

PRISONER REENTRY

“Creating Safer Neighborhoods and Better Citizens”

THE FOCUS:



The main focus of Prisoner Reentry is to reduce the recidivism rate . Reducing recidivism is paramount to reducing the cost of incarceration, both socially and financially, for the citizens of Michigan.

By acting locally, doing things like running groups, engaging in pro-social interactions, treating Returning Citizens like they might be your neighbor someday and supporting their success, you support the global mission and vision of Prisoner Reentry.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



“Help Make Things Right”



Statewide Prisoner Reentry Contact Information:

Michigan Department of
Corrections
P.O. Box 30003
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Fax: (517) 335-3840

Reentry Information for Parolees in
the Community:
(517) 373-3407

Job Connect

(Employers)

“Creating Safer Neighborhoods
and Better Citizens”

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT
OF
CORRECTIONS



State of Michigan Prisoner Reentry

THE VISION:

The Vision of Prisoner Reentry is that every offender released into the community will have the tools needed to succeed.

THE MISSION:

The Mission of Prisoner Reentry is to significantly reduce crime and enhance public safety by implementing a seamless system of services for offenders from the time of their entry to prison through their transition, community reintegration and aftercare in their communities

THE TARGET:

1. Promote public safety by reducing the threat of harm to persons and their property by released offenders in the communities to which those offenders return.
2. Increase success rates of returning citizens by fostering effective risk management and treatment program, accountability, community and victim participation.
3. To educate, assist and equip returning citizens with valuable knowledge and reliable resources that lead to progressively permanent employment and self sufficiency while acquiring a higher quality of living as a productive citizen.
4. To build partnerships between the MDOC, job developers, potential employers, and local communities with an overall goal to strategically align returning citizens with employment opportunities upon reintegrating into the community.



JOB CONNECT PROGRAM:

The Job Connect program focuses its efforts on assisting returning citizens who may lack employable skills and are integrating into the workforce. The program provide services to returning citizens through the building of self confidence; motivation; social skills; and job retention skills that may lead to progressively permanent employment while fostering higher education and vocational training.

This program increases returning citizens employability skills by demonstrating a working knowledge of social skills and job retention skills through their interactive experience in exploring various topics such as: technology in the workforce, displaying a positive attitude; time management; work ethics; effective communication; problem-solving skills; knowing work rule policies; respecting others beliefs and values; harassment; and through other various topics of social skills and job retention skills. Through this program returning citizens explore the core essence of setting goals, developing positive support networks, applying social skills in the workplace, and displaying appropriate behavior.

The program's anticipated outcome is to enhance the employability skills and knowledge of returning citizens who are integrating into the workforce so that they may better carry out their responsibilities as productive citizens, family members and employees.

"Job Connect provides people with the skills needed to try the job market. It didn't just help motivate me it taught me patience." Anonymous

BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYERS WHO HIRE RETURNING CITIZENS:

- Employers can save money on their federal income taxes in the form of a tax credit incentive through the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program by hiring ex-felons within one year of conviction or release from prison.
- Returning citizens are bondable through the State of Michigan Fidelity Bonding Program that insures an employer against any type of employee theft.
- Returning citizens are required to seek and maintain employment while under MDOC supervision. This increases job retention.
- Returning citizens with substance abuse histories are required to submit to drug/alcohol screenings twice a month. This ensures that they are not only in compliance with their parole but also with work rule policies.
- Collateral contacts are conducted by Agents to verify the progress and success of returning citizens. This includes contacting employers to verify schedules, attendance and work performance. Agents are able to address any concerns that may arise.
- Prior to release many returning citizens acquire technical trainings and/or skills through the following MDOC Prisoner Education Programs:
 - Auto Body Repair
 - Auto Mechanics
 - Building Trades
 - Computer Refurbishing
 - Custodial Maintenance Technology
 - Electronics
 - Furnishing
 - Food Production
 - Food Service/Hospitality
 - Horticulture
 - Machine Tool
 - Print shop
 - Ophthalmic Lens Technology