



**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of the Deputy Attorney General**

## **Federal Funding & Services for Prisoner Reentry**

*(Programs in italics denote on-going funding opportunities and/or services)*

### **President Bush's Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI)**

#### **U.S. Department of Labor PRI grants**

- The U.S. Department of Labor is the lead federal agency on PRI. In November of 2005, 30 grantees<sup>1</sup> in 20 states were awarded \$660,000 per year for up to three years of post-release services beginning in spring 2006 (<http://www.dol.gov/cfbci/PRIcontacts.htm>).
- In addition, in 2008 DOL awarded, in conjunction with the Dept. of Justice's 2007 PRI grants (see below), \$130,000 each to another 23 grantees<sup>2</sup> for post-release services.
- For more information, contact Scott Shortenhaus, Center For Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, U.S. Department of Labor, at 202-693-6450.

#### **U.S. Department of Justice PRI grants**

- In the summer of 2006, between \$450,000 - \$1,800,000 each was awarded to 20 state prison systems<sup>3</sup> (<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/06PRIawards.pdf>) for pre-release services for state and local (not federal) inmates who will receive post-release services from the Labor grantees.
- In 2007, DOJ awarded between \$225,000 - \$450,000 each to another 23 state prison systems<sup>4</sup> (<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/07ReentryAwards.pdf>) for pre-release and some post-release services for state and local (not federal) inmates who will also receive post-release services from Labor grantees.
- For more information, contact Andrew Malloy, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice, at 202-514-9909.

### **Department of Justice**

#### ***Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative***

- Voucher-based demonstration project designed to combat gangs using a combination of prevention, law enforcement, and prisoner reentry strategies. Organizations can apply to partner with existing grantees.
- \$2,500,000 was awarded to each of ten cities: Cleveland, Dallas-Ft. Worth, Los Angeles, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Oklahoma City, Raleigh-Durham, Rochester, Tampa, and "The

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<sup>1</sup> Tucson, Phoenix, San Diego, Oakland, Sacramento, Fresno, Denver, Hartford, Ft. Lauderdale, Des Moines, Chicago, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Boston, Baltimore, Pontiac (MI), St. Louis, Kansas City (MO), Egg Harbor City (NJ), Brooklyn, Astoria (Newark), Bronx, Cincinnati, Portland (OR), Philadelphia, Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, Seattle, Milwaukee.

<sup>2</sup> AK, AZ, CA, CO, DC, FL, HI, IA, IN, KS, ME, MI, MN, NV, NJ, NC, OH, PA, RI, TN, VA, WI, WY

<sup>3</sup> AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, IA, IL, LA, MA, MD, MI, MO, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, TX, WA, WI

<sup>4</sup> AK, AZ, CA, CO, DC, FL, HI, IA, IN, KS, ME, MI, MN, NV, NJ, NC, OH, PA, RI, TN, VA, WI, WY

222 Corridor” between Lancaster and Easton, PA (<http://www.psn.gov/>) during the fall of 2006 and spring of 2007.

- For more information, contact the U.S. Attorneys Office covering each city: <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/offices/index.html>.

### ***Weed & Seed***

- The aim of the Weed & Seed program is to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity and facilitate prisoner reentry in designated high-crime neighborhoods across the country (“weed out” criminal elements and “seed in” positive programs). Community coalitions can apply for designation of high-crime neighborhoods as Weed & Seed sites. In addition, organizations can apply to partner with existing sites.
- The Steering Committee, which determines how to invest funding in law enforcement and prisoner reentry (\$1.1 million spread over four years), includes representatives from local, county, and state agencies, Federal agencies, and the private sector, including from local faith-based and other community organizations.
- More information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/ws/welcome.html>
- Weed & Seed contact directory: <http://contacts.weedandseed.info/>

### **Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP)**

#### ***Residential Reentry Centers (Halfway Houses)***

- Contractors are paid to provide returning ex-offenders with short-term, secure housing with some programming (<http://www.bop.gov/locations/cc/index.jsp>).
- For more information, contact Jerry Vroegh or Ron Hayes, Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, at 202-307-3171.

#### **Faith- or Character-Based Pre-Release Program (“Life Connections”)**

- Voluntary 18-month curriculum in federal correctional institutions in five states<sup>5</sup> which covers ethical decision-making, anger management, victim restitution, etc.
- BOP contracts with faith leaders to provide programming and mentors.

### **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**

#### **Juvenile Sex Offender Treatment Program Development and Capacity Building**

- This program provides support to develop or build capacity of residential treatment programs for juvenile sex offenders, in particular regarding reentry of youth into their home communities.

### **Department of Labor**

#### **Ready 4 Work**

- A three-year, \$22.5 million program – jointly funded by the Departments of Labor and Justice and a consortium of private foundations – to assist faith-based and community

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<sup>5</sup> Federal Correctional Institution, Milan, MI; U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, KS; Federal Medical Center, Carswell, TX; Federal Correctional Institution, Petersburg, VA; U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute, IN;

programs that provide mentoring and other transition services for men and women returning from prison.

- Grantee sites: 11 for adult non-violent felons<sup>6</sup>, six for juvenile offenders<sup>7</sup>.
- More information: [http://www.dol.gov/cfbci/Ready4Work\\_contacts.htm](http://www.dol.gov/cfbci/Ready4Work_contacts.htm).

#### ***One Stop Career Centers***

- Centers offer training referrals, career counseling, job listings, and similar employment-related services. Centers can assist ex-offenders in finding jobs.
- More information: <http://www.careeronestop.org/>.

#### **Beneficiary-Choice Contracting Program**

- \$5 million to five grantees<sup>8</sup> to assist ex-offenders ages 18 to 29 with transitioning from prison to the workplace.
- Participants will be able to choose service providers from pools of faith-based and community groups, thereby encouraging them to take personal ownership in choosing the services they believe best fit their needs.
- For more information, contact Scott Shortenhaus, Center For Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, U.S. Department of Labor, at 202-693-6450.

#### ***Federal Fidelity Bonding Program***

- Secures the job placement of ex-offenders and other high-risk job applicants. The FBP functions as a job placement tool by providing employers with a special incentive to hire the hardest-to-place jobseekers.
- More information: <http://www.bonds4jobs.com/>.

#### ***Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit***

- Federal tax credit that encourages employers to hire ex-offenders by reducing employers' federal income tax liability by as much as \$2,400 per qualified new worker
- More information: <http://www.doleta.gov/business/Incentives/opptax/>

#### ***Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP)***

- Provides services to assist in reintegrating homeless veterans, including ex-offenders, into meaningful employment. Program competed yearly, based on funding availability.
- [http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/fact/Homeless\\_veterans\\_fs04.htm](http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/fact/Homeless_veterans_fs04.htm)

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<sup>6</sup> Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, Memphis, Milwaukee, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

<sup>7</sup> Boston, Brooklyn, Camden, Houston, Los Angeles, Seattle

<sup>8</sup> Arizona Women's Education and Employment Inc. of Phoenix; Colorado's Department of Labor and Employment; the City of Chicago; the Indianapolis Private Industry Council Inc.; and the Director's Council of Des Moines, Iowa.

## **Department of Health & Human Services**

### **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

#### *Access To Recovery (ATR)*

- A substance abuse treatment initiative which fosters consumer choice and increases treatment capacity by providing individuals with vouchers to choose and pay for the care they need. Organizations can apply to partner with existing grantees.
- Grantees in AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, HI, IL, IN, IA, LA, MO, NM, OH, OK, RI, TN, TX, WA, WI
- More information: <http://atr.samhsa.gov/>

### **Administration for Children and Families (ACF)**

#### *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)*

- Provides assistance and work opportunities to needy families by granting states the federal funds and wide flexibility to develop and implement their own welfare programs. Citizens may apply for assistance at their local TANF agency.
- More information: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/>

### **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)**

- HIV testing and services: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/testing/index.htm>
- Minority Aids Initiative: <http://www.cdc.gov/omh/Populations/HL/HHP/MAI.htm>
- For more information, contact Mike Costigan, Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at 202-358-3595.

## **Department of Housing and Urban Development**

### *Section 8 Rent Subsidies and Public Housing*

- Most ex-offenders are not categorically banned
- For more information contact Anna Farias, Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, at 202-708-2404.

## **Department of Veterans Affairs**

### *VA Programs for Ex-Offender Veterans*

- Substance abuse, mental health, disability compensation, vocational rehabilitation and employment.
- Veteran Affairs' Montgomery GI Bill (<http://www.gibill.va.gov/>) and Veterans Workforce Investment Program; Health Care for Homeless Veterans; Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program.
- National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV). NCHV provides a comprehensive source of information for America's homeless veterans (including current and ex-offenders), and the programs available to them in each State. (<http://www.nchv.org/>).
- For more information, contact Darin Selnick, Center For Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, US Department of Veterans Affairs, at 202-273-7499.

## **Corporation for National and Community Service**

### ***VISTA***

- Partnerships began in August 2005 in 15 cities<sup>9</sup> between VISTA and Weed & Seed in which full-time VISTA recruits volunteer mentors for prisoners nearing release.
- More information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/programs/reentry.html#vista>

## **U.S. Courts**

### ***Office of Probation and Pretrial Services***

- OPPS provides comprehensive reentry services during supervised release.
- More information: <http://www.uscourts.gov/fedprob/supervise.html>

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<sup>9</sup> Austin, Charleston, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Dallas-Ft Worth, Houston, Indianapolis, Miami, Oakland, Philadelphia, Portland (OR), Providence, San Antonio, Washington DC