

**REPORT OF THE  
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

# **Offender Reentry Program**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



**HOUSE DOCUMENT NO. 57**

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
RICHMOND  
2004**



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Department of Corrections*

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October 1, 2004

The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
State Capital, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Re: Jail Pre-Release Program

Dear Governor Warner:

As provided for in section 420 D.2 of the 2004 Appropriation Act, I am submitting the attached report. This is a status report on the department's jail pre-release program that includes details on the participating sites, number of inmates participating, services provided to participants at each site, the status on individuals who have completed the program, factors impacting program utilization, and the impact of the program on the department's ability to address the backlog of state responsible inmates in local and regional jails.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene M. Johnson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gene M. Johnson, Director

Attachments

cc: The Honorable John William Marshall

# Department of Corrections

## Offender Reentry Program

Under the Department of Corrections Offender Reentry Program state responsible offenders are returned to the jail in the community to which they will be released. There they are provided transitional education and programming to effect a smooth transition to society. The program is designed to reestablish the offender with his locality and family, provide easy access to those who will supervise him and provide him with job development skills.

### Phase One

During Phase One, offenders participate in daily workshops for approximately forty-five days. (*Attachment 1*) The offender will be provided with various community resources that will help provide a smoother transition back into the community. The program provides an avenue for finding housing and establishing an employment base.

### Phase Two

Offenders who qualify for the work release program will be placed in that status for a minimum of forty-five days and may remain on work release for up to eight months. Work Release is an avenue that assists the offender in becoming financially stable before release and will enable them to continue their employment following incarceration.

### Phase Three

This program provides a forty-five day after release component. During this time offenders receive continued assistance and referrals regarding networking for jobs, housing prospects, and any other issue related to adjustment to the community. Peer support groups are also an option.

### Current Programs

Agreements with participating jails allow state offenders to return to the local jail in exchange for state responsible offenders to be received into the DOC. This exchange is in addition to the regular attrition of state responsible offenders. Each participating jail allocates a certain number of beds for the phase one program. Participating jails are reimbursed by the Compensation Board at a rate of fourteen dollars (\$14.00) per day for Phase I inmates and twenty-eight dollars (\$28.00) per day for Phase II inmates. The average is twenty beds. A DOC Transition Coordinator is assigned to each jail to oversee the program's implementation.

DOC Offender Reentry Programs are currently operational at the following jails:

- ❖ Charlottesville / Albemarle Regional Jail
- ❖ Chesapeake City Jail
- ❖ Hampton Community Correctional Center
- ❖ Henrico County Jail East
- ❖ Riverside Regional Jail

### Program Benefits

- ❖ Brings offenders closer to returning locality and family
- ❖ Job Development Skills
- ❖ Job Placement
- ❖ Helps to reduce backlog of state responsible offenders
- ❖ Provides connection to community and resource
- ❖ Helps to reduce recidivism

### Female Offenders

Female inmates are not included in the jail reentry program created by this appropriation. However, the Department recognizes the need for an offender reentry program for females. To address this need, Southampton Boot Camp was reopened and converted into a 100-bed Pre-Release and Work Center facility for women. This program is being funded through the existing Department of Corrections budget.

The Pre-Release Center at Southampton provides transitional services in a Cognitive Community model setting. Fifty beds have been allocated for this program. The program began on December 3, 2003 and to date 189 females offenders have participated in the program. There are currently 37 females offenders participating in the program.

#### Partnerships and Collaborations

As a result of the program, partnerships and collaborations have been established with local jails, other state agencies as well as non-profit agencies such as PAPIS Providers. (*Attachment 2*)

#### Future Plans

Plans are underway to implement programs at the Arlington County Jail, Roanoke City Jail and the Norfolk City Jail. Programs at these jails will be fully operational by December 2004. In addition, meetings have been scheduled with the New Valley Regional Jail and the Danville City Jail to discuss the possibility of housing the programs at their location. Preliminary discussions with these jails seem favorable. In addition, the 2005-2006 biennium appropriations provide for establishing five additional programs at jails yet to be determined.

#### Factors Impacting Program Utilization

One factor impacting the program's utilization is the Department's current computer system and its inability to provide accurate screening for the home plan. This information is needed to determine the jail location that is appropriate for the offender. The Department recognizes the antiquated computer system and recently secured a contract with a company to implement a new Offender Management System.

#### Program Summary

Participating jails began receiving offenders into the program in November 2003 and December 2003. As of this report, 255 offenders have been returned to society through this program. Transition Coordinators conducted record checks and Probation & Parole contacts for 223 of these offenders. These findings

revealed that only 13 offenders have been either arrested, convicted of new offenses, or have violated the terms of their supervision since being released from jail.

Ninety-One (91) male offenders are currently housed at local jails participating in the Offender Reentry Program.

# DOC Offender Reentry Master Schedule

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
<b>Monday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Problem Solving	Problem Solving	Problem Solving
10:00 - 11:30	Self Esteem	Self Esteem	Self Esteem
1:00 - 2:30	Work Place Essentials	Work Place Essentials	Work Place Essentials
2:45 - 3:45	Work Place Essentials	Work Place Essentials	Work Place Essentials
<b>Tuesday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Values	Conflict Resolution	Employability - Application/Resume
10:00 - 11:30	Leisure Time Activities	Conflict Resolution	
1:00 - 2:30			Employability - Job Seeking
	Fan Free Clinic	Fan Free Clinic	Fan Free Clinic
<b>Wednesday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Anger Management	Anger Management	Making it on Supervision
10:00 - 11:30	Anger Management	Anger Management	Making it on Supervision
1:00 - 2:30	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse
2:45 - 3:45	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse
<b>Thursday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Changes in Society	Money Management	Healthy Living
10:00 - 11:30	Changes in Society	Money Management	Healthy Living
1:00 - 2:30	Communication & Problem Solving	Dealing with Emotions	Healthy Living
2:45 - 3:45	Communication & Problem Solving	Dealing with Emotions	Healthy Living
<b>Friday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Being Job Ready Workbook	Being Job Ready Workbook	Independent Learning
10:00 - 11:30	Being Job Ready Workbook	Being Job Ready Workbook	Independent Learning
1:00 - 2:30	Active Parenting	Conflict Resolution	Breaking Barriers
2:45 - 3:45	Active Parenting	Conflict Resolution	Breaking Barriers

# DOC Offender Reentry Master Schedule

	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
<b>Monday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	The Double You Workbook	The Double You Workbook	The Double You Workbook
10:00 - 11:30	The Double You Workbook	The Double You Workbook	The Double You Workbook
1:00 - 2:30	Employability - Mock Interview	Work Place Essentials	Relapse Prevention
2:45 - 3:45	Employability - Mock Interview	Work Place Essentials	Relapse Prevention
<b>Tuesday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Conflict Resolution	Making it on Supervision	Conflict Resolution
10:00 - 11:30	Conflict Resolution	Making it on Supervision	Conflict Resolution
1:00 - 2:30		Basic Life Principals	Transition Action Plan
2:45 - 3:45	Fan Free Clinic	Basic Life Principles	Transition Community Resources
<b>Wednesday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Anger Management	Anger Management	Anger Management
10:00 - 11:30	Anger Management	Anger Management	Anger Management
1:00 - 2:30	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse
2:45 - 3:45	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse
<b>Thursday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Family Matters	Values	Transition
10:00 - 11:30	Family Matters	Values	Transition
1:00 - 2:30	Active Parenting	Dealing with Emotions	Family Legal Issues
2:45 - 3:45	Active Parenting	Dealing with Emotions	Family Legal Issues
<b>Friday</b>			
8:45 - 9:45	Independent Learning	Independent Learning	Independent Learning
10:00 - 11:30	Independent Learning	Independent Learning	Independent Learning
1:00 - 2:30	Breaking Barriers	Breaking Barriers	Breaking Barriers
2:45 - 3:45	Breaking Barriers	Breaking Barriers	Breaking Barriers



## Partnerships and Collaborations

Charlottesville / Albemarle Regional Jail

Chesapeake City Jail

Hampton Community Correctional Center

Henrico County Jail East

Riverside Regional Jail

PAPIS Providers

- OAR Charlottesville
- Step-Up, Inc.
- OAR Richmond
- Virginia Cares

Social Services

Department of Motor Vehicles

Social Security Administration

Virginia Employment Commission

Department of Rehabilitative Services

Local Community Service Boards

Department of Correctional Educational

Virginia Co-op Extension

Capital Area Workforce Consortium

Aids Service Group

Virginia Treatment Options Program

Virginia Bureau Insurance Agency

Region Ten

Life Management

Planned Parenthood

Salvation Army

Baby Steps, Inc.

Fatherhood Initiative

Tidewater Building Associates

Fanfree Clinic

I Am Enterprises

Probation & Parole