TEXAS CRIMINAL JUSTICE COALITION

A New Start

A RE-ENTRY GUIDE FOR TEXAS

KEY INFORMATION FOR SUCCESSFUL REINTEGRATION

TEXAS CRIMINAL JUSTICE COALITION

The Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC) is committed to identifying and advancing real solutions to the problems facing Texas' juvenile and criminal justice systems. We provide policy research and analysis, form effective partnerships, and educate key stakeholders to promote effective management, accountability, and best practices that increase public safety and preserve human and civil rights.

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DISCLAIMER

The resources and information contained in this guide are primarily intended for people re-entering society following a period of incarceration. The information is not inclusive and should be viewed as a starting point for engaging with community groups. Please also note that inclusion in this guide does not imply our endorsement of an organization or of particular religions (in the case of ministry-based programs).

The resources contained in this guide were current as of the start of 2010. While we have tried our best to only list groups, organizations, and businesses that are current and valid, we cannot guarantee that all of the resources included here will be current by the time you read it. Due to the nature of community-aid organizations and the funding streams available to keep them open, some of the resources within this guide may be out of date by the time you reference it.

As a precaution, please contact each organization directly before relying on its services or assistance. You should also check for the most recent edition of this guide and updates on our website, **www.criminaljusticecoalition.org/tools_for_re_entry/reentryguide**.

If you feel we have missed an important resource, or if you have additional resources or updates you would like to add to future editions of this guide, please fill out the feedback form at the end of this guide and mail it back to us. You may also submit feedback through our website at **www.criminaljusticecoalition.org/tools_for_re_entry/reentryguide**.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is not intended to be the only information that people will need or use once they are released from prison or jail. In fact, it should be used as a starting point to begin a successful re-entry experience back into the community. Each chapter covers a general subject area associated with re-entry. Please use the resources at the end of each chapter to continue researching specific topics.

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Reader,

As the Executive Director of the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC), I am thrilled to present the first edition of our statewide re-entry guide, which contains important and timely resource information for individuals returning to their communities after a period of incarceration.

Annually, over 70,000 people leave Texas prisons, while thousands more cycle in and out of local Texas jails. Among other things, undiagnosed mental health disorders, drug and alcohol dependence, and low education levels act as barriers to the successful re-entry of these people into society. Likewise, the lack of housing availability, an inability to purchase food, and limited employment opportunities can damage efforts to participate in society in a fulfilling and productive way.

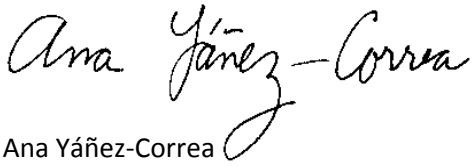
Our goal with this guide is three-fold. Primarily, we want to help those of you who are **re-entering individuals** seeking to live successfully in your communities. You can use this information to find community groups and agencies that will assist you in improving your lives and those of your families. Please know that we are here for you during these efforts.

This guide is also a tool for **organization and agency leadership**, as well as their **supervisory personnel and local service providers**. You can use the resources within these pages to provide particularized information to your clients and other staff members. Likewise, **advocates** can pass along this information to community members seeking assistance with re-entry issues.

Finally, **policy-makers** can use this guide to meet requests for information from their constituents, to the benefit of both re-entering individuals and their communities.

Again, we hope the information and resources contained in this guide will not only be readily available and useful to those that need them, but will promote the successful re-entry of previously incarcerated men and women. Doing so will benefit public safety, family cohesion, local economies, and public health, and it will improve the lives of all Texans.

Respectfully,



Ana Yáñez-Correa
Executive Director, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition

PART ONE: GETTING STARTED

The information in the following two chapters is meant to assist individuals who are either preparing to leave incarceration, have recently re-entered their communities, or would like to learn more about key re-entry related policies from Texas' 2009 state legislative session.

1

The Prison Experience and Preparing for Your Release

By Jorge Antonio Renaud*

WHY DO PEOPLE GO TO PRISON? THERE IS NO EASY ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION. THE SHEER number of factors that pull people into the criminal justice system is almost endless. Poverty, need, greed, drugs, alcohol, opportunity, despair, peer pressure: all may contribute to an individual's decision to commit a crime.

Why do people who have been in prison return to prison? That is an entirely different question. Some people may not have housing, jobs, money, family, or transportation. They may have to register as sex offenders and be barred from obtaining licenses to practice their life-long professions. Previously incarcerated individuals speak of the X on their back almost as a target for society, and many people released into the streets adopt a self-defeating attitude: No matter what, I'll eventually go back because I'm an X.

As an X myself, one now going to grad school at the University of Texas and involved with various groups working to ease re-entry barriers, I think that a person in prison facing release has two huge advantages over a person facing prison for the first time: the experience of prison itself, and time to look at one's life and make a commitment to change.

Since you've been in prison, you've gotten off drugs. Maybe you've gone to school. You've had a chance to repair family relationships that your behavior ruptured. At least, you've done those things if you've awakened to the reality of your situation, because if you haven't, if you spent your time continuing the behavior that brought you to prison and have not examined and taken advantage of the opportunity to take a different path, then no matter what programs and services are made available to you, chances are you'll be back.

* Jorge Antonio Renaud is the author of "Behind the Walls: A Guide for Families and Friends of Texas Prison Inmates." He has spent 26 years behind bars and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Social Work. All opinions written in Chapter 1 are his own and do not necessarily reflect those of TCJC or the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

I'm here to say it doesn't have to be that way. You can leave prison a better person than you were before; more educated, wiser, calmer, and with people willing to stand by you when things get rough, as they will. With their assistance, but most importantly, with your newly formed positive attitude and willingness to wait and work for what you truly need, you'll be fine. But you can't wait until you hit the streets to change how you think and act. That must begin while you're still in prison.

Reform Your Habits Before Release

THE TIME TO BEGIN YOUR TRANSFORMATION IS NOT THE DAY YOU HIT THE STREETS, BUT THE day the cell doors first enclose you. At that point, you have to accept that you have little control over your daily life, and you must decide to adopt actions centered on daily growth and change or settle for an existence built around suspicion, bitterness, and anger. Many incarcerated individuals waste their time, and much of their sentences, getting angry over trivial matters: how a guard talked to them; the loud nature of the dayrooms; the commissary truck being late; no ice in the chow halls. If you whine and obsess over items out of your control in prison, you will do the same once on the streets. However, the consequences of this type of behavior in prison don't have the same type of impact as do the consequences on the streets.

If you decide to not go to your prison job one day, or if a guard in prison talks to you in a belittling way and your normal reaction is to curse and threaten in return, you'll receive disciplinary cases and lose class as a consequence. You may be denied contact visits and be placed on commissary and recreation restriction. However, you'll still have a bed, food, and clothes provided to you. You can still go to the infirmary, and within six months or a year your privileges will be restored. Your life will continue on relatively unaffected. On the streets, if you decide to not go to work one day, or if you curse and threaten someone, the consequences can include getting fired from a job, losing your income and not having money to buy food or pay rent. They can include someone calling the police on you, getting re-arrested and returning to that place you swore you'd never see again, just because you hadn't truly accepted the truth that it sure is easier to keep your mouth shut and ignore people than it is to scream back at them.

Learn how to deal with people who have power over you while you are in prison, because people will still have power over you once you're free. If a guard talks to you in an ugly fashion, walk away. Tell yourself that the guard is human; that he or she has a sick child at home, a dying mother, bills to pay, and that his or her attitude is not meant to diminish you personally. His or her attitude and words do not define you.

Practical Plans and Goals

DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOU GET TO THE STREETS TO LOOK FOR A JOB, A PLACE TO STAY, OR anything else of importance. While in prison you can begin to write potential employers, local colleges, and service providers in the area you're going to live. Ask your unit librarian or one of the CHANGES or RIO counselors to provide you with addresses. When you write, ask potential employers about the procedure for applying for work; whether or not all applications must be online, or if they must be completed and then accepted in person. Ask college registrars what you'll need in order to enroll. Find out if your college credits are going to be accepted, and when the financial aid offices are open. Ask the service providers in the county you are paroling to what paperwork you will need to apply for food stamps or other forms of assistance. Some organizations may require that you be out before they even begin to provide information, but that's OK. At least you'll have a phone number and address, some place to begin. You won't be lost when you're released.

You should make a list of reachable goals for you to accomplish once you have been released. This should include goals for the first week, the first month, the first three months, etc. You should have a bus pass by the first week, a job by the first month, maybe be enrolled in college or technical school by six months. These are reachable, practical goals. Don't make your goals too hard to reach, such as saying you'll buy a house in a year. Focus on the real stuff – getting a job, joining a church, becoming reacquainted with your daughter, getting back into school. Actually thinking of these goals, and then writing them down, makes them more real than just daydreaming of what you'll do.

Making a list of goals also makes you focus on what you need, and on what you can really do. It will make you concentrate on the nuts and bolts of actually achieving what you need to achieve. It would also be helpful if you write down a schedule of your first few weeks: who you'll go see, how you'll get there, the things you'll need to survive, and how you plan on getting them. Who will you need to contact? Do you need to find an AA/NA group and go to meetings? Will you need to go to the Veterans' Administration and apply for medical benefits? To the county courthouse to get a birth certificate? To the DPS to take your driving test? To the Texas Workforce Commission? Do the local buses run by all of those places? Can you find that out fairly quickly? Write down when you can go and how you'll get there. Have a plan. Control what you can control.

Connecting With Family

MANY PEOPLE IN INCARCERATION HAVE HAD FAMILY problems and have poor relationships with their parents, spouses, or children. Those problems do not just disappear; they must be faced and dealt with. You should do all you can to begin a healing process while in prison. Write to your family, to anyone you've hurt or disappointed or fought with. Make your amends. Don't wait for them to write back, especially if they're your children. Write them constantly. You'll be surprised how far consistent communication goes toward getting family members to thaw out.

Be honest with your family. If you ask them for help, be upfront about what you will need and what you expect to give back. If all you can return to them in exchange for a bed and food is some yard work or house upkeep, say that. Don't promise $400 a month when you don't have a job waiting and any job you may have won't pay but $800 a month. Your family will know your promises are unrealistic and wonder about the rest of your plans. Don't expect them to have a car ready for you or be able to buy you a bunch of new clothes. Be appreciative of anything they offer, and tell them so.

Don't expect to step right back as head of the household. Someone else in your family may have assumed that role by virtue of their being dependable, hard working, and fair. Be honest with yourself; if those words defined you, you'd never have gone to prison. Don't make plans to push anyone aside, to be the father or mother or son you weren't before you went in and for the length of your prison term. You will have to adjust, to demonstrate you've changed and can be depended on before your family truly accepts you back.

After You're Out

SO NOW YOU'RE OUT. YOU HAVE YOUR LIST OF GOALS AND ADDRESSES AND PHONE numbers of potential employers. Before you do anything, take time to relax. After I'd been out just over a year, I saw a friend, a former gang member who had been released on intensive supervision, and he moaned to me about how he was "more miserable" than he'd ever been. This man could only think about the fact that he had to go straight to work from his house, attached to a GPS monitor, and that his living area was restricted to his house and yard. He couldn't go to parties or out shopping; couldn't drive to the beach or go swimming; couldn't attend his daughter's school plays or PTA meetings. So he was miserable.

My friend only saw what he could not do, what he did not have. I asked him if he was truly more miserable being out and driving to work in his own car with the windows open, listening to the radio, drinking a soft drink and eating French fries, than he'd been sitting in administrative segregation for 23 hours a day for years. Although he had to stay in his house and yard, his bedroom included a bed where he could sleep with and hold his wife. His backyard included a barbecue pit, where his family gathered around when they came to visit. His house included a small family room, where he could help his daughter with her homework, watch movies with his family, and close the door to his own bathroom. But he was still focusing on what he didn't have, on what he couldn't do, instead of being grateful for what he had.

This attitude is typical. It's not just sad and a bit silly; it can be a real obstacle. Those who are incarcerated build up unrealistic expectations of what life on the streets will be like, creating fantasies and images of what we'll do and how we'll do it. We forget that our lives will still be under a lot of control. But we also forget that, no matter how harsh the restrictions placed upon us, they are not and will never be as bad as the restrictions that living behind iron for 24 hours a day place upon us. You should constantly tell yourself that and enjoy yourself when you're out, and congratulate yourself for having survived with your dignity and humor intact.

As soon as possible after your release, go to a movie with a friend. Get a bike and ride on a trail. Walk through a mall. Go swimming. Take your kids to a park. Enjoy your freedom. And if you don't have kids or a bike or the money for a movie, then sit outside under the stars and listen to the free world, because you're a part of it now, and you haven't been for years. Keep telling yourself that.

Asking For and Accepting Help

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN IS HOW TO ADMIT THAT YOU NEED HELP because you don't know something, can't do something, or just need something that you maybe can't get on your own. This can range from small things, such as asking your friend to help you program your phone, to requesting government aid for housing and food. Much depends on how long you've been in. I spent 26 years behind bars, 16 straight the last time, and the whole cell phone concept was new to me when I was released in 2008. I felt ignorant when I first bought one, and I had no idea how to program my contacts, how to save photos, or how to set up my speed dial. I fumbled around with it, feeling stupid, until I finally just went into the phone kiosk at the mall and asked. The people there were cool and I walked out feeling relieved.

This may sound trivial, but feeling stupid is a feeling that previously incarcerated individuals can live without. We've had people telling us that for so long we may believe it a little. Technology has passed many of us by. It can make us feel bewildered and even make us long a little for the simplicity, and the safety, of prison. Don't be humbled or frightened by the changes in life, but embrace them and the truth that people will help you understand those changes. The same thing applies about asking for assistance from the government, or from local aid agencies. This assistance may come in the form of food stamps, temporary IDs, or some other needed item. Some agencies offer bus passes, or at least discounted bus passes. Many local agencies offer clothing, especially work clothing, to those who have just been released. Some will help you buy a suit for job interviews, or at least offer to loan you a suit for a special interview.

Many Texas cities offer free food at food banks, most of which are run by government agencies. Some will provide canned goods; others will give you produce and fruit. They don't care if you're previously incarcerated. Many will provide you with emergency foodstuffs if you show up with discharge or parole papers showing that you've been out a few days or a week or so. Others may want you to fill out paperwork first. Many religious organizations, usually local churches, offer free meals to needy people, if you are in need of a hot meal.

It may take you a bit of searching to find a food bank that will provide you with the basics – canned goods, vegetables and fruit, different types of meat. But the money you'll save by getting a couple of weeks worth of free food means you don't have to spend those few precious dollars on food, and instead you can buy some decent shoes or get a good haircut for that all-important first interview.

Depending on where you're going to live, you'll have different county organizations offering different levels of help. But no matter where you live, you'll find an office of the Texas Workforce Commission nearby. Big cities have quite a few offices; smaller towns have just one, open two or three days a week. The people there are incredibly helpful. They will help you register for government-provided services, alert you to job leads, keep you advised about upcoming job fairs, and generally do all they can to help you find a job or get into some sort of technical or vocational school. They will also buy you tools to make you more attractive to employers. The office in Llano bought me close to $1,000 worth of construction tools when I first was released, and as a result my employer gave me a dollar an hour raise because he didn't have to provide those tools.

The Texas Workforce Commission has also received quite a bit of stimulus-package funds, and they have used much of that money to offer courses in non-traditional areas. In Austin, they were recently offering truck-driving classes, solar-panel technician courses, computer engineering, and various others. Take advantage of all they have to offer, to either find a job, upgrade to a new one, or just hunt for educational opportunities. Texas Workforce offices have computers you can use, free workshops on résumé writing and interviewing for jobs, and they will generally offer you all you need to become employed, if you are willing to listen and do what they say.

Speaking of computers – it may be that you won't have one when you are first released. In today's world, nothing beats being able to go online and search for jobs at one of the hundreds of sites that offer job leads. Plus, most employers now want you to submit your application online. But what if you don't have a computer and the Texas Workforce Commission office is pretty far away or closed on the weekends and you want to search for a job? Then you need to find a library.

The first week that you're released, go to a public library and get a library card. Every library in Texas has a few computers available to the public; some have dozens. Get there early, go online, set up an email account, and do what you have to do. The librarians can help you. You can also check out DVDs and books, read the latest magazines and newspapers, and generally get plugged back into the world, free of charge. Why buy magazines, books, or rent movies when the library will lend them to you and not charge you a penny?

What about clothes? You may not want to hear this, but shopping at Goodwill or at the Salvation Army isn't a bad idea. I have been amazed by the quality of clothes at Goodwill. People drop them off on the weekends, and the best items can be found on Tuesdays, after they've been picked through. You can get good shirts for three dollars, jeans for five dollars, used sneakers for about 10 bucks, and ties and belts and coats, all for less than 20 dollars. You can spend 50 dollars and get outfitted well enough to apply and interview for, then work at, either offices or construction sites.

Housing

IF YOU'RE ONE OF THE LUCKY PEOPLE WHO IS PAROLING OR DISCHARGING BACK TO FAMILY, be grateful. You need to know that, by law, many people who have been incarcerated, especially those convicted of various drug offenses, can't live in public housing. This means that if your family is living in Section 8 housing or some similar, government-funded housing, you may not be allowed to live with them. However, each entity, be it a housing authority or a private provider of Section 8 housing, is allowed to make a determination on a case-by-case basis. Your family needs to contact whatever agency is in charge of their housing to check if they will allow you to live with them when you are paroled.

If your family is living in a private apartment, the same may apply, and their lease could restrict them from allowing felons to live there. Again, have them check, because while it could be easy to just move in and not say anything, they could very well be asked to leave and could lose their deposit if their lease is restricted and it is found out a felon is living with them. This could have severe repercussions for you, not to mention on your relations with your family. Of course, if you're paroling to a private home, you don't have anything to worry about. But it could be that you will soon be looking for a place to live on your own, and if that is the case, you'll need to do some research to find an apartment complex that will interview you and allow you to sign a lease. If you lie and they find out, you'll be on the street. The best thing to do is call around, find a complex that doesn't have restrictions against ex-felons, or at least is willing to discuss your situation.

If you're just getting out and don't have a place to stay at all, then you need to contact your nearest Salvation Army. They will have temporary shelter, and in the meantime you can look for local halfway houses. There are organizations that will direct you to housing that is often provided by businesses sympathetic to people leaving incarceration. In Austin, there is a man who rents trailer houses to previously incarcerated people for $400 a month, all bills paid. He also works with them to help find employment, and there is an AA/NA group in the trailer complex itself comprised of similar folks, all doing what they can to stay clean and free.

Working With Your Community Supervision Officer

IF YOU ARE SINCERE WITH YOUR PAROLE OFFICER; IF YOU SHOW THAT YOU ARE LOOKING for a job or have taken a job that doesn't pay too well and is hard and dirty but keeps you working; if you stay clean and go to meetings; if you keep them advised of what you're doing, where you're going, and make sincere efforts to be responsible and honest, then you won't have problems with your parole officers. But that extends to your life in general. You've been in prison. You are marked for life, and you may find that as a result of being incarcerated, you have a hard time getting work, getting an apartment, being accepted into school, or simply being accepted as a person who should be trusted. That's a fact of your life now.

You'll just have to build that trust all over again. No one can make you a dignified, trustworthy person but yourself. No matter what you did to get to prison, the person you are now and the person you will forever be depends on your attitude and your actions. Life will be hard, and you'll have moments when you just want to throw up your hands and return to your old friends, to the corners and the clubs and the game, because that's the easy way. Don't do it. Remember the sounds of keys clanging as the officers locked the iron doors behind you. Remember the idiocy of the hallways, the despair of never getting mail or visits, and the letters your family wrote you, pleading for your return. You can survive, and you can succeed, as a free person.

One thing you should not forget; there are always people, and organizations, willing to help you. As someone who has been incarcerated, I have reached out to and been extended support by many groups, one of which has gone to great lengths to research, write, and distribute this guide: the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC). Based in Austin, the leadership and members of TCJC are deeply committed to humanizing every aspect of Texas criminal justice institutions. They have focused on writing, proposing, and then shepherding pertinent and timely bills through the Legislature, but if a person in incarceration writes them with a personal problem, the staff there will do everything humanly possible to help him or her. As someone who knows the tremendous amount of unreliable information that reaches those who are incarcerated, I would not have been willing to participate in the writing of this guide if I did not wholeheartedly believe in the sincerity of the people writing it and in the credibility of the information it will provide. Read this guide. Use it. It may be the most important resource you'll ever read. Good luck.

2

Getting Out

2009 State Legislative Session Updates – New Laws

❑ H.B. 93 – Receiving "Good Time"

"Good time" credit policies allow prison and jail administrators to deduct one or two days from an individual's original sentence for each day he or she actually serves of that sentence, as long as no charge of misconduct has been sustained against the individual.

H.B. 93 allows for the restoration of lost good time in some cases. For eligible disciplinary violations, an individual's good conduct time will be reinstated subject to maintaining good behavior. That is, his or her good conduct time will be placed in suspension following a major disciplinary offense, and that time will later be reinstated if the individual does not have any subsequent major disciplinary cases for 12 months. Any subsequent major disciplinary offense committed while time is suspended will result in the forfeiture of the suspended time.

Please note: Good conduct time will be forfeited for all Level 1 disciplinary offenses. Additionally, individuals with a conviction under Section 508.149 of the Government Code will not be eligible to receive restoration of their lost good conduct time. Individuals who become eligible for immediate release under discretionary mandatory supervision (DMS) due to the reinstatement of good conduct time will remain in custody while the notification of DMS consideration is processed.

❑ H.B. 498 – Investigating Wrongful Convictions

This bill creates the Timothy Cole Advisory Panel on Wrongful Convictions. The panel's purpose is to investigate the causes leading to wrongful convictions and to submit a report on those findings to the state legislature by January 1, 2011. The panel will also make a recommendation to the state of whether creating a formal Innocence Commission is necessary. The Timothy Cole Advisory Panel will not look at specific cases, nor will it provide any investigation or representation in claims of actual innocence from incarcerated individuals.

❑ H.B. 3649 – Receiving Books in Prison

This bill allows eligible non-profit, religious, or civic organizations to send books and educational materials to people incarcerated at correctional facilities throughout Texas.

❑ H.B. 963 – Occupational Licensing Opportunities

This bill allows people who are enrolled or wanting to enroll in an educational program that issues an occupational license to request a criminal history evaluation to determine if they are eligible for the license. This ensures that people can confirm their eligibility status for the license before they commit to and prepare for an educational program. *Note:* This bill also includes an amendment that will increase employment opportunities for nonviolent, non 3-g offenders if they are in fact eligible to obtain an occupational license and if their past crime is not related to the occupational license they are attempting to obtain."

❑ H.B. 1711 – Statewide Re-Entry Task Force

This bill requires the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) to establish and implement a comprehensive re-entry and reintegration plan for people released from prison. The bill also establishes a Re-entry Task Force to address the obstacles faced by people re-entering society after a period of incarceration. Some areas the Task Force will address include housing and employment barriers, family unity and participation, issues affecting people with special needs (such as those with mental illness or mental retardation, and the elderly), and many others.

❑ H.B. 2161 – Personal Identification Card

This bill requires TDCJ to notify the Department of Public Safety (DPS) no later than 90 days prior to a person's transfer to pre-parole status that DPS should issue him or her a personal identification certificate if he or she does not possess a valid driver's license or personal identification certificate. The bill also requires DPS to accept TDCJ-issued identification cards as satisfactory proof of identity.

Obtaining Identification Documents in Texas

HAVING PROPER IDENTIFICATION IS SO IMPORTANT TO A PERSON'S SUCCESS AFTER BEING released from prison. Having a TDCJ-ID card is not enough to get by. A state-issued identification card is essential to do many things necessary to successfully integrate into society. A social security card and birth certificate are both required to obtain a Texas state-issued ID card.

One of the first things a person should do after being released from prison is gather all necessary identification documents and store them somewhere safe. Some organizations and charities listed in Chapter 3: "Community Organizations" provide assistance in obtaining these documents. Otherwise, the information below and the resources contained elsewhere in this guide can help people get an ID and move further down the path to success.

❑ Social Security Card

A social security card is necessary to apply for a state-issued ID card or driver's license, receive state and federal benefits, and do many other things. An application for a social security card can be found at www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ss-5.html.

Alternatively, a person may wish to visit his or her local social security office and follow the steps below:

- Fill out SS-5 form (forms must be printed out in blue/black ink on 8.5''x11'' paper).
- Take (or mail) the SS-5 to the nearest Social Security office. Remember to take the originals or certified copies of the supporting documents that accompany the form.
- Also take another form of identification. A birth certificate is not considered an acceptable form of ID; however, the following are accepted: driver's license, state ID, passport, marriage or divorce record, military records, military ID, student ID, life insurance policy, and TDCJ-ID card.

For more information about local office locations, call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), or use the Social Security Office Locator Service available at www.socialsecurity.gov/locator.

❑ Birth Certificate

A copy of one's birth certificate is a very important document to have. People should make copies of their certificates and keep the originals in a safe place. Costs vary by state to replace a lost certificate; in Texas, copies cost around $20. A copy of a birth certificate may be obtained from the Vital Records Office in the county in which a person was born. For those born in a state other than Texas, the following website has the contact and cost information for every Vital Records Office in the United States: www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm.

Another form of identification is required to obtain a birth certificate. The following is a list of acceptable forms of ID: state-issued driver's license; state ID card; student ID; government employee badge; TDCJ-ID card; military ID; or two documents with the person's name on them, such as a utility bill or Social Security card. One of these documents must contain the person's signature.

❑ State Identification Card

If a person has not already obtained a Texas state-issued identification card before leaving TDCJ, he or she must visit the Department of Public Safety and bring either two secondary documents or one secondary document and two supporting documents. Secondary identification documents include the following: a birth certificate, a state ID or driver's license, an original or certified copy of a court order with the person's name and date of birth, and military records. Supporting identification documents may include the following: school records, an insurance policy, a vehicle title, marriage or divorce records, a voter registration card, a social security card, or a TDCJ-ID card.

❑ Voter Registration Card

Registering to vote in Texas is free of charge and can be done at any library, post office, or Department of Public Safety Office. People can mail their registration cards (postage-free) or take them to the local Tax Assessor-Collector Office. To register, a person must be a U.S. Citizen, at least 18 years of age, a resident of the county in which he or she is registering, not declared mentally incompetent by a court of law, and not a convicted felon (unless one's sentence, probation and/or parole are completed). *Note:* People must bring one additional form of identification with them.

Those with access to the internet may find the following resources helpful in obtaining identification documents:

- **Texas Department of State Health Services**
  People can order birth, death, marriage, and divorce verifications online at www.texasonline.state.tx.us/tolapp/ovra.

- **Department of Public Safety**
  DPS's website provides information on how to get a driver's license or state-issued ID, including a list of supporting identification documents: www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/driver_licensing_control/pages/identificationrequirements.htm.

- **The National Archives**
  People can request copies of military personnel records online at www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html.

Child Support

ONCE RELEASED FROM PRISON, A PERSON HAS MANY OBLIGATIONS, especially during the first few weeks. Although all of them may seem important, it is crucial to pay child support. Those who do not pay court-required child support can severely impact their re-entry and perhaps end up back in the criminal justice system. As many know, people who were required to pay child support before going to prison continue to have that obligation during incarceration. The amount owed may have added up over the months or years, with additional interest,[1] which could total a large sum.

It is important for people to contact the local child support office handling their case and openly discuss their situation (see the contact list on the next page). Office staff may be able to place a temporary hold on legal action if a person can show that he or she is looking for employment or providing some support to his or her child(ren).[2] The local child support office can also provide

[1] Attorney General of Texas, "Incarcerated Parents and Child Support: The Handbook for Incarcerated Parents," (2008): 3.
[2] *Ibid*., 5.

referrals to parenting programs, as well as job-assistance and community assistance resources.[3] Furthermore, a case manager may be able to conduct a new Child Support Review. Either way, touching base with the office handling one's case is a great start – it tells the office that this person intends to fulfill his or her obligation and honor the child support order.

Please note: A child support order can be changed but only by the court. Grounds for changing an order may include a substantial change in the circumstances of the child or one of the parents.[4] If a person falls behind on child support payments, enforcement measures may be instated, including having child support deducted from one's paycheck, losing income tax refund checks or lottery winnings, having a suspended driver's license, professional license, or other license, or being sued so that the court will enforce the order. A judge may also send a nonpaying parent to jail.[5]

Note additionally: During incarceration, a child support order can be modified by requesting a court to review the order in light of one's present situation. While there is no guarantee that the court will grant a modification, it is important that a judge reviews the current support order given the circumstances.

For more information on child support, visit www.oag.state.tx.us/cs/publications_cs.shtml.

Contact Information

By Mail
Office of the Attorney General
Child Support Division
P.O. Box 12017
Austin, TX 78711-2017

On-Line
Website: www.texasattorneygeneral.gov
Email: child.support@oag.state.tx.us

By Telephone
Regional Customer Service Centers and Area Offices (all voice)
Houston/Harris County: (713) 243-7100
Dallas/Tarrant County: (972) 339-3100
San Antonio/Bexar County: (210) 841-8450
Austin/Travis County: (512) 514-7000
Lubbock: (806) 765-0094
McAllen: (956) 682-5581
Tyler: (903) 595-6900
El Paso: (915) 779-2388

24-Hour Payment and Case Status Information
1-800-252-8014

For The Deaf and Hard of Hearing
1-800-572-2686 (TTY)
(512) 460-6417 (TTY)

[3] *Ibid*., 6.
[4] Attorney General of Texas, "Frequently Asked Questions About Child Support," (2009): 8.
[5] *Ibid*., 14.

Money Management

GETTING ON THE RIGHT FINANCIAL TRACK CAN BE A LONG AND DIFFICULT PROCESS, ESPECIALLY for people who have not managed a bank account, balanced a checkbook, or had a steady paycheck in many months or years. As such, people should establish a money management plan early on that will benefit them in the future. "Smart Ways to Handle Your Money," an article from the National Endowment for Financial Education, gives advice to previously incarcerated individuals on how to handle their money.

Those who owed money to creditors before going to prison will likely be expected to pay upon release from confinement. People should create a list of every creditor (or person) that they owe money to, and how much each is owed. That will help them create a payment plan that adequately meets the minimum balance, plus a little extra. People with large debts may also wish to consult with a Credit Counseling Agency, which assists individuals in consolidating and eliminating debt.

In any successful money management plan, a person must be able to distinguish between needs and wants. Needs are things that one cannot live without (clothing, food, shelter, medical care, etc.). Wants can also be necessities but include those items that are more expensive and may be considered luxuries. People can reduce impulse spending by establishing a monthly budget. By avoiding individuals and situations that lead to spending in excess of the budget, people will be in a better position to meet their money management plan and their future goals, and they can eventually achieve financial success.

Additional Resources

- **My Money**
  www.mymoney.gov
  Phone: 1-888-696-6639

  My Money is a federally based program that provides articles, information, and resources on responsible money management. Information about loans and home buying is also available.

- **Mint Personal Finance Software**
  www.mint.com

  Mint provides personal finance software that keeps track of account balances, creates personal budgets, and provides tips for savings to keep one's finances organized. This software is available free of charge on Mint's website.

- **Smart About Money**
  www.smartaboutmoney.org

  Smart About Money is a program provided by the National Endowment for Financial Education; it offers information on a broad range of financial topics intended to educate the public about financial goals.

Transportation

TRANSPORTATION IS A SIGNIFICANT BARRIER FACED BY PEOPLE RE-ENTERING THE COMMUNITY. Many people may not have a driver's license or car right away, which prevents them from getting to appointments with a parole officer or doctor, or to other important engagements. The information below provides general information related to public transportation in major regions. Interested individuals should visit the websites in each section for more thorough information and fare information, which is current as of April, 2010, but should be verified before riding. For more information about public transportation options in these and other areas, individuals should call 2-1-1 (a resource which is discussed more fully on page 181).

❑ Amarillo and the Panhandle

The Amarillo City Transit serves the City of Amarillo with eight fixed-route bus lines. All buses can accommodate individuals with disabilities. One-way fares begin at $.75. For more information, call (806) 378-3095 or visit www.ci.amarillo.tx.us.

Panhandle Transit provides public transportation across 26 counties and 64 towns, with transportation to rural counties available by calling the nearest PCS center and making a reservation. Fares are based on mileage (17.5 cents per mile with a maximum cost of $17.50). In-town service is $1.00 for a one-way ride. Discounted fares and weekly and monthly passes are also available. For more information, visit www.panhandletransit.com.

❑ Austin

Capital Metro serves Austin and the surrounding suburbs and incorporates hundreds of routes throughout the city. All buses are handicap-accessible, and many are equipped with bike racks. Capital Metro has also recently established a 32-mile Metro Rail commuter system that takes riders from Leander to downtown Austin during high-peak hours.

Regular fares are $1.00 each way and $2.00 for a 24-hour pass. Monthly bus passes offer a discount, and additional discounts are available for disabled individuals. Van-pooling is also available for $60 per month and can serve up to 12 individuals. For more information about these and other programs, visit www.capmetro.org.

❑ Corpus Christi

The Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority provides public transportation services to residents of Nueces County and San Patricio County. Fares begin at $.75 for a one-way trip and $1.75 for a 24-hour pass. Monthly passes are available at a discounted rate. Individuals with a disability ride free of charge. For more information, visit www.ccrta.org.

❑ Dallas

Dallas Area Rapid Transportation (DART) provides extensive transportation services to 13 cities with rail, bus, HOV lanes, and rideshare services. Buses are equipped to transport individuals with disabilities, and most provide bike racks. Van-pools are also available and some are subsidized by employers. Single-ride fares start at $1.75 with discounted rates for seniors, children, Medicare cardholders, and the disabled. For more information on DART and related transportation programs, visit www.dart.org.

❑ Denton

The Denton County Transportation Authority provides public transportation services to residents of Denton and Greater Lewisville. Regional commuter service is equipped to accommodate disabled riders. Fares for a single ride begin at $1.25 with discounted fares available for children, the elderly, and the disabled. For more information, visit www.dcta.net.

❑ El Paso

Sun Metro provides public bus transportation to the residents of El Paso and surrounding suburbs. Sun Metro also offers a program called Job Express, which provides support to individuals transitioning from welfare to work with transportation to job training, education, employment, and childcare destinations. For more information, visit www.ci.el-paso.tx.us/sunmetro/sunpro.asp#.

❑ Fort Worth

The T is Fort Worth's major public transportation service and provides both buses and a commuter rail. Buses are built to accommodate passengers with disabilities and those riding with a bicycle. The Trinity Railway Express specifically allows passengers to commute between Fort Worth and Dallas from Monday through Saturday. Additional transportation services are available to disabled passengers. Fares begin at $1.50 for a one-way ride with discounts available for children, the elderly, and the disabled. Weekly and monthly passes are also available. For more information, visit www.the-t.com.

❑ Galveston

Island Transit provides Galveston with public transportation, including a trolley system. Services for disabled passengers are provided. Fares range from $.50 to $1.50 for a one-way ride, and discounted monthly passes are available. For more information, call the customer service line at (409) 797-3900 or visit www.islandtransit.net.

❑ Houston

Houston Metro serves the city of Houston and surrounding suburbs by providing hundreds of routes throughout the city. The disabled are accommodated on all city buses, and bike racks are also available on most bus routes. Houston Metro also operates MetroRail – a 7.5-mile light rail transportation service – as well as MetroLift, which provides pre-scheduled curb-to-curb transportation for individuals with disabilities. Van-pooling is also available for $35 per month. General fares range from $1.25 to $4.50 with discounted rates for students, seniors, and the disabled. For more information about these and other programs, visit www.ridemetro.org.

❑ Lubbock

Citibus provides public transportation services to the city of Lubbock. Transit services for the disabled are available. Fares range from $.75 to $1.50, and day, week, and month passes are available at a discounted rate. For more information, visit www.citibus.com.

❑ San Antonio

VIA public transportation serves the city of San Antonio with a fixed-route bus system. Services for the disabled are available. VIA also operates a van-pool for groups of six individuals or more. Full fares start at $1.10, and reduced fares for children, students, the elderly, and the disabled begin at $.55. For more information, call (210) 362-2555 or visit www.viainfo.net.

PART TWO: COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The information in the following seven chapters should be used as a starting point to begin a successful re-entry experience back into the community. Each chapter covers a general subject area associated with re-entry. Please use the resources at the end of each chapter to continue researching specific topics.

THE FOLLOWING CHAPTERS INCLUDE RESOURCES ORGANIZED BY FIVE MAJOR REGIONS:
Central Texas, Northeast and East Texas, South and Southeast Texas, West Texas, and the High Plains. The cities included in each region are listed below.

❑ Central Texas

Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Belton, Blanco, Boerne, Brackettville, Brady, Brownwood, Bryan, Buchanan, Burnet, Caldwell, Calvert, Cameron, Camp Verde, Camp Wood, Cedar Park, Center Point, Chappell Hill, Cisco, Clifton, Coleman, College Station, Del Valle, Dripping Springs, Fannin, Floresville, Fredericksburg, Georgetown, Goliad, Harker Heights, Hillsboro, Hondo, Hunt, Independence, Johnson City, Junction, Kerrville, Killeen, Kingsland, La Grange, Lampasas, Leakey, Leander, Llano, Lockhart, Luckenbach, Luling, Lytle, Marble Falls, Marlin, Mason, McGregor, Meridian, Mexia, Moody, Mountain Home, Navasota, New Braunfels, Pearsall, Pflugerville, Plantersville, Pleasanton, Round Rock, Salado, San Antonio, San Felipe, San Marcos, San Saba, Schulenburg, Seguin, Shiner, Smithville, Somerville, Sonora, Stephenville, Stonewall, Sweetwater, Taylor, Teague, Temple, Three Rivers, Uvalde, Vanderpool, Waco, Washington, Weimar, Whitney, Wimberley

❑ Northeast and East Texas

Addison, Alto, Argyle, Arlington, Athens, Azle, Bedford, Bonham, Boyd, Burleson, Camden, Canton, Carrollton, Carthage, Cedar Hill, Center, Centerville, Clarksville, Cleburne, Colleyville, Commerce, Corsicana, Cresson, Crockett, Dallas, Decatur, Denison, Denton, Desoto, Ennis, Euless, Farmers Branch, Fort Worth, Gainesville, Garland, Gilmer, Glenrose, Granbury, Grand Prairie, Grapevine, Greenville, Haltom City, Huntsville, Hurst, Irving, Jacksonville, Jasper, Jefferson, Kaufman, Kennedale, Kilgore, Kountze, Lakeside, Lancaster, Lewisville, Lindale, Little Elm, Livingston, Longview, Lufkin, Mansfield, Marshall, McKinney, Mesquite, Mineola, Mineral Wells, Moscow, Mount Pleasant, Munster, Nacogdoches, Newton, North Richland Hills, Palestine, Paris, Pilot Point, Pittsburg, Plano, Quinlan, Richardson, Rockwall, Rowlett, Rusk, Royse City, Sachse, San Augustine, Sherman, Silsbee, Springtown, Sulphur Springs, Tatum, Terrell, Texarkana, Tyler, Van Alstyne, Waskom, Waxahachie, Weatherford, Weches, Whitesboro, Winona

❑ South and Southeast Texas

Alamo, Alice, Alvin, Aransas Pass, Bay City, Baytown, Beaumont, Beeville, Brazosport, Brenham, Brookshire, Brownsville, Clear Lake, Cleveland, Clute, Coldspring, Conroe, Corpus Christi, Deer Park, Donna, Eagle Pass, Edinburg, El Campo, Galveston, Harlingen, Houston, Humble, Hungerford, Kenedy, Kingsville, La Marque, La Porte, Lake Jackson, Laredo, Lexington, Liberty, Mathis, McAllen, Mission, Missouri City, Nederland, Orange, Palacios, Panna Maria, Pasadena, Pattison, Pharr, Port Aransas, Port Arthur, Port Isabel, Port Mansfield, Portland, Raymondville, Richmond, Rio Grande, Rio Hondo, Robstown, Rockport, Roma, Rosenberg, Sabine Pass, San Juan, San Leon, Saratoga, Shenandoah, Sinton, South Padre, Spring, Taft, Tomball, Texas City, The Woodlands, Van Vleck, Victoria, Waller, Wharton, Willis, Woodsboro

❑ West Texas

Alpine, Andrews, Anthony, Big Spring, Bronte, Colorado City, El Paso, Eldorado, Eola, Fort Davis, Lajitas, Langtry, Marathon, Marfa, McCamey, Menard, Mertzon, Midland, Miles, Monahans, Odessa, Ozona, Painted Rock, Pecos, Pine Springs, Post, Salt Flat, San Angelo, Sierra Blanca, Snyder, Stanton, Study Butte, Terlingua, Van Horn

❑ The High Plains

Abilene, Albany, Amarillo, Borger, Boys Ranch, Breckenridge, Brownfield, Buffalo Gap, Burkburnett, Caddo, Canadian, Canyon, Childress, Clarendon, Claude, Hereford, Jacksboro, Lamesa, Levelland, Littlefield, Lubbock, McLean, Memphis, Miami, Morton, Muleshoe, Newcastle, Nocona, O'Donnell, Olney, Paducah, Pampa, Panhandle, Perryton, Plainview, Ranger, Saint Jo, Seagraves, Seminole, Shamrock, Silverton, Slaton, Spearman, Stamford, Stinnett, Stratford, Tahoka, Thurber, Tulia, Turkey, Vernon, Wichita Falls

3

Community Organizations

Introduction

THE FOLLOWING CHAPTERS CONTAIN RESOURCES WITH CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ORGANIZATIONS that may benefit people upon release from confinement. Each entry has the name of the organization, address, phone number, and website (if available), in addition to a brief description of what services the organization offers. These resources are organized into five major geographic regions: Central Texas (including Austin and San Antonio), Northeast and East Texas (Dallas and Fort Worth), South and Southeast Texas (Houston and Corpus Christi), West Texas (El Paso), and High Plains (Amarillo). The introduction to Part Two (pages 22-23) lists the cities designated within each region so people can locate their city and coordinating region.

After finding resources for a particular area, we recommend that people call an organization before attempting to use its services. People should ensure that services are still available, as well as ask if the organization has any eligibility requirements to use the services. During the call, people can also ask for more information about available programs.

A person should note that if a particular organization is unable to assist him or her at the present time, it is acceptable to ask to be put on a waiting list. The organization may also have other resources or referrals available. It never hurts to ask.

Lastly, people can call an organization to get directions, check its hours of operation, or ask any other questions.

Additional Resources

In addition to the resources listed later in this chapter, people can check out the following:

- ❑ **Reentry and Integration Division Hotline**

  The following toll-free number has been established to assist people who are re-entering society, as well as their families and the general public who may have questions related to programs and resources: 1-877-887-6151.

- ❑ **2-1-1**

  A great place to begin looking for help is by calling 2-1-1. It provides free and confidential information and referrals to organizations that can assist people with food, housing, employment, health care, counseling, and more. People can dial 2-1-1 from any telephone and tell the operator what information they are seeking. People can also visit www.211.org and search for needed information.

- ❑ **Restorative Justice Community (RJC) of Texas**

RJC of Texas provides an excellent, comprehensive internet-based directory of organizations that serve people who are re-entering Texas communities after a period of incarceration. Resources span a variety of services – including housing, employment, and community assistance – and they are updated regularly.

Visit RJC of Texas online at www.rjctexas.org/Home.htm. Click the "Directory" link at the top of the page to begin searching for resources throughout Texas.

Regional Resources

Central Texas – Austin

- **Abiding Love Lutheran Church**
  7210 Brush Country Drive
  Austin, TX 78749
  Phone: (512) 892-4040

  Abiding Love Lutheran Church provides a food pantry to anyone in need and is open on Mondays from 1:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- **All Saints Episcopal Church**
  209 West 27th Street
  Austin, TX 78705
  Phone: (512) 476-3589
  Website: www.allsaints-austin.org

  All Saints Episcopal Church provides various social services, including counseling for individuals looking to obtain documentation.

- **A New Entry**
  500 East 7th Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 524-8982
  Website: www.anewentry.org

  A New Entry provides recovery support, including case management and life skills training for men coming out of prison or rehabilitation. It also offers housing referrals in the Travis County area.

- **Angel House**
  908 East Cesar Chavez Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 474-2666
  Website: www.angelhouse-abc.com

  Angel House serves lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily. It also provides clothing free of

SPOTLIGHT ON: CRIME PREVENTION INSTITUTE

The Crime Prevention Institute (CPI), located in Austin, opened in 1992 to address the underlying causes of crime and break the cycle of criminal behavior. Today, CPI continues to provide pre- and post-release services to individuals re-entering the community from the Travis Unit State Jail. Specifically, the agency works to strengthen individuals, families, and communities through education, information sharing, resources, and case management. Case managers work one-on-one with clients to ensure that they have

- **ARC Family Pantry**
  2818 San Gabriel Street
  Austin, TX 78705
  Phone: (512) 476-7044 ext. 217
  Website: www.arcofthecapitalarea.org

  ARC Family Pantry provides assistance with payment for utilities, and it offers clothing, food, diapers, hygiene products, and other miscellaneous household necessities. Assistance is limited to individuals or families with a mental disability.

- **Austin Men's Center**
  812 West 11th Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 477-9595
  Website: www.austinmenscenter.com

  Austin Men's Center provides addiction counseling, a men's relationship group, smoking cessation counseling, individual and group therapy, and anger management classes for men and women.

- **Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH)**
  500 East 7th Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 305-4100
  Website: www.ci.austin.tx.us/downtown/arch.htm

  ARCH provides basic needs services to individuals who are currently experiencing a period of homelessness or otherwise needing assistance, including showers, mail delivery services, counseling services, lockers, and cold weather shelter. ARCH also offers clothing to men.

- **Austin Travis County Health and Human Services**
  100 North IH-35
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 854-4120
  Website: www.co.travis.tx.us/health_human_services/default.asp

  Austin Travis County Health and Human Services provides clothing, a food pantry, WIC and other referrals for assistance, emergency prescriptions, and referrals to community centers. Services are free of charge, but individuals must bring proof of address and income as well as photo identification.

- **Baptist Community Center**
  2000 East 2nd Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 472-7592
  Website: www.bccmission.org

  Baptist Community Center provides clothing and food, limited financial assistance for rent and utilities, and assistance with payments for medication. Although services are free of charge, individuals must have proper identification and proof of address. Interested individuals should call to make an appointment Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- **Basic Needs Coalition**
  1817 East 6th Street
  Austin, Texas 78702
  Phone: (512) 651-6124
  Website: www.basicneedscoalition.org

  Basic Needs Coalition provides financial assistance for rent/mortgage, utility payments, and food.

- **Capital Area Food Bank**
  8201 South Congress Avenue
  Austin, TX 78745
  Phone: (512) 282-2111
  Website: www.austinfoodbank.org

  Capital Area Food Bank does not directly distribute food goods; interested individuals should call for information on its partnering agencies to locate a distribution center. Capital Area Food Bank also provides advice for individuals seeking food stamp benefits.

- **Caritas of Austin**
  611 Neches Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 479-4610
  Website: www.caritasofaustin.org

  Caritas of Austin provides the homeless, working poor, and documented refugees with comprehensive services that support housing stability. Additionally, Caritas serves hot meals on weekdays through its community kitchen and offers groceries through its food pantry. It also provides some limited financial assistance as well as life-skills training. Finally, Caritas can offer business and community contacts to assist individuals in finding stable employment and affordable housing. Previously incarcerated individuals must be homeless to qualify for services.

❑ Catholic Charities of Central Texas

1817 East 6th Street
Austin, TX 78702
Phone: (512) 651-6100
Website: www.ccctx.org/index.php

Catholic Charities of Central Texas provides on-site, one-on-one benefits enrollment assistance with CHIP, CHIP Prenatal, Medicare, Long-Term Case Management, and Food Stamps applications and renewal. For more information or to request an intake with a local representative, call Victoria Rogers at (512) 651- 6129.

❑ Christian Service Center

1903 University Avenue
Austin, TX 78705
Phone: (512) 476-9584
Website: www.uachurch.org

Christian Service Center provides financial assistance with rent and utilities, and it offers clothing and food to those in need. Interested individuals should call on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. for more information.

❑ City of Austin Health and Human Services

City of Austin Health and Human Services has established several neighborhood centers throughout Austin (listed below) to provide a variety of social services for low-to-moderate income families in need. These services include a food pantry, as well as car seats, transportation, notary services, job information and referrals, income tax assistance, immunizations, MAP eligibility/clinic cards, WIC, a Public Health Nursing Program, and a Social Services Program. Eligible individuals must present proof of address, income, and a valid picture ID.

Blackland
2005 Salina Street
Austin, TX 78722
Phone: (512) 972-5790
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Montopolis
1416 Montopolis Drive
Austin, TX 78741
Phone: (512) 972-5710
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

South Austin
2508 Durwood Street
Austin, TX 78704
Phone: (512) 972-6840
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

East Austin
211 Comal Street
Austin, TX 78702
Phone: (512) 972-6650
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Rosewood-Zaragosa
2808 Webberville Road
Austin, TX 78702
Phone: (512) 972-6740
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays
7:45 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.

St. John
7500 Blessing Avenue
Austin, TX 78752
Phone: (512) 972-5159
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- **City of Austin Housing Authority**
  1124 S. IH-35
  Austin, TX 78704
  Phone: (512) 477-4488
  Website: www.hacanet.org

  City of Austin Housing Authority provides subsidized housing for those who qualify.

- **Communities For Recovery**
  4110 Guadalupe Street
  Austin, TX 78751
  Phone: (512) 758-7686
  Website: www.cforr.org

  Communities For Recovery provides volunteer peer support services to individuals in treatment centers and to members of the general public struggling with addiction and/or a co-occurring mental health disorder. Its programs include peer coaching, 12-step programs, and counseling.

- **Dress for Success of Austin**
  701 Tillery Street, Suite A-5
  Box 111
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 389-3723
  Website: www.dressforsuccess.org/affiliate.aspx?pageid=1&sisid=95

  Dress for Success of Austin provides new and gently used professional clothing, a network of support, and career development tools to help women thrive in the workplace and in their personal lives. All services are free of charge.

- **El Buen Samaritano**
  7000 Woodhue Drive
  Austin, TX 78745
  Phone: (512) 439-0700
  Website: www.elbuen.org

  El Buen Samaritano provides education, outreach, and social services. Assistance is available to individuals wishing to gain English-speaking skills, as well as high school equivalency classes or job skills training. El Buen Samaritano also operates a health clinic; programs address both physical and mental health and include clinical services, case management, and health education.

- **First Baptist Church**
  901 Trinity Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 476-2625
  Website: www.fbcaustin.org

  First Baptist Church provides financial services to help individuals pay for rent, medical prescriptions, bus passes, and various other services based on need. All services are free of charge. Individuals may call to make an appointment, but walk-ins are also accepted.

- **Food for Friendship**

2132 Bluebonnet Lane
Austin, TX 78704
Phone: (512) 444-7120
Website: www.cofchrist-austin.org

Food for Friendship provides a hot breakfast free of charge on Sunday mornings from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. All are welcome.

❑ Foundation Communities

3036 South 1st Street, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78704
Phone: (512) 447-2026
Website: www.foundcom.org

Foundation Communities is a non-profit organization that creates high-quality affordable housing and empowers low-income families and individuals with programs that educate, support, and improve financial standing.

❑ Foundation for the Homeless

1301 Lavaca Street
Austin, TX 78701
Phone: (512) 453-6570
Website: www.foundationforthehomeless.org

Foundation for the Homeless provides breakfast on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 a.m. - 6:45 a.m. It also provides clothing when it is available, as well as assistance with obtaining Capital Metro bus passes, birth certificates, and ID cards.

❑ Front Steps

500 East 7th Street
Austin, TX 78701
Phone: (512) 305-4100
Website: www.frontsteps.org

Front Steps assists homeless individuals with obtaining birth certificates and other official identification documents from the Department of Public Safety. This program is available at ARCH (page 28) on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. and can serve up to eight individuals per week on a first-come, first-served basis (*note:* lines can begin forming as early as 6:30 a.m.). Front Steps also provides limited financial aid for individuals searching for employment but lacking the proper tools or clothing to get hired. Daytime and overnight sleeping arrangements are also available.

- **Gethsemane Lutheran Church**
  200 West Anderson Lane
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 836-8560
  Website: www.gethsemanaustin.org

  Gethsemane Lutheran Church provides a food pantry on Tuesdays from 1:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

- **Greater Calvary Rites of Passage Development, Inc.**
  6510 Berkman Drive
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 454-6170
  Website: www.greatercalvary.org

  Greater Calvary Rites of Passage Development is a non-profit organization dedicated to community, economic, and human development for the African-American community. It focuses on providing affordable housing by offering homebuyer seminars to low-to-moderate income families.

- **Greater Mount Zion Church**
  1801 Pennsylvania Avenue
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 478-7578
  Website: www.gmzaustin.org

  Greater Mount Zion Church provides payment assistance for rent and utilities to those who live in a house or apartment. Assistance is available Tuesday through Thursday from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and individuals can only use services once per year. Food and clothing is also provided on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- **Hyde Park Baptist Church**
  3810 Speedway
  Austin, TX 78751
  Phone: (512) 459-6587
  Website: www.hpbc.org

  Hyde Park Baptist Church provides a food pantry to residents in the following zip codes: 78705, 78751, 78752, 78756, and 78757. The food pantry is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., and individuals are welcome to visit the pantry up to four times per year.

- **Integral Care**
  1631 East 2nd Street, Building E
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 473-2273
  Website: www.integralcare.org

  Integral Care provides case management for individuals diagnosed with a mental illness, as well as psychiatrist groups and HIV testing. All services are free of charge.

- **Lisa's Hope Chest**
  3110-A Manor Road
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 457-0999
  Website: www.lisashopechest.org

  Lisa's Hope Chest provides gently used professional clothing to job-seekers who are unable to afford their own. Services are free of charge and are available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., as well as Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- **Manchaca Methodist Church**
  1011 FM 1626
  Austin, TX 78652
  Phone: (512) 282-7274
  Website: www.manchacaumc.org

  Manchaca Methodist Church provides a food pantry for those in need, which is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Individuals must have proper identification to qualify for assistance.

- **Manos de Cristo**
  4911 Harmon Avenue
  Austin, TX 78751
  Phone: (512) 477-7454
  Website: www.manosdecristo.org

  Manos de Cristo provides a dental clinic, food pantry, clothes closet, and educational programs for the poor and needy in the greater Austin area.

- **Micha 6 Food Pantry**
  2203 San Antonio Street
  Austin, TX 78705
  Phone: (512) 473-0088

  Micha 6 Food Pantry serves hot meals free of charge on Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

- **Network for Life**
  P.O. Box 180925
  Austin, TX 78718
  Phone: (512) 698-5678
  Website: www.networkforlife.org

  Network for Life provides a faith-based network of resources in Austin to assist previously incarcerated individuals.

- **North Austin Christian Church**
  1734 Rutland Drive
  Austin, TX 78758
  Phone: (512) 836-3282

  North Austin Christian Church provides meals and clothing free of charge on Monday nights from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., and meals free of charge on Sundays and Wednesdays before mass.

- **Olivet Helping Hands Center**
  1161 San Bernard Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 472-2298

  Olivet Helping Hands Center provides clothing, food, and school supplies free of charge on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- **Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**
  1206 East 9th Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 478-7955
  Website: www.olgaustin.org

  Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church provides a food pantry on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- **Rosewood Avenue Missionary Baptist Church**
  1820 Rosewood Avenue
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 476-2801

  Rosewood Avenue Missionary Baptist Church operates a food pantry. Interested individuals should call for hours.

- **Safe Place**
  P.O. Box 19454
  Austin, TX 78760
  Phone: (512) 267-SAFE (7233)
  Website: www.safeplace.org

  Safe Place provides shelter for individuals who are or who have been victims of domestic abuse and other forms of violence.

- **Salvation Army Social Services**
  501 East 8th Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 476-1111
  Website: www.salvationarmy.org

  Salvation Army provides emergency shelter and clothing. It also provides meals as follows: breakfast daily, lunch at noon, and dinner from 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Additionally, Salvation Army can provide local information on various resources.

- **St. Austin's Catholic Church**
  2026 Guadalupe Street
  Austin, TX 78705
  Phone: (512) 477-9471
  Website: www.staustin.org

  St. Austin's Catholic Church provides financial assistance with rent and utilities to residents in the following zip codes: 77803, 77805, 78722, 78751, and 78756. Outreach is done by a lottery system; names can be submitted Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

- **St. Matthew's Episcopal Church**
  8134 Mesa Drive
  Austin, TX 78759
  Phone: (512) 345-8314
  Website: www.stmattsaustin.org

  St. Matthew's Episcopal Church provides financial assistance with rent and utilities. Individuals must be approved after submitting an application; the usual turnaround time is two weeks. Interested individuals should call on Thursday mornings for more information.

- **St. Vincent de Paul Societies**
  Diocesan Council of Austin
  P.O. Box 9070
  Austin, TX 78766
  Phone: (512) 251-6995
  Website: www.ssvdp.org

  St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) provides a variety of services through its 37 parish-based volunteer groups. It offers person-to-person assistance, including basic needs and financial assistance for rent, mortgage, utilities, and food. SVDP also provides minor home repair programs such as exterior weatherproofing, minor roofing, plumbing, carpentry (including wheel chair ramps), electrical, and heating repairs.

- **The Sustainable Food Center**
  1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 480W
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 236-0074 ext. 111
  Website: www.sustainablefoodcenter.org

  The Sustainable Food Center encourages individuals in Central Texas to develop skills in food production and nutrition by providing a community organic garden, as well as a ''Happy Kitchen'' program that offers cooking classes and groceries free of charge to promote healthier living.

- **Texas Lawyers Care**
  1414 Colorado Street
  P.O. Box 12487
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 477-8302
  Website: www.texasbar.com

  Texas Lawyers Care provides a referral directory of legal services and other advocacy agencies that assist low-income Texans on non-criminal matters.

- **Travis County Criminal Justice Planning**
  Comprehensive Workforce Development Program
  5501 Airport Boulevard
  Austin, TX 78753
  Phone: (512) 854-6497

  The Comprehensive Workforce Development Program specializes in working with and hiring previously incarcerated individuals. It also provides additional resources to previously incarcerated individuals in the Travis County area.

- **The Trinity Center at St. David's Episcopal Church**
  304 East 7th Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 617-0945 and (512) 610-3515
  Website: www.trinitycenteraustin.org

  The Trinity Center at St. David's provides services to the homeless community, including meals on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, as well as case management and re-entry services to previously incarcerated individuals. On Thursdays, the Trinity Center offers help to individuals seeking identification cards, birth certificates, and other documentation. It also assists individuals with medication and bus passes. All services are free of charge.

- **Trinity United Methodist Church**
  600 East 50th Street
  Austin, TX 78751
  Phone: (512) 420-0717
  Website: www.tumc.org

  Trinity United Methodist Church provides a food pantry and other assistance to residents in the following zip codes: 78703, 78705, 78722, 78723, 78751, 78752, 78754, 78756, and 78757. Eligible individuals must bring photo identification each time they visit and must fall below TEXCAP income eligibility guidelines. Exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis.

- **University Presbyterian Church**
  2203 San Antonio Street
  Austin, TX 78705
  Phone: (512) 476-5321
  Website: www.upcaustin.org

  University Presbyterian Church does not provide direct client services but does offer referrals to many different programs throughout the area.

- **University United Methodist Church (UUMC)**
  2409 Guadalupe Street
  Austin, TX 78705
  Phone: (512) 478-9387
  Website: www.uumc.org

  UUMC provides several programs, including breakfast and lunch on Saturdays free of charge, housing for families with children who are temporarily without a place to stay, clothing distribution, and an Interfaith Care Alliance that provides assistance to individuals living with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. Its "Loveworks" program also provides support to children with incarcerated parents.

- **Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas**
  816 Congress Avenue, Suite 701
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 476-5550
  Website: www.vlsoct.org

  Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas assists low-income clients with civil matters by providing volunteer attorneys who donate legal advice and representation free of charge.

- **Wheless Lane Christian Brothers Restorative Ministry**
  2702 Wheless Lane
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 926-2988
  Website: www.whelesscoc.org

  Wheless Lane Christian Brothers Restorative Ministry provides basic church services, including Bible study, ministry teachings, and encouragement counseling to previously incarcerated individuals.

Central Texas – Austin and Waco Surrounding Area

- **Associated Family Counseling**
  616 North Main Street
  Temple, TX 76501
  Phone: (254) 773-9984

  Associated Family Counseling provides low-cost or no-cost counseling services to previously incarcerated individuals, individuals with sex offenses, juveniles, and couples. Anger management and parenting classes are also available. Entrance into the program requires an evaluation.

- **Brazos Food Bank**
  1514 Shiloh Avenue
  Bryan, TX 77803
  Phone: (979) 779-3663
  Website: www.brazosfoodbank.org

  Brazos Food Bank serves local non-profit agencies that distribute food throughout the Brazos Valley. Interested individuals should call for a list of local food distribution centers.

- **Destiny Church**
  101 North WS Young
  Killeen, TX 76543
  Phone: (254) 616-2624

  Destiny Church provides a "Back to Basics" parenting class free of charge from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on the second and third Saturdays of each month.

- **First Baptist Church of Belton**
  506 North Main Street
  Belton, TX 76513
  Phone: (254) 939-0503

  First Baptist Church of Belton provides faith-based anger management classes free of charge to interested participants.

- **First Presbyterian Church**
  12 French Avenue
  Temple, TX 76502
  Phone: (254) 899-1600

  First Presbyterian Church provides parenting classes free of charge on Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. It also provides anger management classes.

- **First United Methodist Church**
  Family Life Center
  205 East 3rd Avenue
  Belton, TX 76513
  Phone: (254) 939-5703

  First United Methodist Church provides parenting classes on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. A $10 charge covers the four-class series, which is held in the Family Life Center. Anger management classes are also available at $5 per class (each is a two-hour session) in Fellowship Hall, room 210.

- **Foreman Phillips Outreach Center**
  15630 Vision Drive
  Pflugerville, TX 78660
  Phone: (512) 251-4800

  Foreman Phillips Outreach Center provides a food pantry available on Friday afternoons from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- **Helping Hands, Inc.**
  1310 West Highway 290
  Dripping Springs, TX 78620
  Phone: (512) 858-7219
  Website: www.helpinghands-drippingsprings.org

  Helping Hands provides a food pantry to those in need on Wednesdays from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

- **Hill Country Community Ministries**
  1005 Lacey Drive
  Leander, TX 78641
  Phone: (512) 259-0360
  Website: www.hccm.org

  Hill Country Community Ministries maintains two houses in Jonestown for transitional housing purposes, while also providing a voucher system that individuals can use for rent, utilities, prescriptions, and other necessary items. Hill Country Community Ministries also offers a food pantry and seasonal assistance to low-income families, including blankets, space heaters, meals, school supplies, and more.

- **Immanuel Baptist Church**
  1401 West Central Avenue
  Temple, TX 76504
  Phone: (254) 773-2147
  Website: www.ibctemple.org

  Immanuel Baptist Church provides church services and faith-based counseling free of charge to interested participants.

- **J.A.I.L. Ministry, Inc.**
  P.O. Box 634
  Belton, TX 76513
  Phone: (254) 933-8506
  Website: www.jailmin.com

  J.A.I.L. Ministry provides faith-based assistance to individuals on parole, including anger management classes, employment placement assistance, housing assistance, mentoring, and referrals to social services.

- **Lacare**
  507 Buchanan Drive
  Burnet, TX 78611
  Phone: (512) 756-4422
  Website: www.lacareburnet.org

  Lacare provides meals, assistance with food stamp enrollment, gasoline vouchers for the recently employed, and spiritual guidance for all. Medical prescription assistance is also available on Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- **Lake Whitney Food Bank**
  603 South Bosque Street
  Whitney, TX 76692
  Phone: (254) 694-3155

  Lake Whitney Food Bank provides a food pantry on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., and Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Individuals must show identification and proof of address and, if applicable, a statement showing social security benefits.

- **Open Arms Ministry**
  P.O. Box 529
  Hillsboro, TX 76645
  Phone: (254) 580-2935

  Open Arms Ministry is a Christian-based organization that provides encouragement, religious information and materials, and halfway house referrals.

- **The Pantry and More**
  1599 East Washington Street
  Stephenville, TX 76401
  Phone: (254) 592-9696

  The Pantry and More provides a food pantry available to anyone in need of assistance. There are no eligibility requirements. Interested individuals should call before visiting to ensure it is open.

Central Texas – San Antonio and Surrounding Area

- **Believers Christian Fellowship**
  36200 FM 3159
  New Braunfels, TX 78132
  Phone: (830) 885-2214
  Website: www.believerschristianfellowship.org

  Believers Christian Fellowship provides food for families in times of emergency, as well as discount grocery services.

- **Bexar County Department of Community Investment**
  233 North Pecos Street, Suite 590
  San Antonio, TX 78207
  Phone: (210) 335-6770

  Bexar County Department of Community Investment provides case management, heating, cooling, and other utility bill assistance. Interested individuals should call on Tuesday mornings starting at 9:00 a.m. to make an appointment.

- **Bexar County Detention Ministries**
  Family Renewal Center
  503 San Pedro Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78212
  Phone: (210) 299-4540

  Bexar County Detention Ministries provides education, advocacy, job search assistance, emergency assistance, and support groups for adults and juveniles who have been released from detention.

Spotlight On: Mobile Loaves & Fishes

Mobile Loaves & Fishes (MLF) is a social outreach ministry that provides food and clothing to the homeless and the working poor. Every night, a catering truck offers a hot meal and other resources to needy individuals at the locations listed below. Pick-up times vary, but trucks are usually out around lunch and dinner times: noon, and between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. nightly. Interested individuals should call locations for exact times.

Austin

- **MLF Downtown Alliance of Churches**
  First United Methodist Church
  1201 Lavaca Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 478-5684

- **MLF Lake Hills Church Downtown**
  505 Walsh Street
  Austin, TX 78703
  Phone: (512) 899-8333

- **MLF Lake Hills Church**
  11431 Bee Caves Road
  Austin, TX 78738
  Phone: (512) 899-8333

- **MLF Riverbend Church**
  4214 North Capital of Texas Highway
  Austin, TX 78746

- **MLF St. John Neumann Catholic Church**
  5455 Bee Caves Road
  Austin, TX 78746
  Phone: (512) 328-3220

- **MLF St. Louis Catholic Church**
  7601 Burnet Road
  Austin, TX 78757
  Phone: (512) 454-0384

- **MLF St. Thomas More Catholic Church**
  10205 Ranch Road 620 North
  Austin, TX 78726
  Phone: (512) 258-1161

San Antonio

- **MLF St. Francis of Assisi**
  4201 de Zavala Road
  San Antonio, TX 78249
  Phone: (210) 492-4600

- **MLF St. Mark the Evangelist**
  1602 Thousand Oaks Drive
  San Antonio, TX 78232
  Phone: (210) 494-1606

- **Catholic Charities of San Antonio**
  202 West French Place
  San Antonio, TX 78212
  Phone: (210) 222-1294
  Website: www.ccaosa.org

  Catholic Charities of San Antonio provides many community-assistance programs, including family and counseling services, community voicemail, and immigration/refugee support.

- **Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM)**
  110 McCullough Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78215
  Phone: (210) 223-6648
  Website: www.christianassistanceministry.org

  CAM provides emergency food and clothing, financial assistance, and information and referral sources. It also assists individuals with bus fare and obtaining identification documents.

- **Community Action Program**
  City of San Antonio
  Call for nearest location
  Phone: (210) 207-7830

  Community Action Program provides public assistance information, as well as comprehensive case management, utility assistance, basic needs items, counseling, and much more.

- **Dress for Success of San Antonio**
  P.O. Box 91036
  San Antonio, TX 78209
  Phone: (210) 737-1515
  Website: www.dressforsuccess.org/affiliate.aspx?pageid=1&sisid=61

  Dress for Success of San Antonio provides gently used and new professional clothing, a network of support, and career development tools to help women thrive in the workplace and in their personal lives. All services are free of charge and available Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- **Inner City Development**
  1300 Chihuahua Street
  San Antonio, TX 78207
  Phone: (210) 224-7239

  Inner City Development provides a food and clothing pantry weekdays from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- **Jewish Family and Children's Services of San Antonio**
  12500 Northwest Military Highway
  San Antonio, TX 78231
  Phone: (210) 302-6924

  Jewish Family and Children's Services of San Antonio provides some rental and utility assistance. Interested individuals should call and ask for the financial aid office for more information.

- **Kenwood Community Center**
  305 Dora Street
  San Antonio, TX 78212
  Phone: (210) 207-7830

  Kenwood Community Center provides rental and utility assistance in some cases.

- **San Antonio Food Bank**
  5200 Old Highway 90 West
  San Antonio, TX 78227
  Phone: (210) 337-3663
  Website: www.chcsbc.org

  San Antonio Food Bank provides food assistance from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Northeast and East Texas – Dallas

- **"Be Free" Jail and Prison Ministry**
  3236 Golfing Green Place
  Dallas, TX 75234
  Phone: (972) 247-1769

  "Be Free" Jail and Prison Ministry provides non-residential aftercare services to assist individuals who are returning to the Dallas community after leaving jail or prison.

- **Central Dallas Ministries**
  409 North Haskell Avenue
  Dallas, TX 75246
  Phone: (214) 823-8710
  Website: www.centraldallasministries.org

  Central Dallas Ministries provides food, shelter, and medical and legal aid to individuals in need. Services are provided Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., and food pantry services are available Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

- **Dallas County Community Action Committee, Inc.**
  611 East Jefferson Boulevard
  Dallas, TX 75203
  Phone: (214) 943-6696

  Dallas County Community Action Committee provides employment assistance to previously incarcerated individuals who have referrals from their parole officers.

- **Dallas Life Foundation**
  1100 Cadiz Street
  Dallas, TX 75215
  Phone: (214) 421-1380
  Website: www.dallaslife.org

  Dallas Life Foundation offers outreach to homeless men, women, and children by providing food, clothing, transitional living facilities, and long-term, faith-based rehabilitation programs. It also provides a medical, dental, and vision clinic free of charge.

- **First Baptist Dallas Prison Ministries**
  1707 San Jacinto Street
  Dallas, TX 75201
  Phone: (214) 969-2421

  First Baptist Dallas Prison Ministries provides 24-month faith-based aftercare, housing, bus passes, parole fee assistance, and employment assistance.

- **Project Reconnect-Reentry**
  501 North Stemmons Freeway
  Dallas, TX 75207
  Phone: (214) 943-4444

  Project Reconnect provides bus passes and hot meals free of charge to individuals living with HIV or AIDS.

- **ROD Ministries**
  1128 Sabine Street
  Dallas, TX 75203
  Phone: (469) 337-5229
  Website: www.rodministries.org

  ROD Ministries provides aftercare services to individuals leaving jail or prison. These services include residential placement, transportation assistance (such as bus passes), help obtaining identification documents, job referrals, and résumé writing assistance. ROD Ministries also provides clothing, shoes, toiletries, and food free of charge. Routine medical exams and procedures are available through its mobile medical unit. Finally, ROD Ministries keeps a central directory of available resources and referrals to local providers.

- **St. Francis Anglican Church**
  P.O. Box 140182
  Dallas, TX 75201
  Phone: (214) 685-9532

  St. Francis Anglican Church provides faith-based non-residential aftercare, as well as services to families of incarcerated individuals and ministry support to individuals inside select units.

- **Texas Offenders Reentry Initiative (TORI)**
  1810 High Hill Boulevard
  Dallas, TX 75203
  Phone: (214) 941-1325 ext. 307

  TORI provides life skills classes, substance abuse counseling, and financial literacy classes free of charge. Clients are assisted on a walk-in basis.

Northeast and East Texas – Fort Worth

- **Bread Basket Ministries**
  2809 Mansfield Highway
  Fort Worth, TX 76119
  Phone: (817) 535-2323

  Bread Basket Ministries serves the public with a focus on the elderly, the unemployable, and others in urgent need of help. Individuals looking to receive food and other aid should call early in the day to make an appointment.

- **Clothing Confidence and Careers**
  801 Cherry Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76102
  Email: info@dfwccc.org

  Clothing Confidence and Careers serves men 18 years old and older who are actively seeking employment. Specific services include one-on-one assistance with résumé building, interview techniques, workshops and motivational speakers, effective job search techniques, job readiness training, and more.

- **Community Action Partners**
  Multiple locations throughout the Fort Worth area
  Phone: (817) 392-5790
  Website: www.fortworthgov.org/pacs/cap

  Community Action Partners provides financial assistance. Applicants will be required to provide identification, proof of income, address, and other household information at their appointment.

- **Community Learning Center**
  6300 Ridglea Place, Suite 600
  Fort Worth, TX 76116
  Phone: (817) 569-9008
  Website: www.clcinc.org

  Community Learning Center provides intensive adult literacy classes, job training skills, and vocational rehabilitation services.

- **Cornerstone Assistance Network**
  3500 Noble Avenue
  Fort Worth, TX 76111
  Phone: (817) 632-6000

  Cornerstone Assistance Network provides a comprehensive care program including case management, a Christian women's job corps, a medical clinic, and a community center that provides food and clothing for the needy.

- **Day Resource Center**
  1415 East Lancaster Avenue
  Fort Worth, TX 76102
  Phone: (817) 810-9797
  Website: www.fwdayresourcectr.org

  Day Resource Center provides shower facilities, hygiene and grooming products, telephone and fax access, a mail center, a laundry facility, internet access, and more. Clients go through an intake process for services and are also provided with community referrals for additional services.

- **Eastside Ministries of Fort Worth**
  5929 East Lancaster Avenue
  Fort Worth, TX 76112
  Phone: (817) 446-3278
  Website: www.eastsideministriestx.org

  Eastside Ministries of Fort Worth provides services to residents in the following zip codes: 76103, 76112, and 76120. Services include food, clothing, and referrals to other helpful organizations. Walk-ins are accepted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- **Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County**
  P.O. Box 470869
  Fort Worth, TX 76147
  Phone: (817) 731-1173
  Website: www.familypathfinders.org

  Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County provides families and individuals with opportunities and services for empowerment and self-sufficiency. It offers a mentoring program for families on public assistance who are striving to become independent. It also has a "Career Steps" program for individuals receiving welfare, which helps improve job skills through training and unpaid internships with non-profit organizations.

- **First Street Methodist Mission**

801 West 1st Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102
Phone: (817) 335-6080
Website: www.firststreetmission.org

First Street Methodist Mission provides services and referral assistance on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The Mission offers homeless services, a food and clothing bank, and more.

❑ Hearts and Hands

1601 North Davis Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76102
Phone: (817) 459-4950
Website: www.northdavischurch.org

Hearts and Hands provides food and clothing distribution to residents of Arlington, Tarrant County, Grand Prairie, or in the 76063 zip code (proof of residency is required). Applications to receive services are accepted Monday through Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; it is best to arrive early as a limited number of vouchers are issued each day. Applications for food stamps are also available.

❑ Hope Center

3625 East Loop 820 South
Fort Worth, TX 76110
Phone: (817) 451-6288
Website: www.fwhopecenter.org

Hope Center provides meals free of charge on Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

❑ Ladder Alliance

1000 Bonnie Brae Avenue, Suite 200
Fort Worth, TX 76111
Phone: (817) 834-2100
Website: www.ladderalliance.org

Ladder Alliance provides job-training skills with a focus on computer and technological skills. Eligibility is based on income, and programs are available to individuals 18 and over. Ladder Alliance also provides GED and ESL classes. All classes are free of charge.

❑ Legal Aid of Northwest Texas

600 East Weatherford Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102
Phone: (817) 336-3943
Website: www.lanwt.org

Legal Aid of Northwest Texas assists low-income families with legal issues; however, no tickets or criminal issues are accepted for review. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- **Mercy Heart Ministry**
  4600 Wheeler Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76117
  Phone: (817) 514-0290
  Website: www.mercyheart.org

  Mercy Heart Ministry provides services to previously incarcerated individuals and their families. A free meal, Bible study, and faith healing groups are offered on Thursday evenings beginning at 6:00 p.m.

- **Northside Inter-Church Agency**
  1600 Circle Park Boulevard
  Fort Worth, TX 76164
  Phone: (817) 626-1102
  Website: www.nicaagency.org

  Northside Inter-Church Agency provides services on a case-by-case basis. Such services may include food, clothing, health and hygiene items, baby items, and household goods, as well as financial assistance to cover rent, utilities, prescriptions, bus passes, gas vouchers, and more.

- **Opening Doors for Women in Need**
  3507 Horne Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76107
  Phone: (817) 920-9326
  Website: www.opendoors4women.org

  Opening Doors for Women in Need mentors women who want to get back on track with their lives by providing substance abuse counseling, job placement assistance, professional attire, and educational seminars, as well as affordable rental properties for single women who have children.

- **The Parenting Center**
  2928 West 5th Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76107
  Phone: (817) 332-6348
  Website: www.theparentingcenter.org

  The Parenting Center provides programs designed to create a healthier home for parents and their children.

- **Senior Community Service Employment**
  1100 Circle Drive, Suite 100
  Fort Worth, TX 76119
  Phone: (817) 536-3600

  Senior Community Service Employment provides training to Tarrant County residents who are over the age of 55 and returning to the workforce.

- **Tarrant Area Food Bank**
  2600 Cullen Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76107
  Phone: (817) 332-9177
  Website: www.tafb.org

  Tarrant Area Food Bank provides information on the Food Stamp program as well as other assistance and social services, nutrition education to individuals and families receiving food assistance, food distribution to charity centers, and culinary job training for low-income adults.

- **Tarrant County Restorative Justice Ministry Center**
  1400 East Seminary Drive
  Fort Worth, TX 76115
  Phone: (817) 921-4730

  Tarrant County Restorative Justice Ministry Center provides faith-based support services to individuals as they transition back into society after leaving incarceration, including food and clothing provisions, as well as community referrals.

- **Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network**
  400 North Beach Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76111
  Phone: (817) 335-1994

  Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network provides services to individuals who have been diagnosed with HIV or AIDS. In addition to case management services, the Network offers a dental clinic, nutrition program, legal aid, and temporary housing.

- **Texas Reentry Services**
  3001 Race Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76111
  Phone: (817) 834-2833
  Website: www.txrs.org

  Texas Reentry Services provides comprehensive case management and support to previously incarcerated individuals. Family support, housing resources, and social services are provided on a case-by-case basis.

- **Union Gospel Mission**
  1321 East Lancaster Avenue
  Fort Worth, TX 76102
  Phone: (817) 339-2553
  Website: www.uniongospelmissiontc.org

  Union Gospel Mission provides a recovery resource center for those battling addiction, legal aid free of charge on a weekly basis, job skills and search workshops, and spiritual direction.

- **Women's Center of Tarrant County**
  1723 Hemphill Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76110
  Phone: (817) 927-4040
  Website: www.womenscenter.info

  Women's Center of Tarrant County provides job search assistance, adult literacy classes, a community kitchen, culinary skills training, intensive case management, homeless services, counseling for sexual abuse, and referrals. Interested individuals should call between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to make an appointment.

Northeast and East Texas – Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex

- **Community Enrichment Center**
  6250 NE Loop 820
  North Richland Hills, TX 76180
  Phone: (817) 281-1164
  Website: www.openarmshome.org

  Community Enrichment Center provides emergency food assistance for low-income families. Transitional housing and job search assistance is also available.

- **Community Service Center**
  211 South Cooper Street
  Social Work Complex Building B
  Arlington, TX 76119
  Phone: (817) 272-2165

  Community Service Center provides a counseling center that offers services to individuals dealing with anger problems and other issues. It also works with individuals convicted of domestic violence by providing counseling and referrals. Individuals typically find a waiting list of one to four weeks.

- **Desoto Food Pantry**
  302 North Hampton Road
  Desoto, TX 75115
  Phone: (972) 223-4050

  Desoto Food Pantry serves the community of Desoto by providing food to individuals and families in need. It is open Mondays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- **God's Food Pantry**
  3420 14th Street
  Plano, TX 75074
  Phone: (972) 633-9777
  Website: www.godsfoodpantry.com

  God's Food Pantry operates an open-door food pantry for individuals and families in need.

- **Harvest House**

349 NW Renfro Street
Burleson, TX 76028
Phone: (817) 295-6252
Website: www.yourharvesthouse.org

Harvest House provides services to residents in the following zip codes: 76009, 76028, 76058, 76059, and 76061. Clients are eligible to receive money on gift cards every 90 days and are offered financial assistance with rent, utilities, prescriptions, dental care, and gas vouchers. An application must be submitted and a small intake interview will be conducted to verify home address, household composition, and income.

- **Harvesting International Ministry Center**

560 Easy Drive
Mansfield, TX 76063
Phone: (817) 453-3663
Website: www.himcenter.org

Harvesting International Ministry Center provides food distribution to local charities, and it operates a small store that sells discount groceries. The Center also offers financial assistance to individuals and families on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- **Mission Arlington**

210 West South Street
Arlington, TX 76010
Phone: (817) 277-6620
Website: www.missionarlington.org

Mission Arlington provides food, home and personal needs, bicycles, gas vouchers, financial assistance, and, in some cases, used vehicles. It will also help individuals obtain legal documentation. Walk-ins and appointments are accepted.

- **Operation Oasis**

888 South Greenville Avenue, Suite 139
Richardson, TX 75081
Phone: (972) 437-3801
Website: www.operation-oasis.org

Operation Oasis provides aftercare for previously incarcerated individuals, including housing, life-skills training, Bible study, and more. Programs and services are free of charge.

- **Volunteers of America**

300 East Midway Drive
Euless, TX 76039
Phone: (817) 529-7300
Website: www.voa.org/Local-Offices/Volunteers-of-America-of-Texas.aspx

Volunteers of America provides programs specifically designed to address the needs of previously incarcerated individuals. All programs are free of charge and may include an outpatient education program for substance abuse, as well as parenting classes.

- **Ways2Work**

505 East Border Street
Arlington, TX 76019
Phone: (817) 543-4290

Ways2Work is a program that loans up to $6,000 to single parents with children under the age of 18. It works closely with credit bureaus to help establish good credit while offering a two-year payback plan with a fixed interest rate of 8%. Eligible clients must be working.

- **Woman2Woman Empowerment**
  P.O. Box 2152
  Hurst, TX 76053
  Phone: (682) 597-4844

  Woman2Woman Empowerment provides assistance to women who are making the transition from prison back to society. Applicants can write a letter of interest to the program before they are released from prison.

Northeast and East Texas – All the Rest

- **Calvary Commission**
  P.O. Box 100
  Lindale, TX 75771
  Phone: (903) 882-5501
  Website: www.calvarycommission.org

  Calvary Commission provides aftercare for a select number of individuals released from prison, as well as Bible study and church services. Interested individuals should write for more information about the aftercare program.

- **Community Organization Missionary Endeavor (COME)**
  350 B Highway 75 North
  Huntsville, TX 77320
  Phone: (936) 295-0671

  COME provides utility, rental, medical, and dental assistance to residents of Walker County. To qualify for clothing, individuals must be indigent or be issued food stamps.

- **Lake Area Shared Ministries**
  1207 East Quinlan Parkway
  Quinlan, TX 75474
  Phone: (903) 356-6744

  Lake Area Shared Ministries operates an emergency food pantry open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

- **Little Elm Area Food Bank**
  501 Bill Street
  Little Elm, TX 75068
  Phone: (972) 294-4061
  Website: www.leafb.org

  Little Elm Area Food Bank provides clients with short-term emergency food. Assistance is available Mondays from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., and on third Saturdays of the month from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. For non-scheduled emergency assistance, individuals should call (972) 294-1742 to make an appointment.

- **Neighbors to Neighbors**
  413 South Main Street
  Springtown, TX 76082
  Phone: (817) 523-6095
  Website: www.n2nfoodpantry.org

  Neighbors to Neighbors operates an emergency food pantry open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- **New Awakenings**
  203 West 2nd Avenue, Suite B
  Corsicana, TX 75110
  Phone: (903) 654-0003

  New Awakenings is an aftercare program for women that provides domestic violence and substance abuse counseling. 12-step meetings are held twice per week.

- **One Man's Treasure**
  PMB 211 519 I-30
  Rockwall, TX 75087
  Phone: Mary Carter at 1-888-433-9826
  Website: www.onemanstr.org

  One Man's Treasure provides clothing, mentoring, and some aftercare support for individuals leaving jail or prison. All services are free of charge.

- **Preaching the Cross Ministries**
  2318 Douglass Road
  Nacogdoches, TX 75964
  Phone: (936) 559-0070

  Preaching the Cross Ministries provides recovery programs for individuals, as well as counseling to families that are dealing with the impact of incarceration.

- **University Heights Baptist Church**
  2400 Sycamore Avenue
  Huntsville, TX 77340
  Phone: (936) 295-2996
  Website: www.uhbc.net

  University Heights Baptist Church provides spiritual growth programs for men, women, college students, and youth. Guidance and counseling are available for those with substance- and alcohol-abuse issues.

- **WorkSource Career Office**
  901 Normal Park Place, Suite 7
  Huntsville, TX 77320
  Phone: (936) 291-3336

  WorkSource Career Office provides employment readiness assistance, job referrals, and internet, fax, copier, and telephone access. Walk-ins are accepted Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- **Your Neighbor's House**
  201 South Union Street
  Whitesboro, TX 76273
  Phone: (903) 564-4400

  Your Neighbor's House operates a food bank and an overnight shelter to serve needy families in the Whitesboro area.

South and Southeast Texas – Houston

- **Anderson Food Pantry**
  1508 Gregg Street
  Houston, TX 77020
  Phone: (713) 222-0373

  Anderson Food Pantry provides food free of charge to residents in the 77020 zip code. The pantry is open on the 2nd and 14th of each month from 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Individuals must bring proof of income and residence, as well as provide a social security number for each member of the household seeking to receive services.

- **Brentwood Baptist Church**
  13033 Landmark Street
  Houston, TX 77045
  Phone: (713) 852-1414
  Website: www.brentwoodbaptist.org

  Brentwood Baptist Church provides several community outreach programs, including a food pantry open Tuesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., a clothing bank with new and gently used clothing open the second and fourth Saturdays of every month from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., and aftercare services to previously incarcerated individuals, including housing, employment assistance, and community referrals.

- **Christian Community Service Center**
  3230 Mercer Street
  Houston, TX 77027
  Phone: (713) 961-3993
  Website: www.ccschouston.com

  Christian Community Service Center provides individuals with food, clothing, limited financial assistance, referrals, computer training, and job/vocational skills training.

- **Community of Faith**
  1023 Pinemont Drive
  Houston, TX 77018
  Phone: (713) 688-2900
  Website: www.jamesdixonministries.org

  Community of Faith provides outreach programs such as Bible study, weekly counseling services, faith-based life skills training, and more free of charge.

- **First Baptist Church**
  7401 Katy Freeway
  Houston, TX 77024
  Phone: (713) 681-8000
  Website: www.houstonsfirst.org

  First Baptist Church provides individuals with counseling to address a number of concerns, as well as a meal on Sundays free of charge.

- **The Forge for Families**
  3150 Yellowstone Boulevard
  Houston, TX 77054
  Phone: (713) 664-5033
  Website: www.forgeforfamilies.org

  The Forge for Families is a faith-based community program that provides educational, vocational, and leadership development to the residents of Houston's Third Ward community. Mentoring is also available.

- **His Father's Heart Ministries**
  5715 Northwest Central Drive, Suite F-109
  Houston, TX 77092
  Phone: (713) 996-0980
  Website: www.hisfathersheart.org

  His Father's Heart Ministries provides faith-based support and guidance to previously incarcerated individuals. Anger management and 12-step programs are also available.

- **Houston Compass, Inc.**
  1225 Texas Avenue
  Houston, TX 77002
  Phone: (713) 229-8319

  Houston Compass provides supportive information through "The Way Home Project" to men and women re-entering society after leaving incarceration. Houston Compass also holds support meetings for individuals recently released from prison.

- **Martha's Pantry**
  322 South Jensen Drive
  Houston, TX 77003
  Phone: (713) 224-2522

  Martha's Pantry provides food and basic needs assistance from its pantry. Lunch is also served Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m.

- **Newgate UMC – Onesimus Journey**
  Rev. Marvin Hood
  3827 Broadway at I-45S
  Houston, TX 77017
  Phone: (832) 567-0758

  Newgate UMC provides faith-based non-residential and residential aftercare to individuals leaving jail or prison.

- **Open Door Mission**
  5803 Harrisburg Boulevard
  Houston, TX 77011
  Phone: (713) 921-7520
  Website: www.opendoorhouston.org

  Open Door Mission provides urgent care services to men, as well as an open pantry for meals, clothes, and hygiene products. Men are also offered an assessment by social services to determine if they meet the criteria for further assistance, including drug and alcohol abuse rehabilitation, medical services, and educational support.

Spotlight On: Your Local Urban League

The National Urban League is dedicated to economic empowerment in order to elevate the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities. It has three locations in Texas: Austin, Houston, and Dallas. These three branches provide many programs and services to residents each particular community.

Below is the contact information for each of the Urban Leagues in Texas, along with some general information about some of the programs each provides. More details about specific programs may be available in other sections of this guide. Interested individuals should contact their local Urban League (or visit its website) for more information about programs, as well as to get specific dates and times for classes and learn about other services that may be offered.

- **Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas**
  Website: www.ulgdnctx.com

  The Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas has three locations throughout Greater Dallas (below). Interested individuals should contact each office as different services may be provided at each location.

Pleasant Grove
3312 North Buckner
Suite 234
Dallas, TX 75228
Phone: (214) 413-1765

Irving
1625 North Story Road
Suite 166
Irving, TX 75061
Phone: (214) 413-1740

Garland
210 Carver Street
Suite 102B
Garland, TX 75040
Phone: (214) 413-1720

Some of the available services include the following:

- **Health Services**
  This program provides HIV/AIDS prevention, as well as outreach services and case management for high-risk clients, in collaboration with the League's health program.

- **Technology Center**
  This program provides beginning and intermediate computer classes, including Introduction to Computers, internet usage, keyboarding, and Microsoft programs.

- **Employment Development**
  This program provides job readiness, job placement, and career development through workshops. Monthly recruitment by area employers in partnership with the League is also provided.

- **Education Development**
  This program provides English as a Second Language, parenting, anger management, and GED classes to prepare students for the math, writing, language arts, and physical science components of the GED exam. Other life skills topics are addressed as needed.

- **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)**
  This program promotes financial literacy and provides access to computer tax filing of 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ forms.

Additional services are available at all three locations for individuals and families who are seeking to move toward self-reliance and out of poverty, and whose income is at or below 125% poverty guidelines. These services may include mortgage and rental assistance, utility payments, food and gasoline vouchers, tax preparation, and more.

- **Austin Area Urban League**
  1033 La Posada Drive, Suite 150
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 478-7176
  Website: www.aaul.org

Austin Area Urban League provides various programs at its single location. Interested individuals should call to verify program eligibility and availability. Two of the programs are described below.

- **Ex-Offender Initiative**
  This program specifically targets previously incarcerated individuals and provides counseling services, case management, community resource referrals, life-skills training, and job placement assistance.

- **Institute for Quality Education and Career Development (IQECD)**
  This program provides job-readiness training, including computer and office skills training, employment skills workshops, and job placement assistance. A Workplace Literacy training program also has a job-readiness component that provides preparation in business math, business English, reading, spelling, and vocabulary. Additionally, GED preparation classes are offered to assist individuals seeking to complete their high school education.

- **Houston Area Urban League**
  Website: www.haul.org

The Houston Area Urban League provides services at its three locations:

Downtown Houston
1301 Texas Avenue
Houston, TX 77002
Phone: (713) 393-8700

Palm Center
Greater Houston Area
Community Outreach and
Resource Center
5320 Griggs Road
P.O. Box 76
Houston, TX 77021
Phone: (281) 220-6012

Palm Center
Education and Youth
Development Center
5340 Griggs Road
Houston, TX 77021
Phone: (281) 220-6023

An overview of its programs is below.

- **First Time Homebuyers Class**
  This class is designed to assist low-to-moderate income families with the home buying process. Classes are offered in English and Spanish, and they are held from 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the Downtown Houston location.

- **Foreclosure Prevention Program**
  This program provides confidential counseling free of charge from a HUD certified counseling representative. For more information, call 1-888-995-HOPE (4673).

- **Job Readiness and Retention**
  This program works to provide training and guidance on a successful job search or career change. Training sessions may cover résumé building and writing, communication skills, interview techniques, and more.

- **St. Paul's Pantry**
  5501 South Main Street
  Houston, TX 77004
  Phone: (713) 528-0527

  St. Paul's Pantry provides food assistance Monday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

- **Star of Hope Mission**
  6897 Ardmore Street
  Houston, TX 77054
  Phone: (713) 748-0700
  Website: www.sohmission.org

  Star of Hope Mission provides the following services to those in need on a walk-in basis or by appointment: career development, personal development, spiritual life programming, computer learning centers, counseling, an emergency walk-in and general health clinic, New Hope Substance Abuse Recovery programming, on-site day care, parenting classes, and referrals to other agencies.

- **Turning Point**
  1701 Jacquelyn Drive
  Houston, TX 77055
  Phone: (713) 957-0099
  Website: www.turningpointcenter.org

  Turning Point provides food, shelter, and rehabilitative services to individuals over 50 years old who are unable to provide adequate living conditions for themselves. Turning Point also provides transportation, job training, clothing, case management, substance abuse education, chemical dependency counseling, anger/stress management, personal skills training, and group counseling.

- **West Houston Assistance Ministries, Inc. (WHAM)**
  10501 Meadowglen Lane
  Houston, TX 77042
  Phone: (713) 977-9942
  Website: www.whamministries.org

  WHAM provides services to residents in the following zip codes: 77042, 77057, 77063, 77077, and 77082. WHAM strives to meet the essentials of living, including food, clothing, household items, financial aid, transportation, and job search assistance. All services are provided to individuals free of charge once they qualify for assistance.

- **Winner's Circle**
  5427-B North Shepherd Drive
  Houston, TX 77091
  Phone: (713) 695-7716

  Winner's Circle provides peer support for former addicts and previously incarcerated individuals. AA and CA meetings are available, as are discussions among peers to assist with housing referrals, employment placement, and issues related to everyday living.

South and Southeast Texas – Houston / Sugar Land / Baytown Surrounding Areas

- **Christian Restorative Justice Mentors Association**
  P.O. Box 131412
  Spring, TX 77393
  Phone: (281) 292-0442
  Website: www.crjma.org

  Christian Restorative Justice Mentors Association provides faith-based mentoring to individuals recently released from jail or prison.

- **Fort Bend Interface Food Bank**
  1306 FM 1092 Road
  Missouri City, TX 77459
  Phone: (281) 261-1006

  Fort Bend Interface Food Bank serves residents of Fort Bend County. To qualify for aid, individuals must bring proof of residence along with a photo ID.

- **Joy Prison Ministry**
  P.O. Box 7324
  The Woodlands, TX 77087
  Phone: (281) 687-2696
  Website: www.preciousheart.net/joy

  Joy Prison Ministry provides services to individuals who have been released from prison and need a place to live.

- **Texas Association of X-Offenders (TAX)**
  P.O. Box 1149
  Humble, TX 77092
  Phone: (713) 682-3643
  Website: www.prisonministry.net/xoffenders

  TAX provides a support ministry that assists unwed mothers and individuals dealing with drug and alcohol addiction.

- **TLC Food Pantry**
  110 West Montgomery Street
  Willis, TX 77378
  Phone: (936) 856-8317
  Website: www.willisfumc.org/TLCFoodpantry.htm

  The TLC Food Pantry is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

- **Warm Pantry**
  31315 FM 2920 Road
  Waller, TX 77484
  Phone: (936) 372-3025
  Website: www.wallerassistance.org

  Warm Pantry is an emergency food pantry that also provides clothing on a case-by-case basis, as well as minimal financial assistance. Individuals must show proof of residency, identification, and food stamps or social security statements if applicable.

South and Southeast Texas – All the Rest

- **God's Friend Ministries**
  Jack McClelland
  3727 North 16th Street, Suite 287
  Orange, TX 77632
  Phone: (409) 283-5977

  God's Friend Ministries provides Bible study courses and referrals to community-based resources for individuals re-entering the community from TDCJ.

- **International Institute of Faith Based Counseling**
  P.O. Box 20723
  Beaumont, TX 77720
  Phone: (409) 832-9060
  Website: www.hisclinic.org

  International Institute of Faith Based Counseling provides drug and alcohol addiction services, life skills training, parental classes, healthy nutrition assessments, and mental health resources free of charge.

- **Laredo Regional Food Bank**
  2802 Anna Avenue
  Laredo, TX 78040
  Phone: (956) 723-3725
  Website: www.laredoregionalfoodbank.org

  Laredo Regional Food Bank provides information on the local charities it supplies. Interested individuals should call for a list of food pantries and other assistance available in the area.

- **Prayer-Life Seminars, Inc.**
  630 Meadowbrook Drive
  Corpus Christi, TX 78412
  Phone: (361) 960-7651
  Website: www.prayerlifeseminars.org

  Prayer-Life Seminars holds seminars for individuals looking to find comfort and restoration through Christ. Weekend seminars last two days, and four-day retreats are also provided. Services are free of charge.

- **Southeast Texas Food Bank, Inc.**
  3845 Martin Luther King Road
  Beaumont, TX 77713
  Phone: (409) 839-8777
  Website: www.setxfoodbank.org

  Southeast Texas Food Bank provides a volunteer program for individuals recently released from the Larry Gist State Jail; specifically, it offers the opportunity to volunteer at the food bank. Individuals will work in a low-stress environment and learn valuable vocational skills.

West Texas

- **Amos**
  908 South Loraine Street
  Midland, TX 79701
  Phone: (432) 687-2667

  Amos provides a food and clothing pantry open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- **Andrews Food Pantry**
  300 Northeast Avenue D
  Andrews, TX 79714
  Phone: (432) 524-7051

  Andrews Food Pantry provides meals free of charge. It is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- **Helping Hands of Midland**
  1301 Brinson Lane
  Midland, TX 79701
  Phone: (432) 699-4900

  Helping Hands of Midland provides rental assistance when funding is available. Interested individuals should call and leave a message; calls will be returned.

- **Lifechange Mentoring**
  P.O. Box 9535
  Midland, TX 79708

  Lifechange Mentoring provides faith-based mentoring free of charge. Interested individuals should write for more information on the program.

- **Midland Baptist Center**
  806 South Baird Street
  Midland, TX 79701
  Phone: (432) 685-1467

  Midland Baptist Center provides rental assistance when funding is available.

- **Permian Basin Mission Center**
  208 North Adams Avenue
  Odessa, TX 79761
  Phone: (432) 337-0554

  Permian Basin Mission Center provides utility assistance when funding is available.

- **St. Andrew's Mission**
  1708 North Fort Worth Street
  Midland, TX 79702
  Phone: (432) 682-2351

  St. Andrew's Mission provides utility and rental assistance when funding is available.

- **St. John's Food Pantry**
  401 West County Road North
  Odessa, TX 79763
  Phone: (432) 333-6022

  St. John's Food Pantry provides assistance every other Saturday beginning at 8:00 a.m. Services are provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

- **Salvation Army of Odessa**
  810 East 11th Street
  Odessa, TX 79761
  Phone: (432) 332-0738

  Salvation Army of Odessa provides emergency shelter (for up to three nights), food, and other assistance.

- **Servants of the Poor**
  2022 Grant Way
  Odessa, TX 79764
  Phone: (432) 333-4623

  Servants of the Poor provides utility assistance when funding is available.

- **West Texas Food Bank**
  3727 Shell Street
  El Paso, TX 79925
  Phone: (915) 595-1060
  Website: www.wtxfoodbank.org

  West Texas Food Bank provides needy families with food and other basic needs supplies. All services are free of charge, but individuals must qualify; they can call for eligibility requirements and more information.

Spotlight On: Goodwill Industries of Texas

Goodwill Industries of Texas works toward eliminating barriers to employment through self- and community development. Specifically, Goodwill Industries of Texas provides a wealth of programs designed to enhance the dignity and quality of life of individuals, families, and communities.

Below is general information on the Goodwill organizations in various areas, including contact and program information related to their services. Interested individuals should call each branch ahead of time to verify address and program information, and to determine eligibility for services.

- **Goodwill Industries of Houston**
  10795 Hammerly Boulevard
  Houston, Texas 77043
  Phone: (713) 692-6221
  Website: www.goodwillhouston.org

  Goodwill of Houston provides job training, education, and more to individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment. It offers several job connection centers that serve individuals who are unemployed or underemployed, and who are ready, willing, and able to be engaged in meaningful employment. It also provides assessment and training in business and computer skills, interview preparation, and job readiness. Computer and internet access, as well as telephones and fax machines, are available to clients at each center.

The Job Connection Center's main phone is (713) 699-6320, and the locations are as follows:

River Oaks
2030 Westheimer Road
Houston, TX 77098

Midtown Terrace
4640 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

Jackson Hinds Gardens at
Independence Heights SRO
650 Thornton Road
Houston, TX 77018

Below are some additional programs provided by Goodwill of Houston. Interested individuals should call to verify program details and information.

- **Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program**
  This program provides veterans with job-readiness vocational training and placement. It is available at the Midtown Terrace Job Connection Center.

- **Project Good Hope**
  This project helps individuals find employment if they are HIV-positive and have a household income less than 80% of the area median. It also provides clients case management, counseling, legal services, referrals, life skills, work readiness training, job search assistance, and supportive services (such as transportation) at the River Oaks Job Connection Center.

- **Vocational Rehabilitation Services – Ticket to Work Program**
  Goodwill Houston is approved to participate in the Ticket to Work Program. Eligible Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries with disabilities who receive a Ticket to Work can obtain employment and vocational rehabilitation services or other employment support services from the Midtown Terrace Job Connection Center.

- **Goodwill Industries of Dallas**
  3020 North Westmoreland Road
  Dallas, TX 75212
  Phone: (214) 638-2800
  Website: www.goodwilldallas.org

  Goodwill of Dallas provides the following programs:

  - **Vocational Training**
    This program includes assessment, remedial education, job training, job coaching, career placement, and supported employment for individuals with various barriers to employment (including welfare dependency, homelessness, and illiteracy). For more information about participating in one of Goodwill's vocational programs, contact Kamala Kannan at (214) 638-2800 ext. 140 or email her at kamala@goodwilldallas.org.

- **Computer Skills Training Program**
  This program provides employment training and educational advancement opportunities to individuals receiving Dallas Housing Authority's Section 8 housing, those receiving TANF (food stamps), and individuals referred by Workforce Centers. The program teaches basic computer and customer service skills such as data entry, typing, and business English necessary for entry-level positions.

- **Goodwill Industries of Central Texas**
  1015 Norwood Park Boulevard
  Austin, TX 78753
  Phone: (512) 637-7100
  Website: www.austingoodwill.org

  Goodwill of Central Texas provides several programs:

  - **Goodwill Job Source**
    Job Source provides assistance through various programs for individuals who are seeking entry into the workforce and who have a disadvantaging condition, such as limited access to employment, education, housing, or health care. Goodwill Job Source assists individuals with their job search, generates weekly job leads, and offers comprehensive job training workshops.

  - **Community Rehabilitation Program (CRP)**
    CRP provides assistance for individuals with disabilities seeking entry into the workforce. Potential clients of the program must have a disability or other barrier to employment and must be willing to fully participate in the program's goals.

  - **Workforce Training**
    Goodwill of Central Texas provides several programs designed to increase skills and confidence in the job search and job application process. Services may include résumé development, typing skills, and application and interview skills training. Goodwill also offers job coaching, which is useful in adjusting to a new employment situation.

- **Goodwill Industries of Fort Worth**
  P.O. Box 15520
  4005 Campus Drive
  Fort Worth, TX 76119
  Phone: (817) 332-7866
  Website: www.goodwillfortworth.org

  Goodwill of Fort Worth provides several employment services and programs, including individualized plans, business skills training, janitorial training, success skills, and free career centers equipped with job-search experts, computers, internet access, and telephones.

  Goodwill of Forth Worth accepts applications year round. Interested individuals should visit a Goodwill store or go online to apply for employment.

- **Goodwill Industries of East Texas**
  Administrative Offices and Employment Center
  409 West Locust Street
  Tyler, Texas 75702
  Phone: (903) 593-8438
  Website: www.tylergoodwill.com

  Goodwill of East Texas provides a variety of programs and services designed to encourage employment and success in the East Texas community. Some include the following:

  - **Work Adjustment Training**
    Goodwill of East Texas provides paid training designed to address work behaviors, motivation, self-reliance, and work tolerance, as well as encourage good work practices. Training may include working with computers, sorting donated items, and working in the retail store.

  - **Vocational Adjustment Training**
    This program provides training in the areas of socially appropriate behavior, communication, budgeting, goal setting, time management, and others.

  - **Job Quest Training and Job Placement Assistance**
    These programs help individuals learn how to develop résumés and fill out applications appropriately, as well as learn job search skills and interviewing skills to assist them with job placement. Support services are also provided to individuals who are beginning new employment after a period of unemployment.

  - **Job Coaching and On The Job Training**
    Job coaches work directly with individuals on the job and assist with employment adjustments. They also work to provide support during employment transitions.

- **Goodwill Industries of North Texas**
  2206 East Lamar Street
  Sherman, Texas 75090
  Phone: (903) 893-3145
  Website: www.goodwillnorthtexas.org

  Goodwill of North Texas provides employment to individuals with disabilities and other disadvantages. It also provides job training and post-employment support.

- **Goodwill Industries of San Antonio**
  406 West Commerce Street
  San Antonio, TX 78207
  Phone: (210) 271-8800
  Website: www.goodwillsa.org

  Goodwill of San Antonio provides vocational training; home, education, and car savings programs; access to free and low-cost preventive healthcare; financial literacy programs; and assistance in starting a business.

  Job centers are also available throughout the city – they offer services to ensure participants are successful in their employment. All job centers are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Interested individuals should call Goodwill of San Antonio first to verify locations and hours.

Downtown
406 W. Commerce @ Santa Rosa

North
13311 San Pedro @ Bitters

Northeast
1533 Austin Highway @ Harry Wurzbach

Northwest
3401 Fredericksburg @ Vance Jackson
12332 W. I-10 @ DeZavala

South
2902 Goliad @ SE Military Drive
2514 SW Military @ Southpark

Southwest
1743 SW Loop 410 @ Marbach

Laredo
5901 San Dario Road (IH-35 at Mann Road)

New Braunfels
1075 Walnut @ I-35

Seguin
1431 East Court Street

- **Goodwill Industries of Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana**
  Phone: (409) 212-8354
  Website: www.goodwillbmt.org

  Goodwill of Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana provides job training, employment, and community placement to individuals with barriers to employment through its **Career Services Program**. Specific assistance is available in the following areas: job searches, interview skills, résumé development, work adjustment training, computer training, community referrals and assistance, and more. All services are provided at the Gateway store, located at IH-10 and Stagg Drive.

- **Goodwill Industries of South Texas**
  Corpus Christi: (361) 884-4068
  Valley Office: (956) 702-4404
  Victoria: (361) 575-6242
  Website: www.goodwillsouthtexas.com

  Goodwill of South Texas provides the programs below. Interested individuals should contact each office directly to see what specific services are offered and to verify locations and hours.

  - **Vocational Evaluation and Assessment**
    This program assists individuals in gaining a greater awareness and understanding of their vocational interest, occupational abilities, and choices.

  - **Work Adjustment Training and Experience**
    This program provides counseling (including personal and vocational), referrals, internal case management, and more.

  - **Personal and Social Adjustment Training**
    This program provides counseling to meet the personal and vocational needs of the participants as well as training in the following areas: communication skills, problem solving, money management, goal setting, and more.

  - **Vocational Adjustment and Pre-Employment Skills Training and Employment Services**
    This program provides employment services, including training in the following areas: work ethics and behavior, communication skills, motivational skills, money management, conflict resolution, and goal setting.

- **Goodwill Industries of West Texas and Southern New Mexico**
  9611 Acer Avenue
  El Paso, TX 79925
  Phone: (915) 778-1858
  Website: www.goodwillep.org

- **Sin Fronteras / Centro de los Trabajadores AgrÃcolas Fronterizos**
  201 East Ninth Avenue
  El Paso, Texas 7990
  Phone: (915) 778-1858

  Goodwill of West Texas and Southern New Mexico provides the programs and services below, while also working with local employers to fill short- and long-term employment needs. Additionally, it works with veterans on an individual basis to help them find employment.

  - **Computer Training**
    This program provides training in the use of a computer for personal and business use.

  - **Employment Help**
    This program provides a variety of employment opportunities (skilled and unskilled areas) in Goodwill's own store, as well as offering help developing job-seeking skills.

High Plains

❑ Bridge of Lubbock

1301 Red Bud Avenue
Lubbock, TX 79403
Phone: (806) 687-0772

Bridge of Lubbock provides food vouchers and clothing on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Potential clients must bring a photo ID (a TDCJ-ID is acceptable) and proof of residency in Lubbock County (a utility bill or a letter from a shelter or transitional house is acceptable). Bridge of Lubbock's kitchen serves hot meals at noon on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

❑ Catholic Family Services

102 Avenue J
Lubbock, TX 79401
Phone: (806) 765-8475

Catholic Family Services provides food assistance through its pantry by appointment only.

❑ Love and Care Ministries

233 Fannin Street
Abilene, Texas 79603
Phone: (325) 670-0246

Love and Care Ministries provides a food pantry, clothing ministry, and soup kitchen to individuals in need in the Abilene area.

❑ Simple Acts Ministry

Ted and Jenny Zobeck
P.O. Box 53186
Lubbock, TX 79453
Phone: (806) 928-8345

Simple Acts Ministry provides furniture and household goods to assist individuals who are setting up an apartment or home after leaving prison or jail. Simple Acts Ministry can also assist with emergency medications and other financial emergencies.

❑ Texas Association of Ex-Offenders (TAX)

2657 Rountree Drive
Abilene, TX 79601
Phone: (325) 676-5741

TAX provides post-release, faith-based study groups that address behavior and addiction problems. Transportation to meetings is available.

Spotlight On: Angel Food Ministries

Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit organization with several locations throughout the state. It provides food and financial support to local communities in need. Food is available monthly at $30 for a medium-sized box of groceries that usually retails at around $60. This food can generally feed a family of four for about a week or a single senior citizen for a month. Food is not secondhand, damaged, or otherwise compromised, and there is no limit to the amount of boxes an individual can purchase. Also, there are no applications or qualifications that a person must meet. Angel Food Ministries participates in the U.S. Food Stamp Program by using the off-line food stamp voucher program.

Again, Angel Food Ministries operates at many locations throughout Texas and often at several locations within one city. Interested individuals should call for more information, including distribution times and directions.

A

ABILENE
Beltway Park Baptist Church: (925) 692-6540 ext. 100
Crescent Heights Baptist Church (325) 677-3749
South Pointe Church: (325) 691-1118

ADDISON
Andean's Bounty: (469) 579-8731

ADKINS
River of Life Christian Fellowship: (210) 649-2600

ALICE
Agape House Fellowship: (361) 664-0051

ALLEN
First United Methodist Church of Allen: (972) 727-8261
Life Fellowship: (972) 727-7292; (972) 747-0414

ALVIN
Chocolate Bayou Baptist Church: (281) 331-4619

ALVORD
New Vision Ministries: (940) 427-3337

AMARILLO
First Church of the Nazarene: (806) 374-2242
South Georgia Nazarene Church: (806) 352-6501

ANDREWS
Calvary Baptist Church: (432) 523-3990

ANGLETON
NRBC Community Outreach Center: (979) 849-7891

ARANSAS PASS
First Baptist Church: (361) 758-3066

ARLINGTON
Church of the Good Shepherd UMC: (817) 975-1074; (817) 548-0840
Episcopal Church of St. Peter & St. Paul: (817) 496-6747
Life Community Church: (817) 468-9215
New Beginnings Church: (817) 265-7378

ATLANTA
First United Methodist Church: (903) 796-8247; (903) 796-8248

AUBREY
Church of Celebration Metro (214) 864-6105

AUSTIN
David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church: (512) 472-9748
Northwest Hills United Methodist Church: (512) 554-6246; (512) 345-1743
Open Gate Ministries: (512) 632-5667; (512) 632-0923
Our Savior Lutheran Church: (512) 836-0686

AUSTIN
South Austin Church of the Nazarene: (512) 442-8476
St. Thomas More Catholic Church: (512) 258-1161 ext. 318
Woodlawn Baptist Church: (512) 892-2197; (512) 442-7858

AVERY
First Assembly of God: (903) 278-1457; (903) 684-3557

B

BARTLETT
Grace Temple: (254) 527-4518

BASTROP
Calvary Episcopal: (512) 914-3312

BAY CITY
Matagorda Episcopal Health Outreach Program: (979) 245-2008; (979) 299-9377

BAYTOWN
Redeemer Lutheran Church: (281) 422-2207; (281) 515-8747
St. Paul's Lutheran Church: (281) 422-9333

BEAUMONT
Christ Covenant Church: (409) 898-7900 Trinity Church of Beaumont: (409) 838-2545; (409) 838-2607 ext. 13

BEDFORD
Empowering Life Church: (817) 354-5683

BEDIAS
Church of HOPE: (936) 395-7033; (307) 331-1532

BEEVILLE
Our Lady of Victory: (361) 358-0088
Word of Life: (361) 358-9339

BEN WHEELER
First Baptist Church: (903) 833-5508

BIG LAKE
First Baptist Church: (325) 884-3720

BIG SANDY
New Beginnings Christian Fellowship: (903) 636-9700

BIG SPRING
North Birdwell Lane Methodist Church: (432) 263-2536

BLOSSOM
First United Methodist Church of Blossom: (903) 517-1268

BOERNE
Boerne Church of Christ: (830) 249-2685; (830) 816-2003

BONHAM
Trinity Baptist Church: (903) 583-3388

BON WIER
Evangel Working Faith Christian Outreach: (409) 397-4273; (409) 382-9287

BORGER
Borger First Church of the Nazarene:
(806) 274-6151

BOWIE
Silver Lakes Community Church:
(940) 872-0661; (940) 872-5932

BOYD
First Baptist Church of Boyd: (940) 433-5639;
(940) 393-8583

BRACKETTVILLE
First United Methodist Church: (830) 563-2823

BRECKENRIDGE
Gunsight Baptist Church: (254) 559-8808;
(254) 559-0054

BRENHAM
Kingdom Trumpet Ministries: (979) 451-1297;
(979) 830-0424

BRIDGE CITY
St. Marks Lutheran Church ELCA:
(409) 735-4573

BRIDGEPORT
Bay Chapel: (940) 683-3844; (940) 453-7510

BRONTE
Central Baptist Church: (325) 340-0608

BROOKSHIRE
First United Methodist Church: (281) 375-5683

BROWNFIELD
First Christian Church: (806) 637-2737;
(806) 637-9077

BROWNSVILLE
Living Bread: (956) 504-1410; (956) 455-7977

BROWNWOOD
Central United Methodist: (325) 646-9621

BUFFALO
Celebration Church: (903) 322-5724

BUFFALO GAP
First Baptist Church: (325) 660-6801

BUNA
First Baptist Church: (409) 790-6876

BURKBURNETT
First United Methodist Church: (940) 631-8385

BURLESON
Lighthouse Ministries: (817) 374-5212;
(817) 550-8013
Retta Baptist Church: (817) 473-6136
Victory Family Church: (817) 447-2667

BURNET
First UMC: (512) 756-2229

C

CADDO MILLS
New Life Family Fellowship Church:
(903) 527-3099

CALDWELL
Caldwell Brethren Church: (979) 567-7203;
(979) 567-3138

CAMPBELL
Fellowship Baptist Church: (903) 862-2258

CANYON LAKE
St. Andrew Lutheran Church: (830) 899-2273;
(830) 899-7988

CARROLLTON
First Baptist Church: (972) 512-3800 ext. 3000;
(972) 394-2070
Harvest Family Church: (972) 395-7711
Hebron Community Church: (972) 394-2020

CARTHAGE
Northside Christian Center: (903) 693-6366; (903) 693-7700

CEDAR PARK
Hill Country Nazarene Church: (512) 259-0881

CELINA
First United Methodist Church: (972) 382-2655; (972) 415-3563

CENTER
First Baptist Church: (936) 598-5605

CHANDLER
Lake Palestine United Methodist Church: (903) 849-2379

CHARLOTTE
First Baptist Church: (830) 277-1412

CHESTER
Chester Lions Club: (936) 969-2518

CHICO
New Hope Fellowship Church: (940) 644-2602; (940) 447-5614

CHILDRESS
United Methodist Women: (806) 888-1037; (940) 937-2511

CISCO
Cisco Ministers Association: (254) 442-1969

CLEBURNE
Bethel Temple Assembly of God: (817) 645-2781; (817) 641-4121
Lebanon Baptist Church: (817) 556-0918; (817) 944-1099

CLEVELAND
First Baptist Church: (281) 592-3422

CLUTE
Brazosport Christian Center: (979) 265-3590

CLYDE
Promise Helpers, Inc.: (325) 893-3777; (325) 518-2850

COLEMAN
Loaves & Fishes Food Ministries: (325) 625-2060; (325) 636-3733

COLLEGE STATION
Aldersgate United Methodist Church: (979) 696-1376

COLUMBUS
Columbus Church of God: (281) 728-5962

COMANCHE
Gateway Baptist Church: (325) 356-5043

CONROE
Christ Church on League Line Road: (936) 203-5065; (936) 856-2951
Cornerstone Christian Assembly of God: (936) 524-2099
First United Methodist Conroe: (936) 756-3395
Living Word World Outreach Church: (936) 539-3044

CONVERSE
Whole Life: (210) 669-0339; (210) 661-3030

COOPER
First United Methodist Church: (903) 395-4263

COPPERAS COVE
Copperas Cove Unity Missionary Baptist Church: (254) 547-7500

CORPUS CHRISTI
Annaville Baptist Church: (361) 241-9557
Caribbean Baptist Church: (361) 939-8516
Church of Hope: (361) 241-2472
First United Methodist Church: (361) 884-0391
Grace Presbyterian Church: (361) 985-8585; (361) 816-1926
Travis Baptist Church: (361) 853-9967; (361) 853-9969

CORRIGAN
Faith Temple Evangelistic Center: (936) 398-0338

CORSICANA
The Word Church: (903) 872-5673

COTULLA
First Baptist Church: (830) 879-3615; (830) 483-0441

CROCKETT
Harvest Church of Crockett: (936) 544-9945; (936) 546-8118

CYPRESS
Cypress Bible Church: (281) 469-6063; (512) 934-2735

D

DAINGERFIELD
Fellowship Baptist Church: (903) 645-7550

DALLAS
Antioch Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church: (972) 228-2420
Church of Christ: (214) 850-5444
Church of the Living God Women's Ministry: (214) 374-5485
Cockrell Hill Baptist Church: (214) 331-6585; (214) 331-5476
Dallas Baptist Association: (972) 857-9707; (214) 319-1164
Fellowship Dallas: (214) 739-3881 ext. 179
Good News Outreach Ministry: (469) 735-2433; (972) 286-2459
Gospel Lighthouse Church: (214) 331-6516
Heartline Ministries: (214) 388-5683
Interfaith Housing Coalition: (214) 827-7220 ext. 115
Lawson Road Baptist Church: (972) 222-2873
Marsalis Avenue Missionary Baptist Church: (214) 943-6007
Mount Sinai Baptist Church: (214) 398-4061; (214) 398-0343
Pleasant Mound/Urban Park United Methodist Church: (214) 381-2131

DALLAS
Skillman Church of Christ: (214) 823-2179
St. Paul Lutheran: (214) 371-9429
The Greater North Park COGIC: (214) 357-2017
The Oaks Fellowship: (214) 376-8208 ext. 670; (214) 394-2165
The Potters House of Dallas: (214) 333-6540; (214) 331-0954 ext. 1100
Valley View Christian Church: (972) 245-8822

DAMON
The Gathering Church of Damon: (979) 618-1575

DECATUR
Corinth Baptist Church: (940) 627-3924; (682) 224-4045
Crossroads Church: (940) 626-4527; (940) 594-1785

DEL RIO
First United Methodist Church: (830) 775-1541

DENISON
Faith Fellowship Baptist Church: (903) 463-3444; (903) 821-8125
First Christian Church: (903) 465-1327; (903) 786-7060
First Oak Ridge Baptist: (903) 463-3356; (903) 463-7135

DENTON
Denton Church of God: (940) 382-2084
Trinity United Methodist Church: (940) 566-2291; (940) 641-0569

DESOTO
Community Missionary Baptist Church: (972) 230-4477
CrossRoads Covenant Church: (972) 228-3955

DEVINE
Medina Valley Church of the Nazarene: (830) 663-2575; (830) 663-6130

DICKINSON
Living Faith Outreach: (281) 309-0799

DILLEY
Primera Iglesia Bautista Belen: (830) 965-4030

DONNA
First Baptist Church: (956) 464-3107

DUBLIN
Community Baptist Church: (254) 445-4479

DUMAS
Dumas Church of the Nazarene: (806) 935-9243

DUNCANVILLE
Trinity Church of the Nazarene: (972) 572-981

E

EAGLE PASS
World Radio Network: (830) 757-0895; (830) 776-4373

EARLY
Early First UMC: (325) 642-0858

EDINBURG
Abundant Grace Community Church: (956) 316-4977; (956) 605-2115

EDNA
Lakeway Fellowship: (361) 781-0598; (361) 782-8348

ELDORADO
First Baptist Church Eldorado: (325) 853-2662

ELGIN
Help 4 Our Community: (512) 629-7633; (512) 629-7631

ELMENDORF
Elmendorf First Baptist Church: (210) 635-8588

EL PASO
Christian Women's Job Corps: (915) 525-8812; (915) 313-9466
Friendship Baptist Church: (915) 433-5774; (915) 760-4509
Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church: (915) 591-5244; (915) 240-5289
Skyline Baptist Church: (915) 755-0777; (915) 355-3454
Visitor's Chapel A.M.E. Church: (915) 772-9883; (915) 565-2370

EMORY
Emory Baptist Church: (903) 473-3357
White Oak Baptist Church: (903) 473-3723; (903) 474-4499

ENNIS
Gilmer Baldridge Church of Christ:
(972) 646-5478; (972) 875-2291

EULESS
First Church of the Nazarene: (817) 283-6540
St. John Missionary Baptist Church:
(817) 540-1681

F

FARMERS BRANCH
Valley View Baptist Church: (972) 247-4374;
(972) 824-3529

FERRIS
Covenant Family Fellowship: (972) 544-2092
God's Kingdom United Methodist Church:
(214) 682-3754; (214) 675-4409

FLORENCE
Florence United Methodist Church:
(254) 793-2535

FLOYDADA
FBC Angelfood Ministries: (806) 697-2648

FORNEY
Fellowship Baptist Church/Fellowship Forney
Church: (972) 564-9553 ext. 6
Heartland First Baptist Church: (469) 226-8686;
(972) 809-4085

FORT STOCKTON
Believers Fellowship Church: (432) 923-1537

FORT WORTH
Bible Baptist Church of Rendon:
(817) 478-7478; (817) 478-4878
Calvary Church: (817) 293-7103 ext. 10
Central Christian Church: (817) 335-1520
Chapel Creek Fellowship: (817) 907-0300;
(817) 246-1692

FORT WORTH
Fellowship Baptist Church: (817) 429-9366
Forest Hill Community Bible Church:
(817) 483-7062
Handley Baptist Church: (817) 451-4660
Lakeside Church of God: (817) 237-5500
MANNA Worldwide: (817) 346-3641
St. Anne's Episcopal Church: (817) 237-1888
Trinity Baptist Church: (817) 732-5566
Wedgwood Academy: (817) 924-9095;
(817) 475-1691

FREDERICKSBURG
Fredericksburg United Methodist Church:
(830) 997-7679

FREEPORT
First Missionary Baptist Church: (979) 233-2511

FREER
First Baptist Church: (361) 394-6005

FRIENDSWOOD
Friendswood United Methodist Church:
(281) 482-7535

FRIONA
First Baptist Church: (806) 250-3933;
(806) 250-3356

FRISCO
Frisco Newstart Church of the Nazarene:
(469) 358-6777

G

GAINESVILLE
Temple Baptist Church: (940) 665-9789

GARDENDALE
First Southern Baptist Church: (432) 561-9024

GARDENRIDGE
Bracken United Methodist Church: (830) 606-6717

GARLAND
Big Springs Baptist Church: (972) 495-4575
First Christian Church Garland: (972) 272-5423; (972) 467-1879
Lakeview Christian Church: (972) 240-6924
New Hope Fellowship: (972) 240-9000; (972) 240-1005
New Safe Haven COGIC Outreach Ministry: (972) 926-4473; (214) 450-8015
New World United Methodist: (972) 279-6145
Northlake Baptist Church Garland: (972) 487-1293
Restoration Worship Centre: (972) 822-6896; (972) 203-8181

GARRISON
Holly Springs Baptist Church: (936) 559-5511
Woden Baptist Church: (936) 569-1823; (936) 554-8301

GATESVILLE
First Baptist Church: (254) 865-2014
Grace Assembly: (254) 865-6949

GEORGETOWN
Christians Helping Christians: (512) 863-7213
Promiseland Georgetown: (512) 863-9012 ext. 12

GEORGE WEST
Saint George Catholic: (361) 449-1893

GIDDINGS
Giddings Area CARE Center: (512) 826-0248; (979) 542-3335

GILMER
Gilmer Church of the Nazarene: (903) 734-3375

GLEN ROSE
First Baptist Church: (254) 897-2351

GOLDEN
Golden United Methodist: (903) 768-3255

GONZALES
Emmanuel Fellowship: (830) 672-7331

GRAHAM
Mustard Tree Family Services @ Graham Senior Center: (940) 550-4217; (940) 549-2943

GRANBURY
Dayspring Christian Church: (817) 573-0107; (817) 219-5182
Emmanuel Lutheran Church: (817) 326-2201

GRAND PRAIRIE
Grace Fellowship Church: (972) 660-8880
Grand Prairie Family Church of the Nazarene: (972) 262-7192; (469) 212-7920
Inglewood Baptist Church: (214) 516-5872; (972) 264-4264
Lighthouse Worship Center: (972) 642-4700
New True Vine Miracle Tabernacle: (972) 522-1188
Turnpike Church of Christ: (817) 709-3966

GREENVILLE
Abundant Life Church: (903) 455-0437

GROESBECK
Groesbeck First Assembly: (254) 729-5453; (903) 388-8687

GUN BARREL CITY
Family Resource Center: (903) 603-5309

H

HALTOM CITY
Grace Evangelical Methodist Church:
(817) 281-5833
Riverwalk Fellowship: (817) 577-9673

HARKER HEIGHTS
Cornerstone Baptist: (254) 813-0290

HARLINGEN
Faith Pleases God Church: (956) 412-5600;
(956) 428-4848

HEBBRONVILLE
First United Methodist Church: (361) 527-3058

HEMPSTEAD
Greater Saint Peters Missionary Baptist Church:
(979) 826-0220

HENDERSON
Emmanuel Baptist Church: (903) 657-1588
Trinity Baptist Church: (903) 657-2873

HEREFORD
First Presbyterian Church: (806) 364-2471

HEWITT
First Baptist Church of Hewitt: (254) 666-2741

HIGHLANDS
Second Baptist Highlands: (281) 426-5557

HILLTOP LAKES
Hilltop Lakes Lions Club: (936) 855-2530

HOLLIDAY
First United Methodist Church: (940) 586-0111;
(940) 586-1273

HONDO
Hondo Church of Christ: (830) 741-4623

HORIZON CITY
First Baptist Church of Horizon City:
(915) 852-3027

HOUSTON
Abundant Life Cathedral: (281) 983-8200
Beneke Memorial United Methodist Church:
(713) 695-2582
Bible Way Fellowship Baptist Church:
(713) 948-5076; (281) 924-0730
Clay Road Baptist Church: (713) 462-3401
El Tabernaculo Assembly of God:
(713) 694-0361; (713) 691-7200
Faith Chapel Assembly of God: (281) 376-3300
First Congregational Church of Houston:
(713) 468-9543
Garden Oaks Baptist Church: (713) 864-4447
Greater New Testament Baptist:
(713) 738-6386
Harvest Time Church: (281) 877-8888 ext. 3614
Heights Presbyterian Church: (713) 861-1907;
(713) 725-9608
Joy Lutheran Church: (281) 458-3231;
(281) 452-7435
Love in Action Church, Inc.: (713) 741-7222
Mt Olive Baptist Church: (713) 812-9061;
(713) 812-9255
Olivet Missionary Baptist Church:
(713) 224-1515
South Union Church of Christ: (713) 747-5440
Spring Woods United Methodist Church:
(281) 444-6468

HOWE
First Baptist Church of Howe: (903) 532-9355

HUFFMAN
Glad Tiding Pentecostal Church of God:
(281) 361-2714; (281) 324-3380

HUMBLE
First Assembly of God Church: (281) 446-7215

HUNTSVILLE
LOAVES & FISHES/Huntsville Church of Christ:
(936) 577-4897; (936) 436-9061

HURST
Church of God of Prophecy: (817) 284-4369

HUTCHINS
Little Flock Missionary Baptist Church:
(972) 225-3517

HUTTO
Hutto Lutheran Church: (512) 759-2064;
(512) 846-1371

I

INGLESIDE
Bethel Baptist Church: (361) 776-3850;
(361) 903-8598

IOWA PARK
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):
(940) 855-0609

IRA
First Church of God: (325) 573-5965

IRVING
Bible Way Community Baptist Church:
(334) 546-5305; (334) 546-5304
Cornerstone Church: (972) 254-0020;
(214) 952-8809

ITASCA
First Presbyterian Church: (254) 687-2243;
(254) 687-2302

J

JACKSONVILLE
Central Baptist Church: (903) 586-2215;
(903) 625-0924

JASPER
Community Church: (409) 381-0815

JEFFERSON
Lake Deerwood Fellowship: (903) 407-1132;
(903) 777-2865
Shepherds Pasture/United We Serve:
(903) 665-2647; (972) 398-2327

JOSHUA
First United Methodist Church of Joshua:
(817) 558-9801; (817) 690-2720

JOURDANTON
Cowboy Fellowship of Atascosa City:
(210) 363-4127

JUSTIN
First Baptist Church: (940) 648-2773;
(940) 297-7565

K

KARNES CITY
St. Paul's Lutheran Church: (830) 780-2251

KATY
First Christian Church of Katy: (281) 492-2693
Living Word Lutheran Church: (281) 392-2300; (281) 705-2302
Northwest Believers Church: (281) 856-9500

KAUFMAN
Kaufman Christian Help Center: (972) 932-8866

KERRVILLE
First Christian Church: (830) 895-3743; (830) 928-5001
Kerrville Church of Christ: (830) 257-1900

KILLEEN
Bethel Temple Assembly of God: (254) 526-2003
Destiny World Outreach Center: (254) 690-0856
New Life Apostolic Church: (254) 618-5223
Southside Church of Christ: (254) 616-0869

KINGSVILLE
Emmanuel Christian Church: (361) 592-1439; (361) 228-4633
First United Methodist Church: (361) 592-2632; (361) 522-5422
King's Way Family Church: (361) 592-5132; (361) 246-0021

KLONDIKE
The Church at Klondike: (903) 395-4936

KRUM
The Krum Church of Christ: (940) 482-6763

KYLE
The Connection Church of Kyle: (512) 268-1740

L

LA COSTE
First Baptist Church of La Coste: (210) 241-7235

LAGO VISTA
Rolling Hills Community Church: (512) 267-2942

LAKE DALLAS
Covenant Fellowship: (972) 316-6200; (972) 977-5663

LAMPASAS
Adamsville Baptist Church: (512) 768-3480
First Street Church of Christ: (512) 556-3716

LA PORTE
Bayshore Baptist Church: (281) 471-0332

LAREDO
First United Methodist Church: (956) 722-1674

LA VERNIA
First Baptist Church of La Vernia: (210) 364-1817; (830) 779-6192

LEONARD/TRENTON
Cornerstone Baptist Church: (903) 587-2089

LITTLE ELM
Button Memorial United Methodist Church:
(972) 292-1465; (972) 294-0855
CrossRidge Church: (972) 292-1953

LIVINGSTON
Chesswood Missionary Baptist Church:
(936) 327-8870

LLANO
Pittsburgh Avenue Baptist Church:
(325) 247-4042; (325) 247-4923

LOCKHART
First Lockhart Baptist Church: (512) 398-5297;
(512) 376-9877

LOCKNEY
First United Methodist Church: (806) 652-2193;
(806) 652-3351

LOMETA
Lometa Church of Christ: (512) 734-5126

LONE STAR
Lone Star Baptist Church: (903) 656-2191;
(903) 656-3621

LONGVIEW
Camille Acres Baptist Church: (903) 297-6625
First Baptist Church: (903) 239-3428;
(903) 239-3428
Longview Metro Church: (903) 738-2833;
(903) 738-6781

LUBBOCK
Broadway Church of Christ: (806) 763-0464
First Assembly of God: (806) 783-0800
First United Methodist Church: (806) 763-4607
Hope Lutheran Church and School:
(806) 798-2747; (806) 793-5698
Lubbock Monterey Church of the Nazarene:
(806) 799-8912
New Millennium Baptist Church: (806) 793-0447
Shadow Hills Baptist Church: (806) 792-4438;
(806) 252-5725
South Plains Church of Christ: (806) 241-1770;
(806) 794-3594
Trinity Church: (806) 792-3363

LULING
Grace Mission United Church of Christ:
(830) 875-3333

LYTLE
Prevailing Word Church: (830) 709-0900

M

MAGNOLIA
Covenant Blessing Ministries: (281) 723-6774
First Baptist Magnolia: (281) 356-8543

MANSFIELD
Bethlehem Baptist Church: (817) 473-1236
Harvesting Int'l Ministry Center:
(817) 453-3663; (682) 518-6383

MARLIN
Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church:
(254) 883-6170; (254) 883-2781

MARSHALL
Cumberland Presbyterian Church:
(903) 935-3787
Medic Texas (903) 930-5762

MAY
North Lake Community Church: (325) 784-7482

MCALLEN
Calvary Baptist Church: (956) 686-4364
Trinity United Methodist Church:
(956) 631-2926

MCGREGOR
McGregor United Pentecostal Church:
(254) 840-4122; (254) 662-9758
Victorious Love Ministries: (254) 840-9563;
(254) 447-1080

MCKINNEY
McKinney Fellowship Church: (972) 547-7041;
(972) 547-7069

MERIDIAN
First United Methodist Church: (254) 435-2218

MESQUITE
Church on the Hill: (972) 285-4050;
(972) 289-2000
Faith Baptist Church: (972) 288-8411 ext. 304
First Assembly of God: (972) 285-0163
Grace Episcopal Church: (972) 285-5824;
(214) 354-5824
Living Christ Fellowship: (903) 456-6876;
(972) 423-6351
Northside Baptist Church of Mesquite:
(972) 270-8237

MIDLAND
Christian Church of Midland: (432) 684-7681
Church on the Journey: (432) 413-8326
CrossWay Church: (432) 934-9231;
(432) 528-8541
Greenwood Church of Christ: (432) 254-0900
Wilshire Park Baptist Church: (432) 694-7787

MIDWAY
Elwood United Methodist Church:
(936) 348-6555

MINERAL WELLS
First Baptist Church Pleasant Valley:
(940) 452-0128

MISSION
First Baptist Church Mission: (956) 585-1442

MONAHANS
First United Methodist Church: (432) 943-2516

MOORE
Moore Baptist Church: (830) 665-5583

MORTON
First UMC: (806) 783-0323; (806) 392-7757

MOSS HILL
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church: (936) 298-2552;
(936) 536-3290

MOUNT PLEASANT
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church:
(903) 572-1052; (903) 577-0888

MOUNT VERNON
First United Methodist Church: (903) 537-3616;
(903) 537-2666

MULESHOE
Trinity Christian Center Church:
(806) 566-6050; (806) 272-3373

N

NACOGDOCHES
Glory Gang Ministries, Inc.: (936) 564-7265

NATALIA
Country Baptist Church of Lytle: (830) 709-4265
First Baptist Church of Natalia: (830) 665-2721

NAVASOTA
Salem House of Blessings: (936) 825-2849

NEEDVILLE
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church: (979) 793-4305

NEWARK
First Baptist Church of Newark: (817) 489-2932

NEW BOSTON
TAPP UMC: (903) 628-2381

NEW BRAUNFELS
Believers Christian Fellowship: (830) 885-2224
Family Life Center: (830) 625-7100
Hilltop Country Church: (830) 608-1451

NEW CANEY
First Baptist Church New Caney:
(281) 399-9930

NEWTON
First Baptist Church: (409) 379-3381

NIXON
Union Valley Baptist Church: (830) 582-1382

NOCONA
First Assembly of God: (940) 867-5673;
(940) 867-6155

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS
Davis Memorial UMC: (817) 281-0411
North Richland Hills Baptist Church:
(817) 284-9206
Reed Family Ministries: (678) 823-5020;
(682) 225-6773

O

ODESSA
Central Baptist Church: (432) 337-6417
CrossRoads Fellowship: (432) 368-2500
Faith Church of the Nazarene: (432) 770-8228
West Odessa First Baptist Church:
(432) 381-0753; (432) 337-8091

ORANGE
McDonald Memorial Baptist Church:
(409) 883-3974

ORANGE GROVE
First Evangelical Lutheran Church:
(361) 384-2712; (361) 443-2103

ORE CITY
Longview Metro Ministries: (903) 968-4397

P/Q

PALESTINE
Basics of Life Storehouse Ministry of First Baptist Church: (903) 731-9270

PALMER
First Assembly of God: (972) 449-3772

PAMPA
Highland Baptist Church: (806) 665-3300

PASADENA
Fairmont Christian Center: (281) 487-1317
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church: (281) 479-1091

PEARLAND
Majestic Christian Center: (281) 997-1242
United Forces Outreach: (281) 692-9569

PERRIN
Perrin Church of Christ: (940) 798-4455

PFLUGERVILLE
Pflugerville Community Church: (512) 587-7197

PHARR
Pharr United Methodist Church: (956) 787-4529

PINELAND
First Baptist Pineland: (409) 584-2576; (409) 586-3805

PITTSBURG
First Church of the Nazarene: (903) 856-7112; (903) 856-7113

PLANO
Grace Outreach Center: (972) 985-1112 ext. 106
Hunter's Glen Baptist Church: (972) 867-1610
NorthPointe Assembly of God: (972) 423-3904

PORT ARTHUR
Park Central Church of Christ: (409) 727-6255

PORT LAVACA
Alamo Heights Baptist Church: (361) 552-2532

POTEET
Hosanna Baptist Church: (830) 742-3879

PRINCETON
Grace Community Church: (972) 734-2776

QUINLAN
First UMC: (903) 356-2662

R

RED OAK
Ezra Household of Faith: (972) 617-3463
The Oaks Fellowship - Red Oak Campus: (214) 413-1670; (972) 415-4172

RICHARDSON
Canyon Creek Baptist Church: (972) 231-4753 ext. 333
Central Christian Church: (972) 231-7060

RIO VISTA
First Baptist Church of Rio Vista: (817) 373-2352

ROBINSON
Victorious Life Church: (254) 662-5552

ROCKWALL
Lakeshore Church: (214) 354-3283; (214) 354-8284

ROSCOE
First Salem Lutheran Church: (325) 766-2379; (325) 766-3464

ROTAN
Rotan Foursquare Church: (325) 735-3147

ROUND ROCK
Covenant International Ministries: (512) 310-9159

ROWLETT
Faith Missionary Baptist Church: (972) 475-5400
Sacred Heart Catholic Church: (972) 475-4405 ext. 10

ROYSE CITY
First United Methodist Church Royse City: (972) 635-0002; (972) 636-2291

S

SACHSE
Northplace Church: (972) 495-1116
Sachse First United Methodist Church: (972) 530-1005

SAGINAW
Eagles View Church: (817) 847-5400
North Point Community Church: (817) 232-5522
Saginaw Park Baptist Church: (817) 232-1235

SAN ANGELO
Arena of Life Church: (325) 658-4292
First Presbyterian Church: (325) 655-5694
Grape Creek Family Fellowship: (325) 716-1621
New Jerusalem C.O.G.I.C/H.W.O.E.A.T.: (325) 655-8160
PaulAnn Baptist Church: (325) 655-7552

SAN ANTONIO
Amazing Grace Lutheran Church: (210) 673-2371
Caleb AME Zion Church: (210) 599-9297
Castle Hills Christian Church: (210) 344-7188
Childress Memorial Church of God in Christ: (210) 223-1262

SANGER
First United Methodist Church of Sanger (940): 458-7423; (940) 458-3591

SAN MARCOS
First Lutheran Church: (512) 392-2064; (512) 757-1420

SEAGOVILLE
Calvary Baptist Church: (972) 287-1145
Victory Baptist Church: (972) 287-1419; (972) 287-5747

SEGUIN
First United Church: (830) 379-4112; (830) 477-1648

SHERMAN
Forest Avenue Baptist Church: (903) 892-3506
Grace United Methodist Church: (903) 892-3681
Western Heights Church of Christ: (903) 892-9635; (903) 821-7155

SPRINGTOWN
Springtown Church of Christ: (817) 523-4419

SUNNYVALE
Grace Fellowship of Dallas, Inc.: (972) 226-4941

T

TAYLOR
CrossPointe Community Church: (512) 365-0857
Unlimited Power Ministries: (512) 589-1116

TEMPLE
Corner Stone Christian Fellowship: (254) 778-0449

TERRELL
Rafter J. Cowboy Church: (972) 872-5131;
(469) 652-2397

THE COLONY
Horizons Church: (214) 705-3090;
(214) 755-2641

TIMPSON
Woodland Christian Church: (936) 254-2894;
(936) 254-4241

TOM BEAN
Tom Bean First United Methodist Church:
(903) 546-6898

TOW
First Baptist Tow: (830) 613-5811

TRENTON
First Baptist Church Trenton: (903) 989-2319;
(903) 227-1629

V

VALLEY VIEW
Valley View United Methodist Church:
(940) 726-3354

VENUS
First Baptist Church of Venus: (972) 366-3430

W

WACO
Bosqueville Baptist Church: (254) 756-4710
Family of Faith Church of the Nazarene:
(254) 662-1524
Family Worship Center: (254) 756-1240 x 205;
(254) 855-0871
Lakeview Baptist Church: (254) 799-1724

WALNUT SPRINGS
Walnut Springs Baptist Church: (254) 797-2511

WAXAHACHIE
Farley Street Baptist Church: (972) 937-4603
Heritage Baptist Church: (972) 938-1463
University Assembly of God Church: (972) 937-7810

WEST
West Church of Christ: (254) 826-5252;
(254) 644-4688

WHITESBORO
New Beginning Church: (903) 564-4890

WHITNEY
Open Range Cowboy Church: (254) 694-7543

WILLS POINT
International Outreach Church: (903) 873-3078;
(719) 892-0653

WOODVILLE
Woodville United Methodist Church:
(409) 283-2471; (409) 283-0479

WYLIE
First Baptist Church: (972) 442-2261 Wylie
United Methodist Church: (972) 442-5835

4

Housing

Introduction

FINDING HOUSING IS THE CORNERSTONE OF A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION BACK TO THE COMMUNITY. Unfortunately, it also presents one of the largest challenges to people leaving prison. While there are many options available to those returning to their community – from limited-stay shelters to halfway houses – options may be limited depending on one's specific situation. For instance, people required to wear an electronic monitor device as a condition of parole may not be able to stay at every facility due to cabling restrictions and costs. People convicted of a sex offense (who are required to register as a sex offender for any period of time) may not be able to stay at some locations due to their proximity to schools, churches, or playgrounds.

The resources contained in this chapter are intended to be used as ***transitional*** housing – not as long-term housing (more than one year). A person's time at these facilities should be spent looking for employment and getting one's life in order so that long-term housing in the future is a real possibility.

Parole officers may have additional resources regarding housing options. Chapter 3: "Community Organizations" may also list additional housing resources worth looking into. Look everywhere and do not be afraid to ask for help.

Using This Chapter

PEOPLE SHOULD LOCATE THE ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS THAT WILL LIKELY BE OF MOST ASSISTANCE. We have tried our best to include whether or not each facility will accept those who have committed sex offenses or violent offenses, or those on electronic monitors. If that information is not listed, interested individuals should call the facility and ask them directly what its policies or eligibility requirements are.

We also recommend that people call an organization to verify that the information in this guide is current before relying on it as a potential resource. During the call, people can also ask for more information about available programs. A person should note that if a particular organization is unable to assist him or her at the present time, it is acceptable to ask to be put on a waiting list. The organization may also have other resources or referrals available. It never hurts to ask.

Lastly, people can call an organization to get directions, check its hours of operation, or ask any other questions.

In addition to the resources listed later in this chapter, people can check out the following:

❑ The Housing Assistance Program (THAP)

H.B. 3226 (effective 2009) creates a housing assistance program available to certain people who are awaiting release from TDCJ. The program applies only to those who have been approved for parole or mandatory supervision but who are waiting for a halfway house placement. The program does not apply to people who are released under a "serve-all" sentence or who have housing provided by their family or friends.

Essentially, the bill allows TDCJ to provide payment vouchers for temporary housing in a community-based housing facility in the county of the person's release (rather than requiring people to wait for a TDCJ-sponsored halfway house to become available. The amount of payment issued through the housing voucher may not exceed the cost that TDCJ would pay to incarcerate a person for the same period of time that the voucher is issued for. Housing providers must have a plan to offer food, clothing, and hygiene products to residents.

No application process is necessary to be considered for the program. Individuals will be identified for potential placement in THAP if they are eligible for release on or after January 1, 2010, and if they remain incarcerated pending a housing placement plan. Additionally, in regards to those released on or after this date who are placed at a residential re-entry center, they will be notified of THAP availability by their supervising officer.

Please note: The program cannot be used to reimburse family members or friends who allow re-entering individuals to live with them.

❑ A Note About Public Housing

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides federal funding to local Housing Authorities that provide "quality affordable homes for all" throughout the United States.[6] While policies will vary from county to county, most HUD-funded housing requires a local housing authority to deny assistance in some cases. Specifically, assistance may be denied if ***any*** member of the household is using illegal drugs or has been evicted from federally funded housing during the previous three years for drug use. Likewise, applicants for housing can be denied if they have

[6] U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "Mission," http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD/about/mission, accessed June 17, 2010.

engaged in any violent criminal act, committed robbery, or are required to register for life under a state sex offender registration program.[7]

Neither an arrest nor conviction for the above-mentioned crimes is necessary to deny an applicant. That means re-entering individuals must be careful if they plan to stay with family members who currently reside in federally funded housing. If a re-entering individual was involved in a criminal act up to 10 years before moving in or within 10 years of being released from incarceration (whichever is more restrictive), those family members could be evicted.

Additional Resources

- **2-1-1** is a great place to begin looking for help. It provides free and confidential information and referrals to organizations that can assist people with food, housing, employment, health care, counseling, and more. People can dial 2-1-1 from any telephone and tell the operator what information they are seeking. People can also visit www.211.org and search for needed information.

- **National Coalition for the Homeless** has a directory of shelters and homeless assistance programs online. This service does not list every program in the country, so people should check their phone books for local programs. For more information, call 1-800-838-4357 or visit www.nchv.org.

- **Texas Homeless Network** provides a directory of organizations that offer assistance to homeless individuals. For more information, call 1-800-531-0828 or visit www.thn.org.

- The **Department of Housing and Urban Development** provides a list of emergency shelters for men, women, and families throughout the United States at www.hud.gov/homeless.

- **Texas Low Income Housing Information Service** works to support low-income Texans seeking to have a decent home in a quality neighborhood. For more information, visit 508 Powell Street, Austin, TX 78703-5122, call (512) 477-8910, ext. 4, or visit www.texashousing.org.

[7] Title 24--Housing and Urban Development, 982.553 24 CFR Ch. IX (2000): www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_00/24cfr982_00.html, accessed June 15, 2010.

Regional Resources

Central Texas – Austin

- **Austin Love Ministries**
  P.O. Box 150125
  Austin, TX 78715
  Phone: (512) 292-9006
  Website: www.austinloveministries.org

  Austin Love Ministries provides faith-based transitional housing for up to 90 days for men and women. Utilities and laundry facilities are paid for. Rent is $400 per month or $125 per week, and a $50 deposit is required. Funding is available through Access To Recovery (ATR).

- **Blackland Neighborhood Center**
  2005 Salina Street
  Austin, TX 78722
  Phone: (512) 972-5795

  Blackland Neighborhood Center provides transitional housing and case management services for up to one year. Individuals convicted of sex offenses or violent crimes against their family are not accepted. Rent is $350 per month and residents must be employed during their stay.

- **Born Again Ministries Regeneration House**
  5001 and 5004 Allyson Court
  Austin, TX 78744
  Phone: (512) 293-7793

  Born Again Ministries Regeneration House provides faith-based housing and programming for men. Rent is $500 per month, which includes meals. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are accepted, but those on electronic monitors are not permitted. There is no maximum stay.

- **Burkes Fresh Start Program**
  2612 Wheeless Lane
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 926-6311

  Burkes Fresh Start Program provides transitional housing for men with a focus on those who have sex offenses. Rent is $125 per week.

- **Children's Home Initiative**
  3036 South 1st Street
  Austin, TX 78704
  Phone: (512) 389-5182
  Website: www.foundcom.org

  Children's Home Initiative offers low-cost, quality housing for 45 families at three Austin locations and provides case managers who help families find employment, health care, transportation, and more.

- **Elizabeth Quarters**
  1310 Salina Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 289-3827

  Elizabeth Quarters provides faith-based housing for men and women. Rent is $500 per month, and three meals per day are provided. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are accepted. A three- to six-month commitment is encouraged, and rules and guidelines of the house must be followed.

- **Encore House**
  1109 East 52nd Street
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 300-2900

  Encore House provides transitional housing for men. Rent ranges from $105 to $135 per week depending on room size. A $100 deposit is required, and the amount of two weeks rent is due before move-in. Individuals with sex offenses are accepted, but those who are on electronic monitors are not permitted. There is no maximum stay.

- **Full Circle Services**
  P.O. Box 40369
  Austin, TX 78704
  Phone: (512) 493-1909
  Website: www.fullcircleservicesusa.org

  Full Circle Services manages and leases sober-living facilities throughout Austin. It provides safe and supportive housing at low cost for chemically dependent individuals who are seeking recovery. Those on parole or probation are welcome.

- **God's Blessing**
  6706 Sandshop Circle
  Austin, TX 78724
  Phone: (512) 905-9819

  God's Blessing provides transitional housing geared towards the elderly, disabled, and mentally challenged. Men and women are accepted. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. Rent is $500 per month, and a one-time $250 deposit is required. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Greater Austin Transitional Housing Authority (GATHA)**
  Phoenix Project
  5311-B Spring Meadows Road
  Austin, TX 78744
  Phone: (512) 496-8582 or (512) 524-0672

  GATHA provides transitional housing for men and women 18 years of age and older. Rent is $385 per month for a semi-private room or $500 per month for a private room. Residents must be drug- and alcohol-free. All previously incarcerated individuals are accepted regardless of crime.

- **Greendoors**
  P.O. Box 685065
  Austin, TX 78768
  Phone: (512) 469-9130
  Website: www.greendoors.org

  Greendoors works to prevent and end homelessness by providing affordable and safe housing with access to supportive services for individuals who are struggling with homelessness. Its three major programs include transitional housing for veterans, permanent supportive housing, and an affordable housing program. Greendoors also operates a homeless prevention program that provides low-income individuals with the necessities they need to meet their housing needs, including a food pantry and clothes closet.

- **House of Care**
  11109 Sage Hollow Drive
  Austin, TX 78758
  Phone: (512) 461-7075

  House of Care provides transitional housing services for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but MHMR patients, those with violent offenses, and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $525 per month. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Liberty House**
  2329 East Cesar Chavez Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 469-0141 or (512) 659-2181

  Liberty House provides faith-based transitional housing and services for men, including GED preparation and job search assistance, and transportation to drug/alcohol abuse counseling. Rent is $400 per month, and a $50 deposit is required. Availability and admissions are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Residents must attend church regularly.

Spotlight On: Oxford House

Oxford Houses are self-run, self-supported homes for individuals recovering from alcohol and drug addiction. The Oxford House Program provides individuals with a substance-free living environment entirely supported by the members of the home. Financial responsibilities are handled by the residents in each house, making a cooperative measure necessary for the success of the residents. Home tasks and activities are led by an officer of each house; officers are elected by other residents of the home and serve a six-month term before another election is held. Relapse is a large concern within the Oxford House system and is taken very seriously. If at any point the majority of the residents feel as if officers or other residents have relapsed, they will be expelled from the residence.

Oxford Houses must consist of at least 6 residents; however, the majority of Oxford houses have anywhere from 8 to 15 members so that the financial responsibilities are evenly and fairly distributed. Each member is expected to contribute money towards rent, utilities, food, and any other household needs. The average cost per resident can vary from $85-$150 per week. Oxford Houses do not have a minimum or maximum stay requirement; instead, a focus is placed on avoiding relapse and truly recovering from addiction in a supportive environment.

Individuals interested in becoming a resident of a local Oxford House can fill out an application. This is followed by an interview conducted by the existing members of the house to which each individual applies. If there is a vacancy and 80% of the members approve an individual's application, he or she is free to move in.

For more information on the Oxford House program, visit www.oxfordhouse.org. Information related to starting an Oxford House is available, as well as an application for residency. Below are listings of Oxford Houses throughout Texas, as organized by city. Interested individuals should check the website for the most up-to-date information about new houses in their area.

Austin

- **Collingsworth (Men)**
  1005 Collingsworth Drive
  Austin, TX 78753
  Phone: (512) 833-9414
- **Colmenero (Men)**
  3508 Colmenero Circle
  Austin, TX 78741
  Phone: (512) 465-2573
- **Dovemeadow (Men)**
  4412 Dovemeadow Drive
  Austin, TX 78744
  Phone: (512) 294-2412
- **La Casa (Men)**
  5101 Meadow Creek Cove
  Austin, TX 78745
  Phone: (512) 442-1658
- **Lamplight (Men)**
  13011 Broughton Way
  Austin, TX 78727
  Phone: (512) 341-7681
- **Parkfield (Men)**
  5402 Jeffburn Cove
  Austin, TX 78745
  Phone: (512) 366-5265
- **Quail Park (Men)**
  9203 Quail Field Drive
  Austin, TX 78758
  Phone: (512) 494-4286
- **Tech Ridge (Men)**
  12342 Copperfield Drive
  Austin, TX 78753
  Phone: (512) 487-5148
- **Werner Hill (Men)**
  1409 Werner Hill Drive
  Austin, TX 78753
  Phone: (512) 291-6913
- **Willowick (Men)**
  8602 Willowick Drive
  Austin, TX 78759
  Phone: (512) 433-6499

Austin

- **Copperfield (Women)**
  7601 Northcrest Blvd.
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 407-9559
- **Tronewood (Women)**
  8906 Tronewood Drive
  Austin, TX 78756
  Phone: (512) 584-8033
- **University Hills (Women)**
  6905 Creighton Lane
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 926-1300

Corpus Christi

- **Central Park South (Men)**
  4613 Kirkwood Drive
  Corpus Christi, TX 78415
  Phone: (361) 356-6886

Dallas and Surrounding Area

- **Abrams (Men)**
  7963 Woodstone Lane
  Dallas, TX 75248
  Phone: (972) 644-7000
- **Baylor (Men)**
  2705 Sherrill Park Drive
  Richardson, TX 75082
  Phone: (972) 664-1866
- **Beltline (Men)**
  226 Donna Drive
  Richardson, TX 75080
  Phone: (214) 484-3765
- **Catalpa (Men)**
  10231 Catalpa Road
  Dallas, TX 75243
  Phone: (972) 699-067
- **Dallas (Men)**
  726 Glendale Street
  Dallas, TX 75214
  Phone: (214) 826-4329
- **Ferguson (Men)**
  11624 Drummond Drive
  Dallas, TX 75228
  Phone: (972) 613-8793
- **London Fog (Men)**
  7003 London Fog
  Dallas, TX 75227
  Phone: (214) 275-0188
- **Maple (Men)**
  410 Maple Street
  Richardson, TX 75080
  Phone: (972) 677-7647
- **Northpark (Men)**
  3624 Coral Gables Drive
  Dallas, TX 75229
  Phone: (214) 750-1440
- **Plano (Men)**
  2324 Claridge Circle
  Plano, TX 75075
  Phone: (214) 501-8230
- **Pride (Men)**
  1426 Lamp Post Lane
  Richardson, TX 75080
  Phone: (972) 235-6899
- **Richardson (Men)**
  1813 Harvard Drive
  Richardson, TX 75081
  Phone: (972) 480-8866
- **Richland Manor (Men)**
  414 Sheffield Drive
  Richardson, TX 75081
  Phone: (972) 235-1134
- **Stagecoach (Men)**
  1421 Stagecoach Drive
  Richardson, TX 75080
  Phone: (972) 235-1134
- **Sugar Mill (Men)**
  4414 Sugar Mill Road
  Dallas, TX 75244
  Phone: (972) 235-1134
- **Walnut Hill (Men)**
  1238 Delmont Drive
  Richardson, TX 75080
  Phone: (972) 907-9112

Dallas and Surrounding Area

- **Beaver Run (Women)**
  21124 Briarwood
  Dallas, TX 75228
  Phone: (972) 270-2960

- **Erie (Women)**
  3140 Delaford Drive
  Carrollton, TX 75007
  Phone: (972) 242-5959

- **Junius (Women)**
  7317 Alto Caro Drive
  Dallas, TX 75248
  Phone: (972) 290-0232

- **Lois Lane (Women)**
  100 South Lois Lane
  Richardson, TX 75080
  Phone: (972) 671-2310

- **Meandering Way (Women)**
  7720 La Avenida Drive
  Dallas, TX 75248
  Phone: (972) 991-0206

- **Portrush (Women)**
  10319 Portrush Drive
  Dallas, TX 75243
  Phone: (214) 575-2238

- **Wyatt (Women)**
  10505 Wyatt Street
  Dallas, TX 75218
  Phone: (214) 321-8791

El Paso

- **El Paso (Men)**
  3426 Thompson Street
  El Paso, TX 79904
  Phone: (915) 566-2170

Houston and Surrounding Area

- **Avenue D (Men)**
  816 Avenue D
  Rosenberg, TX 77471
  Phone: (281) 762-2080

- **Bissonnet (Men)**
  4224 Bissonnet Street
  Houston, TX 77005
  Phone: (281) 974-2847

- **Braes Ridge (Men)**
  7703 Vickijohn Drive
  Houston, TX 77071
  Phone: (713) 636-2467

- **Inkberry (Men)**
  7047 Inkberry Drive
  Houston, TX 77092
  Phone: (713) 808-9478

- **Ludington (Men)**
  5814 Ettrick Drive
  Houston, TX 77035
  Phone: (713) 667-9924

- **Melbourne (Men)**
  108 Melbourne Street
  Houston, TX 77022
  Phone: (832) 433-7919

- **Spellman (Men)**
  8115 Twin Hills Drive
  Houston, TX 77071
  Phone: (281) 888-4999

Houston and Surrounding Area

- **Chimney Rock (Women/Children)**
  5507 Effingham Drive
  Houston, TX 77035
  Phone: (281) 974-3622

- **Deer Meadow (Women)**
  8811 Deer Meadow Drive
  Houston, TX 77071
  Phone: (832) 668-5013

- **Lugary (Women)**
  9313 Lugary Drive
  Houston, TX 77074
  Phone: (713) 272-8599

- **Yorkwood (Women)**
  7235 Pine Grove Drive
  Houston, TX 77092
  Phone: (281) 974-4791

San Antonio

- **Beacon Hill (Men)**
  310 Cincinnati Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78201
  Phone: (210) 731-0412

- **Davis (Men)**
  730 Hammond Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78210
  Phone: (210) 455-3921

- **Fredericksburg (Men)**
  311 Cincinnati Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78201
  Phone: (210) 320-1914

- **Loma Park (Men)**
  206 Florencia Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78228
  Phone: (210) 276-0657

- **Marbach (Men)**
  2122 Harpers Ferry Drive
  San Antonio, TX 78245
  Phone: (210) 667-4410

- **Mistletoe (Men)**
  1130 West Mistletoe Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78201
  Phone: (210) 733-6900

- **Stirrup (Men)**
  2719 Kerrybrook Court
  San Antonio, TX 78230
  Phone: (210) 979-6013

- **Leon Valley (Women/Children)**
  5907 Rimkus Drive
  San Antonio, TX 78238
  Phone: (210) 272-0050

- **Rolling Oaks (Women/Children)**
  15610 Knollcliff
  San Antonio, TX 78247
  Phone: (210) 451-0372

- **Woodlawn Lake (Women)**
  155 North Josephine Tobin Drive
  San Antonio, TX 78201
  Phone: (210) 957-4115

For more information, visit www.texasoxfordhouses.org.

- **Lifeworks**
  3700 South 1st Street
  Austin, TX 78704
  Phone: (512) 735-2400
  Website: www.lifeworksaustin.org

  Lifeworks provides an emergency shelter, transitional living services, and supportive housing for youth and adults. Applicants must have a job and attend school.

- **The Living Center of Austin**
  7209 South Pleasant Valley Road
  Austin, TX 78744
  Phone: (512) 444-3554 or (512) 627-6411

  The Living Center of Austin provides transitional housing for men who do not have sex offenses. Individuals with violent offenses and those on electronic monitors are accepted. The general program lasts 90 days but there is no maximum stay. Rent is $440 per month, which includes program fees. Potential residents must be able to prove identification.

- **Loving's Care Homes**
  P.O. Box 143537
  Austin, TX 78714
  Phone: (512) 236-3710 or (512) 659-9214

  Loving's Care Homes provides transitional housing for men and women. Rent is $500 per month (which includes all meals), and a $250 deposit is required. MHMR services and faith-based counseling are also available. Individuals are subject to screening.

- **Making A Change**
  9812 Teasdale Drive
  Austin, TX 78753
  Phone: (512) 577-4960
  Website: www.thepeoplesrecovery.org

  Making A Change provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $450 per month, and a $75 deposit is required; individuals can make installment payments. There is no minimum or maximum stay, but residents must be sober for 30 days prior to acceptance.

- **Marywood Catholic Maternity Home**
  570 West 26th Street
  Austin, TX 78705
  Phone: 1-800-251-5433

  Marywood Catholic Maternity Home provides housing free of charge for women aged 18 to 21 who have children.

- **Ministry of Challenge**
  1500 East 12th Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 370-8960
  www.ministryofchallenge.org

  Ministry of Challenge provides faith-based transitional housing and residential substance abuse treatment for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not currently accepted. There is a six-month minimum stay, and rent varies.

- **Mission of Restoration**
  6121 Ponca Street
  Austin, TX 78741
  Phone: (512) 945-3419

  Mission of Restoration provides transitional housing for men. Case management, counseling and mentoring, bus passes, and grocery gift cards are also available. Rent is $300 to $500 per month, and a $75 deposit is required before move-in. Phone screenings are conducted daily from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

- **Mission of Restoration Enterprises**
  P.O. Box 40385
  Austin, TX 78704
  Phone: (512) 743-2727

  Mission of Restoration Enterprises provides housing for individuals re-entering society after a period of incarceration, as well as for individuals who struggle with homelessness. Rent ranges from $450 per month for a small living arrangement with a roommate to $550 per month for a single room.

- **Nehemiah House**
  11223 Tim Brooks Trail
  Austin, TX 78750
  Phone: (512) 925-4653

  Nehemiah House provides transitional housing for men. Rent is $125 per week or $500 per month, which includes meals and utilities.

- **Network for Life of Austin, Inc.**
  P.O. Box 180925
  Austin, TX 78718
  Phone: (512) 698-5678
  Website: www.networkforlife.org

  Network for Life of Austin provides faith-based transitional housing and services for women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted. An “overcomers” group for individuals dealing with addiction or the negative impacts of incarceration is also provided. A one-year commitment is asked of every resident, but there is no maximum stay. All services are free of charge.

- **New Beginning**
  2939 East 12th Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 300-1495

  New Beginning provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. Rent is $450 per month. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Oak Hill House**
  6803 La Concha Pass
  Austin, TX 78749
  Phone: (512) 350-0250
  Website: www.oakhillsoberliving.com

  Oak Hill House provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not currently accepted. Rent is $785 per month, which includes meals; laundry and cable are also provided. Residents should be willing to submit to random urine analysis.

- **Project Helping Hand**
  1000 Prairie Trail
  Austin, TX 78758
  Phone: (512) 837-9362

  Project Helping Hand provides temporary housing for men and women, especially those entering and leaving treatment facilities. AA meetings are held throughout the day. Individuals must be willing to attend an inpatient treatment center. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted.

- **Project Transitions**
  7101-B Woodrow Avenue
  Austin, TX 78757
  Phone: (512) 454-8646
  Website: www.projecttransitions.org

  Project Transitions provides hospice housing free of charge for men and women living with HIV and AIDS.

- **Regeneration House**
  5001 Allyson Court
  Austin, TX 78744
  Phone: (512) 293-7793
  Website: www.bamregeneration.org

  Regeneration House provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are accepted, but those on electronic monitors and MHMR clients are not permitted. Room and board is $500 per month. There is no minimum or maximum stay or waiting list. Regeneration House requires residents to be sober upon entry.

❑ Rosewood Boarding Home Shelter

10101 Bluff Bend
Austin, TX 78753
Phone: (512) 785-3124

Rosewood Boarding Home Shelter provides transitional housing for men. Rent is $550 per month, which includes meals. Currently, individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses as well as individuals who are on electronic monitors are permitted.

❑ Serenity Recovery Home for Men

11509 February Drive
Austin, TX 78753
Phone: (512) 748-9826

Serenity Recovery Home provides a faith-based drug and alcohol recovery program for men who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. A recommended stay is at least six to nine months, but there is no minimum or maximum stay. Rent is $480 per month and a $150 processing fee is required.

❑ Serenity Recovery Home for Women

10506 Parkfield Drive
Austin, TX 78758
Phone: (512) 748-9826

Serenity Recovery Home provides a faith-based drug and alcohol recovery program for women who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. A recommended stay is at least six to nine months, but there is no minimum or maximum stay. Rent is $480 per month and a $150 processing fee is required.

❑ Shirley's House

7308 Meadow Wood Drive
Austin, TX 78721
Phone: (512) 434-9920 or (512) 929-0782

Shirley's House provides transitional housing for men and women. Rent is $500 per month (which includes all meals), and a $100 non-refundable deposit is required. Laundry facilities, phone, and cable TV are also available.

❑ St. Maureen's Recovery

2401 - 2403 La Casa Drive
Austin, TX 78704
Phone: (512) 423-8585
Website: www.stmaureensrecovery.com

St. Maureen's Recovery is a sober living residence for men who have recently graduated from a 28-day inpatient treatment program, as well as individuals who are on probation or parole or who are MHMR clients with 30 days of continuous, verifiable sobriety. Rent is $115 per week, which includes all bills.

- **Step Up House**
  2908 Wickersham Lane
  Austin, TX 78741

  Step Up House a sober recovery home for women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Residents are required to work on a recovery program and meet often with a sponsor, as well as submit to random drug and alcohol tests. Rent is $120 per week (which does not include meals), and it is due in advance at weekly meetings. A $145 security deposit is also required. The homes are equipped with the following amenities: cable TV, a house phone, a computer, internet access, cleaning supplies, laundry facilities, bed linens, and all home furnishings. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **South Austin Market Place**
  2101 East Ben White Boulevard #306
  Austin, TX 78741
  Phone: (512) 443-2804

  South Austin Market Place provides housing facilities for men. Individuals on electronic monitors are not accepted, but those with sex offenses are considered on a case-by-case basis. Other resources, including a food pantry and clothes closet, are also available. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Rent varies from $105-130 per week depending on the size of the room, and a $100 deposit is required.

- **Texas Reach Out Ministries**
  P.O. Box 17006
  Austin, TX 78760
  Phone: (512) 291-0921
  Website: www.texasreachout.org

  Texas Reach Out Ministries operates several faith-based transitional living facilities throughout Austin for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses and MHMR clients are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted on a case-by-case basis. Interested parties should submit a request for admission by mail; screenings are conducted prior to admission. Residents must be committed to change and must pursue employment while living in the facility. Rent is $85 per week, and a one-time fee of $200 is required. Residents are also asked to contribute $25 per week for food.

- **Victory Ministries**
  2300 Canterbury Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 480-9628

  Victory Ministries provides transitional housing services for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. A typical stay is 90-180 days, and no deposit or monthly charges are required. Residents are not allowed to work during their stay; instead, they must participate in faith-based activities.

- **Winner's House**
  2301 Devonshire Drive
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 799-9057

  Winner's House operates several transitional housing facilities for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors may be permitted after a screening. Monthly rent is based on income, but a $120 deposit is required. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Residents must be sober prior to entry and remain sober during their stay.

Central Texas – Austin and Waco Surrounding Area

- **Discipleship Unlimited**
  P.O. Box 145
  Gatesville, TX 76528
  Phone: (254) 248-1175 or (254) 492-5460

  Discipleship Unlimited partners with Grace House in San Antonio to provide faith-based transitional housing for women. Interested individuals should write or call for additional housing resources and information.

- **Fresh Start Transitional Center**
  2914 Ellon Road
  Del Valle, TX 78617
  Phone: (512) 531- 9179 or (512) 217-7579

  Fresh Start Transitional Center provides housing for men. Rent starts at $500 per month, and residents must have some means of income. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. There is no waiting list and no maximum stay.

- **The House Where Jesus Shines**
  18320 Gholson Road
  Waco, TX 76705
  Phone: (254) 829-2100

  House Where Jesus Shines is a Christian ministry program that provides housing for up to six months to individuals who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. Its program features structured classes, mandatory church attendance, mentoring, and abstinence from drugs and alcohol. Anger management, basic finance skills, GED preparation, and other classes are available as part of the program.

- **Recovery Hope House**
  1133 Taylor Avenue
  Waco, TX 76704
  Phone: (254) 498-0293
  Website: www.r-shes.com

  Recovery Hope House is a transitional living community that accepts women. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $90 per week, and an initial $50 deposit is required. A minimum stay is six months, but there is no maximum stay. Residents must have a sincere commitment to change.

- **Salvation Army of Kerrville**
  855 Hays Street
  Kerrville, TX 78028
  Phone: (830) 257-3620

  Salvation Army of Kerrville is a homeless shelter for men and women who require a short-term stay (the maximum is three days). Individuals on electronic monitors are not accepted. Housing services are available free of charge, and housing and utility assistance is also provided.

- **Save Our Streets Ministry**
  P.O. Box 2866
  Bryan, TX 77805
  Phone: (979) 775-5357
  Website: www.saveourstreetsministries.org

  Save Our Streets Ministry provides transitional housing services for men free of charge. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. Residents must commit to a nine-month program.

- **Sober Home**
  913 Timber Trail
  Cedar Park, TX 78613
  Phone: (512) 507-2971

  Sober Home operates two transitional housing facilities for men and women. Rent is $500 per month (which does not include meals), and a $200 refundable deposit is required. Laundry facilities, phone, and cable TV are also provided. Individuals with sex offenses are usually not accepted, but those on electric monitors can be accommodated for. There is a minimum stay of 90 days but no maximum stay.

- **Success House**
  503 North Booker Street
  Brownwood, TX 76801
  Phone: (325) 641-9289 or (325) 200-6712

  Success House provides transitional housing and a six-month drug and alcohol recovery program for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. Residents must attend AA meetings and church, follow curfew, and submit to random urine analysis. Rent is $91 per week, and a deposit of two weeks rent ($182) is due in advance.

- **Texas Baptist Children's Home**
  1101 North Mays Street
  Round Rock, TX 78664
  Phone: (512) 246-4257

  Texas Baptist Children's Home provides transitional housing for single mothers over the age of 18 with dependent children. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are not accepted. Rent is $50 per month.

- **Victory Gospel Chapel**
  1315 North Grey Street
  Killeen, TX 76541
  Phone: (254) 519-1118

  Victory Gospel Chapel provides transitional housing services for men and women who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. There is a three-month minimum stay. No deposit or monthly charges are required.

- **Victory Gospel Spiritual**
  1009 North 15th Street
  Waco, TX 76707
  Phone: (254) 235-5811

  Victory Gospel Spiritual provides a transitional housing center for men and women who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. Individuals on psychiatric medication or those who have a serious medical condition are also not accepted. The initial program lasts three to six months; following that, residents enter a work-release ministry where they share rent with several other individuals before living on their own.

Central Texas – San Antonio

❑ The Awakening

4015 West Martin Street
San Antonio, TX 78207
Phone: (210) 777-8040

The Awakening provides faith-based housing for women free of charge. Its six-month program provides housing, meals, hygiene, and spiritual training to residents. After the six-month period, individuals are encouraged to find a job and begin making payments. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors or psychiatric medications are not accepted.

❑ Grace House, Inc.

7404 Highway 90
San Antonio, TX 78227
Or write to:
P.O. Box 781283
San Antonio, TX 78278
Phone: (210) 493-7884

Grace House provides faith-based transitional housing for women. A screening process is used, which includes an application and interview. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors or psychiatric medications are not accepted. Grace House provides a six-month program, and no deposit is required.

❑ Haven for Hope

1 Haven for Hope Way
San Antonio, TX 78207
Phone: (210) 220-2100
Website: www.havenforhope.org

Haven for Hope provides comprehensive services – including housing – for men and women free of charge. Additional services offered at its campus include eye, dental, and medical care, education, job training, day care, substance abuse treatment, ID recovery, and case management.

❑ Living Stones

1306 North Hackberry
San Antonio, TX 78202
Phone: (210) 472-1415

Living Stones provides faith-based transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, arsonists, and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. Rent is $65 per week, which includes an evening meal.

- **New Start**
  Salvation Army
  515 West Elmira Street
  San Antonio, TX 78212
  Phone: (210) 352-2000 ext. 247

  New Start provides transitional housing for women. Residents are required to either work 40 hours per week or be a full time student (or both). Rent is 30% of income. Upon successful release from the program, individuals will get a portion of that rent money back. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. There is a two-year maximum stay. New Start also assists men who are returning to society through a transitional career program.

- **Outcry in the Barrio**
  P.O. Box 37387
  San Antonio, TX 78237
  Phone: (210) 433-0028

  Outcry in the Barrio provides transitional housing services for men and women who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. Individuals on psychiatric medication or those with a serious medical condition are not currently accepted. Services are provided free of charge. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Redemption Missions Ministries**
  626 East Quincy Street
  San Antonio, TX 78215
  Phone: (210) 267-8502 or (210) 216-6815
  Website: www.redemptionmissionsministries.com

  Redemption Missions Ministries provides housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. Rent is $350 per month. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **SAMM Shelter**
  910 West Commerce Street
  San Antonio, TX 78203
  Phone: (210) 224-5838
  Website: www.samm.org

  SAMM Shelter provides transitional housing for men, women, and families. Individuals with sex offenses are accepted, but those with extremely violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are not permitted. All services are free of charge. There is no minimum or maximum stay, but residents must meet the requirements of the program and be productive.

- **San Antonio Fighting Back**
  2803 East Commerce Street
  San Antonio, TX 78203
  Phone: (210) 271-7232
  Website: www.safb.org

  San Antonio Fighting Back provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $350 per month.

- **San Antonio For Christ**
  343 Spaatz Street
  San Antonio, TX 78211
  Phone: (210) 922-4463
  Website: www.sa4christ.org

  San Antonio for Christ provides a 90-day transitional housing program where participants attend a daily faith-based drug and alcohol counseling session. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. The program is free of charge unless residents are making an income.

- **Victory Gospel Spiritual Growth Center**
  1603 Montana Street
  San Antonio, TX 78203
  Phone: (210) 212-6545

  Victory Gospel Spiritual Growth Center provides transitional housing for men and women who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. Individuals on psychiatric medication or those who have a serious medical condition are also not accepted. The initial program lasts three to six months; following that, residents enter a work-release ministry where they share rent with several other individuals before living on their own.

- **Victory Life Eastside**
  1245 Virginia Boulevard
  San Antonio, TX 78203
  Phone: (210) 532-4767

  Victory Life Eastside provides transitional housing services for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on psychiatric medication or with a serious medical condition are not currently accepted. There is a required stay of six months. No deposit or monthly charges are required.

- **Victory Outreach Church**
  4703 Goldfield Drive
  San Antonio, TX 78218
  Phone: (210) 531-0090

  Victory Outreach Church provides transitional housing services for individuals who do not have sex offenses and who are not on psychiatric medication. Individuals with violent offenses and those on electronic monitors are accepted. There is a requested stay of one year. No deposit or monthly charge for services is required.

- **Woman at the Well House**
  221 Post Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78215
  Phone: (210) 472-2787
  Website: www.womanatthewellhouse.org

  Woman at the Well House provides a safe, faith-based living environment with food, clothing, counseling, in-house programs, and access to community resources, including education, job training, and medical and dental care.

Northeast and East Texas – Dallas

❑ Adult Rehabilitation Ministry (ARM)

1128 Sabine Street
Dallas, TX 75203
Phone: (214) 943-5010

ARM provides housing for men who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. Individuals with major medical or mental health issues are also not accepted. Rent is $55 per week. There is a six-month minimum stay.

❑ Angels Recovery House

11231 Alvin Street, Suite 2
Dallas, TX 75218
Phone: (469) 230-2124 or (214) 498-8510
Website: www.angelsrecoveryhouse.org

Angels Recovery House provides transitional housing for women and men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted, but individuals with violent offenses are permitted. Rent is $80 per week for men and $70 per week for women. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

❑ Choice of Life Outreach

6713 Leana Street
Dallas, TX 75241
Phone: (214) 374-0104

Choice of Life Outreach provides housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $100 per week, but this amount is negotiable. Residents must be employable.

❑ Continuum of Care Ministries

2315 Quinto Drive
Dallas, TX 75227
Phone: (210) 382-0010

Continuum of Care Ministries provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. The program lasts six months to one year, but residents must commit to at least 90 days. All services are free of charge. Interested individuals should write first to inquire about availability.

❑ God's Outreach Home Ministries

7807 Greenspan Avenue
Dallas, TX 75232
Phone: Tim Walker at (972) 228-6097

God's Outreach Home Ministries provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $375 per month. Residents must be employable and must commit to a 90-day stay.

❑ Free-Man House

13340 Southview Lane
Dallas, TX 75240
Phone: (214) 676-2693

Free-Man House provides transitional housing for women. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $125 per week. For individuals who are referred through a partner ministry, a $125 deposit is required. Otherwise, a $375 deposit is required, which includes the first two weeks of rent.

❑ Lasting Solutions Boarding Home

531 Embry Drive
Dallas, TX 75218
Phone: (214) 376-6463

Lasting Solutions Boarding Home provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. A $200 deposit is required before arrival.

❑ Praise Chapel Christian Fellowship

1018 South Rosemont Avenue
Dallas, TX 75208
Phone: (214) 339-3748

Praise Chapel Christian Fellowship provides housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $50 per week.

❑ Reconciliation Outreach

4311 Bryan Street
Dallas, TX 75204
Phone: (214) 545-6500
Website: www.rodallas.org

Reconciliation Outreach provides housing for men and women free of charge. Residents must not have any serious mental health issues; also, individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are not accepted. Residents must make a commitment to a one-year program and must have 30 days of sobriety prior to acceptance.

❑ Reconciliation Outreach

Prison Aftercare Program
Phone: (214) 545-6505
Website: www.rodallas.org/our_work/prison_aftercare.html

The Prison Aftercare Program operated by Reconciliation Outreach provides assistance to previously incarcerated individuals by providing transitional housing, job readiness training, faith-based counseling and mentoring, and more.

❑ Remedy Addictions Counselors

2528 North Fitzhugh Avenue
Dallas, TX 75204
Phone: (214) 232-5461

Remedy Addictions Counselors provides housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $275 per week.

❑ Victory Outreach

6211 East Grand Avenue
Dallas, TX 75223
Phone: (214) 826-4404

Victory Outreach provides a faith-based transitional housing program for men and women free of charge. Individuals with sex offenses and those with violent offenses against children are not accepted; individuals on electronic monitors are accepted after an evaluation. There is a one-year minimum stay, and during the first two weeks residents are required to participate in Church-only activities. Residents are expected to work in the Christian recovery home.

❑ Welcome House

921 North Peak Street
Dallas, TX 75204
Phone: (214) 887-0696

Welcome House provides transitional housing and a drug and alcohol recovery program for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. An average stay is six months to one year. Rent is $135 per week (which includes meals), and a $150 deposit is required. Residential short-term treatment (30 days or less) is also offered.

- **Welcome House**
  4201 South Lancaster Road
  Dallas, TX 75216
  Phone: (214) 421-3948

  Welcome House provides transitional housing services for men and women who are HIV positive. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are accepted, but those on electronic monitors are not currently permitted. A maximum stay is six months but extensions can be requested. Services are provided free of charge.

Northeast and East Texas – Fort Worth

- **ATLC Transitional Group Home**
  5605 Oak Road West
  Fort Worth, TX 76134
  Phone: (814) 370-0718

  ATLC Transitional Group Home provides housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are not accepted. Individuals on electronic monitors are permitted if they can pay for the monitor fees themselves. Rent is $600 per month.

- **Fresh Start House of Wellness**
  4104 South West Boulevard
  Fort Worth, TX 76116
  Phone: (817) 235-3847

  Fresh Start House of Wellness provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $108.75 per week.

- **Lazarus House**
  2605 Ennis Avenue
  Fort Worth, TX 76111
  Phone: (817) 784-5498

  Lazarus House provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. Rent is $400 per month. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Interested parties should mail a letter of inquiry.

- **Naomi's Home Ministries**
  1020 East Terrell Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76104
  Phone: (817) 247-0678 or (817) 820-0703
  Website: www.naomihomeministries.org

  Naomi's Home Ministries provides housing for women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted on a case-by-case basis. Rent depends on income. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Residents must be sober for 30 days before entry.

❑ New Name Ministries, Inc.

P.O. Box 11694
Fort Worth, TX 76110
Phone: (817) 920-5886
Website: www.newnameministries.org

New Name Ministries provides a faith-based aftercare housing program for men with sex offenses who wish to successfully re-enter society. New Name Ministries also offers assistance in job placement, life skills, and counseling. Residents must maintain full-time employment, attend classes and sponsored activities, and reimburse expenses incurred. There is a minimum one-year commitment. Contact the Ministries for a pre-application and for more information.

❑ Obadiah's House

5135 Norma Street
Fort Worth, TX 76112
Phone: (817) 457-4992
Website: www.obadiahshouse.org

Obadiah's House provides transitional housing for men. Residents must be willing to change and must commit to the one-year faith-based program. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted; those with violent offenses are occasionally accepted after an evaluation; and individuals on electronic monitors are accepted if they can pay for the monitor fee themselves. Rent is $500 per month.

❑ Opening Doors for Women in Need

3507 Horre Street
Fort Worth, TX 76107
Phone: (817) 920-9326
Website: www.opendoors4women.org

Opening Doors for Women in Need provides transitional housing and other faith-based services. Women with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are not currently accepted. A one-year stay is strongly encouraged, and participation in the Christian-based program is necessary. Rent is $300 per month. Interested individuals should write to the address above to begin the application process.

❑ Outreach Ministry

5300 Oak Grove Road
Fort Worth, TX 76134
Phone: (682) 365-7569

Outreach Ministry provides faith-based transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. A three-month screening process is required, so interested individuals should contact Outreach Ministry early to begin the process. Rent is $450 per month, and a $100 deposit is required. The program lasts six months, and there is no extended stay beyond the program.

- **Restoring Hope Center**
  4804 East Rosedale Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76105
  Phone: (817) 536-2723
  Website: www.restoringhopecenter.org

  Restoring Hope Center provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses are accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are not permitted. Interested individuals should write to the facility with an inquiry. Rent is $135 per week (which includes all utilities and food), and a $450 initial program fee is required. The program requires a minimum 12-month stay.

- **Samaritan House**
  929 Hemphill Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76104
  Phone: (817) 332-6410
  Website: www.samaritanhouse.org

  Samaritan House provides transitional housing and services for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are not accepted. For a single-bedroom unit, rent is $708 per month and a $150 deposit is required. For a two-bedroom unit, rent is $860 per month and a $250 deposit is required. Residents must sign a 12-month lease. Housing is also available for individuals living with HIV or AIDS.

- **Victory Outreach**
  1001 East Ramsey Avenue
  Fort Worth, TX 76104
  Phone: (817) 927-9918

  Victory Outreach provides transitional housing services for men (a referral program is in place for women applicants). Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted on a case-by-case basis. There is a requested stay of one year, but residents can leave earlier if necessary. Rent is based on income and is determined during an initial evaluation.

Northeast and East Texas – Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex

- **Haven of Rest Ministries**
  South Side Christian Center
  3958 J. Rendon Road
  Burleson, TX 76028
  Phone: (817) 690-0049

  Haven of Rest Ministries operates four transitional housing facilities – three for men and one for women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Although no deposit is required, individuals who are able to pay $200 are recommended to do so. The program lasts 90 days, but there is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Remedy Addictions Counselors**
  1400 West Irving Boulevard, Suite 100
  Irving, TX 75061
  Phone: (972) 253-0000

  Remedy Addictions Counselors provides housing for men and women. Some individuals with sex offenses are accepted (those with offenses not involving children), but individuals on electronic monitors are not permitted. Rent is $55 per week.

- **Solutions of North Texas**
  1600 North Ruddell Street
  Denton, TX 76209
  Phone: (940) 898-6202
  Website: www.sontx.org

  Solutions of North Texas provides housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are not accepted. Rent is $700 per month, which includes many services. There is a 90-day minimum stay and one-year maximum stay. Residents must be mentally stable.

- **Straight Street**
  P.O. Box 1674
  Cedar Hill, TX 75104
  Phone: (972) 291-2988

  Straight Street provides transitional faith-based housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. Residents must be employable, willing to change and participate in programming, and attend classes and church regularly. Rent is based on income.

Northeast and East Texas – All the Rest

- **Christians in Action – Quarter Until Noon**
  248 2nd Street Southwest
  Paris, TX 75460
  Phone: (903) 784-6857
  Website: www.christians-in-action.com

  Quarter Until Noon operates a temporary shelter for men. Housing services are free of charge, but individuals must be homeless. Lunch is served Monday through Friday at 12:00 p.m.

- **Genesis Center**
  203 West 2nd Avenue, Suite B
  Corsicana, TX 75110
  Phone: (903) 654-0003

  Genesis Center is a faith-based non-profit organization that provides transitional housing for women and children. The nine-month program includes five phases. No deposit or monthly charges are required. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are not accepted. Potential residents must pass a drug test, and they must be willing to participate in church groups and work at the Center's thrift store.

❑ Good Shepard's Mission

1005 Martin Luther King Avenue F
Huntsville, TX 77340
Phone: (936) 291-8156
Website: www.walkercountyonline.com/org/mission

Good Shepard's Mission provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are not accepted. Rent is negotiable. Residents are encouraged to volunteer at the mission and must take part in the faith-based program.

❑ Grayson County Homeless Shelter

331 West Morton Street
Denison, TX 75020
Phone: (903) 465-6762 or (906) 465-6067

Grayson County Homeless Shelter provides temporary housing for single men over 55 years of age, as well as women and children. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. There is a maximum stay of 21 days; however, if individuals are being productive and looking for alternative housing and employment, a longer stay can be arranged. No deposit or other costs are required.

❑ HWY 80 Rescue Mission Ministries

3117 West Marshall Avenue
Longview, TX 75606
Phone: (903) 759-9875
Website: www.hiway80mission.org

HWY 80 Rescue Mission Ministries operates a transitional housing facility for men and women. Acceptance is based on a screening and evaluation process. Services are provided free of charge.

❑ Outreach Redemption House for Women

518 West Marshall Avenue
Longview, TX 75601
Phone: (903) 553-7343
Website: www.orpm.org

Outreach Redemption House for Women provides transitional housing services for women who do not have sex offenses or violent offenses. Individuals on electronic monitors are accepted on a case-by-case basis. Residents must be alcohol- and drug-free and attend church services. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Rent is $440 per month, and a $70 deposit is required.

❑ Outreach Restoration House for Men

1309 West Marshall Avenue
Longview, TX 75601
Phone: (903) 553-7343
Website: www.orpm.org

Outreach Redemption House for Men provides transitional housing and drug/alcohol abuse recovery services. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. Residents must attend a 12-step recovery program and church services. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Rent is $480 per month, and a $100 deposit is required.

- **Remedy House**
  101 Lila Lane
  Athens, TX 75751
  Phone: (903) 677-2677
  Website: www.remedyhouse.org

  Remedy House provides a supportive housing environment for men seeking recovery from substance abuse and other issues. The Remedy House is entirely faith-based, so residents must be willing to accept spiritual guidance. Programming is focused on individuals who are genuinely seeking to improve their lives.

South and Southeast Texas – Houston

- **A Caring Safe Place, Inc.**
  1804 Carr Street
  Houston, TX 77026
  Phone: (713) 225-0933

  A Caring Safe Place provides housing for HIV-positive men. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. No deposit is required but 30% of income goes toward rent. Assistance is available for individuals who do not have any income. A three-month stay is recommended.

- **Abundance Living**
  8512 Wheatley Street
  Houston, TX 77088
  Phone: (832) 282-2189 or (281) 591-0082
  Website: www.abundancelivinginc.org

  Abundance Living provides transitional housing for men for a maximum of three months (one month extensions are available). Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $100 per week. Work opportunities are provided.

- **Airline House**
  1607 Airline Drive
  Houston, TX 77009
  Phone: (713) 861-7030

  Airline House provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $95 per week. A $210 deposit is required for individuals without an electronic monitor, and a $440 deposit is required for those with an electronic monitor. There is no minimum or maximum stay, but residents must be sober for 30 days before moving in.

- **Bethel Home for Women**
  2223 Cambell Road
  Houston, TX 77055
  Phone: (713) 467-2473 or (281) 345-4432
  Website: www.renewedinnovations.org

  Bethel Home for Women provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses and violent offenses are not accepted, but those on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $560 per month. There is no minimum stay.

- **Covington House**
  6913 Covington Drive
  Houston, TX 77091
  Phone: (713) 816-2471 or (281) 639-6927

  Covington House provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $100 per week (includes program fees), and a $250 deposit is required.

- **Harmony House**
  602 Girard Street
  Houston, TX 77077
  Phone: (713) 223-8104
  Website: www.harmonyhouse.org

  Harmony House provides services to men in the Houston area, including transitional and permanent housing, as well as primary healthcare. Harmony House accepts individuals in recovery, and residents must commit to sobriety during their stay.

- **Harvest Life**
  4565 Southway Side, Suite 104
  Houston, TX 77087
  Phone: (713) 921-7771
  Website: www.harvestlifefoundation.org

  Harvest Life provides a transitional housing program for men recently released from prison (those out six months or less). Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. No deposit is required, and permanent housing is available free of charge. Program fees range from $50-$75 per week. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **HIS Disciples Christian Ministry**
  8855 Gulf Freeway
  Houston, TX 77017
  Phone: (713) 941-8000

  HIS Disciples Christian Ministry provides housing for men free of charge. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Potential residents should arrive in person; if the ministry has room, they will be accepted. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Houston Victory Prison Ministries**
  15402 Sellers Road #20
  Houston, TX 77060
  Phone: (713) 691-2209

  Houston Victory Prison Ministries provides transitional services to men free of charge. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Residents must not have any major mental problems, and they must commit to the six-month program.

- **Joshua House**
  1813 Campbell Road
  Houston, TX 77080
  Phone: (713) 468-2236
  Website: www.renewedinnovations.org

  Joshua House provides transitional housing services for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted, but individuals with violent offenses are permitted. Rent is $135 per week and is negotiable. There is a two-year maximum stay, and residents must be sober for 30 days prior to acceptance.

- **L&H Transitional Facilities**
  2410 Caplin Street
  Houston, TX 77026
  Phone: (713) 692-1728

  L&H Transitional Facilities provides transitional housing and outpatient services. Both programs offer assistance with substance abuse problems and do not accept individuals with sex offenses. Those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $525 per month.

- **Last Chance Recovery Center**
  5310 Milwee Street
  Houston, TX 77092
  Phone: (713) 529-1581 or (713) 880-9251
  Website: www.lastchancerc.org

  Last Chance Recovery Center (LCRC) is a long-term facility for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted on a case-by-case basis. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Rent is $95 per week due up front for the entire length of stay, which includes meals and services. All residents must be willing to commit to changing their lifestyle through the services provided at LCRC. They must also be employed or be willing to be employed upon admission.

- **Magnificat House, Inc.**
  3300 Caroline Street
  Houston, TX 77004
  Phone: (713) 520-0461
  Website: www.magnifcathouse.org

  Magnificat House provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted, but individuals with violent offenses are permitted. Rent is based on income. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **New Freedom**
  1206 Sherwood Forest Street
  Houston, TX 77043
  Phone: (713) 956-5597
  Website: www.houstonhalfwayhouse.com

  New Freedom provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $135 per week. The recommended stay is 90 days.

- **On Track Ministry**
  3401 Liberty Road
  Houston, TX 77026
  Phone: (713) 223-5557

  On Track Ministry provides transitional housing for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. Rent is $460 per month, and a $460 deposit is required. While there is no minimum or maximum stay, residents are asked to participate in and attend services during their stay.

- **Path to Independence**
  10101 Forum Park Drive
  Houston, TX 77036
  Phone: (713) 688-7400
  Website: www.pticommunities.com

  Path to Independence is a six-month transitional housing program for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. Rent is $540 per month. Residents must have a valid Texas ID or social security card.

- **Path to Success**
  4802 Caroline Street
  Houston, TX 77004
  Phone: (713) 533-0613
  Website: www.pathtosuccesshouston.org

  Path to Success provides assistance to men and women who are at risk of becoming homeless as a result of incarceration, substance abuse, or financial hardship. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted. Path to Success provides intake and assessment, comprehensive case management, referrals to community resources, positive socialization activities, and recovery support groups. It can also offer help with behavioral and primary health issues. Rent is $125 per week. A valid social security number and official photo ID are required.

- **Recovery Foundation**
  4312 Crane Street
  Houston, TX 77026
  Phone: (713) 678-4443

  Recovery Foundation provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are not accepted. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Rent is $400 per month, and a $400 deposit is required.

- **Recovery House**
  2212 Lou Ellen Lane
  Houston, TX 77018
  Phone: (713) 812-1211

  Recovery House provides transitional housing for men who have a drug or alcohol abuse problem. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Residents must be serious about living a better lifestyle. Rent is $125 per week, and a $125 deposit is required. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Santa Maria Bonita House**
  2605 Parker Road
  Houston, TX 77093
  Phone: (713) 691-0900
  Website: www.bonitahope.org

  Santa Maria Bonita House provides services to women, including residential and outpatient treatment services, as well as supportive housing. All residents must go through an evaluation prior to acceptance. Applicants must be out of jail or prison for at least 24 hours, and they must be homeless. Individuals with electronic monitors are not accepted. If residents are making an income, rent is 30% of income and a $75 deposit is required. There is a 12-month maximum stay.

- **Santa Maria's Jacquelyn House**
  2005 Jacquelyn Drive
  Houston, TX 77055
  Phone: (713) 957-2413 or (713) 657-0877
  Website: www.bonitahope.org

  Santa Maria's Jacquelyn House provides residential treatment at two facilities capable of providing a home-like environment for single women as well as women with children while in treatment for addiction.

- **Santa Maria's Long Point Outpatient Services**
  7807 Long Point Road
  Houston, TX 77055
  Phone: (281) 657-0898
  Website: www.bonitahope.org

  Santa Maria's Long Point Outpatient Services provides outpatient treatment for women. All clients must be evaluated before acceptance into the program.

- **Santa Maria's Paschall House**
  807 Paschall Street
  Houston, TX 77009
  Phone: (713) 222-0699
  Website: www.bonitahope.org

  Santa Maria's Paschall House provides a supportive transitional living environment for women. An evaluation is required before acceptance into the program.

- **Shay's House**
  P.O. Box 21166
  Houston, TX 77226
  Phone: (832) 881-3193

  Shay's House provides transitional housing and programming for women. Other services include life and parenting skills classes, GED preparation, counseling, and employment readiness. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Rent is $500 per month (which includes meals), and no deposit is required. There is a maximum stay of one year, but longer stays are permitted on a case-by-case basis.

- **Spiller Personal Care**
  10323 Mayberry Street
  Houston, TX 77078
  Phone: (713) 502-6911

  Spiller Personal Care provides transitional housing services for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. Rent is $800 per month, and a $400 deposit is required. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Spirit Key, Inc.**
  12519 Huffmeister Road
  Cypress, TX 77429
  Phone: (281) 813-0093
  Website: www.spiritkey.org

  Spirit Key provides faith-based services, including transitional housing, job training, life skills training, and a place for worship.

- **Star of Hope Men's Development Center**
  1811 Ruiz Street
  Houston, TX 77002
  Phone: (713) 227-8900
  Website: www.sohmission.org

  Star of Hope Men's Development Center provides several transitional housing programs for men, women, and families. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted.

- **Turning Point Center**
  1701 Jacquelyn Drive
  Houston, TX 77055
  Phone: (713) 957-0099
  Website: www.turningpointcenter.org

  Turning Point Center provides a transitional housing facility for men and women 50 years of age and older. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted as long as they are able to pay the fees themselves. Rent is $550 per month. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Victory Living Center**
  815 South Victory Street
  Houston, TX 77088
  Phone: (832) 704-0957

  Victory Living Center provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. Rent is $360 per month, and a $30 deposit is required. Also, the first month's rent must be paid in advance. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

South and Southeast Texas – Houston / Sugar Land / Baytown Surrounding Area

❑ Goshen Alternative

P.O. Box 963
Humble, TX 77346

Goshen Alternative provides housing for individuals who do not have sex offenses or a major medical or mental problem. Residents must be employable. Rent is $350 per month. Interested individuals should write to the above address for more information.

❑ New Birth Ministries

2122 Woods Road
Brookshire, TX 77423
Phone: (281) 375-2444

New Birth Ministries provides transitional housing for women. All individuals are considered despite previous offense. The program offers housing, counseling, and job placement assistance and lasts six months to one year, but there is no maximum stay. Rent is negotiable and determined by the director of the program based on income and other factors.

❑ Salvation Army

2228 Broadway Avenue J
Galveston, TX 77550
Phone: (409) 763-1691
Website: www.salvationarmyusa.org

Salvation Army provides emergency housing for individuals who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. The first three nights are free of charge, but they are $7 per day after that. Participants must be employable. A work program is available.

❑ True Courage

421 South Oak Street
La Marque, TX 77568
Phone: (281) 455-2617

True Courage provides transitional housing for men and women who do not have sex offenses and who are not on electronic monitors. There is no minimum or maximum stay. Rent is $68 per week; a $68 deposit is required and goes toward the first week's rent.

South and Southeast Texas – All the Rest

❑ Golden Triangle Ministries

4734 Redbird Street
Port Arthur, TX 77705
Phone: (409) 549-1224

Golden Triangle Ministries provides transitional housing services for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. Once employment is established, a $100 monthly charge is required to cover rent. Anyone who needs and wants help – and who is willing to abide by the rules – is eligible.

❑ Healing Hands Ranch

P.O. Box 1455
Willis, TX 77378
Phone: (936) 856-0819
Website: www.deafprison.org

Healing Hands Ranch is a transitional housing facility for deaf men. Individuals with sex offenses against children, those with repeated violent offenses, and individuals on electronic monitors are not accepted. Rent is $465 per month. The program is designed for a one- to three-year stay.

❑ H.O.W.

2509 Cable Avenue
Beaumont, TX 77703
Phone: (409) 832-7102

H.O.W. provides transitional housing for men who do not have sex offenses or violent offenses. Individuals on electronic monitors are accepted. H.O.W.'s program lasts three months and includes a mandatory 12-step recovery program, job training, basic English literacy, GED preparation, and more. Rent is $125 per week, which includes all program fees. There is no maximum stay.

❑ New Life Fellowship

1207 Craig Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78405
Phone: (361) 882-5555

New Life Fellowship provides transitional housing at two locations for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted, nor are MHMR patients. Individuals with violent offenses are permitted. The program lasts six to nine months, and there is no maximum stay. No deposit or monthly charges are required.

❑ Perpetual Help Home

P.O. Box 4305
Victoria, TX 77903
Phone: (361) 575-5335
Website: www.perpetualhelphome.org

Perpetual Help Home provides transitional housing for women and children less than 12 years of age. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are not accepted. A strict application process is required, so interested parties should write as soon as possible for more information. There is no minimum or maximum stay, but residents must attend church services and Bible study, maintain curfew, and obtain employment. Rent is based on income and paychecks are managed by the home; 15% of each paycheck goes towards rent, about 50% goes into savings, and 10% goes to the church.

❑ Philemon Restoration

521 East Merriman Street
Sinton, TX 78387
Phone: (361) 364-4347

Philemon Restoration provides a faith-based transitional housing program, Biblical instruction, and counseling for men. Only individuals with low-level offenses who have been released from prison or who are on probation/parole are accepted; no individuals with sex offenses or violent offenses are permitted. Residents must be committed to participating in faith-based programs.

❑ R3 – Respect

P.O. Box 600
Van Vleck, TX 77482
Phone: (979) 323-9662

R3 – Respect provides housing for women. Eligibility is based on a screening process and is determined on a case-by-case. Individuals on electronic monitors are accepted. There is no minimum or maximum stay, but residents must be sober for 30 days prior to admission.

❑ Rainbow House

Metro Ministries
1906 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78708
Phone: (361) 887-0151
Website: www.ccmetro.org

Rainbow House provides many services and resources to the Corpus Christi community, including a transitional and supportive house for men and women, and access to counseling and a health clinic. All programs and services are free of charge.

❑ Straightway Prison Outreach

P.O. Box 134
Hungerford, TX 77448
Phone: (979) 532-5613
Website: www.straightway.tc

Straightway Prison Outreach provides transitional housing and other services for men and women. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. Rent is $750 per month, which includes all costs (such as counseling). Residents must commit to the one-year program.

West Texas

❑ Freedom House Discipleship

James Butts
3542 Mercury Avenue
Odessa, TX 79764
Phone: (432) 381-5453

Freedom House Discipleship provides a one-year, faith-based discipleship program for men. The program also offers employment placement, transportation assistance, and parole fee assistance. The first six months are free of charge; once residents are gainfully employed, they must pay 15% of their wages toward room and board. Assistance is provided in establishing a checking account and acquiring birth certificates and state ID cards.

❑ Mission Messiah – A New Creation

1213 West 2nd Street
Odessa, TX 79763
Phone: (432) 580-5222
Website: www.missionmessiah.org

Mission Messiah – A New Creation provides a one-year, faith-based program for women and their children free of charge. Women must have a strong desire to change.

❑ New Direction Ministry

509 North Loraine Street
Midland, TX 79702
Phone: (432) 686-9140
Website: www.newdirectionministy.org

New Direction Ministry provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. The first three months of the program are free of charge; once residents are gainfully employed, they must pay a percentage of their wages toward room and board. There is a six-month minimum stay and a one-year maximum stay.

- **Sara's House**
  401 West Twohig Avenue
  San Angelo, TX 76903
  Phone: (325) 655-7777

  Sara's House is a residential substance abuse treatment facility for women. Pregnant/ postpartum women and women with children are welcome.

- **Stepping Stone Ministry**
  2400 North Elkins Road
  Midland, TX 79705
  Phone: (432) 631-4631

  Stepping Stone Ministry provides a faith-based transitional housing facility for men. Individuals with sex offenses, violent offenses, and electronic monitors are accepted. There is a minimum stay of four months and maximum stay of one year. Rent is $600 per month (which includes all costs), and no deposit is required.

- **William's House**
  134 West College Avenue
  San Angelo, TX 76903
  Phone: (325) 653-4210 or (325) 224-3481

  William's House is an intensive residential facility that provides substance abuse treatment for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are accepted. William's House has a two-month maximum stay and offers funding assistance.

High Plains

- **City of Refuge**
  Christian Heritage Church
  613 South Adams Street
  Amarillo, TX 79101
  Phone: (806) 376-8715
  Website: www.jesusmyrefuge.org/home/nfblog/ministries/outreach/city-of-refuge-outreach-ministry

  City of Refuge provides transitional housing, food, community resources, and spiritual guidance to men. Individuals with sex offenses are not accepted, but those with violent offenses and individuals on electronic monitors are permitted. Services are provided free of charge as long as individuals meet the requirements of the program.

- **Driskill House, Inc.**
  P.O. Box 23
  Tulia, TX 79088
  Phone: (806) 995-4552
  Website: www.driskillhouse.com

  Driskill House provides transitional housing for men. Individuals with sex offenses and those on electronic monitors are not accepted. Rent is $20 per day. There is a minimum stay of three months but no maximum stay.

- **Jubilee House**
  433 Reading Street
  Abilene, TX 79603
  Phone: (325) 673-5522

  Jubilee House offers transitional housing for individuals who have not committed sex offenses or violent offenses, and those on electronic monitors are accepted. Jubilee House provides a structured program focused on individuals who have a drug or alcohol problem and who are committed to change. Rent is $80 per week, and a non-refundable $25 deposit is required. There is no minimum or maximum stay.

- **Salvation Army of Abilene**
  1726 Butternut Street
  Abilene, TX 79602
  Phone: (325) 677-1408

  Salvation Army of Abilene provides programs for individuals who do not have sex offenses or violent offenses, and who are not on electronic monitors. An overnight shelter is free of charge for three days with a maximum stay of 30 days. A six-month alcohol and drug rehabilitation program is also free of charge. Finally, an "Outbound to Work" program costs $70 per week, which includes rent, meals, and program fees.

5

Community Health Support

Introduction

HEALTH CARE CONCERNS ARE A VERY IMPORTANT PIECE OF THE RE-ENTRY PUZZLE. INCARCERATED individuals, on average, require more health care than most Americans because of poverty, substance abuse, mental illness, and lack of access to medical services in the free world.[8] When they leave confinement, those who are carrying a communicable disease put their spouses/partners, children, friends, and co-workers at risk. This is especially alarming considering 1.5 million people are released from U.S. jails and prisons per year with a life-threatening infectious disease.[9] The devastation of contracting such an illness can disrupt a person's efforts to re-enter society and become self-reliant.

A separate concern is that nearly everyone released from prison has a chronic health condition that requires ongoing treatment. In fact, most have a combination of physical, mental health, and addiction conditions.[10] Studies have shown that people who do not receive sufficient medical care after their release are more likely to return to prison. That is why existing individuals must plan a health care regimen that will address their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Such a plan may include a continuation of the services they were receiving in prison with the help of their parole officer or TCOOMMI (an agency which is described more fully on pages 155-156). Or, they may for the first time begin to consider their physical and mental health care needs. This may involve reaching out to community organizations that provide mental health and substance abuse-related services, which can have long-term positive effects on one's life and one's family, or it may involve counseling and therapy, which help people find every opportunity to succeed in society.

Either way, this chapter is a good place to begin the search for community-based treatment options. It includes organizations that offer low-cost or no-cost health care resources, including mental health and substance abuse resources. Additionally, this chapter offers information on available TCOOMMI and MHMR programs, as well as information about federal assistance programs (such as Social Security), which can be found on page 182.

[8] National Commission on Correctional Health Care, "Position Statements: Charging Inmates a Fee for Health Care Services," Adopted by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care Board of Directors, March 31, 1996: http://www.ncchc.org/resources/statements/healthfees.html, accessed May 7, 2010.
[9] John J. Gibbons and Nicholas de B. Katzenbach, "Confronting Confinement," Vera Institute of Justice, (2006): 13.
[10] Kamala Mallik-Kane and Christy A. Visher, "Health and Prisoner Reentry: How Physical, Mental, and Substance Abuse Conditions Shape the Process of Reintegration," (2008): 81-83.

Once released from prison, some people may be eligible for certain benefits and services. Those who were previously enrolled in a Medicaid program before incarceration may still be eligible upon release.[11] Interested individuals should ask their parole officers for more information or contact the nearest Medicaid office or Social Security benefits office. For more information on benefits and assistance, see Chapter 7.

Using This Chapter

PEOPLE SHOULD LOCATE THE ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS THAT WILL LIKELY BE OF MOST ASSISTANCE. We have tried our best to include all relevant information, but if it is not listed, people can call the facility and ask them directly for more information. We also recommend that people call an organization to verify that the information in this guide is current before counting on it as a potential resource.

During the call, people can also ask for more information about available programs. And because these resources are intended to be low-cost and community friendly, people should check to see if there is a charge for services and, if so, how much. Each facility may offer funding assistance through a state, city, or county program, so callers should be honest about their situation and communicate their needs to the facility.

A person should note that if a particular organization is unable to assist him or her at the present time, it is acceptable to ask to be put on a waiting list. The organization may also have other resources or referrals available. It never hurts to ask.

Lastly, people can call an organization to get directions, check its hours of operation, or ask any other questions.

Additional Resources

In addition to the resources listed later in this chapter, people can check out the following:

- **2-1-1** is a great place to begin looking for help. It provides free and confidential information and referrals to organizations that can assist people with food, housing, employment, health care, counseling, and more. People can dial 2-1-1 from any telephone and tell the operator what information they are seeking. People can also visit www.211.org and search for needed information.

- **Department of State and Health Services (DSHS)** can tell you where to find health care facilities. Check the phone book blue pages under local, city, or county government for the number, or visit www.dshs.state.tx.us/services.shtm.

- **Free clinics** are run by many local organizations and communities. Check the phone book blue pages under "Public Health" to contact the local government office for clinics.

[11] Community Voices, "Medicare Termination and Suspension," (2007): http://www.communityvoices.org/Uploads/HealthcareIncarcerationMedicaid_00108_00212.pdf, accessed June 17, 2010.

- **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill** lists community mental health services providers at www.nami.org, or available by calling 1-800-950-6264.
- **National Mental Health Association** offers support groups, rehabilitation, socialization, and housing services through 340 community organizations located across the country. For more information, call 1-800-969-NMHA, or find a local office at www.nmha.org.
- **The Federal Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration's Treatment Referral Routing Service** provides references to local programs, available by calling 1-800-662-4357.
- **Texas Department of State Health Services** provides a 24-hour hotline and referral service at 1-877-966-3784.
- **Focus On Recovery Helpline** is a 24-hour national alcohol and drug abuse addiction and treatment hotline, available at 1-800-888-9383.

Spotlight On: Local Mental Health Service Providers

The Texas Department of State Health Services provides community mental health services at local Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR) offices. Most MHMR centers require a diagnosis of a mental illness (usually depression, bipolar disorder, or schizophrenia), and may also require that a person establish residency.

Interested individuals should call 2-1-1 to locate local services and take an over-the-phone screening to determine eligibility. An on-line screening form is available at www.yourtexasbenefits.com.

Individuals who wish to apply for services must visit a Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Benefits Office. (*Note:* Individuals with certain limitations, including those who are ill or are in bad weather, may speak with staff over the phone.) For faster service, individuals planning to visit an office should print out the online application and complete it prior to the visit. Also, it is recommended that people arrive early to the office to avoid long wait lines.

In addition to the completed online form, people should bring all verification documents needed for the benefits being applied for. These documents provide evidence of the information submitted in the application, including proof of earned income, expenses, etc. Specific examples of verification documents include a birth certificate, pay stub, and utility bill. The verification documents will vary based on the program being applied for and each person's unique situation. HHSC will provide notification of any verification documents needed and the deadline for submitting them.

The HHSC has also developed a substance abuse benefit program for individuals who receive Medicaid. These services will become effective as of September 2010. Services include detoxification, limited residential treatment, outpatient detoxification, medication-assisted treatment, specialized residential services for women, and outpatient chemical dependency counseling. For more information, visit **www.hhsc.state.tx.us/SubstanceAbuseBenefit.shtml**. A more detailed summary of services offered, including eligibility requirements, is available at **www.hhsc.state.tx.us/BenefitsSummary.doc.**

For more information about the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, visit **www.hhsc.state.tx.us/index.shtml.**

Regional MHMR Offices

Most MHMR offices have both a crisis phone number and an office phone number. The crisis phone number is for people facing an emergency situation, such as having homicidal or suicidal thoughts. People should use the main phone number to contact an office for an appointment or to ask for more information about eligibility and programs.

Central Texas MHMR Centers

- **Austin/Travis County Integral Care**
  1430 Collier Street
  Austin, TX 78704
  Crisis Phone: (512) 472-4357
  Main Phone: (512) 447-4141
  Website: www.integralcare.org

- **Bluebonnet Trails Community MHMR Center**
  1009 Georgetown Street
  Round Rock, TX 78664
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-841-1255
  Main Phone: (512) 255-1720
  Website: www.bluebonnetmhmr.org

- **Camino Real Community MHMR Center**
  19965 FM 3175 North
  or
  P.O. Box 725 (mailing address)
  Lytle, TX 78052
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-543-5750
  Main Phone: (210) 357-0300
  Website: www.caminorealmhmr.org

- **Central Counties Center for MHMR Services**
  304 South 22nd Street
  Temple, TX 76501
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-888-4036
  Main Phone: (254) 298-7000
  Website: www.cccmhmr.org

- **Heart of Texas Region MHMR**
  110 South 12th Street
  Waco, TX 76703
  Crisis Phone: (254) 776-1101
  Main Phone: (254) 752-3451
  Website: www.hotrmhmr.org

- **Hill Country Community MHMR Center**
  819 Water Street, Suite 300
  Kerrville, TX 78028
  Crisis Phone: 1-877-466-0660
  Main Phone: (830) 792-3300
  Website: www.hillcountry.org

- **MHMR Authority of Brazos Valley**
  1504 South Texas Avenue
  Bryan, TX 77802
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-282-6467
  Main Phone: (979) 822-6467
  Website: www.mhmrabv.org

- **Pecan Valley MHMR Region**
  650 West Green Street
  Stephenville, TX 76401
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-772-5987
  Main Phone: (254) 965-7806
  Website: www.pvmhmr.org

Northeast and East Texas MHMR Centers

- **Denton County MHMR Center**
  2519 Scripture Street
  Denton, TX 76201
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-762-0157
  Main Phone: (940) 381-5000
  Website: www.dentonmhmr.org

- **Lakes Regional MHMR Center**
  P.O. Box 747
  400 Airport Road
  Terrell, TX 75160
  Crisis Phone: 1-866-260-8000
  Main Phone: (972) 524-4159
  Website: www.lrmhmrc.org

- **MHMR Services of Texoma**
  315 West McLain Drive
  Sherman, TX 75092
  Crisis Phone: 1-877-277-2226
  Main Phone: (903) 957-4700
  Website: www.mhmrst.org

- **Tarrant County MHMR Community Center**
  3840 Hulen Street, North Tower
  Fort Worth, TX 76107
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-866-2465
  Main Phone: (817) 569-4300
  Website: www.mhmrtc.org

South and Southeast Texas MHMR Centers

- **Border Region MHMR Community Center**
  1500 Pappas Street
  Laredo, TX 78041
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-643-1102
  Main Phone: (956) 794-3000
  Website: www.borderregion.org

- **Coastal Plains Community MHMR Center**
  200 Marriott Drive
  Portland, TX 78374
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-841-6467
  Main Phone: (361) 777-3991
  Website: www.cpcs.hhscn.org

- **Gulf Bend MHMR**
  6502 Nursery Drive, Suite 100
  Victoria, TX 77904
  Crisis Phone: 1-877-723-3422
  Main Phone: (361) 575-0611
  Website: www.gulfbend.org

- **MHMR Authority of Harris County**
  7011 Southwest Freeway
  Houston, TX 77074
  Crisis Phone: 1-866-970-4770
  Main Phone: (713) 970-7000
  Website: www.mhmraharris.org

- **MHMR Center of Nueces County**
  1548 South Brownlee Boulevard
  Corpus Christi, TX 78404
  Crisis Phone: (361) 814-8633
  Main Phone: (361) 886-6970
  Website: www.ncmhmr.org

- **Spindletop MHMR Services**
  2750 South 8th Street
  Beaumont, TX 77701
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-937-8097
  Main Phone: (409) 784-5400
  Website: www.spindletopmhmr.org

- **Tri-County MHMR Services**
  1506 FM 2854
  Conroe, TX 77304
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-659-6994
  Main Phone: (936) 521-6100
  Website: www.tcmhmrs.org

West Texas MHMR Centers

- **El Paso MHMR**
  1600 Montana Avenue
  El Paso, TX 79902
  Crisis Phone: 1-877-562-6467
  Main Phone: (915) 887-3410
  Website: www.epmhmr.org

- **MHMR Services for the Concho Valley**
  1501 West Beauregard Avenue
  San Angelo, TX 76901
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-375-8965
  Main Phone: (325) 658-7750
  Website: www.mhmrrcv.org

- **West Texas Centers for MHMR**
  319 Runnels Street
  Big Spring, TX 79720
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-375-4357
  Main Phone: (432) 263-0007
  Website: www.wtcmhmr.org

High Plains MHMR Centers

- **Helen Farabee Regional MHMR Center**
  1000 Brook Street
  Wichita Falls, TX 76301
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-621-8504
  Main Phone: (940) 397-3143
  Website: www.helenfarabee.org

- **Lubbock Regional MHMR Center**
  1602 10th Street
  Lubbock, TX 79401
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-740-1414
  Main Phone: (806) 766-0310
  Website: www.lubbockmhmr.org

- **Texas Panhandle MHMR**
  1501 South Polk Street
  Amarillo, TX 79101
  Crisis Phone: (806) 359-6699
  Main Phone: (806) 337-1000
  Website: www.tpmhmr.org

Regional Resources

Central Texas – Austin

- **AIDS Services of Austin**
  7215 Cameron Road
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 458-2437
  Website: www.asaustin.org

  AIDS Services of Austin provides a food pantry, case management, dentistry, and legal aid to individuals who are HIV-positive and reside in Travis County.

- **AK Black Health Center**
  928 Blackson Avenue
  Austin, TX 75752
  Phone: (512) 978-9740

  AK Black Health Center provides health services to low-income families. It is open Monday through Thursday from 7:45 a.m. - 4:45 p.m., and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)**
  1825 Fort View Road, Suite 104
  Austin, TX 78704
  Phone: (512) 444-0071; For Spanish (512) 832-6767

  AA provides free rehabilitation and support groups that meet regularly at various locations. Interested individuals should call for meeting dates and locations.

- **Austin Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program**
  7801 North Lamar Boulevard, Suite D #109
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 454-8180
  Website: www.adaap.com

  Austin Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program provides outpatient treatment programs in both 30-and 60-hour programs; a relapse program is also available. Fee payments for classes are based on a sliding fee scale.

- **Capital Area Mental Health Center (CAMHC)**
  1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 105
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 302-1000
  Website: www.camhc.org

  CAMHC provides low-cost psychological counseling services to the central Texas community.

- **Community AIDS Resources and Education (CARE)**
  1631 East 2nd Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 804-3650

  CARE provides HIV testing, counseling, education, street outreach, substance abuse case management, intervention, outpatient drug treatment, support groups, and more.

- **Community Care Services Department**
  1111 East Cesar Chavez Street
  Austin, TX 78102
  Phone: (512) 978-8130

  Community Care Services Department provides the Medical Assistance Program (MAP) for Travis County residents who have family incomes at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Index Guidelines, and who have no other health care coverage (such as Medicaid or Medicare). Individuals who do not qualify for MAP may be eligible for other programs that offer health care services at reduced rates.

- **Crisis Line at Psychiatric Emergency Services**
  Phone: (512) 472-4357

  The Crisis Line at Psychiatric Emergency Services is Austin and Travis County's 24-hour crisis intervention and suicide prevention program.

- **East Austin Health Center**
  211 Comal Street
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 978-9200

  East Austin Health Center provides low-cost, general medical care to Austin residents. It is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)**
  603 West 13th Street, Suite 1A-284
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 480-0004
  Website: www.ctana.org

  NA provides a 12-Step Support Meeting for individuals with addiction issues. NA's services are free of charge and provided on a walk-in basis.

- **Northeast Austin Community Health Center**
  7112 Ed Bluestein Boulevard, Suite 155
  Austin, TX 78723
  Phone: (512) 978-9300

  Northeast Austin Community Health Center is a health and dental clinic providing services to individuals who qualify for the Medical Assistance Program (MAP), Medicaid, and CHIP.

- **Northwest Counseling and Wellness Center**
  12335 Hymeadow Drive, Suite 400
  Austin, TX 78750
  Phone: (512) 250-9355
  Website: www.nwwellnesscenter.com

  Northwest Counseling and Wellness Center is a community mental health clinic providing psychotherapy, counseling, coaching, education, treatment, and training to assist clients in making and maintaining healthy and functional lifestyle changes.

- **People's Community Clinic**
  2909 North IH 35
  Austin, TX 78722
  Phone: (512) 478-4939
  Website: www.austinpcc.org

  People's Community Clinic is a general health clinic. Financial screenings are done onsite, and insurance and Medicaid are accepted. For individuals without insurance or Medicaid, payments are accepted on a sliding fee scale and will depend on income and size of household. There is no waitlist and no residency requirements.

- **South Austin Community Health Center**
  2529 South 1st Street
  Austin, TX 78704
  Phone: (512) 978-9865

  South Austin Community Health Center provides family care, internal medicine, women's health services, pediatrics services, and dental services to low-income individuals and families in the Austin area.

- **Texas Mental Health Consumers (TMHC)**
  608 Morrow Street, Suite 103
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 451-3191 or 1-800-860-6057
  Website: www.tmhc.org

  TMHC provides free advocacy and education services to adults with a mental illness.

- **Waterloo Counseling**
  3000 South IH-35, Suite 315
  Austin, TX 78704
  Phone: (512) 444-9922
  Website: www.waterloocounseling.org

  Waterloo Counseling provides affordable mental health counseling services, which include "coming out" issues, trauma related to hate crimes, social mistreatment, survival of abuse, HIV-related issues, transsexual or transgender counseling, depression, stress, panic, and anxiety.

- **YWCA Counseling & Referral Center for Women (YWCRC)**
  2015 South IH-35, Suite 110
  Austin, TX 78741
  Phone: (512) 326-1222
  Website: www.ywcaaustin.org

  YWCRC provides mental health counseling to individuals and couples. It addresses issues such as anxiety, depression, relationships, self-esteem, communication, substance abuse, and life transitions. Payments are accepted on a sliding scale and are based on household income and size.

Central Texas – Austin and Waco Surrounding Area

- **Belton Group of Alcoholics Anonymous**
  St. Luke's Episcopal Church
  2103 Beal Street
  Belton, TX 76513
  Phone: (254) 939-1033

  Belton Group of Alcoholics Anonymous provides counseling and other assistance free of charge to individuals who have alcohol abuse issues.

- **BVCASA**
  405 West 28th Street
  Bryan, TX 77803
  Phone: (979) 823-5300
  Website: www.bvcasa.org

  BVCASA provides detoxification and outpatient substance abuse treatment for adults.

- **Center for Life Resources**
  408 Mulberry Street
  Brownwood, TX 76804
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-458-7788; Main Phone: (325) 646-9574
  Website: www.cflr.us

  Center for Life Resources provides counseling and other services to individuals who are diagnosed with bipolar disorder, major depression, or schizophrenia. Costs vary and depend on income and family size.

- **Central Texas Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse**
  819 South 5th Street
  Temple, TX 76504
  Phone: (254) 773-3722

  Central Texas Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse provides educational and licensed professional counseling services, as well as outpatient treatment services. The average stay is 90 days. Most clients are referred by TDCJ but a limited number of walk-ins are accepted. Most services are state-funded.
- **Christian Farms Treehouse**

3804 Riverside Trail
Temple, TX 76502
Phone: (254) 933-9400
Website: www.cfth.org

Christian Farms Treehouse provides faith-based, residential, chemical substance abuse treatment for men and women in separate facilities. Programs are 30, 60, and 90 days in length. All treatment is provided by a Licensed Chemical Dependence Counselor.

❑ Chupike and Associates

2201 South WS Young Drive
Suite 104-B, Office 104
Killeen, TX 76542
Phone: (254) 690-5847
Website: www.chupikecounseling.com

Chupike and Associates provides licensed professional mental health therapy services, including counseling for substance abuse, sexual abuse, depression, addictions, spousal issues, and behavioral issues. In addition to self-pay, payments can be made through Medicare, Medicaid, and a number of insurances.

❑ Del Valle Health Center

3518 FM 973
Del Valle, TX 78617
Phone: (512) 978-9760

Del Valle Health Center provides clinical health services to low-income individuals and families. It is open Monday through Thursday from 7:45 a.m. - 4:45 p.m., and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

❑ The Freeman Center

320 North 14th Street
Waco, TX 76701
Phone: (254) 753-3625
Website: www.thefreemancenter.org

The Freeman Center provides programs for men, women, and women with children. Programs include detoxification, as well as residential and outpatient services. Eligible clients must be free from any abuse of chemically addictive/dependent substances for at least one week. If clients are financially unable to pay for services, an alternative stream of funding is available through the state.

❑ Hays Caldwell Council

1901 Dutton Drive, Suite E
San Marcos, TX 78666
Phone: (512) 396-7695 or 1-800-733-1214
Website: www.hayscaldwellcouncil.org

Hays Caldwell Council provides substance abuse screenings and assessments, treatment referrals, information and educational services, an adult intensive outpatient treatment program, and other related services. State funding is provided for most individuals who qualify. Self-payment on a sliding fee scale is also accepted.

- **Heart of Texas**
  900 Austin Avenue #801
  Waco, TX 76701
  Phone: (254) 753-7320

  Heart of Texas provides outreach, screenings, and referrals for substance abuse programs throughout Texas.

- **Metroplex Pavilion**
  2201 South Clear Creek Road
  Killeen, TX 76549
  Phone: (254) 526-7523
  Website: www.mplex.org

  Metroplex Pavilion provides behavioral health and rehabilitation services. Some costs are associated with the services, and fees vary. Insurance and Medicaid are accepted, but for individuals without insurance, sliding fee payments are accepted.

- **Pflugerville Health Center**
  15822 Foothill Farms Loop
  Pflugerville, TX 78660
  Phone: (512) 978-9840

  Pflugerville Health Center provides a general health clinic that accepts insurance and Medicaid.

Central Texas – San Antonio

- **Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center**
  10290 Southton Road
  San Antonio, TX 78223
  Phone: (210) 633-0201
  Website: www.lifetimerecoverytx.org

  Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center provides inpatient and outpatient chemical dependency treatment for men and women. It offers services in life-skills training, job readiness, individual and group counseling, recovery education, family support, and other continuing care for specific client needs. Public funding is available to individuals who cannot afford to pay for services.

- **Center for Health Care Services**
  3031 IH-10 West
  San Antonio, TX 78201
  Crisis Phone: (210) 227-4357; Main Phone: (210) 731-1300
  Website: www.chcsbc.org

  Center for Health Care Services provides a methadone treatment program as well as other services for individuals struggling with substance abuse.

- **The Patrician Movement**
  222 East Mitchell Street
  San Antonio, TX 78210
  Phone: (210) 532-3126
  Website: www.patricianmovement.com

  The Patrician Movement provides screenings, assessments, and treatment planning to adults and adolescents. Other services include drug and alcohol education classes, GED preparation classes, occupational and recreational therapy, case management, and relapse prevention.

- **Project Recovery**
  200 North Comal Street
  San Antonio, TX 78207
  Phone: (210) 335-6417

  Project Recovery provides group and individual counseling services to individuals at the Bexar County Adult Detention Center, and it makes referrals to community resources for the San Antonio area.

Northeast and East Texas – Dallas

- **ABC Behavioral Health**
  2194600 Samuell Boulevard
  Dallas, TX 75228
  Phone: (214) 275-8500

  ABC Behavioral Health provides mental health services including medication management and psychiatric maintenance to individuals with a mental health issue or a dual diagnosis of drug abuse. They also provide housing assistance to individuals that qualify as homeless. They accept Medicaid, Medicare and NorthSTAR insurance.

- **AIDS Arms**
  219 Sunset Avenue, Suite #116-A
  Dallas, TX 75208
  Phone: (214) 521-5191
  Website: www.aidsarms.org

  Aids Arms provides HIV testing and counseling, outpatient medical care, medication assistance, prevention education, and more.

- **Dallas MetroCare Services**
  1380 River Bend Drive
  Dallas, TX 75247
  Phone: (214) 743-1200
  Website: www.metrocareservices.org

  Dallas MetroCare Services provides four clinics throughout Dallas that offer mental health and substance abuse services to low-income individuals and families.

- **Gateway Foundation of Texas**
  Help Is Possible Project
  723 South Peak Street
  Dallas, TX 75223
  Phone: (214) 827-2870
  Website: www.gatewayfoundation.org

  Gateway Foundation of Texas provides drug and alcohol abuse treatment programs for adults and adolescents.

- **Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse**
  4525 Lemmon Avenue
  Dallas, TX 75219
  Phone: (214) 522-8600
  Website: www.gdcada.org

  Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse is not a treatment facility but can provide over-the-phone assessments and referrals. It also provides an HIV outreach and prevention program.

- **Homeward Bound**
  233 West 10th Street
  Dallas, TX 75208
  Phone: (214) 941-3500
  Website: www.homewardboundinc.org

  Homeward Bound provides health services, including inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, substance abuse help, and counseling services based on individual needs. Homeward Bound accepts private insurance and Medicaid; individuals are rarely turned down due to inability to pay.

- **Nexus Recovery Center**
  8733 La Prada Drive
  Dallas, TX 75228
  Phone: (214) 321-0156
  Website: www.nexusrecovery.org

  Nexus Recovery Center provides a drug and alcohol recovery program for disadvantaged women, including those with children. The Nexus Recovery Center does not accept insurance or self-payment; most clients are eligible to receive funding through the state, county, or city.

- **Solutions Outpatient Services**
  5327 North Central Expressway, Suite 333
  Dallas, TX 75205
  Phone: (214) 369-1155
  Website: www.sosdallas.com

  Solutions Outpatient Services provides an intensive outpatient care program for chemical dependency. Private insurances are accepted, but Medicaid is not. Scholarships are available to military veterans, law enforcement officers, and firefighters.

- **Turtle Creek Manor**
  2707 Routh Street
  Dallas, TX 75201
  Phone: (214) 871-2484
  Website: www.tcmanor.org

  Turtle Creek Manor provides an inpatient residential program for men and women who have co-occurring disorders of severe mental illness and alcohol or drug addiction.

Northeast and East Texas – Fort Worth

- **A Chance for Change**
  7525 John T. White Road
  Fort Worth, TX 76120
  Phone: (817) 689-3510
  Website: www.achanceforchangesae.com

  A Chance for Change provides alcohol and drug education classes, intervention programs, relapse prevention, and coping strategies. Some classes have fees.

- **AIDS Outreach Center**
  400 North Beach Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76111
  Phone: (817) 335-1994
  Website: www.aoc.org

  AIDS Outreach Center provides prevention and community information programs intended to educate the public about HIV and AIDS. It also provides free and low-cost medical care to individuals living with HIV or AIDS.

- **Albert Galvan**
  2106 North Main Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76164
  Phone: (817) 625-4254

  Albert Galvan provides general medical care to residents of Fort Worth. Payments are accepted on a sliding scale relative to income.

- **Billy Gregory Pine Street Recovery Center**
  1501 East El Paso Street, Building A
  Fort Worth, TX 76102
  Phone: (817) 569-4452

  Billy Gregory Pine Street Recovery Center provides group and individual counseling sessions, inpatient treatment, support groups, after-care services, and more. Payment is accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Catholic Charities**
  2701 Burchill Road
  Fort Worth, TX 76105
  Phone: (817) 534-0814
  Website: www.ccdofw.org

  Catholic Charities provides assistance on issues ranging from quality of life concerns to severe mental health conditions. Licensed counselors specialize in areas such as anger management, domestic violence, crisis intervention, substance abuse, sexual abuse, and family therapy. Services are offered in English and Spanish, and they are available to residents of the 28 counties of Forth Worth. Catholic Charities accepts the uninsured, and payments are accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Cenikor Foundation**
  2209 South Main Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76110
  Phone: (817) 921-2771
  Website: www.cenikor.org

  Cenikor Foundation provides an 18-month therapeutic community for substance abuse recovery. Services are offered at a one-time $175 admission fee with no additional charges. Acceptance criteria include the following: (1) notifying one's parole or probation officer before entering the program; (2) bringing a medical release from a licensed physician if any medical problems might prevent full participation in the program; (3) being capable and willing to earn a GED if one does not already have a high school diploma; (4) not having a criminal record involving repeated violent offenses, sexual offenses, crimes against children, or arson; and (5) not being diagnosed with or undergoing treatment for depression, and not being suspected of suicidal and/or homicidal tendencies.

- **Center for Therapeutic Change**
  6329 Brentwood Stair
  Fort Worth, TX 76112
  Phone: (817) 446-9770
  Website: www.ctcdfw.com

  Center for Therapeutic Change provides individual and group therapy sessions specializing in domestic violence, anger management, and substance abuse and addiction. It also offers outpatient treatment services as well as specialized programs, including a drug education program for individuals with drug offenses. Payments are accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Community Addiction Treatment Services**
  1591 East El Paso Street, Building B
  Fort Worth, TX 76102
  Phone: (817) 569-4452

  Community Addiction Treatment Services provides group and individual counseling sessions, aftercare services, support groups, and substance abuse treatment services including detoxification and Buprenorphine services. Payments are accepted on a sliding scale based on income, and payment assistance is provided.

- **Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance**

1400 8th Avenue
Fort Worth, TX 76104
Phone: (817) 654-7100

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance meets the first and third Friday of each month at Baylor All Saints Building A in the Axel room from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The Alliance provides educational programs, guest speakers, and peer support groups free of charge.

❑ Depression Connection Team

3212 Collinsworth, Suite 3A
Fort Worth, TX 76107
Phone: (817) 810-9599
Website: www.depressionconnection.org

Depression Connection Team provides group presentations on depression, bipolar disorder, and related conditions. Support groups, private telephone consultations, and office visits are also available. Services are free of charge but clients must call to be assigned to a support group.

❑ Family Counseling Center Association

2401 Oakland Boulevard, Suite 100
Fort Worth, TX 76103
Phone: (817) 534-2819
Website: www.family-counseling.org

Family Counseling Center Association provides substance abuse treatment, as well as individual, family, and marriage counseling. Medicaid is accepted, as are payments on a sliding scale based on family income.

❑ Family Matters Counseling

3800 Hulen Street, Suite 295
Fort Worth, TX 76107
Phone: (817) 255-2652
Website: www.lenapopehome.org

Family Matters Counseling provides family and adult counseling services on a sliding scale based on family income. Medicaid is also accepted.

❑ Family Resource Center

3250 Pecos Street
Fort Worth, TX 76119
Phone: (817) 531-4680
Website: www.mentalhealthconnection.org

Family Resource Center is a referral service program for Fort Worth ISD students and their families; it helps link these families with needed community resources. Each center provides mental health assessments; individual, family, and group counseling sessions; family education and support groups; parenting strategies; Medicaid/CHIP application assistance; ESL classes; and consultations and referrals to mental health providers throughout Tarrant County.

❑ Gisel-Morris Clinic

400 North Beach Street
Fort Worth, TX 76111
Phone: (817) 665-1323

Gisel-Morris Clinic provides dental work to individuals living with HIV or AIDS. Services include root canals, extractions, dentures, partials, and fillings. Medicaid and sliding scale payments are not accepted. Fees are reasonable, but if a client is unable to pay then state funding is available.

❑ Hemphill Treatment Facility

700 Hemphill Street
Fort Worth, TX 76104
Phone: (817) 334-0111

Hemphill Treatment Facility provides outpatient substance abuse treatment for Methadone maintenance, Buprenorphine, counseling, group therapy, and detoxification. Private insurance, self-pay, and public assistance are available.

❑ Mental Health Association of Tarrant County

3136 West 4th Street
Fort Worth, TX 76107
Phone: (817) 335-5405
Website: www.mhatc.org

Mental Health Association of Tarrant County provides referrals, peer support, and Wellness Recovery Action Plans (WRAP). Services are free of charge. There are no waitlists.

❑ MERIT Chemical Dependency Program, Inc.

3840 Hulen Tower North
Fort Worth, TX 76107
Crisis Phone: 1-800-866-2465; Main Phone: (817) 569-4300
Website: www.mhmrtc.org

MERIT Chemical Dependency Program provides a blend of outpatient mental health and substance abuse services. MERIT accepts self-payments on a sliding fee scale, private insurance, and Medicaid.

❑ Mission Fort Worth

4401 Vermont Avenue
Fort Worth, TX 76115
Phone: (817) 207-0229

Mission Fort Worth provides primary medical care free of charge on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

❑ NAMI of Tarrant County

P.O. Box 1504
Fort Worth, TX 76101
Phone: (817) 332-6600
Website: www.nami.org/sites/namitarrantcounty

NAMI of Tarrant County provides family and self-help support, education, and advocacy to individuals with serious mental illnesses. All services are free of charge, and clients are accepted on

a walk-in basis. There is no residency requirement. General meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month.

- **Salt and Light Dental Clinic**
  First Presbyterian Church
  1000 Penn Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76102
  Phone: (817) 335-1231
  Website: www.fpcfw.org

  Salt and Light Dental Clinic connects local dentists and their staff with volunteers to provide dental care to homeless men and women.

- **Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center**
  2901 NE 28th Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76111
  Phone: (817) 834-6271
  Website: www.salvationarmyusa.com

  Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center provides a 180-day rehabilitation program for individuals who have a drug or alcohol addiction. An interview is required to become eligible for the program, and interviews are provided on a walk-in basis Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Interested individuals should bring proof of identification, a social security card, proof of income, and proof of any assistance being received (social security, unemployment, etc.). Medicaid and private insurance are accepted.

- **Sober By Grace**
  2451 Bomar Avenue
  Fort Worth, TX 76103
  Phone: (817) 606-9580 or (817) 681-4360

  Sober By Grace provides addiction counseling, relapse prevention, and life skills training. Services cost $175 per week, but individuals are never turned down because of inability to pay.

- **Tarrant Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse**
  1701 West Freeway, Suite 1
  Fort Worth, TX 76102
  Phone: (817) 332-6329

  Tarrant Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse provides substance abuse education, assessment, case management, intervention, and prevention services to the following counties: Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Erath, Fannin, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise.

- **Tarrant County Public Health**
  1101 South Main Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76104
  Phone: (817) 321-4700
  Website: www.tarrantcountytexas.us

  Tarrant County Public Health provides general health and dental clinics, as well as flu shots and health education classes. Walk-ins are accepted.

- **Texas Treatment Services**
  4801 Brentwood Stair Road #404
  Fort Worth, TX 76103
  Phone: (817) 492-9383
  Website: www.texastreatment.com

  Texas Treatment Services provides counseling, case management, medication, and comprehensive evaluations to treat opiate-based drug addiction. Payment is accepted on a sliding scale based on income.

- **Women's Center of Tarrant County**
  1723 Hemphill Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76110
  Phone: (817) 927-4006
  Website: www.womenscenter.info

  Women's Center of Tarrant County provides counseling and life skills training to men and women. Medicaid and Medicare are accepted, and payments may be made on a sliding scale based on income. Patients are accepted on a walk-in basis.

Northeast and East Texas – Arlington

- **Center for Therapeutic Change**
  605 East Border Street
  Arlington, TX 76010
  Phone: (817) 548-9990
  Website: www.ctcdfw.com

  Center for Therapeutic Change provides individual and group therapy sessions specializing in domestic violence, anger management, theft intervention, and substance abuse and addiction. It also offers outpatient treatment services as well as specialized programs, including a drug education program for individuals with drug offenses. Payments are accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Chemical Dependency Health Services**
  214 Billings Street, Suite 240
  Arlington, TX 76010
  Phone: (817) 652-1004
  Website: www.cdhsinc.com

  Chemical Dependency Health Services provides treatment for an array of substance abuse issues, with services including Methadone treatment and counseling. Payments are accepted on a sliding scale, but services for individuals leaving TDCJ are free of charge.

- **Dental Health Arlington**
  201 North East Street
  Arlington, TX 76011
  Phone: (817) 277-1165
  Website: www.dentalhealtharlington.org

  Dental Health Arlington provides services to low-income families by offering free and low-cost dental services. Proof of income is required (including a check stub, food stamps, Section 8 Housing, Medicaid or CHIP card, etc.). Individuals who can prove they live in Arlington and who are on a government assistance program can receive lower-cost services due to a special grant from the City of Arlington; all other services cost approximately one-third of regular dental prices. The first visit is $25 for adults or $15 for children up to 20 years of age. Available services include exams and X-rays, cleanings, sealants, fillings, extractions, full dentures, and more.

- **Helping Open People's Eyes, Inc.**
  3210 Pleasant Valley Lane, Suite B
  Arlington, TX 76015
  Phone: (817) 557-6880
  Website: www.helpingopenpeopleseyes.com

  Helping Open People's Eyes provides drug and alcohol addiction classes. Some costs are covered if individuals are taking the classes as part of court-ordered treatment. Self-payment is accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Millwood Hospital**
  1011 North Cooper Street
  Arlington, TX 76011
  Phone: (817) 261-3121
  Website: www.millwoodhospital.com

  Millwood Hospital provides community resources, including clothing, food, and financial assistance in addition to its medical center. All services are free of charge, but individuals must meet eligibility requirements.

- **Mission Arlington**
  210 West South Street
  Arlington, TX 76011
  Phone: (817) 277-6620
  Website: www.missionarlington.org

  Mission Arlington provides recovery programs and counseling to the Arlington community. Childcare is provided.

- **North Texas Addiction Counseling & Education**
  124 West Pioneer Parkway
  Arlington, TX 76010
  Phone: (817) 795-8278

  North Texas Addiction Counseling & Education provides supportive outpatient services, chemical dependency, anger management, relapse prevention, and drug education classes for individuals with drug offenses. Private insurance and Medicaid are not accepted, but payments are accepted on a sliding scale based on income.

Northeast and East Texas – Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex

- **Alcohol Outpatient**
  129 Harmon Road
  Hurst, TX 76053
  Phone: (817) 569-5750

  Alcohol Outpatient provides outpatient treatment services including aftercare, support groups, group and individual counseling, and more. Payment assistance is available.

- **Andrews Center**
  2323 West Front Street
  Irving, TX 75061
  Phone: (972) 871-2234

  Andrews Center provides classes for individuals who have DWI and drug offenses. Counseling is available in English and Spanish. Costs are low ($5-$10 if individuals are on parole), and payments are accepted on a sliding scale based on income.

- **Grapevine Valley Hope**
  2300 William D. Tate Avenue
  Grapevine, TX 76051
  Phone: (817) 424-1305
  Website: www.valleyhope.com/locations/grapevine

  Grapevine Valley Hope provides residential and outpatient services, including medically monitored detoxification, family and continuing care services, and residential, day, or partial care.

- **Huguley Behavioral Health Center**
  11801 South Freeway
  Burleson, TX 76028
  Phone: (817) 568-5950
  Website: www.huguley.org

  Huguley Behavioral Health Center provides behavioral and mental health services to inpatient and outpatient clients. Private insurance and Medicaid are accepted.

- **Life Path Systems**
  1416 North Church Street
  McKinney, TX 75069
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-443-1831; Main Phone: (972) 562-0190
  Website: www.lifepathsystems.org

  Life Path Systems provides mental health services to individuals in Collin County on a walk-in basis. Private insurance and Medicaid are accepted, and payments are accepted on a sliding scale basis.

- **Substance Abuse Guidance & Education (SAGE)**
  8401 Jacksboro Highway (Lakeside Plaza)
  Lakeside, TX 76135
  Phone: (817) 238-9911

  SAGE provides supportive outpatient, drug education, and DWI education services. Private insurance and Medicaid are not accepted, but payments are accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Texas Treatment Services**
  3529 Denton Highway, Suite C & D
  Haltom City, TX 76117
  Phone: (817) 759-0707
  Website: www.texastreatment.com

  Texas Treatment Services provides counseling, case management, medication treatment, and comprehensive evaluations to treat opiate-based drug addiction. Payment is accepted on a sliding scale based on income.

- **Valley Hope Association**
  2300 William D. Tate Avenue
  Grapevine, TX 76051
  Phone: (817) 424-1305
  Website: www.valleyhope.com

  Valley Hope Association is a drug and alcohol rehabilitation treatment center that provides inpatient, outpatient, continuing care, family treatment, and detoxification services. Private insurance is accepted, but Medicaid is not. Valley Hope Association does provide financial aid to patients who cannot afford services and who do not have insurance.

Northeast and East Texas – All the Rest

- **ACCESS**
  5656 North Jackson Street
  Jacksonville, TX 75766
  Phone: (903) 586-5507

  ACCESS provides mental health services, counseling, and a job assistance program to residents of Anderson and Cherokee county. Payments are accepted on a sliding scale based on family size and household income.

- **Andrews Center**
  2323 West Front Street
  Tyler, TX 75702
  Phone: (903) 597-1351

  Andrews Center provides mental health services on a sliding scale based on income. Potential clients must live in Smith County and be able to prove residency.

- **Burke Center**
  4101 South Medford Drive
  Lufkin, TX 75901
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-392-8343; Main Phone: (936) 639-1141
  Website: www.burke-center.org

  Burke Center provides mental health services to residents of the following counties: Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, and Tyler. Clients must have a previous diagnosis of mental illness or be prescribed medication. An initial evaluation will be conducted in order to determine eligibility. Medicaid is accepted, as are payments on a sliding scale determined by income.

- **Community Healthcore**
  107 Woodbine Place
  Longview, TX 75601
  Phone: Mental Health (903) 759-2922; Alcohol Treatment (903) 758-0596
  Website: www.communityhealthcore.com

  Community Healthcore provides mental health counseling and alcohol treatment services at two locations. It serves residents of the following counties: Bowie, Cass, Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Panola, Red River, Rusk, and Upshur. Referrals are also available.

- **East Texas Council**
  708 Glencrest Lane
  Longview, TX 75601
  Phone: (903) 753-7633

  East Texas Council provides substance abuse screening and referral services, a 24/7 crisis hotline, education, and prevention programs.

- **Kirkpatrick Family Center**
  Sabine Valley Center
  1411 North 10th Street, Suite 1
  Longview, TX 75601
  Phone: (903) 234-0045

  Kirkpatrick Family Center provides inpatient substance abuse treatment services to women. Pregnant and postpartum women, as well as women with children, are welcome.

- **New Awakenings**
  203 West 2nd Avenue, Suite B
  Corsicana, TX 75110
  Phone: (903) 654-0003

  New Awakenings provides an aftercare program for women. Services include domestic violence and substance abuse counseling. 12-step meetings are held twice per week.

- **Oak Haven Recovery Center**
  7470 State Highway 154
  Marshall, TX 75670
  Phone: (903) 938-5149

  Oak Haven Recovery Center provides an inpatient substance abuse treatment program for pregnant or postpartum women, men, and individuals with a co-occurring mental and substance abuse disorder.

- **Woodbine Treatment Center**
  Sabine Valley Center
  103 Woodbine Place
  Longview, TX 75601
  Phone: (903) 758-0596

  Woodbine Treatment Center provides outpatient substance abuse treatment services to women and criminal justice clients. Pregnant or postpartum women are welcome.

Spotlight On: Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments

In 1987, the Texas Legislature recognized the need to address the particular issues facing incarcerated individuals and parolees with special needs. In response, it created the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical and Mental Impairments (TCOOMMI). TCOOMMI is overseen by a diverse advisory committee of representatives and advocates from juvenile and adult criminal justice agencies, health and human services, and community organizations that continually work to develop a seamless system of comprehensive care for juveniles and adults with special needs.

Individuals eligible for TCOOMMI services include those with a diagnosis of a serious mental illness (major depression, schizophrenia, or bipolar disorder), mental retardation, a terminal or serious medical condition, a physical disability, or those who are elderly.

TCOOMMI-eligibility priority is given to:

- Individuals on parole who were assessed and referred to the program prior to their release
- Individuals being released from Substance Abuse Felony Punishment facilities
- Mentally impaired individuals incarcerated in local jails

TCOOMMI provides both community-based interventions and institutional services. Institutional services for incarcerated individuals include:

- Pre-release screening and referral to aftercare treatment services for those referred from the Correctional Institutions Division, state jails, local jails, or other referral sources
- Joint treatment planning with criminal justice agencies, social services, health and human service agencies, and other appropriate disciplines
- Medically Recommended Intensive Supervision (MRIS)

The MRIS program provides for the early parole review and release of certain categories of incarcerated individuals who are mentally ill, mentally retarded, physically disabled, elderly, terminally ill, or in need of long-term care. The purpose of MRIS is to release individuals who pose minimal public safety risk from incarceration into more cost-effective alternatives. The MRIS program excludes individuals sentenced to death, and limits the eligibility of those with sex offenses and those with aggravated convictions.

Community based interventions are available through 32 MHMR program offices across the state. Depending on the needs of the participants, TCOOMMI community and crisis intervention services include:

- Case management
- Psychiatric services
- Medical services, including hospice and medication monitoring
- Substance abuse services
- Social security eligibility processing
- Crisis management services
- Pre-vocational training
- Supported employment
- Court intervention and legal advocacy

Similar services for juveniles are available through the Texas Youth Commission and the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission.

TCOOMMI programs and services are designed specifically to demonstrate a multi-service approach for more cost-effective and appropriate alternatives to incarceration for juveniles and adults with special needs and mental impairments. Throughout its existence, TCOOMMI has demonstrated successful strategies for ensuring public safety, delivering necessary services to those with special needs, and reducing recidivism.

For more information, contact:
TCOOMMI
2503 Lake Road, Suite 6, Huntsville, Texas 77340
Phone: (936) 437-5016 Website: www.tdcj.state.tx.us

South and Southeast Texas – Houston

❑ AIDS Foundation of Houston

3203 Weslayan Street
Houston, TX 77027
Phone: (713) 623-6796
Website: www.aidshelp.org

AIDS Foundation of Houston provides HIV/AIDS/STD services and a "Get Started Program" for individuals recently released from prison, all free of charge. Eligible clients must enroll within two weeks after release from prison. Once enrolled, gift cards and vouchers are provided as an encouragement to continue with prescribed AIDS medications. Interested individuals should call Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to make an appointment.

❑ Bay Area Council

1300-A Bay Area Boulevard
Houston, TX 77058
Phone: (281) 212-2900

Bay Area Council provides an Outreach, Screening, and Referral (OSR) substance abuse program.

❑ Cenikor Foundation

7676 Hillmont Street, Suite 190
Houston, TX 77040
Phone: (713) 266-9944
Website: www.cenikor.org

Cenikor Foundation provides an 18-month therapeutic community for substance abuse recovery. Services are offered at a one-time $175 admissions fee with no additional charges. Acceptance criteria include the following: (1): notifying one's parole or probation officer before entering the program; (2) bringing a medical release from a licensed physician if any medical problems might prevent full participation in the program; (3) being capable and willing to earn a GED if one does not already have a high school diploma; (4) not having a criminal record involving repeated violent offenses, sexual offenses, crimes against children, or arson; and (5) not be diagnosed with or undergoing treatment for depression, and not being suspected of suicidal and/or homicidal tendencies.

❑ Family Services of Greater Houston

4625 Lillian Street
Houston, TX 77007
Phone: (713) 861-4849
Website: www.familyservices.org

Family Services of Greater Houston provides outpatient services, including substance abuse education and prevention, family counseling, and HIV services.

- **Lord of the Streets**
  3401 Fannin Street
  Houston, TX 77004
  Phone: (713) 526-0311 ext. 111
  Website: www.lordsofthestreets.org

  Lord of the Streets provides low-cost medical care to individuals without insurance. It also offers services to the homeless, including meals, shelter and financial assistance.

- **Memorial Hermann Prevention and Recovery Center**
  3043 Gessner Road
  Houston, TX 77080
  Phone: (713) 329-7557 or (713) 939-7272
  Website: www.mhparc.org

  Memorial Hermann Prevention and Recovery Center provides intensive inpatient and outpatient drug and alcohol treatment services. A 12-step program is provided free of charge, and other services can be paid with private insurance or self-pay. Medicaid is not accepted.

- **Men's Center AA Club**
  3809 Main Street
  Houston, TX 77002
  Phone: (713) 524-3682

  Men's Center AA Club provides 12-step meetings for men and women free of charge.

- **Montrose Counseling Center**
  401 Branard Street, 2nd Floor
  Houston, TX 77006
  Phone: (713) 529-0037
  Website: www.montrosecounselingcenter.org

  Montrose Counseling Center provides mental health care to the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transvestite community. Some charges are associated with services; grants are provided to individuals with HIV/AIDS. Private insurance and Medicaid are accepted, and payments are accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Narcotics Anonymous**
  Phone: (713) 729-3415

  Narcotics Anonymous provides 12-step support group meetings for men and women.

- **Neuropsychiatric Center**
  1502 Taub Loop
  Houston, TX 77030
  Phone: (713) 970-4600
  Website: www.mhmraharris.org/Neuro-Psychiatric-Center.asp

  Neuropsychiatric Center provides mental health counseling services to low-income individuals. Its primary goal is to stabilize individuals with a mental disorder so that they may return to their community and stay out of hospitals and jails.

- **TRS Behavioral Care, Inc.**
  902 West Alabama Street
  Houston, TX 77006
  Phone: (713) 528-3709
  Website: www.rightstep.org

  TRS Behavioral Care provides inpatient and outpatient mental health services, including detoxification. Private insurance, Medicaid, and self-pay are the only methods of payment accepted. Payments are not accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Unlimited Visions Aftercare**
  5527 Lawndale Street
  Houston, TX 77023
  Phone: (713) 921-2276

  Unlimited Visions Aftercare provides 90-day substance abuse treatment and prevention programs, followed by an intensive 30-day outpatient program. The programming is state-funded so individuals who qualify will receive financial assistance. Self-pay and insurance are also accepted.

South and Southeast Texas – Houston / Sugar Land / Baytown Surrounding Area

- **Cenikor Foundation**
  4525 Glenwood Avenue
  Deer Park, TX 77536
  Phone: (281) 476-0088
  Website: www.cenikor.org

  Cenikor Foundation provides an 18-month therapeutic community for substance abuse recovery. Services are offered at a one-time $175 admissions fee with no additional charges. Acceptance criteria include the following: (1): notifying one's parole or probation officer before entering the program; (2) bringing a medical release from a licensed physician if any medical problems might prevent full participation in the program; (3) being capable and willing to earn a GED if one does not already have a high school diploma; (4) not having a criminal record involving repeated violent offenses, sexual offenses, crimes against children, or arson; and (5) not be diagnosed with or undergoing treatment for depression, and not being suspected of suicidal and/or homicidal tendencies.

- **New Visions of Hope Outreach**
  912 9th Street North
  Texas City, TX 77590
  Phone: (409) 739-1106

  New Visions of Hope Outreach provides faith-based 12-step drug counseling and anger management services free of charge.

- **Texana Center**
  4910 Airport Avenue A
  Rosenberg, TX 77471
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-633-5686; Main Phone: (281) 342-6384
  Website: www.texanamhmr.com

  Texana Center provides outpatient mental health services to residents of Fort Bend County. Private insurance and Medicaid are accepted, and payments are also accepted on a sliding scale.

South and Southeast Texas – All the Rest

- **Alice Counseling Center**
  63 South Wright Street
  Alice, TX 78332
  Phone: (361) 664-8829

  Alice Counseling Center provides substance abuse and general counseling services. Costs are based on income.

- **Cheyenne Center**
  2121 Timberlane Street
  Conroe, TX 77301
  Phone: (936) 441-4866; for residential service, interested individuals should call (713) 691-4898

  Cheyenne Center provides adult outpatient substance abuse counseling to men and women.

- **International Institute of Faith Based Counseling**
  P.O. Box 20723
  Beaumont, TX 77720
  Phone: (409) 832-9060
  Website: www.hisclinic.org

  International Institute of Faith Based Counseling provides individual counseling, drug and alcohol services, life-skills training, parenting skills, healthy nutrition assessments, and mental health resources free of charge.

- **Land Manor Franking House**
  North
  5670 Concord Road
  Beaumont, TX 77701
  Phone: (409) 896-5911
  South
  1635 Avenue A
  Beaumont, TX 77701
  Phone: (409) 832-7564

  Land Manor Franking House provides intensive and supportive residential and outpatient treatment programs for adults. Its south location specializes in women and women with children.

- **Liberty Lodge Treatment Facility**
  160 FM 2507
  Alice, TX 78332
  Phone: (361) 664-7555

  Liberty Lodge Treatment Facility provides a residential Transitional Treatment Center (TTC) that offers substance abuse counseling to individuals who have served in a Substance Abuse Felony Punishment (SAFP) program in a Texas prison.

- **Lone Star Family Health Center**
  704 Old Montgomery Road
  Conroe, TX 77301
  Phone: (936) 539-4004

  Lone Star Family Health Center provides primary medical care, mental health services, and dental services to individuals who do not have insurance. Fees are based on a sliding scale relative to income. Interested individuals should call to make an appointment Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

- **Mid Coast Family Services**
  1801 North Laurent, Suite 200
  Victoria, TX 77901
  Phone: (361) 575-7842
  Website: www.midcoastfamily.org

  Mid Coast Family Services provides screening and referral services to individuals struggling with substance abuse. It also provides counseling to families suffering with domestic abuse, as well as services to the homeless.

- **Recovery Center of Cameron County (RCCC)**
  700 East Levee Street, Suite 207
  Brownsville, TX 78520
  Phone: (956) 548-0028

  RCCC provides outpatient substance abuse programs for men and women. It accepts self-payment, Medicaid and Medicare, and private insurance. Payments are accepted on a sliding fee scale, and payment assistance is also available.

- **Rio Grande Valley Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse**
  5510 North Cage Boulevard, Suite C
  Pharr, TX 78577
  Phone: (956) 787-7111

  Rio Grande Valley Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse provides needs-based outreach, screenings, and referrals to organizations throughout the region. It also offers outpatient services to individuals on a walk-in basis if they have insurance or Medicaid.

- **South East Texas Treatment Access Services (SETTAS)**
  355 18th Street, Suite 112
  Beaumont, TX 77706
  Phone: (409) 833-7774
  Website: www.helphopehealing.org/site/substance-abuse-division-programs.html

  SETTAS provides alcohol prevention, clinics, community education programs, referrals, and substance abuse treatment programs for individuals in Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange counties.

- **South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse**
  2359 East Saunders Street
  Laredo, TX 78044
  Phone: (956) 791-6131
  Website: www.stcada.org

  South Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse provides outpatient substance abuse treatment services to adults and adolescents.

- **South Texas Substance Recovery Services, Inc.**
  907 Antelope Street
  Corpus Christi, TX 78401
  Phone: (361) 882-9979

  South Texas Substance Recovery Services provides an outpatient adult substance abuse treatment program for men and women. Interested individuals should call to make an appointment for a screening with a counselor.

- **Tropical Texas Behavioral Health**
  1901 South 24th Avenue
  Edinburg, TX 78539
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-813-1233; Main Phone: (956) 289-7000
  Website: www.ttbh.org

  Tropical Texas Behavioral Health provides mental and behavioral health services to residents of Cameron or Hidalgo County. Private insurance and Medicaid are accepted.

West Texas

- **Big Spring State Hospital**
  1901 North Highway 87
  Big Spring, TX 79721
  Phone: (432) 267-8216

  Big Spring State Hospital provides inpatient and outpatient psychiatric treatment. Programs are state-funded and no one is denied because of inability to pay. Medicaid is accepted, and payments are also accepted on a sliding scale.

- **Homeward Bound, Inc.**
  Trinity Detox and Behavioral Health Center
  8716 Independence Drive
  El Paso, TX 79907
  Phone: (915) 772-9111
  Website: www.homewardboundinc.org

  Homeward Bound is a non-profit organization that provides substance abuse and mental health treatment services. It accepts private insurance but also provides funding to cover care for individuals who do not have insurance or the ability to pay.

- **Permian Basin Community Center**
  401 East Illinois, Suite 403
  Midland, TX 79701
  Phone: (432) 570-3300
  Website: www.pbmhmr.com

  Permian Basin Community Center provides services that address mental illness, mental retardation, and chemical dependency. Private insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid are accepted.

High Plains

- **Abilene Regional Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse**
  104 Pine Street, Suite 210
  Abilene, TX 79601
  Phone: (325) 673-2242 ext. 103

  Abilene Regional Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse provides chemical dependency screenings, assessments, and referrals. Interested individuals should call for more information or to make an appointment.

- **Amarillo Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse**
  803 South Rusk Street
  Amarillo, TX 79106
  Phone: (806) 374-6688

  Amarillo Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse provides an outpatient substance abuse treatment center.

- **Betty Hardwick Center**
  2616 South Clack Street
  Abilene, TX 79606
  Crisis Phone: 1-800-758-3344; Main Phone: (325) 690-5100
  Website: www.bhcmhmr.org

  Betty Hardwick Center serves adults with severe and persistent mental illness, including a diagnosis of schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder, or major depression. Services include routine case management, counseling, medication training and support, skills training, supported employment, and supported housing.

- **Central Plains Center**

2700 Yonkers Street
Plainview, TX 79072
Crisis Phone: 1-800-687-1300; Main Phone: (806) 293-2636
Website: www.clplains.org

Central Plains Center provides psychiatric services and marriage/family counseling on a sliding scale to residents of the following counties: Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Floyd, Lamb, Hale, Motley, Parmer, and Swisher.

- **Community Health Center of Lubbock**

1318 Broadway Street
Lubbock, TX 79401
Phone: (806) 765-2611

Community Health Center of Lubbock provides general medical, vision, and dental care. Payments are accepted on a sliding scale based on income.

- **Managed Care**

2345 50th Street, Suite 100
Lubbock, TX 79412
Phone: (806) 780-8300

Managed Care provides drug and alcohol treatment for men and women. It also offers aftercare for outpatient treatment clients that are usually referred there by other programs. This is a state-funded program with fees based on ability to pay.

- **Medical Assistance for Area Citizens (MAAC)**

850 North 6th Street
Abilene, TX 79601
Phone: (325) 692-5600

MAAC provides primary medical care to individuals who have resided in Abilene for at least six months.

- **Plainview Serenity Center, Inc.**

806 El Paso Street
Plainview, TX 79072
Phone: (806) 293-9722
Website: www.plainviewserenitycenter.org

Plainview Serenity Center provides supportive residential treatment for men, as well as intensive residential treatment for women and their children. Outpatient services are also available for individuals with addiction and mental illness.

- **Presbyterian Medical Care Mission**
  302 Medical Drive
  Abilene, TX 79601
  Phone: (325) 672-5601

  Presbyterian Medical Care Mission provides primary medical and dental care. Fees are based on income and family size.

- **Ranch at Dove Tree**
  1406 County Road 5800
  Lubbock, TX 79403
  Phone: (806) 746-6777 or 1-800-218-6727
  Website: www.ranchatdovetree.org

  Ranch at Dove Tree provides substance abuse and addiction recovery services. Private insurance and Medicaid are accepted, but payments on a sliding scale are not accepted.

- **Serenity Foundation of Texas**
  1546 North 2nd Street
  Abilene, TX 79601
  Phone: (325) 673-6489 ext. 272

  Serenity Foundation of Texas provides over-the-phone assessments, and it locates openings at facilities throughout the state that will meet individuals' needs.

- **Serenity House**
  150 Orange Street
  Abilene, Texas 79601
  Phone: (325) 673-6489
  Website: www.serenitytexas.com

  Serenity House provides residential and outpatient substance abuse rehabilitation services, including individual and group counseling, case management, aftercare services, family counseling opportunities, physical activities for good health, nutritious meals, and daily self-study assignments.

- **Taylor County Social Services**
  317 Pecan Street
  Abilene, TX 79602
  Phone: (325) 674-1341

  Taylor County Social Services provides basic medical care to eligible residents who are at or below 20% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines and who have been a resident of Taylor County for at least six months.

- **University Medical Center**
  602 Indiana Avenue
  Lubbock, TX 79415
  Phone: (806) 775-8200

  University Medical Center provides indigent health services to uninsured and low-income residents of Lubbock County.

6

Employment

Introduction

FINDING EMPLOYMENT AFTER BEING RELEASED FROM PRISON – ESPECIALLY AFTER SERVING A lengthy sentence – may seem like an impossible task. Regardless of one's skill level, resources are available to assist re-entering individuals develop their job readiness and résumé skills, and prepare them for today's workforce.

For those who will be living in a transitional housing facility upon release, the director may be able to offer additional resources, including workforce development trainings, employment resources, and educational classes. Interested individuals should check with their case manager or the director of the home for a list of all available resources and programs that may be of assistance. It never hurts to ask for help!

Additionally, people should not forget about the community organizations in their area that may provide additional resources free of charge. Examples of the programs these organizations offer include job readiness training, résumé writing help, job interview assistance, references, and more. For more information on local community organizations, see Chapter 3.

The Right Against Discrimination in the Workplace

ACCORDING TO THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC), IT IS unlawful under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 for any place of employment to exclude individuals from employment based on their conviction record. It has been shown that such discrimination has an adverse impact on African-Americans and Hispanics due to their higher conviction rates.[12] Regardless, this law is rarely enforced and many employers have policies that are in violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Additionally, there is no federal law that directly prohibits employment discrimination based on a criminal record.[13]

In Texas, for all positions in which a person is expected to earn less than $75,000 per year, employers may hire an individual if there has been a period of seven years since their conviction, end of parole, or release from prison. Also, employers may not use a deferred adjudication disposition as a basis for

[12] Office of Legal Counsel, Title VII/ADEA/EPA Division, "Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Compliance Manual," (December 2006): http://www.eeoc.gov/policy/docs/race-color.pdf, accessed June 17, 2010.
[13] The Legal Action Center, "Know Your Rights Training: Legal Rights of People With Alcohol and Drug Histories and Criminal Records," (March 2008): http://lac.org/index.php/lac/149#alcoholanddrugs, accessed June 17, 2010.

denial of employment.[14] However, employers are allowed to ask about a person's arrests and whether or not any arrests led to a conviction. If an arrest did not lead to a conviction and the person was not convicted of a felony for up to five years before the date of the arrest, then an individual is entitled to expungement. When a record is expunged, it is removed from public view and will no longer appear on the county clerk's website or computer database. Criminal convictions themselves cannot be sealed, but records relating to a conviction that is overturned by the Court of Appeals may be expunged. (*Note:* When a record is sealed, it is permanently removed from public access or view.)

Employers also have the right to ask about and conduct an adult criminal record search to make job or other employment decisions. However, the type of conviction should typically be related to an applicant's eligibility for a job. For example, an employer has the right to deny a person for a child-care position if he or she has been convicted of a sexual offense, because the employer wants to ensure the safety of the children who are being cared for at the facility.[15] In Texas, individuals convicted of violent, sexual, and other specified felonies are also restricted from employment in home health care agencies.[16]

Although it can be difficult for a person with a criminal record to get a job, one can certainly improve his or her chances for employment. Local community organizations can help job-seekers with criminal records by providing resources and training to those who want to strengthen their job skill set in areas such as computer training. Interested individuals should use the resources in this chapter and throughout this guide for assistance.

Workforce Development for the Disabled

The following resources may be helpful to individuals with disabilities entering the workforce:

❑ Easter Seals of Central Texas, Inc.

Easter Seals of Central Texas provides three services to encourage workforce development for adults with disabilities. These programs include (1) paid job training, which provides such training while establishing a work history; (2) a transitions program, which provides individualized programming and support with job placement, coaching, and searching; and (3) job readiness training. Easter Seals also provides supported employment services, which offer additional job development and placement opportunities. Finally, comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation services are provided for adults with disabilities in a clinical setting.

For more information, call (512) 615-6800 or visit www.centraltx.easterseals.com.

[14] Joseph Ryan, "State Laws Pertaining to Employment-Related Background Checks," *Web Search Guides* (2006): http://www.websearchguides.com/statelaws.htm, accessed June 17, 2010.
[15] Employee Issues, "Criminal Record – Job and Employment Decisions," (2010): http://employeeissues.com/criminal_record.htm, accessed June 17, 2010.
[16] Legal Action Center, "After Prison: Roadblocks to Reentry," (2008): http://www.lac.org/roadblocks-to-reentry/main.php?view=profile&subaction1=TX, accessed June 17, 2010.

❑ Texas Department of Rehabilitative Services

The Texas Department of Rehabilitative Services provides a Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program that assists individuals with disabilities in finding and keeping employment. The VR program provides skills assessment, job interview training, and help with accommodations in an effort to increase job production and longevity. Additional services include counseling and guidance, trade skills training, medical treatment and therapies, and follow-up after job placement to ensure success.

For more information, call 1-800-628-5115 or TTY 1-866-581-9328, or visit www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/index.shtml.

Getting a Job

❑ The Job Search

People can search for job opportunities in several ways. Although some may face additional barriers depending on their records, having determination and using the resources listed in this chapter can help people find employment and lead to a more successful re-entry.

Once a person has found a place to stay after returning to the community, the first step is to reach out to groups who work with previously incarcerated individuals. Many transitional housing facilities may provide employment assistance. Those who are staying at a halfway house or transitional housing facility should check with the program director for any available resources. The facility may have information that can save residents time and energy with their job search.

The organizations listed in the following pages are a great place to start looking for a job. These groups have experience working with individuals with a criminal background. Many also provide application tips, interview skills, and other programs intended to assist previously incarcerated individuals return to the workforce. Interested individuals should call each group first and inquire directly about what services may be available, and what the costs are for the services (if any).

Regional Resources

Statewide

- **Hard2Hire**
  Website: www.hard2hire.com/ex_offenders

  Hard2Hire has a free website that matches a person's skills to employers willing to hire someone who has been previously incarcerated. Hard2Hire also provides résumé help as a free service. To get started, visit the website above.

- **Labor Finders**
  Website: www.laborfinders.com

  Labor Finders specializes in finding qualified temporary workers for industrial, commercial, and construction projects. Labor Finders is a convenient way for individuals to get to work fast, as they can begin work immediately, work when they want, get paid daily or weekly, and learn new skills. Please note that Labor Finders only provides temporary jobs and should not be considered for long-term employment. Interested individuals should search for job openings on Labor Finders' website (above) or visit a local office to apply for employment.

  The following offices are located throughout Texas:

Austin
8312 Burnet Road
Suite 112
Austin, TX 78758
(512) 719-4384

Beaumont
5550 Eastex
Freeway, Suite P
Beaumont, TX 77708
(409) 892-3333

Dallas
525 West Arapaho
Road, Suite 12
Richardson, TX 75080
(972) 231-7640

Denton
2000 Denison Street,
Suite 102
Denton, TX 76201
(940) 243-0183

Georgetown
407 West 7th Street
Georgetown, TX 78626
(512) 930-4820

Haltom City
5537 ½ E. Belknap St.
Haltom City, TX 76117
1-877-522-6739

Houston
9651 Bissonnet St.
Suite 300
Houston, TX 77036
(713) 432-1314

McKinney
1502 West University,
Suite 112
McKinney, TX 75069
(972) 547-9888

North Houston
12718 North Freeway
Houston, TX 77060
(281) 873-4700

Pasadena
638 Preston Avenue
Pasadena, TX 77503
(713) 534-8717

Pharr
1601 North Cage St.
Pharr, TX 78550
(956) 781-0700

San Antonio
135 Lanark Drive
San Antonio, TX 78218
(210) 590-1242

San Antonio West
3106 West Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78213
(210) 979-0272

San Marcos
1200 Hwy 80, Ste. 106
San Marcos, TX 78666
(512) 392-2931

Temple
612 West Adams
Temple, TX 76501
(254) 771-2188

Texas City
1438 Texas Avenue
Texas City, TX 77590
(409) 965-0952

Waco
7037-A Sanger Ave.
Waco, TX 76710
(254) 751-0303

❑ Texas Offenders Reentry Initiative (TORI)

TORI is a non-profit, faith-based organization with a mission to guide and empower previously incarcerated individuals in maximizing their potential, increase opportunity, and promote a successful reintegration back to society.

The TORI program focuses on individuals who are either on probation or parole, and who may be experiencing hopelessness, lack of support, unemployment, or substance abuse issues that might hinder them from succeeding. Please note that the TORI program cannot assist individuals with a conviction for any sexual offense.

TORI has five locations in major cities throughout Texas. Interested individuals should call the nearest center to make an appointment, or visit the office to enroll in the program.

- **Austin TORI**
  Austin Urban League
  1033 LaPosada Drive, Suite 150
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 478-7176 ext. 203 or 208

- **Dallas TORI**
  Metroplex Economic Development Corporation
  1810 High Hill Boulevard
  Dallas, TX 75203
  Phone: (214) 941-1325 ext. 300

- **Fort Worth TORI**
  Metroplex Economic Development Corporation
  2600 Edgewood Terrace
  Fort Worth, TX 76103
  Phone: (817) 535-3113 ext. 100

- **Houston TORI**
  Bread of Life REACH
  1703 Gray Street
  Houston, TX 77003
  Phone: (713) 650-0595

- **San Antonio TORI**
  San Antonio Fighting Back
  2803 East Commerce Street
  San Antonio, TX 78205
  Phone: (210) 271-7232 ext. 305

Central Texas

❑ Alamo Workforce Solutions
Website: www.alamoworksource.org

Alamo Workforce Solutions provides job-seekers in specific areas with access to an array of programs and services. Specifically, it assists residents of the following counties: Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Medina, and Wilson. Alamo Workforce Solutions also offers a Career Center with resources for a successful job search, including job postings, computer and internet access, résumé writing software, copiers, printers, and telephones. Additionally, each center is equipped with a resource room that has information related to specific careers. The following services are available free of charge:

- Job matching and referral
- Job development and placement assistance
- Career counseling
- Information on available training providers and programs
- Referrals to available community resources for services such as childcare, transportation, and housing assistance
- Financial assistance for training of qualified individuals

Interested individuals should go to their local Alamo Workforce Solutions Center to get started, or visit the website above.

Full service centers are available at the following locations:

- 6723 South Flores Street, Suite 100
  San Antonio, TX 78221
  Phone: (210) 928-3985
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 4535 East Houston Street
  San Antonio, TX 78220
  Phone: (210) 581-0190
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 4615 Walzem Road, Suite 100
  San Antonio, TX 78218
  Phone: (210) 822-7640
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 1700 Sidney Baker Street, Suite 500

- 1499 Hillcrest Drive
  San Antonio, TX 78228
  Phone: (210) 438-8057
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 7008 Marbach Road
  San Antonio, TX 78227
  Phone: (210) 436-0670
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 1500 East Court Street, Suite 444
  Seguin, TX 78155
  Phone: (830) 379-4244
  Hours: Monday through Thursday
  7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.,
  Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 206 North Smith Street

Kerrville, TX 78028
Phone: (830) 257-3171
Hours: Monday through Thursday
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.,
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Pleasanton, TX 78064
Phone: (830) 569-4702
Hours: Monday through Thursday
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.,
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- Courtyard Plaza
  183 IH-35 South
  New Braunfels, TX 78130
  Phone: (830) 629-2010
  Hours: Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Satellite Centers provide similar services on a more limited basis:

- 491 North Sunset Strip #107
  Kenedy, TX 78119
  Phone: (830) 583-3332
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 107 Hackberry Street
  Pearsall, TX78061
  Phone: (830) 334-4464
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 1106 10th Street, Suite C
  Floresville, TX 78114
  Phone: (830) 393-0405
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 1802 Avenue M
  Hondo, TX 78861
  Phone: (830) 426-8111
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 1414 East Blanco, Suite 10A
  Boerne, TX 78006
  Phone: (830) 249-9229
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 702 Buck Creek Drive
  Bandera, TX 78003
  Phone: (830) 796-3739
  Hours: Monday through Friday
  8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- 221 Friendship Lane
  Fredericksburg, TX 78624
  Phone: (830) 481-0088
  Hours: Call for hours of operation.

Weekend hours rotate on Saturdays among Career Centers. Interested individuals should call the center for weekend hours.

- **Capital IDEA**
  504 Lavaca Street
  Austin, TX 78701
  Phone: (512) 457-8610

  Capital IDEA provides long-term job training and support services to unemployed adults.

- **Career Services of Austin**
  8146 Meandering Way
  Austin, Texas 78759
  Phone: (512) 794-1089
  Website: www.careerservicesaustin.com

  Career Services of Austin provides vocational training and job placement assistance for adults. Training may include individual self-assessment, job-seeking skills training, an occupational exploration/education option, employment assistance, and job coaching. Career Services also offers a program specific to previously incarcerated individuals called "Building Bridges." A sliding fee scale is available to those who qualify. Interested individuals should call or visit Career Services' website for more information on how to enroll in its programs and take advantage of its services. Career Services may also provide referrals for other programs in the area.

- **City of Austin Human Resources Department**

  City of Austin Human Resources Department provides assistance to individuals that need help writing their résumé, completing an application, or improving their interview techniques. It also provides GED, ESL, and computer classes, internet services, and employment seminars.

  - **South Austin Location**
    Cherry Creek Shopping Center
    5730 Manchaca Road
    Austin, TX 78745
    Phone: (512) 974-9075
    Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
    8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
    Tuesday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
    Friday 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

  - **North Austin Location**
    Worksource Career Center
    825 East Rundberg Lane
    Austin, TX 78753
    Phone: (512) 719-4145 ext. 237
    Monday, Wednesday,
    Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
    Tuesday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
    Friday 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

  - **East Austin Location**
    DeWitty Job Training and
    Employment Center
    2209 Rosewood Avenue
    Austin, TX 78702
    Phone: (512) 472-5718
    Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
    8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
    Tuesday 8: 00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
    Friday 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

- **Easter Seals**
  315 East St. Elmo Road
  Austin, TX 78745
  Phone: (512) 440-7819

  Easter Seals provides case management and employment to previously incarcerated individuals. Interested individuals should call on Mondays from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. for more information.

- **Gary Job Corps Center**
  2800 Airport Highway 21
  P.O. Box 967
  San Marcos, TX 78667
  Phone: (512) 396-6652
  Website: gary.jobcorps.gov/home.aspx

  Job Corps is a no-cost education and career technical training program that assists individuals ages 16 - 24 improve the quality of their lives through technical and academic training. Services offered through Job Corps include GED certification, driver's education, English language learning, and more. Career training includes carpentry, cement masonry, electrical, human services, machinist, plasterer, welding, and more. Interested individuals should call 1-800-733-5627 or visit the website above.

- **Job Ready Training**
  314 East Highland Mall Boulevard, Suite 507
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 300-2245
  Website: www.jobreadytraining.com/index.html

  Job Ready Training provides training in health care and computer software free of charge.

- **Travis County Offender Workforce Development Program**
  5501 Airport Boulevard, Suite 203A
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 854-6497

  Travis County Offender Workforce Development Program provides employment readiness orientations once per week to individuals with a criminal background. It assists with job leads to employers who are friendly to previously incarcerated individuals, as well as mock interviews, letters of explanation, and résumé development.

- **Work Source Career Center**
  Website: www.worksourceaustin.com

  Work Source is a publicly funded workforce system in Travis County. The network partners provide a wide range of no- to low-cost employment solutions for employers and individuals, including recruitment services, job search assistance, training, childcare, and educational initiatives.

- **North**
  Ron Perry
  6505 Airport Boulevard
  Suite 101
  Austin, TX 78752
  (512) 597-7262

- **South**
  Esmie Aguirre
  4175 Freidrich Lane
  Suite 200
  Austin, TX 78744
  (512) 381-4240

- **East**
  Donna Cantrell
  3401 East Webberville
  Road, Building 1000
  Austin, TX 78702
  (512) 223-5400

Spotlight On: Texas Workforce Commission

Employment is the cornerstone of self-sufficiency, but it is also one of the biggest hurdles that previously incarcerated individuals face when released from jail or prison. Employers are often hesitant to hire job-seekers with a history of dishonest behavior. To encourage employers to hire previously incarcerated individuals and to alleviate employer concerns about the potential risks, the Texas Workforce Commission has created an incentive program that provides free fidelity bonding coverage to employers.

Fidelity bonds are essentially "employee dishonesty insurance." Fidelity bonds protect employers against employee acts of dishonesty such as larceny, embezzlement, and theft. In the event that a business does experience a loss (either of money or property) by a bonded employee, the coverage would provide compensation to the employer for that loss.

Fidelity bond incentives are available to employers considering an at-risk job applicant whose background may lead employers to typically deny them a job. Applicants eligible for bonding include:

- Previously incarcerated individuals, including those with records of arrest, probation, or any police record
- Recovering substance abusers
- Welfare recipients
- Applicants with poor credit history, including those who have declared bankruptcy
- Disadvantaged youth without a work history
- Veterans dishonorably discharged from the military

An employer or a job applicant may request fidelity bonding assistance through the nearest Texas Workforce Center. There are no forms for the employer or job applicant to fill out and no processing; coverage can be activated almost immediately.

Free bond coverage can only be issued for $5,000 for a six-month period. After this period, if no claims have been made, an additional six months of coverage can be purchased through Traveler's Property Casualty Insurance. Bonds only cover a specific employer-employee relationship that must be documented through tax and social security withholdings. Fidelity bonds do not provide coverage to contract employees or self-employed individuals, and they do not provide coverage for job injuries or work accidents.

For more information about obtaining fidelity bonding services, contact a local Texas Workforce Center or call 1-800-453-8140.

Texas Workforce Commission
Fidelity Bonding Coordinator
101 East 15th Street, Room 440T
Austin, TX 78778-0001
www.twc.state.tx.us

Northeast and East Texas

- **Apple Staffing, Inc.**
  1537 West Irving Boulevard
  Irving, TX 75061
  Phone: (972) 259-5566
  Website: www.applestaffing.com

  Apple Staffing serves the greater Dallas community by linking employers with job-seekers, and it can assist people with criminal backgrounds in accessing employment. Interested individuals should sign up at Apple Staffing's website or call for more information. Jobs offered include administrative/clerical, data entry, forklift operator, bookkeeping, dock work, accounting, machine operator, and more.

- **North Central Texas Workforce Solutions**
  Website: www.nctcog.org/wd

  North Central Texas Workforce Solutions provides free job search assistance and counseling to individuals in the following counties: Collin, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, and Wise. Employment Counselors are available in the Resource Room and are ready to assist with career counseling, résumé preparation, and interviewing skills.

  Interested individuals should contact the nearest location to verify program availability.

- **Cleburne**
  212 Hyde Park , Ste. 200
  Cleburne, TX 76033
  (817) 641-6201

- **Corsicana**
  720 North Beaton Street
  Corsicana, TX 75110
  (903) 874-8276

- **Decatur**
  1810 South FM 51, Ste. 8
  Decatur, TX 76234
  (940) 627-3919

- **Denton**
  1300 Teasley Lane
  Denton, TX 76205
  (940) 382-6712

- **Granbury**
  919 East Highway 377, Ste. 8
  Granbury, TX 76048
  (817) 573-4282

- **Greenville**
  2500 Stonewall Street, Ste. 201
  Greenville, TX 75401
  (903) 454-9350

- **Ennis**
  2705 North Kaufman St., Ste. B
  Ennis, TX 75119
  (972) 878-0335

- **McKinney**
  1713 W Louisiana Street
  McKinney, TX 75070
  (972) 542-3382

- **Mineral Wells**
  2307 East Hubbard
  Mineral Wells, TX 76067
  (940) 325-2595

- **Plano**
  820 Jupiter Road, Ste. 100
  Plano, TX 75074
  (469) 229-0099

- **Rockwall**
  102 South 1st Street, Ste. C
  Rockwall, TX 75087
  (972) 722-1573

- **Stephenville**
  2165 West South Loop
  Stephenville, TX 76401
  (254) 965-5100

- **Terrell**
  109 Tejas Drive, Ste. 300
  Terrell, TX 75160
  (972) 563-7271

- **Waxahachie**
  1712 W. Hwy 287 B
  Waxahachie, TX 75165
  (972) 937-8114

- **Weatherford**
  126 College Park Drive
  Weatherford, TX 76086
  (817) 594-0049

- **Project 4 Victory**
  3911 South Lancaster Road
  Dallas, TX 75216
  Phone: (214) 372-1063
  Website: www.ulgdnctx.com/project_victory.html

  Project 4 Victory, a program of the Urban League of Greater Dallas, helps re-entering individuals with a nonviolent criminal history through job readiness training, life skills, coaching and mentoring, mental health and substance abuse services, GED preparation, computer training, and job placement assistance. Participants must be 18 years of age or older, have nonviolent offenses, and enroll within 180 days of release to qualify for assistance.

- **Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County**
  1320 South University Drive, Suite 600
  Fort Worth, TX 76107
  Phone: (817) 413-4400
  Website: www.workforcesolutions.net/index.html

  Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County provides several workforce centers with computers, telephones, fax machines, and copiers for individuals to use in their job search. It also provides staff-assisted services and funded programs to help individuals transition from job-seeker to employee. All services are free of charge.

  Interested individuals should call or visit their local workforce center for a more complete description and to learn about available programs.

- **Alliance Opportunity Center**
  13825 Aviator Way
  Fort Worth, TX 76117
  (817) 548-5270

- **Arlington**
  (On the UTA Campus)
  140 West Mitchell, C Section
  Arlington, TX 76010
  (817) 804-4200

- **Eastside**
  4701 East Lancaster Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76103
  (817) 531-7800

- **Mansfield**
  1275 North Main Street,
  Suite 103
  Mansfield, TX 76063
  (817) 804-2690

- **Mid-Cities**
  7001 Boulevard 26
  North Richland Hills, TX 76180
  (817) 548-5200

- **Northside**
  2100 North Main Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76106
  (817) 626-5262

- **Resource Connection Workforce Center**
  1400 Circle Drive
  Fort Worth, TX 76119
  (817) 531-5670

- **Westside**
  6000 Western Place,
  Suite 700
  Fort Worth, TX 76107
  (817) 737-0311

❑ Applying for a Job

■ Résumés and Cover Letters

Some people have little to no experience creating a résumé or writing a cover letter. Though these are not necessarily an essential part of gaining employment, they can show a potential employer that a person has put time and effort into a professional document and that the applicant is serious about finding a job.

The tips below will help guide those of you who want to create an appropriate résumé for your work history with a cover letter that gets into the hands of the right person. But do not forget the resources listed earlier in this chapter, as many of the programs listed provide résumé writing classes free of charge.

■ Tips on Writing a Cover Letter[17]

A cover letter is a typed letter that accompanies your résumé. It is usually addressed to the individual who is in charge of hiring or the director of the Human Resources department. This letter expresses your intent to apply for a position in the company while listing your qualifications or any special training that would improve your chances of being hired. Use the tips below when crafting your cover letter.

- Where possible, address your letter to a specific individual rather than the generic "To Whom It May Concern." Use the person's title if they have one, and spell his or her name correctly.
- If you have any special training or skills that you have learned either in prison or in the free world, include them in the cover letter. The goal of a cover letter is to encourage a potential employer to read your résumé and contact you for an interview.
- Cover letters should be short, simple, and straightforward. Many are only a few paragraphs.
- Always read your letter carefully for spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors before mailing it. A fresh pair of eyes is extremely helpful in spotting mistakes you may have overlooked, so have another person read your letter for any errors you may have missed.
- Keep a copy of the letters you send and follow up if you do not hear back.
- A cover letter is not the appropriate place to discuss your incarceration, criminal history, salary requirements, or other related matters. Save these discussions for the interview.

■ Job Applications & Interviews[18]

Knowing how to properly fill out a job application is an important skill. A good application is the best way to get to the next step: the interview. The following tips will guide those of you who are beginning the application process.

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[17] Adapted from "The Ex-Offender's Job Search Companion," (2005): 50.
[18] Adapted from "The Ex-Offender's Job Search Companion," (2005).

- First impressions are important, especially during your job search. Your appearance, including the way you dress combined with personal grooming, is the first thing you communicate about yourself to others. Dress neatly when you go to pick up a job application. Specifically, wear clothes that are clean and appropriate for a business setting. This means no jeans, baseball caps, or sleeveless shirts.
- Also, cover visible tattoos, do not wear any elaborate or "loud" jewelry, and do not use an excessive amount of perfume or cologne. These things can be distracting. Less is best in these types of situations.
- Remember, never smoke or chew gum while picking up an application. And always smile – employers like to hire cheerful people.
- Be prepared before you apply. Take with you the information you know you will need to adequately fill out the application. This may include a list of previous employers (with names and contact information), your social security card, your driver's license or state-issued identification, and references.
- Always read the application completely before filling it out, and write legibly. If an employer cannot read your application you will not likely be asked for an interview. If a certain portion of the application does not apply to you, do not leave it blank. Instead write "N/A" (not applicable) in the space provided.
- Include all previous employers, even if you were fired from the job. Remember, prison job experience is considered work experience. You may wish to list this particular job as a state or federal job, for example "Cook, State of Texas." Do not try to hide the fact that you have been incarcerated.
- If the application asks you if you have ever been convicted of a crime, simply write "Please discuss with me" or "Will discuss at the interview" in the space provided. This indicates that you have a conviction and are not trying to hide it, and also that you are willing to discuss it at an appropriate time. During an interview, be honest about your past but do not dwell on your criminal convictions. Instead, focus on the future by taking responsibility for your actions and expressing your desire to move forward with your career and improve your life.
- If you do not hear back after submitting an application and/or a résumé, follow up with a phone call. Two weeks is the generally accepted length of time in which to expect a reply. Following up on an application is an easy way to show a potential employer that you are serious about working for them.

All tips above in regards to dress and demeanor also apply in interview situations. Dress neatly, be professional, and stay positive!

Additional Resources

Individuals who are interested in working for themselves by starting their own business should check out a publication from the **Legal Assistance to Microenterprises Project (LAMP)** called "Hire Yourself: A Guide to Starting a Small Business for Ex-Offenders."

The publication can be downloaded for free at lamp.texascbar.org/resource-library/legal/downloads/HireYourselfExOffenders09.pdf.

7

Benefits and Assistance

Introduction

THIS CHAPTER IS INTENDED AS AN OVERVIEW OF SOME of the assistance programs that may be available to people who have been released from prison. It is not a comprehensive overview of all programs that exist. Parole officers and staff people from local social services offices may have more complete information. Also, interested individuals should check with the director of their housing facility or the groups listed in Chapter 3: "Community Organizations" for more information. It never hurts to ask for help!

Getting Started

❑ Call 2-1-1

Calling 2-1-1 is a free and easy way to find information about local services that may be available. People can dial 2-1-1, pick a language, and choose one of the following three options:

- Press "1" to learn about local services, such as food and housing assistance, child care and after-school programs, senior services, tax help, or post-disaster help. Staff members are available to answer questions and provide information 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
- Press "2" to learn about state benefits and programs, such as SNAP (food stamps), Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Staff members are available to answer questions about these programs Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Press "3" to report waste, fraud, and abuse in state health and human services programs. People can also call the Texas Health and Human Services directly at 1-877-541-7905 with regards to this issue.

❑ Visit a Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Benefits Office

First, interested individuals can call 2-1-1 to find a nearby HHSC benefits office. Those interested in applying for services must visit their local office. However, staff members can speak with people over the phone or come to their homes if the applicant has certain limitations: if they live far from an office or cannot get a ride, if there is bad weather, or if they are sick or taking care of an ill family member.[19]

State and Federal Benefits and Assistance

***YOUR TEXAS BENEFITS* IS A WEBSITE THAT PROVIDES AN ONLINE SCREENING FORM THAT DETERMINES** eligibility for state benefit programs. Visit **www.yourtexasbenefits.com** to get started.

❑ Social Security

Social Security (SS) is a federally funded program that provides several different services, including retirement and survivors benefits, disability insurance, supplemental security income (SSI), and the Medicare program. Individuals who were eligible for and receiving SS or SSI benefits before incarceration must contact SS with their release documents before benefits can begin again.[20] If a person's benefits were terminated during incarceration, he or she must submit a new application to determine eligibility. In some cases, benefits can be reinstated during a window of time toward the end of one's period of incarceration. *Note:* Parole officers or other unit officials may have more information.

- **Social security disability benefits** are available to individuals who have had recent employment and paid Social Security taxes but are now unable to work due to a serious medical condition that is expected to last more than a year.[21]
- **Social Security retirement benefits** are available to individuals over the age of 62 who have worked and paid Social Security taxes for 10 years.[22]
- **SSI** can be paid to individuals over the age of 65 who are blind or disabled, and those whose income is below certain limits.[23]

All social security benefits are free of charge, but they are suspended during a period of incarceration and during any month in which a condition of probation or parole is violated.[24]

For more information, call SS toll-free Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., at 1-800-772-1213. Additional information is available at www.socialsecurity.gov.

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[19] Texas Health and Human Services Commission, "How to Get Help," http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/Help/index.html, accessed June 17, 2010.
[20] Social Security Administration, "What Prisoners Should Know About Social Security," (June, 2007): http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10133.pdf, accessed June 17, 2010.
[21] *Ibid*., 2.
[22] *Ibid*., 2.
[23] *Ibid*., 2.
[24] *Ibid*., 3.

❑ SNAP and TANF

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as "food stamps," is provided by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Assistance is issued through a Lonestar card, which can be used like a debit card, to individuals or families that meet program requirements. Funds are distributed monthly to the card.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a program available to individuals who have dependent children living in their household and who are in need of emergency funds. An application is used to determine eligibility, and it can take up to 45 days to receive funds.

Eligible individuals can apply for SNAP and TANF benefits at their local Texas Health and Human Services office. Interested individuals should call 2-1-1 for locations.

Please note: Texas and federal law prohibit individuals with a felony drug conviction after 1996 to receive SNAP or TANF.

A Note about the "Letter"

During incarceration, some people may see a copy of a document that describes all of the assistance and benefits available to them; it is usually titled something like "Benefits for Inmates Upon Release." While the information contained in the letter is not altogether false, it is misleading. Individuals must apply and be approved for all of the services mentioned in the letter. They are not automatically given money or assistance once released from prison, which is what the letter seems to suggest. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission, which can be reached at 1-877-787-8999, does provide emergency food stamps; however, an application must be completed before eligibility can be determined, and, as stated above, individuals convicted of a drug offense are ineligible.

No general relief fund exists in Texas (as the letter suggests), but TANF does provide funds to certain individuals. Again, individuals convicted of a drug offense are barred from receiving these funds, and eligibility will be determined after an application and supporting documents have been submitted. Benefits determination can take up to 45 days to complete.

❑ Texas Department of Assistance and Rehabilitation Services (DARS)

For more information on workplace development for individuals with disabilities, see page 168.

DARS provides physically or mentally disabled individuals with assistance in gaining the skills needed for certain careers. Specifically, it offers vocational rehabilitation services, including tips on preparing for job interviews and keeping employment. DARS also provides specific services to deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals, such as guidance and counseling, hearing evaluations, communication assistance, and academic and vocational training. Individuals interested in signing up for benefits should call or visit their local DARS Division for Rehabilitation Services office. A list of local offices is available at www.dars.state.tx.us.

When visiting an office, individuals should bring a photo ID, their social security card, proof of their home address, information relating to their medical history (including the name of their primary doctor), and their medical insurance card. DARS services are free of charge as long as a person meets certain basic requirements or if he or she is already receiving Social Security disability benefits.

Below are the contact numbers for DARS offices throughout the state:

- **Region I**
  Lubbock
  (806) 762-0375
  1-800-392-1929
- **Region II**
  DFW Metroplex
  (972) 949-2400
  1-800-934-2616
- **Region III**
  Austin
  (512) 407-1320
  1-800-687-2676
- **Region IV**
  Houston
  (713) 735-3470
  1-866-281-1804
- **Region V**
  San Antonio
  (210) 805-2200
  1-800-410-7760
- **Employment Assistance Services**
  Austin
  (512) 377-0570
- **Toll-free Help Line**
  1-800-628-5115

❑ Information for Veterans

People with military service may be entitled to additional assistance programs. Interested individuals should read about the programs available throughout the state (directly below), and then use the resources at the end of this section to reach out to local centers. The organizations and programs provided here are not intended to be a complete listing of every available resource and center throughout the state; they are intended to be a starting point for research.

■ Programs Available to Veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is a federal agency that provides benefits and assistance to veterans and their dependents. It offers comprehensive services, including information about and assistance with applying for veterans benefits and entitlements information, claims processing, representation and advocacy, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) counseling, Veterans Homes providing nursing care, and employment assistance. To locate the nearest VA benefits office, call 1-800-827-1000. To locate the nearest medical treatment center, call 1-877-222-8387 or visit www2.va.gov/directory.

Additional VA Programs:

- The Department of Veterans Affairs operates **medical centers** throughout the state that provide physical and mental health care services to veterans, in addition to **community-based counseling centers** that work with veterans suffering from PTSD. For more information about these services, call 1-800-905-4675. For more information about PTSD, visit www.mentalhealth.va.gov.

- The VA provides a program called **Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)** that has a coordinator who is responsible for assisting homeless veterans through community-based care, outreach, clinical assessments, and referrals for medical and mental health care services. HCHV can also help find permanent housing. To locate a local coordinator, call 1-877-222-8387 or visit www1.va.gov/homeless.

- The VA also has **Veterans Industries** and **Compensated Work Therapy (CWT)** programs that offer work opportunities and therapeutic housing for homeless veterans with a physical or mental disability, or those with drug addiction problems. Individuals are paid for their work in addition to receiving employment assistance in the community. For more information, contact a CWT coordinator at 1-877-822-8387 or visit www.cwt.va.gov.

The **Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)** is a state agency that assists veterans and their families with federal and state veterans benefits and services. It can provide assistance with benefits and entitlement information, claims processing, representation, and employment assistance. For more information, call 1-800-252-VETS (8387) or visit www.TVC.state.tx.us.

The **Department of Labor** is a federal agency that provides several different programs for veterans, including the **Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP)** and **Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER)**, both of which provide employment development to veterans. Some LVER specialists are located in state employment offices, but to find a local DVOP or LVER, visit www.dol.gov/vets/aboutvets/contacts/main.htm.

Programs Available for Women Veterans

- The Texas Department of Veterans Affairs provides a **Woman Veterans Coordinator** to address the special needs of female veterans. For more information, call 1-800-562-2308 or visit www.tvc.state.tx.us/womenveterans.htm.

- **Mentors with Women in Community Service** assist women who are leaving prison and re-entering their communities by encouraging positive behaviors, building self-esteem, and helping them gain job skills. For more information, call 1-800-283-9427 or visit www.wics.org.

Regional Resources

Central Texas

- ❑ **Central Texas Veterans Health Care System (CTVHCS)**
  Austin Outpatient Clinic
  2901 Montopolis Drive
  Austin, TX 78741
  Phone: (512) 389-1010

- ❑ **CTVHCS – Olin E. Teague Veterans Center**
  1901 Veterans Memorial Drive
  Temple, TX 76504
  Phone: (254) 778-4811 or 1-800-423-2111

- ❑ **CTVHCS – Waco VA Medical Center**
  4800 Memorial Drive
  Waco, TX 76711
  Phone: (254) 752-6581 or 1-800-423-2111

- ❑ **Frank M. Tejeda VA Outpatient Clinic**
  5788 Eckhert Road
  San Antonio, TX 78240
  Phone: (210) 699-2100

- ❑ **Kerrville VA Medical Center**
  3600 Memorial Boulevard
  Kerrville, TX 78028
  Phone: (830) 896-2020

- ❑ **South Texas Veterans Health Care System**
  7400 Merton Minter Boulevard
  San Antonio, TX 78229
  Phone: (210) 617-5300 or 1-888-686-6350

- ❑ **VA Substance Abuse Treatment Program**
  1901 South 1st Street
  Temple, TX 76504
  Phone: (254) 778-4811

Northeast and East Texas

- ❑ **Charles Wilson VA Outpatient Clinic**
  1301 Frank Avenue
  Lufkin, TX 75901
  Phone: (936) 637-1342 or 1-800-209-3120

- ❑ **Dallas VA Medical Center**
  4500 South Lancaster Road
  Dallas, TX 75216
  Phone: (214) 742-8387 or 1-800-849-3597

- ❑ **Fort Worth Outpatient Clinic**
  300 West Rosedale Street
  Fort Worth, TX 76104
  Phone: (817) 335-2202 or 1-800-443-9672

- ❑ **Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center**
  1201 East 9th Street
  Bonham, TX 75418
  Phone: (903) 583-2111 or 1-800-924-8387

- ❑ **Tyler VA Primary Care Center**
  3414 Golden Road
  Tyler, TX 75701
  Phone: (903) 590-3050

South and Southeast Texas

- **Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans Program**
  Veterans Affairs Medical Center
  2002 Holcombe Boulevard
  Houston, TX 77030
  Phone: (713) 791-1414

- **Houston Vet Center**
  2990 Richmond Avenue, Suite 325
  Houston, TX 77098
  Phone: (713) 523-0884
  and
  701 North Post Oak Road, Suite 102
  Houston, TX 77024
  Phone: (713) 682-2288

- **Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center**
  2002 Holcombe Boulevard
  Houston, TX 77030
  Phone: (713) 791-1414 or 1-800-553-2278

- **South Texas VA Health Care Center at Harlingen**
  2106 Treasure Hills Boulevard
  Harlingen, TX 78550
  Phone: (956) 366-4500

West Texas

- **El Paso VA Health Care System**
  5001 North Piedras Street
  El Paso, TX 79930
  Phone: (915) 564-6100 or 1-800-672-3782

- **El Paso Vet Center**
  1155 Westmoreland Drive, Suite 121
  El Paso, TX 79925
  Phone: (915) 772-0013

- **Midland Vet Center**
  2817 West Loop 250 North, Suite E
  Midland, TX 79707
  Phone: (432) 697-8222

- **West Texas VA Health Care System**
  300 Veterans Boulevard
  Big Spring, TX 79720
  Phone: (432) 263-7361 or 1-800-472-1365

High Plains

- **Amarillo VA Health Care System**
  6010 Amarillo Boulevard West
  Amarillo, TX 79106
  Phone: (806) 355-9703 or 1-800-687-8262

- **Amarillo Vet Center**
  3414 East Olsen Boulevard, Suite E
  Amarillo, TX 79109
  Phone: (806) 354-9779

- **Lubbock Vet Center**
  3208 34th Street
  Lubbock, TX 79410
  Phone: (806) 792-9782

- **Veterans Clinic of North Texas**
  1800 7th Street
  Wichita Falls, TX 76301
  Phone: (940) 723-2373

8

Education

Introduction

Continuing to pursue an education after a period of incarceration can seem very difficult, but it is certainly worthwhile – regardless of whether one's goals are to obtain a GED, enter into a trade or vocational school, or begin undergraduate classes at a local college. The information and resources contained in this chapter are not all-inclusive, but this is a good place to start for people looking to pursue an education after being released from prison. Additionally, interested individuals may want to review the resources listed in Chapter 3: "Community Organizations" and Chapter 6: "Employment," as they may also provide useful services.

Getting a GED[25]

"GED" stands for General Education Development. It is considered the equivalent of a high school diploma, and it is accepted by 97% of colleges and universities throughout the United States.[26] Any Texas resident who has not graduated from high school is eligible to take the GED test as long as they have an official photo ID, are at least 18 years of age, and are not enrolled in high school.

Those who have already received their GED and want to obtain a copy of their certificate or scores can contact the GED Unit at the Texas Education Agency through its website at www.tea.state.tx.us. Individuals must provide their complete name, date of birth, and social security number.

❑ Preparing for the GED Test

- **Know what is on the test**. The GED test is multiple-choice, and it focuses on five major subject areas: math, science, social studies, reading, and writing.[27] In most cases, test sections include various brief reading passages, followed by a few questions that test a person's comprehension of that passage. An essay section tests writing skills.

- **Practice as much as possible before the test**. Taking a GED practice test or reviewing old test questions before taking the test can be a tremendous benefit. It also helps test-takers

[25] Texas Education Agency, "General Educational Development," http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/ged, accessed June 17, 2010.
[26] Leonard Williams, "How To Get Your GED," (2009): http://ezinearticles.com/?expert=Leonard_Williams, accessed June 17, 2010.
[27] *Ibid*.

determine their strengths and weaknesses, which helps them focus on certain practice areas when studying for the test.

- **Take a GED test preparation class or study program**. Some people may wish to enroll in a GED preparation course, especially if it has been awhile since they have been in school. Some classes are free of charge. Interested individuals should check their community resources, including the resources listed at the end of this chapter, for local GED prep courses.

Financial Aid

❑ Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Like many federally funded programs, some restrictions are involved when receiving funds for continuing education. The best way for people to find out whether they are eligible to receive federal funding is by filling out an eligibility worksheet. This worksheet is available on the FAFSA website at www.fafsa.ed.gov under the "Before Beginning a FAFSA" tab in the left column. In general, individuals may not be able to receive federal student aid if they have been previously convicted of selling or possessing illegal drugs while receiving such aid (this includes grants, loans, and work study funding).

Please note: Individuals with a drug conviction are not automatically ineligible for federal student aid.[28] For more information, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243.

❑ Pell Grants

Federal Pell Grants are direct grants awarded through participating institutions to students with financial need who have not received their first bachelor's degree or who are enrolled in certain post-baccalaureate programs that lead to teacher certification or licensure. Participating institutions either credit the Federal Pell Grant funds to the student's school account, pay the student directly (usually by check), or combine these methods. Students must be paid at least once per term – semester, trimester, or quarter.[29]

The main Pell Grant eligibility requirement is that the student must either be pursuing an undergraduate degree or be enrolled in an eligible post-baccalaureate teaching credential program. Individuals who are currently incarcerated are not eligible to receive Pell Grants. Students who have not already earned a bachelor's degree are considered to have "undergraduate" status. This includes individuals who have received an associate's degree.

Pell Grants are provided to students who have demonstrated financial need. Once a FAFSA has been completed, the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) will be determined. The lower the EFC, the greater the student's financial need and the greater the amount of the Pell Grant. The EFC is

[28] Department of Education, "Student Aid on the Web," (2009): http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/aideligibility.jsp?tab=funding, accessed June 17, 2010.

[29] Department of Education, "Federal Pell Grant Program," (2009): http://www.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html, accessed June 17, 2010.

computed by the Central Processing System and is based on the information the student reported on the FAFSA. For more information on Pell Grants and other student aid, visit www.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html.

Additional Resources

- For a list of **vocational and technical schools** throughout Texas, visit www.rwm.org/rwm/tf_tex.html
- For a list of **all community colleges** throughout Texas, visit www.utexas.edu/world/comcol/state/#TX

Regional Resources

The following organizations and groups provide some if not all of these services: adult education classes, ESL, literacy programs, GED preparation, computer literacy, workplace/vocational training, and others. Interested individuals should contact each organization directly for more information.

Central Texas – Austin

- **The Austin Academy**
  1640-B East 2nd Street, Suite 100
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 326-8655

- **Austin Area Urban League**
  1033 La Posada Drive, Suite 150
  Austin, TX 78752
  Phone: (512) 478-7176 ext. 206

- **Austin Community College**
  Phone: (512) 223-5121
  Website: www.austincc.edu

- **Austin Learning Academy**
  P.O. Box 6923
  Austin, TX 78762
  Phone: (512) 457-9794

- **Capitol City Trade Technical School**
  205 East Riverside Drive
  Austin, TX 78741
  Phone: (512) 444-3257

- **Lifeworks Literacy Program**
  2222 Rosewood Avenue
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 478-7323

- **Literacy Austin**
  2222 Rosewood Avenue
  Austin, TX 78702
  Phone: (512) 478-7323

Central Texas – Austin and Waco Surrounding Area

- **Community Action Adult Education**
  101 Uhland Road, Suite 107
  San Marcos, TX 78667
  Phone: (512) 396-4564

- **The Family Services Center**
  901 Avenue B
  Brownwood, TX 76801
  Phone: (325) 646-5939

- **Literacy Volunteers of Bastrop**
  1109 Main Street, Suite F
  Bastrop, TX 78602
  Phone: (512) 321-6686

- **Literacy Volunteers of Wimberley**
  P.O. Box 135
  Wimberley, TX 78676
  Phone: (512) 847-3892

- **McLennan Community College**
  Adult Basic Education
  1400 College Drive
  Waco, TX 76708
  Phone: (254) 299-8748

- **Project Moving Up**
  1009 North Georgetown Street, Suite A
  Round Rock, TX 78680
  Phone: (512) 244-8445

- **Temple Literacy Council**
  100 West Adams Avenue
  Temple, TX 76501
  Phone: (254) 774-7323

Central Texas – San Antonio

- **East Central ISD Community Adult & Family Education**
  7395 FM 1628
  San Antonio, TX 78263
  Phone: (210) 649-2223

- **Education Services Center Region 20**
  1314 Hines Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78208
  Phone: (210) 370-5236 ext. 5238

- **IDRA**
  5815 Callaghan Road, Suite 101
  San Antonio, TX 78228
  Phone: (210) 444-1710

- **Project Learn To Read of San Antonio**
  950 Donaldson Avenue
  San Antonio, TX 78228
  Phone: (210) 223-5687

- **San Antonio Commission on Literacy**
  2300 West Commerce Street, Suite 202
  San Antonio, TX 78207
  Phone: (210) 207-7149

Northeast and East Texas – Dallas

- **Adult Basic Education – DISD**
  5000 Malcolm X Boulevard
  Dallas, TX 75215
  Phone: (972) 479-2690

- **Literacy Instruction for Texas (LIFT)**
  2121 Main Street
  Dallas, TX 75201
  Phone: (214) 824-2000 ext. 228

- **Literacy Refocused**
  1808 West Camp Wisdom Road
  Dallas, TX 75232
  Phone: (214) 672-9100 ext. 1505

- **Vickery Meadow Learning Center**
  6329 Ridgecrest Road
  Dallas, TX 75231
  Phone: (214) 265-5057

Northeast and East Texas – Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex

- **Adult Basic Education**
  500 North O'Connor Road, Suite B
  Irving, TX 75061
  Phone: (972) 871-8285

- **Adult Education**
  400 High School Drive
  Lewisville, TX 75057
  Phone: (469) 713-5997

- **Adult Education Center**
  6101 Grayson Drive
  Denison, TX 75020
  Phone: (903) 463-8745

- **Arlington Literacy Center, Inc.**
  401 West Sanford Street, Suite 1700
  Arlington, TX 76011
  Phone: (817) 275-1711

- **Arlington Reads**
  1624 New York Avenue
  Arlington, TX 76010
  Phone: (817) 275-3321

- **Collin County Adult Literacy Council**
  P.O. Box 941802
  Plano, TX 75094
  Phone: (972) 612-1345

- **ESL and GED Program**
  901 Precinct Line Road
  Hurst, TX 76053
  Phone: (817) 788-7301

- **Literacy for Life**
  Plano Public Library System
  1501 18th Street
  Plano, TX 75074
  Phone: (972) 941-7323

- **Literacy Program**
  Irving Public Library
  440 South Nursery Road, Suite 103
  Irving, TX 75060
  Phone: (972) 721-3776

- **Mesquite Adult Literacy Center**
  300 West Grubb Drive
  Mesquite, TX 75149
  Phone: (972) 216-6745

- **Navarro College**
  3200 West 7th Avenue
  Corsicana, TX 75110
  Phone: (903) 875-7460

- **UTA Continuing Education**
  140 West Mitchell Street
  Arlington, TX 76019
  Phone: (817) 272-2581

- **Weatherford ISD Adult Education Cooperative**
  602 West Water Street
  Weatherford, TX 76086
  Phone: (817) 598-2806

Northeast and East Texas – All the Rest

- **Anderson County Literacy Council**
  1101 North Fowler Street
  Palestine, TX 75801
  Phone: (903) 729-7703

- **Angelina College Adult Education**
  3500 South 1st Street
  Lufkin, TX 75902
  Phone: (936) 639-3059

- **Commerce Library Literacy Program**
  P.O. Box 308
  Commerce, TX 75429
  Phone: (903) 886-6858

- **Grayson Literacy Team**
  421 North Travis Street
  Sherman, TX 75090
  Phone: (903) 892-7272

- **Jacksonville Literacy Council**
  215 East Commerce Street, Suite 215-A
  Jacksonville, TX 75766
  Phone: (903) 586-6125

- **Literacy Council of Tyler**
  P.O. Box 6662
  Tyler, TX 75711
  Phone: (903) 533-0330

- **Literacy Program**
  1216 14th Street
  Huntsville, TX 77340
  Phone: (936) 291-5472

- **Region 5 Adult Education**
  302 South Wheeler Street
  Jasper, TX 75951
  Phone: (409) 384-6657

- **Upshur County Literacy Program**
  201 North Montgomery Street
  Gilmer, TX 75644
  Phone: (903) 843-3360

South and Southeast Texas – Houston

- **Adult Education Division**
  6515 Irvington Boulevard
  Houston, TX 77022
  Phone: (713) 692-6216

- **East Side Village Community Learning Center**
  3614 Holman Street
  Houston, TX 77004
  Phone: (713) 747-9255

- **GED Preparation Program**
  8809 Knight Road
  Houston, TX 77054
  Phone: (713) 282-0249

- **Harris County Public Library**
  8080 El Rio Street
  Houston, TX 77054
  Phone: (713) 749-9000

- **Literacy Advance of Houston**
  2424 Wilcrest Drive, Suite 120
  Houston, TX 77042
  Phone: (713) 266-8777

- **Reach Across Houston**
  9808 Bauman Road
  Houston, TX 77076
  Phone: (713) 697-2244

South and Southeast Texas – Houston / Sugar Land / Baytown Surrounding Area

- **Crosby Branch Library System**
  135 Hare Road
  Crosby, TX 77532
  Phone: (281) 328-3535

- **Knowledge-First, Inc.**
  2651 Cartwright Road, Suite C
  Missouri City, TX 77459
  Phone: (281) 449-8315

- **Lamar Consolidated ISD**
  3811 Avenue I
  Rosenberg, TX 77471
  Phone: (832) 223-0435

- **Literacy Council of Fort Bend County**
  12530 Emily Court
  Sugar Land, TX 77478
  Phone: (281) 240-8181

- **Literacy Volunteers of Sterling Municipal Library**
  Mary Wilbanks Avenue
  Baytown, TX 77520
  Phone: (281) 427-7331 ext. 228

South and Southeast Texas – All the Rest

- **Adult and Community Education**
  1025 Woodrow Street
  Beaumont, TX 77705
  Phone: (409) 617-5205

- **Adult Education**
  Woodsboro High School
  508 Kasten Road
  Woodsboro, TX 78393
  Phone: (361) 543-4521 ext. 320

- **Adult Education Alice Co-Op**
  501 Cactus Avenue
  Alice, TX 78332
  Phone: (361) 660-2138

- **Adult Learning Center**
  Robstown Community Education
  408 West Main Avenue
  Robstown, TX 78380
  Phone: (361) 387-2838 ext. 2230

- **Brenham Community Education**
  1301 South Market Street
  Brenham, TX 77833
  Phone: (979) 277-6531

- **Coastal Bend College**
  900 West Corpus Street
  Beeville, TX 78102
  Phone: (361) 362-6095

- **GOALS**
  520 West Decatur Avenue
  Orange, TX 77631
  Phone: (409) 886-4311

- **Kleburg County Adult Literacy Council**
  220 North 4th Street
  Kingsville, TX 78363
  Phone: (361) 595-1010

- **Literacy Volunteers of America**
  4000 Avenue F, Suite C
  Bay City, TX 77404
  Phone: (979) 244-9544

- **Literacy Volunteers of America – Montgomery County**
  412 West Phillips Street, Suite 125
  Conroe, TX 77305
  Phone: (936) 494-0635

- **Literacy Volunteers of Laredo**
  P.O. Box 6531
  Laredo, TX 78042
  Phone: (956) 724-5207

- **Maverick County Literacy Council**
  P.O. Box 925
  Eagle Pass, TX 78853
  Phone: (830) 757-8843

- **Pro-Literacy America**
  1205 Franklin Street
  Beaumont, TX 77701
  Phone: (409) 835-7924

West Texas

- **Menard Learning Center**
  P.O. Box 729
  Menard, TX 76859
  Phone: (915) 396-4322

High Plains

- **Abilene Adult Education Program**
  1919 South 11th Street
  Abilene, TX 79602
  Phone: (915) 671-4419 ext. 5400

- **Victoria Adult Literacy Council**
  802 East Crestwood Street
  Victoria, TX 77901
  Phone: (361) 582-4273

- **Wharton County Junior College**
  911 East Boling Highway
  Wharton, TX 77488
  Phone: (979) 532-6301

9

Getting Involved

Voting Information[30]

To be eligible to register to vote in Texas, a person must be:

- a U.S. citizen;
- a resident of the county where he or she registers to vote;
- 18 years old (though a person may register at 17 years and 10 months);
- not convicted of a felony, unless his or her sentence is completed, including any probation or parole; and
- not declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law.

People previously convicted of a felony are not required to complete a special form, make a court appearance, or face a waiting period before registering to vote. Furthermore, they cannot be forced to prove that they have completed their sentence. Instead, they must only complete a voter registration form and swear that they are eligible to vote.

❑ About The Voter Registration Card

Voter registration becomes effective 30 days after the form is submitted and accepted, and voter cards are usually mailed to people within 30 days after that process. As soon as they get their card, people should read the information on the back of the certificate, sign by the X on the front of the card, and keep the card in a safe place until they take it to the polls to vote. New certificates are mailed out every two years to the most recent address a person gives to a voter registrar. If a person moves to a different county in Texas, he or she will need to re-register.

❑ Reaching Out to Public Officials

Senators and Representatives need to hear from their constituents! Members of Congress (at the national level), as well as legislators and officials at the state level need to know what people think about specific issues and legislation – and they especially need to hear from individuals who have had firsthand experience with the criminal justice system. Previously incarcerated people may be able to provide insight and additional information to policy-makers that they would not otherwise have considered.

[30] Adapted from "Voter Empowerment & Civic Participation Manual: Tips for Identifying, Educating, and Mobilizing Eligible Voters," (2008). Available at: http://www.criminaljusticecoalition.org/files/userfiles/Voter_Empowerment_and_Civic_Participation_Manual.pdf.

Those who want to contact elected officials must remember to always be courteous, reasonable, and respectful to them and their staff. Above all, remember that they have been elected to represent ALL of their constituents!

Individuals seeking to learn who represents them should visit www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us and enter their city and zip code.

❑ General Tips on Contacting A Representative

The following tips can assist those of you who want to contact a legislator:

- Identify yourself as a constituent, and familiarize yourself with the lawmaker's voting record on your particular issue. They are impressed by this!

- Ask the legislative staff if there is a key staff member who is the point person working on the issue that concerns you. This person may be an excellent resource and should easily understand your concern.

- With each contact, keep the message simple and easy to understand. Be honest, direct, positive, and brief. Even if your legislator or his or her staff person is rude or uncooperative, never lose your cool, argue, or threaten anyone. Always keep the communication positive.

- Tell the story of your personal experience, but stick to key points that are relevant to the issue. Legislators and their staff may better understand and respond to stories about real-life situations that impact everyday people. However, because their time is often limited, keep your story brief.

- Ask for specific action from the legislator or staff person. Feel free to talk about the issue or tell them why you care, but also make a specific request for how you would like the legislator to take action (for instance, support this bill, vote against this bill, etc.). The legislator may not promise or commit to a specific action, but it is important to make a request.

- If your legislator supports your issue through action on legislation, call or write your thanks and offer him or her your continued support.

❑ Writing or Emailing A Representative

- Keep letters short and to the point. Make it personal and use your own words.

- When writing about specific legislation, include the bill number.

- Either type the letter or write very legibly, and sign it. Under your signature, type or print your name, and include your address.

- If you are writing to a state legislator, send your correspondence both to his or her state office (at the Capitol Building in Austin) as well as to his or her district office (for instance, in Dallas or El Paso or wherever the legislator is from).

- Be persistent. Do not be put off by a negative response. Follow through. Write again and get others to write if you can.

❑ Calling A Representative

- If the public official is not available, you may either leave a message with his or her staff, or request that your call be returned. If you have the opportunity to speak to the staff member who is the point person on your issue of concern, feel free to explain your reason for calling to that person. More than likely, you will be dealing often with him or her in your communications about the issue, as that person is responsible for relaying constituents' information or concerns to the legislator. Always treat that staff person as respectfully as you would treat the legislator him or herself.

- If the legislator (or staff member) asks you a question that you do not know the answer to, do not guess. Tell him or her that you will provide that information later – and do so.

- Listen carefully to the legislator's (or staff member's) views; do not interrupt if you disagree. You may want to take a few notes and consider writing a letter to address substantive areas of disagreement.

- Leave the legislator or staff member with your contact information.

- If you would like to facilitate future contacts with your legislator, you may want to write a thank you note to follow up on the call with the legislator or staff member.

❑ Visiting A Representative

- Make an appointment and be on time.

- Again, understand that it is very helpful to meet with a legislator's aide if the legislator is not available for a meeting. It is not a bad sign if you are asked to meet with a staffer! This is a usual occurrence.

- Anticipate your initial visit to be relatively brief. You should include a friendly introduction, a concise explanation of your interest in the issue, and a sincere closure thanking the legislator or staff member for his or her time in meeting with you.

- Be prepared to answer specific questions about your issue of interest, and be willing to provide supporting material if you are asked to do so. Again, if the official or staff member asks you a question that you do not know the answer to, do not guess. Tell him or her you will provide that information later and be sure to follow through.

- Listen carefully to the legislator's or staff member's views; do not interrupt if you disagree. You can accomplish more by listening and showing which areas you agree on, and saving areas of disagreement for further consideration and discussion in future contacts. Feel free to make notes on relevant points that you may want to follow up on.

- Leave the legislator or staff member with a one-page fact sheet expressing your views on your issue(s) of interest, and leave your contact information or business card if available.

- ALWAYS write a thank you note after a visit with a legislator or staff member.

Remember: A positive first contact is important in developing a base from which to contact the legislator again on specific bills.

Communities/Support Groups of Formerly Incarcerated Individuals

- **Texas Association of X-Offenders**
  P.O. Box 1149
  Humble, TX 77092
  Phone: (713) 682-3643
  Website: prisonministry.net/xoffenders

- **X-Offenders for Community Empowerment**
  Website: www.x-offenders.org

  X-Offenders for Community Empowerment seeks to enable previously incarcerated individuals to become "change agents" who can mobilize the community to address issues threatening healthy family and community life.

Giving Back to the Community

Individuals who wish to volunteer their time in the community should visit the following websites, which can be helpful in locating appropriate, nearby volunteer positions.

- **www.volunteermatch.com**
- **www.serve.gov**
- **www.getinvolved.gov**

FEEDBACK FORM

We appreciate your feedback on this re-entry guide. If you have suggestions or comments you would like us to consider, please complete this form and mail it to:

Texas Criminal Justice Coalition, 510 S. Congress Avenue, Suite 104, Austin, TX 78704

OR: Print a feedback form available on our website at
www.criminaljusticecoalition.org/tools_for_re_entry/reentryguide.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Age: _____ **Gender:** ❑ Male ❑ Female ❑ Transgendered

Ethnicity: ❑ African-American ❑ Asian/Pacific Islander ❑ Caucasian
❑ Hispanic ❑ Native American ❑ Other: _____

I am:

❑ Under the supervision/custody of the criminal justice system

❑ A family member of someone under the supervision/custody of the criminal justice system

❑ A criminal justice professional

❑ An employee or volunteer for a community/faith-based organization (name of program):

_____

❑ A city or county employee (department/division): _____

❑ Other _____

I received this publication from:

❑ Prison/jail/parole/community corrections staff located in (unit/city):

_____

❑ Family / friends

❑ Employer (provide name): _____

❑ Community/faith-based organization (organization name and city):

_____

❑ Other _____

Comments and suggestions for improvement and/or additional or updated resource(s):

_____

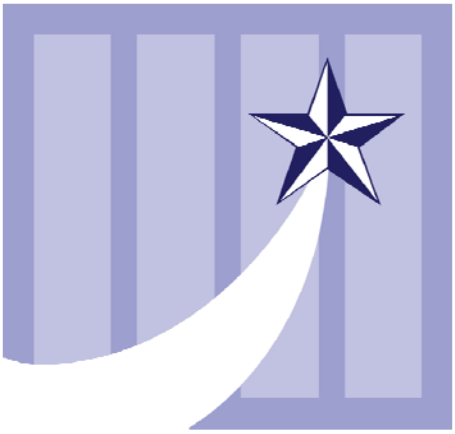
_____

_____

_____

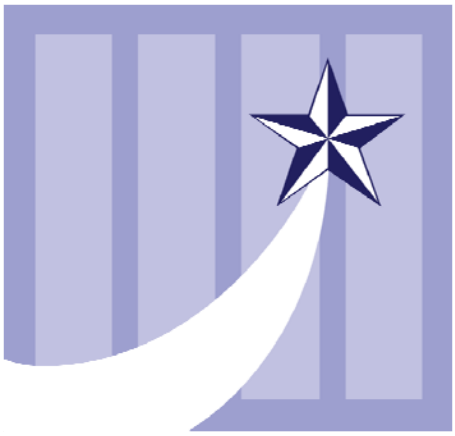
_____

_____



TEXAS CRIMINAL
JUSTICE COALITION

Texas Criminal Justice Coalition
510 S. Congress Avenue, Suite 104
Austin, Texas 78704



TEXAS CRIMINAL
JUSTICE COALITION

Texas Criminal Justice Coalition
510 S. Congress Avenue, Suite 104
Austin, Texas 78704