

OFFENDER REINTEGRATION SUPPORT

Career Employment Australia is:

- Secular, not for profit community organisation, established 1980 – specialising in services to the disadvantaged.
- Registered Training Organisation and Building Company.
- 20 sites across Queensland.
- 80 employees.
- Client group - highly disadvantaged job seekers.



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State and Federal Programs CEA delivers to support offenders

- Advance2Work (Support, training and work for offenders)
- Indigenous Youth Support Scheme
- Newly Arrived Youth Support Scheme
- New Enterprise Incentive Scheme
- National Disability Coordination Officer Program
- Youth Connections program
- STEP ERS
- VET – prison training (Literacy)
- Community programs and projects



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CEA ORSS Involvement

- Pilot program August 2007 - 2010
- Services 7 prisons throughout southern Queensland
- Woodford (3 days p.w.)
- Wolston (3 days p.w.)
- Brisbane Womens (3 days p.w.)
- Borallon (3 days p.w.)
- Darling Downs (2 days per fortnight)
- Maryborough (2 days p.w.)
- Rockhampton (3 days p.w.)
- CPM services high needs (Over 5 years incarceration)
- CEA services low needs, (high/low needs in BWCC)



How it works

- Brisbane -3 staff (1 F/T, 2 P/T for 4 days per week)
- Maryborough, (1, 2 days per week), Rockhampton (1, 3 days per week)
- CEA does not service Townsville (NQPAS) and Cairns (FAPS)
- Registration visits to prisons once per fortnight
- CEA involvement in Transition Program delivery
- Several visits pre release, contact post release and follow up
- Release transportation on any day
- Engagement approx. 6 weeks pre release
- Transfer of Reintegration Diary to Probation and Parole
- State and interstate referrals



Referral and engagement processes

- Pre release registration and engagement
- Referral through the Transitions Coordinator
- Must attend Transitions or have a transitions plan
- Usual length of assistance is 2 weeks - 3 months
- Strengths Case Management service delivery model
- Transfer of Reintegration Diary to Probation and Parole
- Links with Transition program agencies
- Links with the Dangerous Persons and Sexual Offenders Unit



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Service delivery

- Transportation on day of release to relevant agencies
- Accommodation
- Probation and Parole
- Centrelink
- Housing
- Identification
- Drug and alcohol agencies
- Employment and training in skill shortage areas
- Supported employment and work experience
- Health and disabilities
- Counselling
- Budgeting and debt reduction
- Food, clothing and furniture
- Relationship building
- Recreational contacts



Partnerships

- Government Departments
- Indigenous organisations
- Community agencies
- Providers for people with disabilities
- Prison linkages
- Specialised Housing providers



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Statistics to 31.5.08

Registrations	309
Exits	122
Transfers	17
Return to Custody	15
Males/Females	246 M / 63 F.
Women	20.3%
Recidivism rate	7.2%



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Good News Stories

B was a 33 year old man who had been incarcerated numerous times due to drug use. B had no family supports and didn't know his father and his mother placed him in a boy's home at 9 years of age. He had never met his brothers and sisters and he only had his friends that he 'used' with. He had no education and poor social skills. B registered for ORSS for drug counselling, financial assistance and linking with family. He secured a bond loan through Department of Housing, accommodation was found for him at Better Housing, he met with Probation and Parole and he was referred to Advance2Work for training and employment. He was also assisted with identification, a new bank account and the Case Manager took him shopping for groceries and clothes. B now has a job, is drug free and is attending Probation and Parole regularly.



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