration among faith groups.

Recommendation 15: To address housing issues, the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction should inform offenders of various options before leaving prison or immediately upon release. This could be accomplished through seminars, with free legal or consultation services, along with the increased involvement of the faith community.

Recommendation 16: The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction will partner with grassroots and community organizations in an educational effort towards the general public aimed at decreasing the negative stigma of ex-offenders and making the public aware of the needs involved in the process of reentry.

RECOMMENDATION

1 *DRC should be encouraged, wherever practical, to utilize faith-based and community programs that address documented “Criminogenic Needs”. This agency should make available to the faith community examples of evidence-based programming that have been shown to impact offenders’ lives.*

The Ohio Adult Parole Authority (APA) has been working to implement Evidence Based Practices (EBP) in the supervision of offenders in the community. All APA staff completed training in the use of evidence-based techniques and it remains a high priority. The APA leadership publishes each month, a research based, practical application of Evidence Based Practices in the supervision of offenders. Copies of this information are made available to the local Re-entry Coalition partners. This information will assist the community partners in understanding the importance of Evidence Based Practices on offender supervision.

DRC continues to run the *Thinking for a Change* (T4C) curriculum in all prisons, APA regions and community centers. To date, DRC has trained approximately 414 DRC staff, faith-based organizations, and community volunteers/providers in the T4C curriculum. In May of 2011, the National Institute of Corrections unveiled a revised T4C curriculum. At the core, the concepts, theory, and model of T4C remains the same; however, changes include the replacement of several social skills, reorganization and expansion of several lessons, and additional modeling scenarios including a more detailed script of the lessons. DRC plans to implement the revised curriculum in the fall or early winter of 2011, following the completion of the data collection phase for the evaluation of the program.

In partnership with the Governor’s Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives (GOFBCI), DRC Family Reentry staff provided oversight for seven *Strengthening Family Reentry Programs* which are housed in nine institutions located throughout Ohio and service 27 counties. To date, community providers and their local faith based partners have provided family case management for 277 families, which includes 588 children. The program is offered 3–6 months prior to the offender’s release and continues in the community for an additional 3-6 months with post release services. The prisons with the *Strengthening Family Reentry Programs* are London Correctional Institution, Richland Correctional Institution, Ohio Reformatory for Women, Franklin Pre-Release Center, Allen Correctional Institution, Dayton Correctional Institution, Noble Correctional Institution, Chillicothe Correctional Institution, Mansfield Correctional Institution Camp and Toledo Correctional Camp (prior to closing).

Grafton Correctional Institution’s Excel Award winning *Faith-Based Family Reintegration Program* is another strong collaborative effort with the Cleveland Eastside Ex-Offender Coalition. The Coalition is an inter-faith, non profit partnership of churches, social service organizations, businesses, and other non-profit service providers. The agency’s mission is to provide compassionate services to Ohio’s incarcerated population and their families to improve their overall quality of

life socially, financially, academically, emotionally and spiritually. Carol Jean Gates, Executive Director, and Jimmy Gates, Mentoring Services Coordinator, are working with offenders within two years of their return to the community.

RECOMMENDATION

2 *The Director of DRC should work with wardens to develop programs that will facilitate a cultural change in institutions to encourage collaboration with faith-based and community service providers.*

DRC encourages the assistance of faith-based and community service organizations to provide programs and services that will enhance an offender's quality of life and impact the overall culture of the prison.

The greatest contribution to change in prison culture is the presence of dedicated volunteers who provide programs and mentoring to the offenders. These volunteers break down communication barriers and other obstacles that limit program effectiveness, such as attitude, commitment and accountability.

Programs like Kairos, Prison Fellowship, Horizon Interfaith Ministry, Promise Keepers and other local programs are designed to meet the needs of offenders from a holistic perspective.



Kairos Prison Ministry is a major contributor to cultural change in prisons. Kairos is an ecumenical Christian ministry with a mission to help grow and nurture strong Christian communities within the prison system. This is done through "Kairos Inside", a three day event that is facilitated inside the prison. In addition to this program, Kairos conducts the following programs to provide support and mentoring to Kairos graduates: Kairos Prayer and Share and Kairos Monthly Reunions.

Kairos Inside events are currently held in thirteen (13) prisons in DRC. In 2010, Kairos leaders met with prison administrators at Ohio State Penitentiary (OSP), London Correctional Institution (LoCI), Pickaway Correctional Institution (PCI) and Allen Correctional Institution (ACI) in an effort to expand the "Kairos Inside" programs. With the assistance of dedicated volunteers and financial support from the Kairos Community, DRC anticipates expanding "Kairos Inside" to additional prisons. For more information, please visit: www.kairosprisonministry.org.



Horizon Prison Ministry

In addition to expanding Kairos, DRC is also anticipates the expansion of the Horizon Prison Ministry. This ministry was established in 2000 as an outgrowth of the Kairos Prison Ministry program. Horizon Prison Ministry works to restore the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated to healthy purposeful living through

mentoring, education, skill training, and spiritual growth. Horizon brings the larger community into the process of restoring offenders back to society, reducing their recidivism and dependence on government social programs.

Horizon Prison Ministry currently facilitates programming in the Inter-Faith Dorm at Marion Correctional Institution and Chillicothe Correctional Institution. Forty-eight offenders recently graduated from the program at Marion; and there are currently 70 offenders in the program at Chillicothe. Horizon Prison Ministry is recruiting volunteers and resources to facilitate Inter-Faith Prison Ministry programming at London Correctional Institution. For more information, please visit: www.horizonprisonministry.org.

There are numerous faith-based and community programs and services provided to offenders in DRC. Some of them are listed throughout this report and others are recorded in attached addendums.

RECOMMENDATION

3 *DRC should develop a marketing plan to assist in recruiting volunteers from the community and faith-based institutions. The plan should also discuss educating volunteers about the justice system.*

In 2011, the volunteer webpage was updated on the DRC website. The following sections were designed to provide information to potential volunteers:

- Frequently Asked Questions;
- House Bill 113 Annual Report;
- Volunteer Application Form and Volunteer Hotline information and email address.
- Ohio Benefit Bank; and
- Community Partner for Reentry Initiative.

The website address is: www.drc.ohio.gov/web/volunteers.htm.

In 2010 and 2011, DRC expanded several volunteer programs. Due to productive meetings with Religious Services, Recovery Services and Office of Offender Reentry, the following volunteer programs were established and/or expanded throughout DRC:

- Kairos Ohio, Mike Nofzinger, Chairperson
- Horizon Prison Ministry, Jeff Hunsaker, Executive Director
- Gospel Express, Mervin Wengard Executive Director
- Shining Light Ministries, Jeffrey Bohn, Executive Director
- Native American Services, Matt Sherman,

- Arnold Jenkins, Director of Media Operations at “The Word” Church in Cleveland Ohio.
- Christine Money, Associated Director of Crossroad Community Development Corporation
- Curtis Johnson, Urban Institute Bible College
- Tim Jackson, Bill Glass Ministry
- Ohio Muslim Council on Prisons
- Barbara Coury, Charity Children’s Ministry
- Aleph Institute – Jewish Services
- Wings Ministry

RECOMMENDATION

4 *DRC should develop a standard training program for staff, volunteers, and the community to facilitate working in institutions together.*

DRC continues to implement Policy 71-SOC-01, which is a department-wide policy that provides guidelines and procedures for volunteer recruitment, training and supervision of volunteers.

In 2011, the Pre-Service Training at the Corrections Training Academy was revised to better educate new employees about House Bill 113 and faith diversity. DRC has a diverse faith community within the prison system, which requires a good understanding of faith tenets and religious accommodations. Training is facilitated by Religious Services.

RECOMMENDATION

5 *Revise Ohio law to remove unnecessary and unreasonable collateral sanctions which inhibit offenders’ successful reentry.*

The Ohio Public Defender’s Office, Ohio Justice and Policy Center, Attorney General’s Office and DRC partnered to implement an online collateral sanctions database system. This database was fully implemented in 2011, displaying the full range and impact of collateral sanctions on ex-offenders. The database is currently available to criminal justice system stakeholders, including judges, prosecutors and defense counsel at www.opd.ohio.gov/CIVICC.

The Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition continues to provide an avenue to discuss collateral sanctions and other factors that limit the success of ex-offenders.

RECOMMENDATION

G *Improvement should be made in DRC with regard to communication about programs and services between staff and volunteers; staff and the community; and other parts of the criminal justice system and the community.*

House Bill 130 formulated the Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition to serve as a guiding hub for expanding and improving reentry efforts across the state. There are appropriately 30 local reentry task forces. The statutory memberships is comprised of the following agencies: Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Aging Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, Commerce, Development, Education, Health, Job and Family Services, Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, Public Safety, Youth Services, Ohio Board of Regents, Governor's Office of Faith-Based Community Initiatives, Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission and Ohio Health Care Licensing Board. Community and faith-based organizations, service providers, and local government are invited to participate in the mission and actions of the Reentry Coalition as at-large members. Gary Mohr, Director of Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, is the Coalition Chair.

Quarterly Coalition meetings are currently held throughout the state. On April 27, 2011, in conjunction with the National Institute of Justice, the Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition presented the following presentations at the Judge Nancy R. McDonnell Community Based Correctional Facility in Cleveland Ohio: *"Criminal Stigma, Race, Gender and Employment: An Expanded Assessment of the Consequence of Imprisonment on Employment"* and *"The Importance of the Blumstein, Pager, Decker Studies: Policy and Program Implications"* presented by Brandi Collins, Research Associate and Program Manager for Safer Foundation.

The primary goals of the Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition are to: (1) reintegrate offenders into society, (2) reduce recidivism, and (3) maintain public safety. Additional information about the Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition is available at the following website: www.reentrycoalition.ohio.gov.

In addition to the above activities, institutions conduct Resources and Employment Fairs and other community forums to connect offenders with faith-based and community resources. The STAR program is an example of this effort. Lorain Correctional Institution initiated the STAR (Successful Transitional after Release) collaboration with Adult Parole Authority. Staff members, community organizations and volunteer mentors participate in forums held in the prison to assist offenders in obtaining available resources and information prior to release.

Prison community advisory boards, local support agency meetings, college criminal justice programs are also methods utilized to bring awareness of DRC programs and services.

RECOMMENDATION

7 *Revise statutes to increase judicial use of community options for non-violent offenders so prison space can be reserved for violent offenders.*

On June 29, 2011 HB 86 (Ohio Prison Reform Bill) was signed by Governor John R. Kasich. The legislation implements a number of recommendations from the Council of State Government (CSG) Justice Reinvestment Report. The following new provisions were added in the Substitute Bill:

- Director of DRC can petition sentencing court for judicial release of inmate who has stated prison term longer than one year who has served at least 85% of their sentence.
- Eliminate the distinction between criminal penalties of drug offenses involving crack and powder cocaine.
- Expands eligibility to persons charged with specified theft and other offenses. Makes low level drug traffickers and felony 4 drug possession offenses eligible for treatment in lieu of conviction.

HB 86 contains a number of other provisions targeting low-level non-violent offenders that will result in significant cost savings in the State budget and reduce overcrowding in DRC. In addition, many of these offenders will remain in the local community where they will continue and/or seek employment, pay taxes and child support, and maintain family support and responsibilities.

RECOMMENDATION

8 *Encourage faith-based and community programs to supplement existing community and diversionary programs for offenders and provide services that are not currently available.*

In Fiscal Year 2010, the Ohio legislature allocated additional funds to DRC to enhance and expand community corrections. The Bureau of Community Sanctions solicited proposals from Community Correction Act programs to address offenders whose primary offenses were failure to pay child support. The Bureau is also looking into gaps in local services for offenders such as mental health and substance abuse. Performance measures were negotiated with each program to insure that the funding had the desired impact.

Faith-based and community organizations are actively involved in providing services to supplement existing community corrections programs. There are 19 Community Based Correctional Facilities (CBCF) in Ohio that service every Ohio county. These facilities are highly structured and secure.

They provide substance abuse treatment, cognitive skills, job training and placement assistance, and a required completion of a community service program.

RECOMMENDATION



State agencies need to take a more active role in linking with the faith-based community to develop programs to meet the gaps in services to adult and juvenile offenders.

The Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition's website is a clearinghouse for resources, community service events, research findings on evidence-based practices, funding opportunities and highlights of local reentry efforts. The website provides timely, accurate and useful information about reentry programming opportunities throughout the state of Ohio. In addition to the general information, the website also provides information about public forums and documents that will assist individuals in applying for resources and supportive services. Information about non-profit organizations and community events are also included. The website address is www.reentrycoalition.ohio.gov.

DRC continues to communicate with the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives on community grant opportunities, such as the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program that awarded \$1.62 million for fiscal year 2010 – 2011. The Alvis House Family Enhancement Program was awarded this grant; and is currently providing services to offenders returning to Franklin County. The Alvis House target offenders within 6 months to release from prison, who have children in the community. The offender and the care-giver for the children agree to participate in rebuilding the relationship and connection with the child, and develop effective parenting skills.

Mansfield Urban Minority Alcohol and Drug Abuse Outreach (MUMADAOP) also provides a program that targets offenders returning to Richland County and the surrounding counties upon release, who have a desire to co-parent biological children, and who are within 3 to 8 months from release. Offenders participating in this program are transferred to Richland Correctional Institution or Mansfield Correctional Institution. While in the program, offenders work for family reunification through family advocacy, enhanced visits with meals, interactive parenting classes with their children, pro-social activities, and assistance with procuring needed services and resources.

In addition to these two program providers, similar services are offered by Lucas County Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime, Opportunities Industrialization Center of Clark County and Talbert House.

Dayton Correctional Institution, in conjunction with Spirit of Peace CDC, provides a mentoring reentry program to offenders returning to Montgomery County areas. Spirit of Peace is a faith-

based program designed to provide holistic case management and job search training skills to violent, non-violent, high-risk and high-need adults who have served at least 12 consecutive months in prison.

Grafton Correctional Institution also provides a mentoring program with the Gospel House Church. All volunteers are trained to mentor offenders, utilizing DRC and Prison Fellowship training materials. Monthly mentoring sessions are held with offenders and their mentors.

Lorain Correctional Institution has numerous volunteer faith-based programs that assist offenders in reentry planning. The Faith Ministry Christian Center's "Anorthoo" program provides a place of worship upon release from prison and mentoring for successful community reentry. "Anorthoo" means to restore and strengthen. The goal of this program is to provide at-risk families with assistance in chemical dependency, family planning, career development and other reentry services.

RECOMMENDATION

10 *DRC, Department of Youth Services, and Job and Family Services should, in partnership, expand efforts to work with the employment centers and faith community to increase practical employment opportunities for offenders in the community.*

Offender Network for Employment

O.N.E. (Offender Network for Employment) is collaboration between the DRC, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and local workforce development to address recidivism and reintegration barriers. The program ensures that offenders have an understanding of the job market, available opportunities within specific markets and better prepared to search and gain employment upon release. Two pilot programs are tentatively scheduled to begin operations in 2011 at Marion Correctional Institution and Trumbull Correctional Institution.

DRC Reentry/Workforce Development

Reentry/Workforce Development is designed to enhance opportunities for successful employment and retention of returning citizens. Innovative pre and post release services are solicited to meet the needs of individuals returning to the community.

The Federal Bonds program is another area of responsibility for the Re-entry/Workforce Development section. This employment incentive program is designed as a post release service to encourage the business community to consider hiring ex-offenders. Fidelity Bond Insurance is effective for six months with a coverage amount of \$5000. Additional coverage amounts may be awarded on a case review basis.

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit and the Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit Program are additional incentive programs promoted by DRC in partnership with Job and Family Services to encourage employers to hire ex-offenders and/or hard-to-hire job seekers.

North Star Neighborhood Reentry Resource Center

The North Star Neighborhood Reentry Resource Center (NRRC) operated by Oriana House in Cleveland, Ohio is a new service that aids those involved in the criminal justice system and their families with the challenges associated with reentry. NRRC provides computer training, employment services, self-help meetings, faith-based programming, Citizen Circles, vouchers for identification documents, voice mail service, life skills, free healthcare clinics and screening, food stamp sign-up, counseling services, free clothing referrals and assessments for Ohio Benefit Bank Services. In the past two years, North Star Reentry Resource Center has assisted 213 inmates from Belmont Correctional Institution with post-release employment.

City Mission

Volunteers from City Mission visit offenders in DRC to facilitate religious studies, correspondence studies and intake screening for their Crisis Centers. City Mission provides a bridge to the local church and community by providing a safe, secure and stable living environment. City Mission provides emergency housing, long term programming, job placement services, re-entry skill building classes and family support. Information about City Mission is made available throughout DRC. Prisons, like Lorain Correctional Institution, have experienced many success stories from formerly incarcerated offenders who graduated from the City Mission Program.

RECOMMENDATION

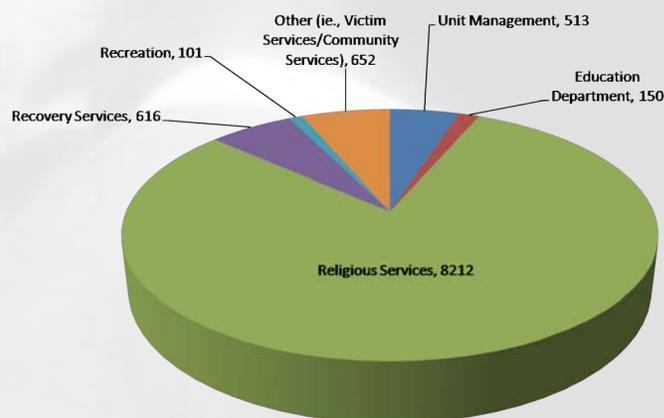


DRC should work with the faith community and faith volunteers to develop and expand programs within the institutions.

DRC recognizes the value of committed volunteers. There is a long history of volunteers from the faith community providing services to incarcerated offenders in Ohio. The chart below represents the number of active volunteers in DRC. The chart also illustrates the type of services provided by DRC volunteers.

ACTIVE VOLUNTEER COUNT

10,244 Approved Faith-based and community volunteers (April, 2011)



DRC currently has over 10,000 approved volunteers providing an assortment of programs and services. With the faith community representing the majority of these volunteers, DRC chapels are full of activity, to include Protestant Worship Services, Discipleship and Bible Studies, Jehovah Witness Instruction, Catholic Instruction and Mass, Bible College Coursework, Kairos Weekends and Monthly Reunions, Islamic Classes and Jumma Prayer, Buddhist services, Native American services, Jewish Services, mentoring sessions, life-skill workshops, specialized reentry related programs and other religious affiliation activities.

Dedicated community volunteers from Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) groups provide ancillary support services to offenders participating in alcohol and other drug recovery services facilitated by DRC counselors. These volunteers also provide community support for offenders returning to the local communities through the release preparation process. Volunteers provide a positive influence in generating and maintaining interest in drug treatment programs in the institution and reinforcing the concepts of relapse prevention.

Victim Services recruit community volunteers to provide programs and services that adheres to the restorative justice philosophy. These programs are provided throughout DRC. In 2010, Victim Services increased the number of volunteers available to provide victim awareness programs in the community. Sixty-three (63) community members were added as program facilitators. Community volunteers are also involved in the Victim-Offender Dialogue program.

Recovery Services utilize volunteers on a regular basis. Each institution incorporates community volunteers in Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Codependents Anonymous, Dual Recovery Anonymous, Reformers Unanimous and other support groups. Volunteers bring a richness of experience, insight and encouragement to offenders.

Allen Correctional Institution offers the *Adults and Children Together against (ACT) Violence Program*, which was created by the American Psychological Association and the National Association of Education for Young Children in 2000. This program addresses effective parenting skills for raising non-violent children in a non-violent manner. Materials in this curriculum include child abuse and neglect through topics of childhood development, anger management, social problem solving and discipline. Volunteers from Allen County have been instrumental in facilitating this program.

Stephen Ministries offers a Grief Training Program to offenders and volunteers at the Corrections Medical Center (CMC). This program provides structured training and resources to inmates and volunteers who provide one-to-one Christian care to offenders who are bereaved, hospitalized and/or terminally ill. In 2010, eleven additional inmates were certified through the Stephen Ministry Program.

William Ballis, a DRC volunteer, facilitates the 17 Principals of Success (The Science of Personal Achievement) at Madison Correctional Institution and Correctional Reception Center. This program investigates the seventeen principles of success of American Industrialist and

Philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. Instructions for applying these principles to everyday living are presented. The program has a 14 week curriculum.

Belmont Correctional Institution facilitates an “*Each-one, Teach one*” mentoring program, that is designed to improve decision-making skills. As a result of focusing on thoughts and actions; and building self-respect, self-discipline and respect for others, offender behavior and conduct improved in the housing unit.

Volunteers from Saddleback Church provide *Celebrate Recovery programs* to offenders throughout DRC. This program was designed to help individuals struggling with hurts, habits and hang-ups by showing them the loving power of Jesus Christ through a recovery process. Additional information about this program is available on www.saddleback.com.

Spanish religious services are also provided throughout DRC by dedicated volunteers from local communities. St. Stephen’s church annually celebrates Our Lady of Guadalupe by visiting prisons; sharing culture/heritage, music and food with offenders. In 2010, the church provided Our Lady of Guadalupe services to nine prisons. St. Stephens is also providing Bible studies weekly in Spanish at several prisons. DRC acknowledges the investment of resources made by St. Stephens to provide these services.

Goodwill Industries of South Central Ohio Inc. provides a mentoring program to offenders at Dayton and Montgomery Education and Pre-Release Center. The goals of the programs are to help place these offenders in employment, secure housing opportunities, and assist in transitioning them back into society. In addition to these important objectives, the program also focuses on repairing family relations and development of strong, personal relationship with mentors. The program targets offenders between the ages of 18 and 39 from Montgomery, Greene, Clarke, Miami, Preble, Darke and northern Butler Counties.

Additional programs are listed in attached addendums.

RECOMMENDATION

12 *DRC should expand partnerships with national organizations including faith-based and community organizations to provide programming in state institutions.*

The following national faith-based organizations provide services of DRC offenders: Bill Glass Ministry, Horizon Prison Ministry, Kairos Prison Ministry, Joyce Meyers Prison Ministry, T.D. Jakes Prison Ministry, Promise Keepers, Prison Fellowship, Urban Bible Institute, Wings Ministry, Trinity Broadcast Network (TBN), Aleph Institute and American Bible Society.

Prison Fellowship

Prison Fellowship is active in all Ohio state prisons offering volunteer led Bible studies, life skill seminars, worship services and special programs. During the summer of 2011 Prison Fellowship in partnership with a group of collaborative ministries (Operation Starting Line) will bring programs to Franklin Pre-Release, the Ohio Reformatory for Women, Richland Correctional Institution and Madison Correctional Institution. In the fall Prison Fellowship will offer the 8th Annual *Angel Tree Football* camp in partnership with the University of Cincinnati. Angel Tree will serve approximately 18,000 children with an incarcerated parent this Christmas, and will help make it possible for many of these children to go to summer camp and to be mentored by volunteers.

Wings Ministry

Wings Ministry expanded in 2010 to include Grafton Correctional Institution. This national ministry provides a unique outreach to families of offenders, by educating local churches and faith groups about the needs of children with incarcerated family members. Local churches are encouraged to become Wings volunteers in an effort to sensitize them to the needs of these families.

Toastmasters International

Lake Erie Correctional Institution held an Entrepreneurial Workshop and Seminar in 2011. The event was sponsored by the Lakeside Chat Club (Toastmasters International). This program focuses on developing public speaking communication skills in an effort to promote self-confidence and leadership. Offenders participating in the Entrepreneurial Workshop and Seminar were encouraged to create personal action plans. The following topics were included in the workshop:

- Developing administrative skills;
- Business Action Plans;
- Balancing Careers and Family;
- Leadership and Management;
- Risk Management.

Gospel Express Prison Ministry

Gospel Express facilitates Bondage to Freedom Seminars and Anger Resolution Seminars to offenders in DRC. The Bondage to Freedom Seminars focus on helping people deal with anger and bitterness in their lives. The Anger Resolution Seminars provide workbooks to each participant to assist in identifying root issues to anger and resolving them with practical Biblical steps. Additional information about Gospel Express is available at www.gospelexpress.org.

RECOMMENDATION

13 *DRC should involve the faith community, when appropriate, in the development of release plans for the offender that flow from the institution to community reentry.*

Crossroads Prison Ministry

DRC is excited about the opportunity to partner with Crossroads in providing the “Begin Again” Program to offenders at Marion Correctional Institution, Ohio Reformatory for Women and Franklin Pre-Release Center. “Begin Again” is a reentry program that includes a team of volunteers, ex-offenders and former wardens, who will work with offenders while inside the prison and continue to provide support as they return to the community. In addition to providing programs inside the prison, “Begin Again” will recruit mentors to work with formerly incarcerated mentees as they transition from prison to the community.

Horizon Prison Ministry

Horizon Prison Ministry is an outgrowth of Kairos Prison Ministry. It builds supportive connections between the prison and community volunteer leaders. Offenders participating in this program are housed in a separate unit, modified to create a living and learning environment. The objectives of the Horizon Prison Ministry are:

- Increase personal responsibility and enable participants to live by a code of conduct within existing security regulations;
- Increase family responsibility with programs to strengthen family relations;
- Enhance employability through education, computer skills, life skills and mentoring;
- Develop cooperation and citizenship through weekly group and community meetings;
- Offer programs taught or led by qualified faith and community volunteers.

Horizon Prison Ministry has done a great job of tracking the participants involved in the Inter-Faith Prison Ministry program at Marion between 2000 and 2005. During this period, a total of 161 individuals graduated from the program; 123 released and only 17 returned to prison. See data reported by Horizon Prison Ministry Executive Board below:

Graduates	Released	Successful Reentry	Re-Offend	Recidivism Rate
161	123	106	17	13.82

GEM Leadership Development Program

Dayton Correctional Institution/Montgomery Education and Pre-Release Center has the GEM Leadership Development Program, which provides intensive pre and post – release supportive services, starting 15 - 18 months prior to an inmate’s release, and from 18 to 36 months after release to equip offenders with the knowledge and skills to become leaders in their community. The GEM Leadership Development Program uses an innovative holistic approach to reentry, which

integrates leadership models, mentoring, and support services in a coordinated case management system involving a variety of relevant service providers. GEM Leadership Development Program has three components: (1) Leadership Development component (2) Reentry Programming (3) Personal Empowerment – Psychology of Incarceration.

Ohio Benefit Bank

Ohio Benefit Bank (OBB) services are currently available in each of the 31 correctional facilities and six adult parole regions. This program is a partnership with the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (GOFBCI) and the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks and DRC.

Volunteers assist in providing benefit referrals services to offenders and their families. At Southeastern Correctional Institution, a community volunteer provides OBB services three days a week. The OBB is located in the visiting room to allow families and offenders access. During the first 6 months of operation, 444 inmates and their families utilized the OBB. Lorain Correctional Institution provides short-term offenders an opportunity to apply for benefits through OBB as a reentry initiative. In 2010 Lorain Correctional issued 122 applications for benefits and generated \$282,276 for those being released from Lorain Correctional. Chaplain Braiding, a church on North Coast, and United Harvest assisted as OBB counselors. Correctional Reception Center (CRC) continues to meet with all inmates within 30 days from being released. Religious volunteers at CRC are available to help determine eligibility and complete applications for inmates and their families.

Prison Fellowship Soar Reentry Program and Mentoring Program

In 2010, Prison Fellowship began a Faith Dorm at Ohio Reformatory for Women (ORW) focusing on faith-based reentry called the Prison Fellowship Soar Reentry Program. Twenty participants will complete the program this fall. Volunteer mentors will assist Soar graduates by providing follow-up as they transition from incarceration to the community the first year after release.

Prison Fellowship is also providing a mentoring program at Richland Correctional Institution. Thirty men have been matched with mentors to assist them in transitioning from prison to the community. Prison Fellowship is committed to excellence in faith based service.

RECOMMENDATION

14

Develop methods to increase and encourage the involvement of the faith community in various reentry efforts, and to encourage collaboration among faith groups.

Ohio Ex-Offender Re-Entry Coalition continues to engage the faith community to participate as “at-large” members of the Re-Entry Coalition. The coalition provides valuable resource information to educate and encourage collaboration with faith-based and community organizations. The

Reentry Coalition maintains M.U.S.C.L.E (Making Use of Services can Lead to Empowerment), which is a centralized resource guide for DRC Staff, offenders, families and community partners. This information is available on the website: www.reentrycoalition.ohio.gov.

RECOMMENDATION

15 *To address housing issues, DRC should inform offenders of various options before leaving prison or immediately upon release. This could be accomplished through seminars, with free legal or consultation services, along with the increased involvement of the faith community.*

Efforts are made throughout DRC to provide offenders with various housing options before leaving prison. Seminars, legal aid and other services are also available to assist offenders in transitioning back to the community. The following programs address housing options and other reentry services.

Abba Padre Advocacy

At Lorain Correctional Institution, Abba Padre Advocacy provides religious services in the Spanish language, court appointed reentry advocacy, housing, jobs, reentry tools, skill building; and it assists with the universal needs of offenders, i.e., family support, jobs, housing for the Spanish community, and a place of worship for the formally incarcerated. They also provide annual bi-lingual musical concerts for the entire institution at Lorain. The coordinator of this program is Eve Colon and she was awarded the 2010 Lorain Correctional Volunteer of the Year award. In addition to this program, Akron Bible Church and All Nations Prison Ministry provide similar services to offenders at Lorain Correctional Institution.

Veteran Administration

The Veterans Administration (VA) is also actively involved in providing assistance to incarcerated veterans. A representative from the VA meets with offenders within six months of being released from prison and provides benefit information for housing, securing a DD214, medical issues, and other veteran issues and concerns.

Annual Halfway House Fair

Hocking Correctional Facility (HCF) sponsors an annual halfway house fair for offenders scheduled for release within a year; and a seminar is conducted by the Social Security Administration to provide instruction on applying for benefits and budgeting. With the average age of offenders at HCF being mid 60s, both of these events provide valuable housing information to assist them in transitioning back to the community.

RECOMMENDATION

16

DRC will partner with grassroots and community organizations in an educational effort towards the general public aimed at decreasing the negative stigma of ex-offenders and making the public aware of the needs involved in the process of reentry.

Occupational - New Directions

Chillicothe Correctional Institution provides the “Occupational New Directions” program, facilitated by Bob Mims Life Skills Class. Inmates must be within one year to release and must be returning to Clark County. They learn life skills, employment skills, and relationships building skills. These skills are essential to successfully reenter society. This program is also helpful with housing and other employment options.

Citizen Circles

The State of Ohio Adult Parole Authority refers offenders to Citizen Circles to provide support as they reenter the community. Citizen Circles are comprised of community volunteers who create partnerships that promote positive interaction and accountability for offenders upon release. Circle members address non-criminogenic needs and risk factors that contribute to criminal activity by taking ownership of the solution. It is an opportunity for citizens to communicate expectations for successful reentry and help offenders recognize the harm their behavior has caused others. Offenders are able to make amends and demonstrate their value and potential to the community.

Citizen Circles create an environment fostering acceptance as they focus on offender’s personal strengths. A focus on the future rather than the past and giving back through community service and contributions are key elements for success. Offenders voluntarily seek involvement with a Citizen Circle. The Citizen Circles meet on a regular basis to discuss offender progress, review plans, interview new applicants, and to discharge both successful and unsuccessful offenders.

Inside-Out Program

Another program that is instrumental in decreasing the stigma associated with incarceration is the Inside-Out Program. This program provides a learning environment for local college students and incarcerated offenders. The purpose is to have transformative learning experiences that emphasize collaboration and dialogue, inviting participants to take leadership roles in addressing crime, justice and other issues of social concern. Since the prison started at Lebanon Correctional Institution in 2006, it has expanded to six additional prisons. There are a dozen trained Inside-Out facilitators. Hundreds of inside and outside students have participated in the classes since 2006. More universities and correctional facilities have expressed interest in creating this partnership with DRC.

CONCLUSION

This report highlights the efforts of DRC to achieve the recommendations of the Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force. These sixteen recommendations are accomplished through collaboration with the Ex-offender Reentry Coalition, Governor's Office of Faith Based Initiatives, Jobs and Family Services, and various faith-based and community organizations. In an effort to include other programs and services facilitated by volunteers, addendums are attached for review.

Addendum A

Programs and services provided by DRC Volunteers

Allen and Oakwood Correctional Facility

Adult & Children Together Against Violence (ACT)
Back 2 Basics Program
Medical Wellness Program

Belmont Correctional Institution

Father 2 Father and Choose 2 Change Programs
Keeping FAITH (Families and Inmates Together in Harmony)

Men of Purpose
One Step to Life, Inc.

Parenting Classes
Safe People - Ten Laws of Boundaries

Chillicothe Correctional Institution

Pathfinder Child Support Services
Philemon and Celebrate Recovery Inside

Corrections Medical Center

The Stephen Ministry

Correction Reception Center

17 Principles of Success
Charles Winston Mentor Program

Dayton Correctional Institution/MEPRC

Community Partners for Reentry (CPR)
Day with God Camp

Empowering through Entrepreneurship
GEM Leadership Development Program

Ridge Project Second Chance Act

Franklin Pre-Release Center

Dr. Helena, Christian Mental Health Counseling
Lower Lights Ministries Art Program
Yoga

Grafton Correctional Institution

Interfaith Marriage Seminars
Mentoring program w/Gospel House Church

Hocking Correctional Institution

Bondage Breakers Incorporated
Developing a Small Business Seminars
Personal Finance

Lake Erie Correctional Institution

Next Chapter Book Club
Reformers Unanimous
Toastmasters International
Wings in the Wilderness

Lebanon Correctional Institution

Greater Cincinnati Micro-Enterprise Institute Entrepreneur Program

Inside/Outside Prison Exchange College Program
Mindfulness Meditation

London Correctional Institution

Mentoring and Accountability Groups
New Beginnings Spiritual Growth and Community Service Dorm

Omega Baptist Church Chapel and New Beginnings Programs

Restorative Justice Ministry Program

Lorain Correctional Institution

Akron Bible Church Reentry Program

Athletics in Action

Christ the Source Reentry Ministry

Cuyahoga Justice Center

Family Christian Outreach - Edward McGhee

Freiheit Messengers (Amish) Ministry

Successful Transitional after Release

Madison Correctional Institution

Alpha Program

Faith-Based Reentry Dorm

Pathways to Peace

Mansfield Correctional Institution

Establishing Family Bond

Mentoring through Erudition and the Empowerment of Socio-Metaphysics

Reformers Unanimous

Soundword Ministries

Thomas McLain's Faith Studies

Marion Correctional Institution

Covenant Players Drama Team

Freiheit Messengers

Gospel Echo Ministries

Grief Recovery Ministries

Integrity Seminar

Josephinum Apostolic Formation

Life's Healing Group

Ministry of theater

Outside Brothers

Truth Project

Addendum A - continued

Noble Correctional Institution

Child Support Pathfinders Services
Forever Dads
Self Esteem
Transformations
Twelve Step Christian AA Program

North Central Correctional Institution

Jewish Study/Mentoring Group
New Beginnings Mentoring Program

Ohio Reformatory for Women

Breaking Free Ministry
Healing Prayer Ministry
Rachel's House Ministry
Self Esteem Seminars
Wisemen & Women Ministry

Pickaway Correctional Institution

Child Support Pathfinder Service
Succeeding at Home

Ross Correctional Institution

Christian Bible College
Family Life Skills
Fathers Day Celebration
Man on the Move Program

Richland Correctional Institution

Cancer Support Group
Communication in Marriage Seminar
Fellowship of Christian Retreat
Grief and Loss Program
Mentoring Program - Prison Fellowship

Southeastern Correctional Institution

Alcohol and Chemical Treatment Series (ACTS)
Inside Out Prison Exchange Program
Mt. Zion Bible Institute Program
Wings Ministries

Toledo Correctional Institution

Ridge Project

Trumbull Correctional Institution

AGLOW (CAMP ONLY)
Boundaries
Bridging the Gap
Change Lives
Domestic Violence Program
Fresh Start Reentry
Mentoring through Erudition Reentry Bridge Network
Rebuild Prison Ministry
Restoration Ministries

Warren Correctional Institution

Adoni Ministries
Embarke Ministries
Interfaith Overflow Ministries
Operations Timothy
Personal Achievement thru Choices Empowering
Re-engagement
Restoration Revival

	TOTAL		21	33	35	28	26	36	10	25	10	23	25
		Faith-Based Programs facilitated by DRC Volunteers	ACI	BECI	CCI	CMC	CRC	DCI	FPRC	GCI	HCF	LAECI	LE
1	5	Alpha Program							X				
2	4	Apostolic Discipleship											X
3	31	Basic Discipleship and Other Bible Study	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4	31	Benefit Bank / Counseling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5	16	Bible College			X							X	X
6	22	Bill Glass Ministry	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X
7	5	Buddhist Service								X			X
8	29	Catholic Mass/Religious Education/Rosary/Confessions	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
9	9	Celebrate Recovery		X	X	X		X					
10	30	Chapel Protestant Choir	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
11	13	Church of God in Christ	X					X					X
12	13	Church of Christ	X										X
13	24	City Mission	X	X	X	X	X			X			X
14	18	Devotional Materials donated by Prison Ministries	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
15	4	Epiphany Reunion							X				
16	13	Family Reintegration Program/Parenting classes		X	X	X		X		X		X	
17	9	Father's day program/Forever Dad programs				X		X				X	
18	13	Free Greeting Cards	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
19	9	Gospel Express Ministry		X			X	X					
20	21	Grief Counseling	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X
21	18	Hispanic Bible Study/Mass		X	X		X	X		X		X	
22	12	Hispanic Language Worship and Praise Service								X		X	
23	2	Horizon Prison Ministry			X								
24	6	Inside Out Dads						X		X		X	
25	13	Intercessory Prayer	X	X	X	X	X	X					
26	29	Islamic Jummah/Ta'leem Study	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
27	29	Jehovah Witness Services	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
28	8	Jewish Services	X	X	X								
29	16	Kaiors Prayer and Share/Weekend/Monthly Reunion							X	X	X	X	X
30	8	Mentoring Programs		X			X	X	X	X			
31	27	Morning Worship Service (Protestant)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
32	19	Native American Services			X	X		X		X		X	X
33	9	P.R.O.V.E.			X					X			
34	14	Prison Fellowship	X	X	X			X		X			X
35	3	Promise Keepers Ministry											
36	19	Protestant Bible Correspondance		X				X		X		X	X
37	14	Protestant Formation and Baptism Class		X	X	X	X						
38	6	Purpose Driven Life class					X	X					
39	9	RCIA			X	X							
40	6	Re-Entry Marriage & Family/Active Parenting		X		X	X	X					
41	9	Reentry Seminar		X	X	X	X	X					
42	22	Religious Videos / Religious Library	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	
43	18	Revival meeting	X	X	X		X	X					
44	10	Ridge Project	X	X				X					
45	19	Rosary		X	X	X	X						X
46	5	RTU Worship and Praise Service			X	X				X			
47	6	Seventh Day Adventist			X			X					
48	4	Specialized Study Course				X		X					
49	21	Spiritual Counseling and Development Classes		X	X	X	X	X				X	X
50	7	Support Groups / Christian Life Skills		X				X					
51	6	Theological Study Group		X	X	X	X	X					
52	4	Urban Gospel Service			X			X					
53	31	Victim Awareness	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
54	12	Wicca		X	X	X	X					X	X

	30	32	38	29	24	28	27	30	32	11	32	9	27	18	20	14	21	28	20	18
CI	LOCI	LORCI	MACI	MANCI	MEPRC	MCI	NCCI	NCCTF	NCI	NePRC	ORW	OSP	PCI	RCI	RICI	SCI	SOCF	TCI	TOCI	WCI
			X								X			X				X		
	X		X															X		
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X				X	X	
	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X				X	X	X		X	X	X
							X			X	X									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X					X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X			X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X						X	X								
		X					X	X	X					X				X		
	X	X	X					X					X				X			
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X			X		X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X				X			
		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X						X	
						X														
							X	X	X											
	X		X						X		X		X					X		X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
			X	X		X	X							X						
	X		X						X		X		X					X		X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
								X	X		X							X	X	
		X		X				X			X						X	X	X	
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
			X	X					X		X						X			X



www.drc.ohio.gov

