



FACT SHEET

TRANSITIONAL SERVICES

2019

TIMOTHY C. WARD COMMISSIONER

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OVERVIEW

MISSION

Transitional Services is a section within the Georgia Department of Corrections charged with the primary purpose to promote public safety through collaborative partnerships supporting offender placement into evidence-based interventions which reflect a seamless system of reentry assisting returning offenders to be law-abiding, productive community citizens. Transitional Services provides standardized Reentry Services Protocols that permeate all levels of affected agencies and organizations to reduce recidivism. Offender reentry planning and preparation begins when the offender is initially received by the Georgia Department of Corrections and is an on-going and dynamic endeavor that continues through the offender's release from custody and transition to the community. Reentry provides effective opportunities for offenders to achieve positive change and to be a more pro-social contributor to society.

GOALS

- To prepare and build individual capacity of the offender to be a productive member of his/her family and community
- To link offenders to internal and external program services necessary for successful transition and reentry into the community
- To increase the community and correctional capacity to address the offender's needs and identify community resources to match assessed needs
- To enhance public safety by reducing recidivism among the formerly incarcerated population
- To promote public safety through collaborative state agency and community partnerships that support offender transition to the community
- To optimize the services provided with external stakeholders and service providers to impact reduction on return admissions to jails, prisons and community supervision to promote Justice Reinvestment

IMPACT

- Statistically, 1 in 31 adults nationwide is under some type of supervision, such as jail/prison, probation or parole
- In Georgia, 1 in 13 citizens are under some type of supervision, making Georgia the fourth largest prison system in the country and first largest per capita
- Though 95% of offenders return to society, within three years 26.6% will return to prison with new charges. In ten years, 66% will return.

INITIATIVES

- Atlanta DOC TC/Atlanta Watershed Partnership
- Department of Driver Services Partnership
- Community Coalitions
- Facility-based Inmate Career Resource Centers
- 24/7 Dad/Mom
- Repository for Secured Offender Documents at SOSTC
- Metro Reentry Facility
- Faith and Character (Prison and dormitories)
- Family Reunification
- Reentry Skills Building Handbook
- Reentry Partnership Housing (RPH)
- SSI/SSDI Outreach and Recovery (SOAR)
- Vocational and Job Readiness
- State Road and Toll Authority
- Social Security benefit application program
- US Attorney's Office, Northern District – Project Safe Neighborhoods
- The Offender, Parolee, and Probationer State Training Employment Program (TOPPSTEP)
- Vital Records Partnership
- Veterans Administration
- Veterans Dormitory

PARTNERS & STAKEHOLDERS

- Community Reentry Partnerships
- Community Reentry Coalitions in Macon, Augusta, Savannah, Valdosta, Rome, Atlanta, Cobb, Dekalb, Columbus, Gwinnett and Clayton
- Department of Consumer Affairs/Pardons and Paroles/ Reentry Partnership Housing
- Department of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities (DBHDD)
- Department of Community Health
- Department of Community Supervision
- Department of Driver Services
- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Human Services/Office of Child Support Services
- Department of Public Health/Vital Records
- Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles
- Georgia Justice Project
- Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network (GMHCN)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- US Department of Veteran's Affairs
- US Social Security Administration