

Residential Faith-Based Programs in State Corrections

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National Institute of Corrections
Information Center

SUMMARY: The NIC Information Center contacted departments of correction (DOCs) in the 50 states and the Federal Bureau of Prisons for information on residential, faith-based programs for prison inmates. Of the 51 agencies surveyed, 21 (41%) operate or are developing at least one residential, faith-based program. In two (2) of these agencies, programs are currently in development. Program sites are being added or expanded in at least 10 agencies. Qualifying programs must be a separately housed, residential offender program that uses a faith-based approach. This can include programs operated by the DOC or a contract provider.

In most cases, these programs are being evaluated, and recidivism is being used as a measure of their effectiveness.

	Is a Residential Faith-Based Program Offered?	Program Details
Alabama	Yes	<p>“Religious Education and Faith-Based Honor Dorm” This DOC-operated program is currently provided at 13 secure correctional facilities and 2 work release and/or community work center locations. (See survey for list of locations.) The Department of Corrections plans to add new locations and to expand program capacity at current sites. The first honor dorm opened in 1998. An evaluation is under way and additional evaluation plans are being developed. Recidivism of participants is being used as an evaluative measure. Results are expected in December 2005. Contact: Stephen Walker, Chaplaincy Coordinator, Division Director of Religious Program, 334-738-5625, chapwalk@ustconline.net.</p>
Alaska	Yes	<p>“Transformation Living Community (TLC)” This contracted program operates at two facilities: Palmer Correctional Facility, Palmer, AK, and the Florence Correctional Center in Florence, AZ. No expansion is planned. The Florence facility is managed by CCA, and the TLC program there includes only Alaska inmates. The program began in 2001. The TLC program at the Palmer facility was launched in 2004. Evaluation is under way, but a target date for results is not available. Recidivism is being tracked as a measurement of program outcomes. Contact: Mike Enschede, Program Coordinator, Mike_Ensch@correct.state.ak.us.</p>

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Arizona	No	—
Arkansas	Yes	<p>“Principles & Applications for Life (PAL)” This DOC-operated program was launched in 2001. Offered at six facilities: Varner, Cummins, East Arkansas Regional Unit, Wrightsville, McPherson, and Grimes. There are no plans to expand this residential program to additional locations. The program is offered at 8 other locations, but without separate housing of participants. Evaluation is under way and ongoing; results available summer 2005. Recidivism is being tracked as a measurement of program outcomes. (See survey for chaplain contacts at each facility.) Notes — Length of program: 90 days to 6 months.</p> <p>“InnerChange Freedom Initiative” Agency is entering into contract for delivery of this program, delivered by Prison Fellowship Ministries, in pre-release. Program expected to begin in October 2005.</p>
California	Yes	<p>The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation currently operates one residential, faith-based unit, and plans to expand the unit as well as adding faith-based units at other facilities.</p> <p>“Celebrate Recovery” This agency-operated program, which began operation in 2004, is located at the Sierra Conservation Center in Jamestown, CA. An expansion of program capacity is planned. A program evaluation is being planned that will measure recidivism. Local contact is Hector Lozano, Correctional Counselor/Program Director, 209-984-5291, ext. 5620. CDCR contact: Bill Dunkak, Program Manager, 916-323-5231, William.Dunkak@cdrc.ca.gov.</p>
Colorado	Yes	<p>“Life Learning Program” Faith-based units are available at one state-operated facility and two private prisons that house Colorado inmates. The DOC plans to expand the program to a second housing unit at the state facility. Program evaluation plans are being developed that will measure recidivism.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Delta Correctional Center, Delta, CO. Faith-based unit opened in 2000, and a second unit is planned. 2) Kit Carson Correctional Center, Burlington, CO. Facility operated by Corrections Corp. of America opened a faith-based unit in 2004. 3) Huerfano County Correctional Center, Walsenburg, CO. Facility operated by Corrections Corp. of America opened a faith-based unit in 2004. <p>DOC contact for faith-based programs is Katherine Sanguinetti, 719-226-4480, katherine.sanguinetti@doc.state.co.us.</p>
Connecticut	No	—

	Is a Residential Faith-Based Program Offered?	Program Details
Delaware	No	—
Florida	Yes	<p>“Faith & Character-Based Institutions” The Florida DOC has 2 facilities designated as faith and character-based institutions (FCBI), and dorms in 8 other facilities have faith-based living units. Programs are operated by the DOC. One of the 8 facilities will be designated as the system’s third FCBI in January 2006. Evaluation plans are being developed. The DOC’s research department is tracking program participants and plans to release evaluation reports that will include recidivism data in December 2006. 1) Lawtey Correctional Institution, Lawtey, FL. Designated a FCBI for adult men in December 2003. Contact: Warden Max Denson, 904-782-3811. 2) Hillsborough Correctional Institution, Riverview, FL. Designated a FCBI for women in April 2004. Contact: Warden Michelle Bateman, 813-672-5249. DOC contact: Franchatta Barber, Deputy Secretary of Institutions, 850-410-4250, barber.franchatta@mail.dc.state.fl.us</p>
Georgia	Yes	<p>“Faith & Character” Georgia opened 8 faith and character dormitories in 2004 and is planning to add new locations. Programs are operated by the DOC in all but 2 locations. An evaluation is under way that will examine recidivism rates of program participants. Results will be available July 2006. DOC-operated locations: 1) Arrendale State Prison, Alto; 2) Calhoun State Prison, Morgan; 3) Hays State Prison, Trion; 4) Macon State Prison, Oglethorpe; 5) Pulaski State Prison, Hawkinsville; 6) Valdosta State Prison, Valdosta. Contract locations are in facilities operated by the Corrections Corporation of America: 7) Coffee Correctional Facility, Nicholls; 8) Wheeler Correctional Facility, Alamo. Contact: Torian Weldon, Faith and Character Based Coordinator, 404-463-6804, weldot00@dcor.state.ga.us DOC contact for contracted programs: Peggy McBrayer, Field Operations Manager, County and Private, 404-651-6804, mcbrap00@dcor.state.ga.us.</p>
Hawaii	Yes	<p>“Total Life Recovery Program” This DOC-operated program was launched in 2003 at the Women’s Community Correctional Center in Kailua. There is no plan to expand the program. Participants are not housed separately in the strictest sense; their bunks are all together in one section of a general population dormitory. Evaluation plans are being developed; it takes 9 to 18 months to complete the program, and there are not yet enough graduates to evaluate it. Evaluation results are expected by December 2007. Recidivism will be one of the measures used when the evaluation is implemented. Contact: Bonnie Holcombe, Chaplain, 808-266-9679, bonnie@fishnetchaplaincy.com</p>

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		<p>“Faith and Honor Community Pod” This program is offered by Corrections Corporation of America at two facilities that house Hawaii inmates: 1) Diamond Back Correctional Facility, Watonga, Oklahoma. Launched 2003. Curtis Wille, Program Manager, 662-345-6567, ext. 2295, curtiswille@correctionscorp.com. 2) Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility, Tutwiler, Mississippi. Launched 2005. Greg Basham, Program Manager, 580-614-2000, gregbasham@correctionscorp.com. CCA is indicating to the Hawaii DOC that the program will be evaluated, but specifics are not available. It is anticipated that recidivism will be used as an evaluative measurement. The Hawaii DOC contact is Shari Kimoto, 808-837-8020, shari.l.kimoto@hawaii.gov.</p>
Idaho	In development	<p>(New program - not yet named) A DOC-operated program is being planned at the South Idaho Correctional Institution in Boise, Idaho. Evaluation plans are being developed, and results are expected within 2 years of program implementation. Recidivism rates of participants who complete the program will be tracked. Contact: Mark Donnellan, Program Specialist, 208-658-2037, tdonnell@corr.state.id.us.</p>
Illinois	No	—
Indiana	Yes	<p>“Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS)” PLUS living units are located in three facilities: The Indiana Women’s Prison (Indianapolis); the Correctional Industrial Facility (Pendleton), housing adult males; and the Plainfield Juvenile Correctional Facility (Plainfield), housing juvenile males. The units are managed by the DOC and began operation in 2005. Expansion is planned at current locations, and the agency plans to expand the program to other facilities. A program evaluation is underway that will measure recidivism. Evaluation results should be available in September 2006. Contact: Kevin Moore, Director, Correctional Case Management, 317-233-3252 or kbmoore@doc.in.gov.</p>
Iowa	Yes	<p>“InnerChange Freedom Initiative” This program is delivered by Prison Fellowship Ministries and was launched October 1, 1999. Location: Newton Correctional Facility, Newton, IA. There are no plans to expand the program at this site or to additional locations. There are no plans to evaluate the program. However, the Iowa DOC will be looking at outcome measures in comparison with other substance abuse programs; this analysis will not constitute a full evaluation of the program. Program contact: Dan Kingery, IFI Local Director, 641-792-7552, dingery@pfm.org. DOC contact: Terry Mapes, Warden, 641-791-1411, terry.mapes@iowa.gov.</p>

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Kansas	Yes	<p>“InnerChange Freedom Initiative” This contractually delivered program was launched in 2000. Location: Ellsworth Correctional Facility, Ellsworth KS. There are no plans to expand the program at this site or to additional locations. An evaluation has been completed. Recidivism is being tracked as a measurement of program outcomes. Contact: Don Raymond, IFI Director, 785-472-5501. For DOC perspective on this contract program, contact Roger Haden, Deputy Secretary, 785-296-3317 or rogerh@kdoc.dc.state.ks.us.</p>
Kentucky	No	—
Louisiana	Yes	<p>“Faith & Character Based Dormitory Program” This contracted program has operated at two facilities since 2004, and the agency is planning to add new locations. Program evaluation plans are being developed that will measure recidivism. Evaluation results are expected in March 2006. Locations: 1) Dixon Correctional Institute, Jackson, LA. Contact: Gary Pearce, Chaplain. 2) Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women, St. Gabriel, LA. Contact: Sheidra Boutte, Program Manager. DOC contact: Whalen Gibbs, Assistant Secretary, wgibbs@corrections.state.la.us.</p>
Maine	No	—
Maryland	No	—
Massachusetts	No	—
Michigan	No	—

	Is a Residential Faith-Based Program Offered?	Program Details
Minnesota	Yes	<p>“InnerChange Freedom Initiative” This program, delivered through contract with Prison Fellowship Ministries, began operation in 2002. Location: Minnesota Correctional Facility – Lino Lakes, Lino Lakes, MN. There are no plans to expand the program at this site or to additional locations. Evaluation plans are being developed. Recidivism will be tracked as a measurement of program outcomes. Initial evaluation results are expected in June 2006. Contact: John Byrne, Program Director, 651-717-6772 or jbyrne@ll.doc.state.mn.us. Additional DOC contact: Steve Hokonson, Program Director/Religious Coordinator, 651-717-6543, shokonso@ll.doc.state.mn.us.</p>
Mississippi	Yes	<p>(Multiple units, no program names indicated) The Mississippi DOC offers faith-based residential programs in five facilities. Each program is managed by an outside provider. There are no plans to expand this programming. There are no plans to evaluate the programs. Locations include: 1) Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, MS. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Extension program, unit opened 2004. Contact: Dr. John Bley, 601-745-6611, ext. 3069. 2) Delta Correctional Facility, Greenwood, MS. Operated by Corrections Corporation of America. Faith-based unit opened in 2005. Contact: Chaplain David Henderson, 662-455-9099. 3) East Mississippi Correctional Facility, Meridian, MS. Operated by GEO Corporation. Faith-based unit opened in 2003. Contact: Chaplain John Newbaker, 601-485-5255. 4) Marshall County Correctional Facility, Holly Springs, MS. Operated by GEO Corporation. Faith-based unit opened in 2001. Contact: Associate Warden David Helmick, 662-252-7111. 5) Wilkinson County Correctional Facility, Woodville, MS. Operated by Corrections Corporation of America. Faith-based unit opened in 2005. Contact: Chaplain Willie Jones, 601-888-3199. DOC contact: Chaplain Eugene Wigelsworth, Director of Religious Programs, 601-359-5788. cwigelsworth@mdoc.state.ms.us.</p>
Missouri	In development	It is too early in planning for details to be available.
Montana	No	—
Nebraska	No	—
Nevada	No	—
New Hampshire	No	—

	Is a Residential Faith-Based Program Offered?	Program Details
New Jersey	No	—
New Mexico	Yes	<p>“Crossings” Faith-based units are operating in 5 facilities in New Mexico, and expansion to new locations is planned. A private agency, Crossings, Inc., coordinates volunteer services for faith-based housing units in one women’s facility and four men’s facilities. Programming at the men’s facilities is provided four evenings per week. The provider conducted an evaluation that included recidivism measures and was released in January 2005. An update is expected in October 2005. Locations: 1) Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility, Las Cruces, NM. Faith-based unit opened in 1998. Contact: Mr. Jan Thomas, Executive Director, Crossings, Inc., 505-382-6917, jthomas1139@comcast.net. 2) Lea County Correctional Facility, Hobbs, NM. Facility operated by Geo Group, Inc. Faith-based unit opened in 1999. 3) Roswell Correctional Center, Roswell, NM. Faith-based unit opened in 2001. 4) New Mexico Women’s Correctional Facility, Grants, NM. Operated by Corrections Corp. of America. Faith-based unit opened in 2000 and is being converted from a volunteer-based model to a therapeutic community model. Contact: Tom Zarnes, President, Crossings, Inc., 505-527-2048, crossingsinc@comcast.net. DOC contact: Homer Gonzales, 505-841-4268, homer.gonzales@state.nm.us.</p>
New York	No	—
North Carolina	No	—
North Dakota	No	—
Ohio	Yes	<p>“Horizon Inter-Faith” This DOC-delivered program was launched August 2000. Location: Marion Correctional Institution, Marion, OH. Expansion to additional locations is planned. There are no plans to evaluate the program. Contact: Chris Money, Warden, 740-382-5781, Chris.Money@odrc.state.oh.us</p>

	Is a Residential Faith-Based Program Offered?	Program Details
Oklahoma	Yes	<p>“Kairos Horizon” This contractor-delivered program was launched in 2003. Location: Davis Correctional Facility, Holdenville, OK, operated by Corrections Corp. of America. There are no plans to expand the program. Evaluation plans are being developed. Recidivism of participants will be tracked as a measure of program outcomes. Director: Bill Boyd, Assistant Warden, 405-379-6400, Bill.Boyd@correctionscorp.com. DOC contact: Leo Brown, Religious Services and Volunteer Coordinator, 405-962-6107, leo.brown@doc.state.ok.us</p> <p>“Institute of Basic Life Principles” This contractor-delivered program was launched in 2004. Location: Cimarron Correctional Facility, Cushing, OK. There are no plans to expand the program. Evaluation plans are being developed. Recidivism of participants will be tracked as a measure of program outcomes. Director: Chaplain Haynes, Steve Davis, Unit Manager, 918-225-3336 DOC contact: Leo Brown, Religious Services and Volunteer Coordinator, 405-962-6107, leo.brown@doc.state.ok.us</p>
Oregon	No	—
Pennsylvania	No	—
Rhode Island	No	—
South Carolina	No	—
South Dakota	No	—
Tennessee	No	—

	Is a Residential Faith-Based Program Offered?	Program Details
Texas	Yes	<p>The Texas Department of Criminal Justice operates 8 residential faith-based units at 6 institutions, including state jails and prisons. There currently are no plans to expand any of these programs to additional locations.</p> <p>“Horizon Community Program” This non-compensated program operates at the Allred Prison Unit in Wichita Falls, TX, and was opened in 2002. Capacity is 48 beds. An evaluation is under way, but it does not use recidivism as a measure of program outcomes. Results are expected in May 2006. Contact: Ike Griffin (non-compensated), President, Horizon Communities in Prison, 407-657-1828, jgriffin@kairoshorizon.org. DOC contact: Bill Pierce, Director, Chaplaincy Department, 936-437-5052, billy.pierce@tdcj.state.tx.us.</p> <p>“InnerChange Freedom Initiative” This non-compensated program is operated by Prison Fellowship Ministries, Inc., at the Carol S. Vance Unit in Richmond, TX, and was opened in 1997. Capacity is 365 beds. An evaluation was completed in 2003 that used recidivism as a measure of program outcomes. Contact: Tommie Dorsett (non-compensated), IFI Program Director, 281-277-8707, tommie_dorsett@pfm.org. DOC contact: Bill Pierce, Director, Chaplaincy Department, 936-437-5052, billy.pierce@tdcj.state.tx.us.</p> <p>“Spiritual Dynamics of Criminal Prevention and Relapse” This non-compensated program operates at the Eastham Prison Unit in Lovelady, TX, and was opened in 2005. Capacity is 40 beds. Evaluation plans are being developed, recidivism will be a measure used when the evaluation is implemented. No date is projected for results to be available. Contact: Paul Carlin (non-compensated), President, Therapon Institute, 713-685-4803, theraponinst@earthlink.net. DOC contact: Bill Pierce, Director, Chaplaincy Department, 936-437-5052, billy.pierce@tdcj.state.tx.us.</p> <p>“Life Principles Community” This non-compensated program operates at two locations. 1) Bartlett State Jail, Bartlett, TX. Program was launched in 2005 and currently has 3 beds. There are no plans to evaluate the program. Contact: Chaplain Clement Strmiska or Warden Carl White, 254-527-3300. 2) Bradshaw State Jail, Henderson, TX. Program was launched in 2005 and has 128 beds. Evaluation plans are being developed and will include measurement of recidivism as an evaluation element. Results are expected in March 2006. Contact: John Lanz (non-contracted), Director of Industrial and Special Programs, 615-263-3112, johnlanz@correctionscorp.com. DOC contact: Bill Pierce, Director, Chaplaincy Department, 936-437-5052, billy.pierce@tdcj.state.tx.us.</p>

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		<p>“Institute for Basic Life Principles” This program operates at the Dawson State Jail in Dallas, TX, and was opened in 2004. Capacity is 54 beds. There are no plans to evaluate the program. Contact: Kevin Anderson, Chaplain, 214-744-4422.</p> <p>“Celebrate Recovery 12-Step Program” This non-compensated program for men operates at the Dawson State Jail in Dallas, TX, and was opened in 2005. Capacity is 54 beds. There are no plans to evaluate the program. Contact: Stan Steck (non-compensated), 469-575-0454 (h) or 469-363-5026. DOC contact: Bill Pierce, Director, Chaplaincy Department, 936-437-5052, billy.pierce@tdcj.state.tx.us.</p> <p>“Hope Literacy” This non-compensated program for women operates at the Dawson State Jail in Dallas, TX, and was opened in 2001 or 2002. Capacity is 54 beds. There are no plans to evaluate the program. Contact: Lucy Smith (non-compensated), 817-285-8883 (h) or 817-919-3161 (w). DOC contact: Bill Pierce, Director, Chaplaincy Department, 936-437-5052, billy.pierce@tdcj.state.tx.us.</p>
Utah	No	—
Vermont	No	—
Virginia	No	The concept has been considered, but the agency decided not to proceed.
Washington	No	—
West Virginia	No	—
Wisconsin	No	—
Wyoming	No	—

	Is a Residential Faith-Based Program Offered?	Program Details
Federal Bureau of Prisons	Yes	<p>“Life Connections Program” The BOP opened five faith-based housing units on a pilot basis in 2001 and is planning to expand the program to new locations. The programs are managed by the BOP. Program evaluation is under way that will track recidivism rates; results will be available in 3 to 5 years.</p> <p>Locations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) FCI Milan, MI. 2) FCI Petersburg, VA. 3) FMC Carswell, Ft. Worth, TX. 4) FCI Victorville, CA. 5) USP Leavenworth, KS. <p>BOP Faith-based Coordinator, David Morton, 202-353-8508, dmorton@bop.gov.</p>