



# Offender Reentry in Ohio

Ted Strickland, Governor

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Terry J. Collins, Director

7th Congressional District Fact Sheet

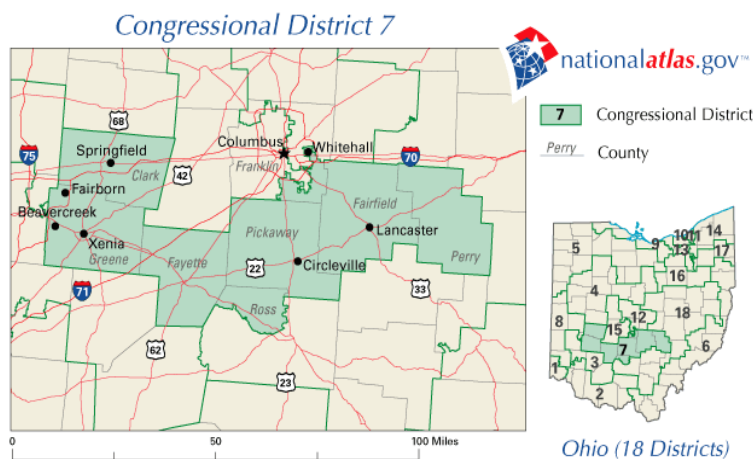
## Reentry Initiatives within the District:

### Franklin County Reentry Taskforce

In October of 2008, the Franklin County Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs released a report called *A Look at Reentry in Franklin County* which provided a preliminary list of key findings, overarching recommendations, existing initiatives, statistical trends and national best practices. The report was based on an extensive literature review and interviews with key stakeholders. The findings show a wealth of reentry activity among different providers of services throughout Franklin County. These efforts are too often undermined by the fragmentation of services and a lack of coordination between service providers. In response to this report and with the passage of the Second Chance Act, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners formed the Franklin County Reentry Taskforce in January of 2009. The taskforce meets monthly and is comprised of representatives from the following disciplines: law enforcement, community corrections, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Department of Youth Services, public defenders, prosecutors, housing, Job Leaders, employment, the faith community and government. Although the Reentry Initiative in Franklin County is still in its infancy, funding has been identified to hire a full time Reentry Coordinator in late 2009.

### Rachel's House of Lower Lights Ministries

A faith-based program for transitional housing, mentoring and job and community assistance for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women. Rachel's House provides a job mentor to assist each woman in finding employment quickly. They provide residents with a supportive financial team to help them work through issues of budgeting, banking, and Christian stewardship. The women learn to be financially responsible as they create savings accounts, pay off debts and plan for their future. Residents are given a safe environment in which to recover from drug and alcohol addictions, emotional pain from their past and unhealthy relationships and mindsets.



### Ohio Prisons Snapshot

(as of April 2009)

- Incarcerated — 50,889
- Institutions — 32
- Capacity — 38,665
- Male — 92.45%
- Female — 7.55%
- Annual Admissions — 28,178
- Annual Releases — 29,014
- Average Cost Per Inmate
  - Daily = \$67.77
  - Annual = \$24,736.50

The Honorable Steve Austria  
U.S. House of Representatives

Ohio.gov

**Ohio Citizen Circles**

Circles create partnerships that promote positive interaction and accountability for offenders upon re-lease. Membership provides an opportunity for citizens to communicate expectations to the offenders for successful reentry. Offenders are able demonstrate their personal strengths, begin the process of rebuilding social capital, be provided with the opportunity to perform community service, and begin repairing the harm their past behavior has caused others. There are twenty-nine(29) active Circles across Ohio which includes Clark, Fairfield, Ross, and two(2) in Franklin County.

**Ex-Offenders, Family and Community (EXOFAC)**

EXOFAC is a group of ex-offenders who have experienced the challenges associated with reentry. The members use the knowledge gained from their experience to ease the transition for the recently released and educate others so they may never have to experience incarceration.

**Opening Doors Reentry Ministry**

"Stand In the Gap," a Christian group-mentoring program surrounds the ex-offender with a support system that aides in successful reentry. *Opening Doors* is a Christ-centered ministry that believes dramatic life transformation occurs when a healthy, loving community is experienced. Poor social skills, isolation and the absence of caring role models have often prevented those impacted by incarceration from developing healthy supportive relationships. When faith-based volunteers work together with prisons, families and the business communities, lives are transformed, families are strengthened, and communities are restored.

<b>By the Numbers</b>								
	<b>Clark</b>	<b>Fairfield</b>	<b>Fayette</b>	<b>Franklin</b>	<b>Greene</b>	<b>Perry</b>	<b>Pickaway</b>	<b>Ross</b>
<b>Number of Commitments by County to ODRC Reception Centers</b>								
Source: FY 2008 Commitment Report								
<b>Male</b>	370	142	112	1,989	302	35	92	123
<b>Female</b>	57	30	5	254	69	7	33	42
<b>Total:</b>	427	172	117	2,243	371	42	125	165
<b>Number of Offenders Under Supervision with ODRC</b>								
Source: Adult Parole Authority January 2009 Monthly Report								
<b>Total:</b>	316	244	90	2,881	171	75	134	185