

# THE MERCER COUNTY SMART BOOK



**“Your Road Map to Re-Entry”**

**The New Jersey Department of Corrections  
Office of Transitional Services**

**Revised 2012**

## **Quick Reference: Useful Numbers and Hotlines**

<b>American Friends Service Committee Prisoner's Resource Center</b>	1-973-643-2205
<b>CDC National STD and AIDS Hotlines</b>	
Spanish:	1-800-344-7432
English:	1-800-227-8922
<b>Addictions Hotline of NJ</b>	1-800-238-2333
<b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b>	1-800-245-1377
<b>Division of Disability Services (DDS)</b>	1-888-285-3036
<b>Division of Youth &amp; Family Services</b>	1-800-792-8610
<b>Hyacinth AIDS Foundation</b>	1-800-433-0254
<b>Legal Services of New Jersey</b>	1-888-576-5529
<b>NJ Motor Vehicle Commission</b>	
Driver's License Suspension Hotline	1-609-292-7500
Main Information	1-888-486-3339
<b>NJ Transit</b>	1-800-772-2222
<b>Narcotics Anonymous of NJ</b>	1-800-992-0401
<b>National Suicide Crisis Hotline</b>	1-800-784-2433
<b>New Jersey AIDS STD Hotline (Beth Israel)</b>	1-800-624-2377
<b>2-1-1 First Call For Help</b>	2-1-1/
Se habla español or toll free	1-800-331-7272
<b>Mercer County One Stop</b>	609-292-0682
<b>Social Security Office</b>	1-800-772-1213
<b>Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline (Woman's Space, Inc.)</b>	
Bilingual and TTY accessible	1-800-572-7233

# The Mercer County Smart Book

<b><u>Table of Contents</u></b>	<b><u>Page #</u></b>
<b>The Start of a New Beginning:</b>	
<b>How to Use this Book</b>	5
<b>Getting Started:</b>	
<b>I.D. and Other Documents</b>	6
A. Social Security Card	6
B. Birth Certificate	6
C. County I.D.	9
D. Driver's License	10
E. Non-driver's State I.D.	12
F. Certificates of Naturalization or Citizenship	12
G. Alien Registration Card ("Green Card")	13
H. Military Discharge Papers	13
I. Passport	14
J. NJDOC Release Papers and Temporary ID Card	14
<b>First Steps After Release:</b>	
<b>Where Do I Go to Find</b>	15
A. First Stops	15
B. Shelter	16
C. Food/Clothing	17
D. Transportation	20
E. Money: FS/GA	22
F. Veterans Benefits	23
<b>Taking Care of Yourself:</b>	25
<b>Getting Support</b>	
<b>Taking Care of Yourself:</b>	
<b>Health Care Resources</b>	25
A. Health Care Benefits: Am I Eligible?	25
B. General Health Care Providers	26
C. Services for People with HIV/AIDS	28
D. Services for People with Tuberculosis or Hepatitis C	30
E. Dental Care	31
F. Substance Abuse Resources/Mental Health	31
G. Emergency Mental Health Services	34
H. Free/Low Cost Eyeglasses	35

<b>Finding a Job: Employment Assistance and Training Programs</b>	<b>36</b>
A. Things to Know Before You Start Your Job Search	36
B. Help with Job Search and Job Training Resources	37
C. Legal Restrictions on Employment and Protection Against Discrimination	38
D. Benefits for Employers Who Hire People with Criminal Records	39
E. Opening a Checking or Savings Account	39
F. Public Libraries	40
<b>Reconnecting With Family</b>	<b>41</b>
A. Family Counseling Resources	42
B. Child Custody and Visitation	43
C. Getting and Paying Child Support	44
D. Domestic Violence Resources	45
<b>Getting More Education</b>	<b>46</b>
A. High School and GED	46
B. GED Classes	47
C. Higher Education	47
<b>Other Things You Need to Know</b>	<b>48</b>
A. Getting Legal Assistance	48
B. Checking and Correcting Your Criminal Record (“rap sheet”)	49
C. Expungement: Cleaning Up Your Criminal Record	49
D. Checking and Correcting Your Credit Record	50
E. Voting Rights	50
F. Registration of Sexual Offenders (Megan’s Law)	51
<b>The Game Plan:</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Your First Weeks Out</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Other Things I Need to Do</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>ID Document Checklist</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>My Contacts and Phone Numbers</b>	<b>55</b>

## The Start of a New Beginning:

### How to use this book

This book is intended to prepare you for your arrival home and reintegration back into society. In order to make the transition smoother for you a list of resources have been compiled along with a list of necessary items you will find that are essential to your success. This book focuses on the first few weeks and months of your arrival home and assisting you on managing the transition. Although not every resource available to you will be found in here, there are many that will help to guide your journey. **Unless a fee or charge is listed, most of the services and resources listed here are free.**

Each section of this book is categorized by items that you will need in order to find employment, return to school, and to obtain identification. It will also provide addresses, websites, phone numbers, and general tips on how to acquire that particular service. You can use the table of contents to easily identify what service you require, and follow instructions as to how to contact providers.

**FYI:** *\*\*Please feel free to utilize your social services department for assistance in contacting an agency or inquiring information about a service found in this book. There are some services that may be free to you that you can contact through your social services department before making an out-of-pocket expense.*

There are things that can be completed prior to release from prison. Two things specifically are requesting a duplicate Social Security card for **FREE** and applying for a birth certificate for a **fee**. Please contact your social worker six months prior to release to apply for these items. By doing this while still in custody, you are taking a large step towards making your transition back into the community easier for you. Provided both documents are processed successfully, you will have two necessary forms of identification made available to you the day you are released. This will speed up the process of finding employment.

You will not find every service or organization in **Mercer County** in this book however there will be many to help you begin. Also, the organizations that are listed may be able to offer additional resources to you. **You can also visit your local library to get free internet access, (see page 40) or [www.mercercounty.org](http://www.mercercounty.org)** for more county information.

## Getting Started: Identification (I.D.) and Other Documents

In order to apply for employment, rent an apartment, apply for general assistance, food stamps, or Medicaid, proper identification will be required. The more identification you have in your possession, the easier it will be for you to obtain these services. Certain items can be obtained while you are still incarcerated. Ask your social worker for assistance, and for the remainder, this book will point you in the right direction.

**FYI:** In order to obtain identification, various agencies will require proof of address. It is smart to keep bills in your name or official documents that have your name and address for further verification of your address.



### A. Social Security Card

If at all possible, apply for a duplicate social security card with your social worker six months prior to release. If for some reason this is not possible or your application has been denied, you will need to visit your closest Social Security Office to apply at:

#### Social Security Administration

635 S. Clinton Ave. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Trenton, NJ 08611

#### Office hours Monday- Friday 9:00am-4:00pm

Phone numbers:  
Toll Free 1-800-772-1213  
TTY- 1-800-325-0778

If you choose to visit your local office to apply you will need to fill out the application at the office. You will need to show proof of identification. Prison release papers count as proof of identification. Also, use your NJDOC Temporary ID card.

To save time you can download the application online ([www.ssa.gov/replace\\_sscard.html](http://www.ssa.gov/replace_sscard.html)).



### B. Birth Certificate

The office of Vital Statistics in the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has all the New Jersey birth, marriage, and death records. The fee is **\$25.00**. However, depending upon where you were born in Mercer County, you may be able to apply for a birth certificate for a lesser fee.

**New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services**  
Bureau of Vital Statistics and Registration  
P.O. Box 370  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0370

**Contact information for the NJ Bureau of Vital Statistics and Registration:** 1-609-292-4087 and 1-866-649-8726 (toll-free nationwide)

**FYI:** You are able to apply for a birth certificate while you are still in custody and have six months left prior to release. Please see your social worker to do so.

If you were born in the following towns, you may go to your registrar's office and apply for a birth certificate. You will need to call for the fee amounts.

**East Windsor Township**

East Windsor Health Dept.  
16 Lanning Boulevard  
East Windsor, NJ 08520  
Phone: (609) 443-4000

**Ewing Township**

Municipal Building  
2 Jake Garzio Drive  
Ewing, NJ 08628

**Hamilton Township**

PO Box 00150  
2100 Greenwood Avenue  
Hamilton Twsp Health Dept.  
Hamilton, NJ 08609  
Phone: (609) 890-3826

**Hightstown Borough**

Municipal Building  
148 North Main Street  
Hightstown, NJ 08520  
Phone: (609) 490-5100

**Hopewell Borough**

88 East Broad Street  
Hopewell, NJ 08525  
Phone: (609) 466-2636 x13

**Hopewell Township**  
Municipal Building  
201 Washington Crossing-  
Pennington Road  
Titusville, NJ 08560-1410  
Phone: (609) 737-0120 x636

**Lawrence Township**  
2207 Lawrenceville Road  
P.O. Box 6006  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
Phone: (609) 844-7089

**Pennington Borough**  
30 North Main Street  
Pennington, NJ 08534  
Phone: (609) 737-0276

**Princeton Borough**  
Borough Hall  
1 Monument Drive  
PO Box 390  
Princeton, NJ 08542-  
Phone: (609) 497-7608

**Princeton Township**  
Borough Hall  
1 Monument Drive  
PO Box 390  
Princeton, NJ 08542  
Phone: (609) 497-7608

**Robbinsville Township**  
1 Washington Blvd, Suite 6  
Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
Phone: (609) 918-0002

**Trenton City**  
City Hall  
319 E. State St.  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
Phone: (609) 989-3236

**West Windsor Township**  
271 Clarksville Road  
PO Box 38  
West Windsor, NJ 08550  
Phone: (609) 936-8400



### **C. County Identification**

You can obtain a county identification card by going to the Old Courthouse in Trenton or to the County Connection in Hamilton Township. You will need your original birth certificate, original social security card, and three items that have been mailed out to you within the last 60 days that prove your home address.

#### **County Clerk's Office**

Old Court House  
209 S Broad Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-989-6473  
Monday-Friday, 8 am – 4:30 pm  
Wednesday (extended hours until 6:30 pm)  
County ID card and passport services

You must provide a social security number, show proof of age, and proof of residence in Mercer County (so you can only do this after you are released).

### **MERCER COUNTY CONNECTION**

Mercer County's innovative, new outreach center provides a wide range of information and services to the citizens of Mercer County, at one convenient location:

Hamilton Square Shopping Center  
Highway 33 at Paxson Avenue  
Hamilton, NJ 08690

#### **Hours:**

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10 AM - 6:00 PM  
Tuesday & Thursday 10 AM - 8:00 PM  
Saturday 10 AM - 3:00 PM

#### **Services Provided:**

Passport Applications  
Notary Services  
Voter Registration  
Absentee Ballots  
Recycling Buckets  
Photo ID Cards  
County Maps  
Government & Community Program Information



## D. Driver's License

Once you are released from prison, you can go to the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) to get a new driver's license, replace a lost one, or renew a card that has expired. If you believe that your license has been suspended, you should confirm this and figure out what you need to do to get it back. If you were convicted of any kind of drug offense, your license has been suspended.

**Prior to your release**, you can get a copy of your driver's license record, which is called an "abstract." Please contact your social worker if you are interested in obtaining an abstract. **The fee for an abstract is \$15.00**

**Upon your release**, you can go to the MVC offices in Mercer County (listed below) or a Regional Service Center to request a driver's abstract. If you have internet access, you can also request an abstract online at <http://www.state.nj.us/mvc>. You will still have to pay **\$15.00**. If your license was suspended for six months or more because of a drug conviction, the period of the suspension will begin from the time of your release. Other kinds of suspension, such as failure to pay parking tickets, insurance surcharges, or child support, will last until you have paid the fine or worked out a payment plan. For questions about suspension, call the suspension hotline: **609-292-7500**.

**Restoration Fees, Tickets, and Surcharges:** If you found out that your license has been suspended, you will have to pay a restoration fee of **\$100.00** in order to have your license reinstated. This does not include any additional fines or surcharges you are required to pay. This fee can be paid at the Regional Service Center (see below).

If you have internet access, this fee can be paid online at <http://www.state.nj.us/mvc>. You can pay your surcharges and parking tickets on this web site as well.

## **MVC LOCATIONS IN MERCER COUNTY**

**For questions, please call 1 (888) 486-3339**

Location	<b>Bakers Basin</b> 3200 Brunswick Pike Route 1 North Lawrenceville, NJ 08648	<b>Trenton</b> 120 S. Stockton & Front Street Trenton, NJ 08611
Types of Facilities & Hours	<b>Agency, Driver Testing</b> Mon 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tu 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m. W/Th/F 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Sat 8 a.m.-1 p.m. <b>Inspection</b> M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sa 7 a.m.-12 p.m.  <b>Road Testing</b> M-F 8 a.m.-4 p.m.	<b>Agency</b> Mon 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tu 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m. W/Th/F 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Sat 8 a.m.-1 p.m. <b>Suspension/Restoration</b> Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sat- no Susp/Rest service; M-F only
Late closing	<b>Agency, Driver Testing</b> Tu 7:30 p.m.	<b>Agency</b> Tu 7:30 p.m.

To replace a lost or stolen license, you will have to bring identification to the MVC and pay an **\$11.00 fee**. The MVC now has very specific kinds of I.D. that are required under the new “Six Point” system:

*Please use this guide to prepare yourself for your trip to MVC. Make sure you have the six points of identification necessary to obtain your drivers license or non drivers I.D.*

### **SIX POINT SYSTEM OF IDENTIFICATION**

**Primary Documents:**

(4 Points)

- Birth Certificate or Certified Copy from one of the 50 states.
- U.S. Dept. of State Birth Certificate
- US Passport-Current or Expired less than 3 years
- Current US Passport card
- Current NJ Digital Drivers License
- Valid Active Duty US Military Photo ID Card
- US Adoption papers
- Certificate of Naturalization
- Certificate of Citizenship

### **Secondary Documents:**

(3 Points)

- Civil Marriage/Domestic partnership/ Civil Union Certificate: Issued by the Municipality or State
- Order of Decree of Divorce
- Court Order for Legal Name Change: Signed by a judge or county clerk
- US Military Photo/Retiree Card

(2 Points)

- U.S. Military Discharge Papers (DD214)

(1 Point)

- Current/ Expired (Less than 1 year) Non-Digital NJ Photo Drivers License
- Social Security Card
- Bank statement or record
- ATM Card w/ pre-printed name and applicant signature
- NJ Public Assistance Card w/ Photo
- High School Diploma/GED/ College Diploma
- Veterans Affairs-Universal Access Photo ID Card

You can get a brochure on this new “Six Point” system from the MVC offices listed above or from the Motor Vehicle Commission web site, [www.state.nj.us/mvc](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc). If your license has expired, you will have to go with your six points of I.D. to the MVC to fill out a renewal application. You may have to take the written test again. License renewal costs **\$24.00**.

### **E. Non-driver’s State I.D.**

New Jersey provides state photo identification for non-drivers. **You can get this official state I.D. even if your driver’s license is currently suspended.** This may be a good option for you if it is going to be some time before you get your license back. You will still need to bring the same type of identification documents described previously, under the new “Six Point” system. \*\*NJDOC offenders that have purchased both their birth certificate and social security card while in custody will have a opportunity to purchase the Non-Driver’s ID Card if they meet the eligibility criteria. **The cost for this ID card is \$24.**

### **F. Certificates of Naturalization or Citizenship**

This certificate is necessary for employment upon your release. In general, if you need to replace lost forms, you can contact the US Citizenship & Immigration Service or Application Support Centers to find out about identification and fingerprint verifications. There is a fee to process an application for replacement documents. The National Customer Service Hotline is 1 (800) 375-5283.

## **Citizenship Locations**

### **US Citizenship & Immigration Service**

#### **Closest field office to Mercer County**

Peter Rodino Federal Building  
970 Broad Street, Newark NJ 07102

### **G. Alien Registration Card “Green Card”**

To replace a missing Green Card, you must go to the US Citizenship & Immigration Service Office (see above) to fill out an I-90 form. Please make sure that you bring I.D. with you.

You can also visit the website and download the forms at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). It costs **\$450** for processing. **If you have any questions or concerns about your status as a result of your criminal conviction, call Legal Services of New Jersey at 1-888-576-5529 before going to immigration.**

### **H. Military Discharge Papers**

**FYI:** You may have the opportunity to meet with the Veterans Administration (VA) liaison from the Veterans Administration during your incarceration. The VA liaison can assist you in requesting a copy of your DD214 (discharge papers) by completing the SF-180 form. Please notify your institution’s **P.R.E.P.A.R.E** social worker for assistance with your requests and to obtain information on your veteran status. You can also obtain the SF-180 by writing the Veteran Benefit Administration in NJ or the NPRC, which is the main record depository.

#### **Main records depository**

NPRC, 9700 Page Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Upon your release, you can also visit the following web site to request military records; [www.vetrecs.archives.gov](http://www.vetrecs.archives.gov)

Once on the [www.vetrecs.archives.gov](http://www.vetrecs.archives.gov) website, follow the on screen instructions for requesting personnel records. You will be asked to print out a signature page which can either be mailed or faxed. Upon receiving the form, the records will be mailed directly to you.



## **I. Passport**

Although a passport may not seem like an important item to have at this point, it can serve as a major form of identification because it is widely accepted. There are **fees** involved in obtaining your passport. To obtain your passport, you may visit the Mercer County Clerks Office at:

### **Mercer County Clerk's Office**

Old Court House  
209 S Broad Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-989-6473

#### **You will need to bring:**

- ✓ An original or certified copy of a birth certificate with a raised seal and file date issued by Vital Statistics
- ✓ A naturalization certificate
- ✓ Official military I.D.
- ✓ A previous US passport; photocopies are not accepted.
- ✓ Your Social Security card
- ✓ I.D., such as a valid driver's license, government identification or previous passport issued after your 16th birthday. The expired passport should not be more than 15 years old.
- ✓ 2 identical copies of a 2x2 face front regulation passport photo. **(photos can be taken for a \$10 fee you will need an appointment)**

**\$110** for regular service/passport total made payable to US Dept of State and **\$25** check/money order/cash made payable to Mercer County Clerk. A passport will be valid for 10 years.

## **J. NJDOC Release Papers/Temporary I.D. Card**

Make sure you keep your prison release papers and temporary I.D. card. Your release papers can serve as identification in some circumstances and your I.D. card is valid for 30 days.

## **First Steps after Release: Where Do I Go to Find...**

This section provides resources for food, shelter, clothing, money, and other emergency needs. We have provided some resource options in Mercer County that you can utilize upon release.

**FYI:** Important paperwork will be needed repeatedly throughout your life. Make sure to invest in a folder or safe to keep important documents. **Never** carry your birth certificate or Social Security card with you. You will only need to produce these items upon request. It is smarter to keep them in a safe place.

Also, make sure to keep a notebook and a pen with you to write down the names and phone numbers of the people you come in contact with at various agencies. Remember, nobody is going to care about your success as much as you do.

Provided for you are agencies and services that can assist you in finding your basic needs.

**FYI:** It is a good idea to call first to check that the hours of operation haven't changed. Please try to be patient with those that are attempting to assist you.

See the following pages for list of resources.

### **A. First Stops**

The agencies below provide a range of services and/or, depending on what you need, can refer you to other places.

#### **FIRST-STOP AGENCIES**

**2-1-1/First Call for Help** – is a resource for Mercer County residents, which offers comprehensive information and referrals for human services, health care, government and community resource assistance. Dial 211, which can be accessed from the internet, cell phone or landline, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Dial 800-331-7272 for the Homeless Hotline, which addresses emergencies and homeless calls. 211 is multi-lingual and accepts TTY callers



## **B. Shelter**

Access to most of these shelters can be obtained through the Mercer County Board of Social Services or through a general walk in.

### **Catholic Charities – Diocese of Trenton**

383 W State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
609-394-8847

Emergency Housing for families moving from welfare to work and homelessness to permanent housing. No referral required.

### **Crisis Ministry of Princeton and Trenton**

61 Nassau Street  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
609-921-2135

Rental Assistance, Shelter Food Pantry; Emergency Financial Assistance; Shelter for Addicted Homeless. No referral required.

### **Home Front**

2265 Brunswick Pike  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
609-989-9417

Shelter, Food & Clothing for Homeless Families; Short Term Shelter; Housing Search for families who are taking care of children. No referral required.

### **Interfaith Hospitality Network of Mercer County**

121 East Hanover Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-396-8849

Temporary Shelter, Meals, Case Management for Mercer County Homeless Families with Children. No referral required.

### **YWCA of Trenton**

1908 Riverside Drive  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-989-9592

Housing/Rooms, Rental Assistance for men and women



## ADULTS ONLY

### **Rescue Mission of Trenton**

98 Carroll Street  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
609.695.1436 ext 125  
Shelter Hours: 4 pm – 8 am  
Shelter, Food, Clothing, Addiction Services for adult men and women

### **C. Food/Clothing**

Here are the food pantries and soup kitchens in Mercer County. Although each agency has been verified, please call to check for most current hours of operation.

### **Food Pantries/Soup Kitchens**

*FYI: Please note that any food pantry that also sells or provides clothing will be indicated next to the address by the designated symbol:*



## **Hamilton Township**

### **Faith Baptist Church Food Pantry**



**Site:** 2111 Kuser Rd., Hamilton Twp, NJ 08690  
**Phone:** (609) 585-9186  
**Hours:** Pantry distributes food on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9am-1pm. Call for appt.

## **Hightstown**

### **Rise (formerly Community Action Service Center, Inc.)**



**Site:** 116 North Main St., Hightstown, NJ 08550  
**Mailing address:** PO Box 88, 116 Main St., Hightstown  
**Phone:** (609) 443-4464

**Website:** [info@rise-community-services.org](mailto:info@rise-community-services.org)

**Hours:** Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm

**Contact:** Leslie Koppel, Exec. Director

*This site provides families and individuals with a food pantry, emergency shelter assistance, help finding a job, finding affordable childcare, summer program for children and domestic violence prevention for adults and youths.*

## Lawrenceville

### LAWRENCE COMMUNITY CENTER



**Site:** 295 Eggerts Crossing Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

**Phone:** 609-883-3379

**Email:** [lawrencecomctr@homefrontnj.org](mailto:lawrencecomctr@homefrontnj.org)

**Website:** [www.homefrontnj.org](http://www.homefrontnj.org)

**Pantry Hours:** 1st and 3rd Thurs. 12-4pm

**Contact:** Christine Lee

*This site provides a pantry, social services, and a summer camp.*

## Trenton

### CRISIS MINISTRY OF PRINCETON AND TRENTON



**Site 1:** 123 E. Hanover Street, Trenton, NJ 08608

**Site 2:** 61 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08542

**Mail:** 123 E. Hanover Street, Trenton, NJ 08608

**Phone:** 609-396-9355 x26

**Email:** [marciam@thecrisisministry.org](mailto:marciam@thecrisisministry.org)

**Website:** [www.thecrisisministry.org](http://www.thecrisisministry.org)

**Hours:** Mon-Fri: 9am-12pm, closed 1st week; See calendar on website.

**Contact:** Director of Food Service, Mark Smith

*This site provides groceries to low income people.*

### EAST TRENTON CENTER



**Site:** 601 North Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08638

**Phone:** 609-393-8009 ext. 221

**Email:** [lleonard@habitatnj.org](mailto:lleonard@habitatnj.org)

**Hours:** *Pantry* - Mon, Tues, Wed: 10am-1pm

*Narcotics Anonymous Program:* every Fri night

**Contact:** Liz Leonard

*This site provides a food pantry, clothing distribution when available, an after school learning lab, a Narcotics Anonymous Program and a winter homeless overflow program.*

## JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH



**Site:** 150 North Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08609

**Mail:** P.O. Box 3833, Trenton, NJ 08629-0833

**Phone:** 609-631-0355

**Email:** [csampson11@verizon.net](mailto:csampson11@verizon.net)

**Hours:** 1st Sat of months with 4 Saturdays; 3rd Sat of months with 5 Saturdays: 11am-1pm

**Contact:** Clara Sampson

*This site provides a monthly meal program for the community, free clothing and Thanksgiving baskets.*

## MOUNT CARMEL GUILD EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



**Site:** 73 North Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08609

**Mail:** Same

**Phone:** 609-392-3402

**Email:** [slmaggiomcg@aol.com](mailto:slmaggiomcg@aol.com)

**Website:** [www.mcgtrenton.org](http://www.mcgtrenton.org)

**Hours:** Monday-Friday with exception of Tuesday afternoon and 2nd Thursday of month

**Contact:** Sister Loretta Maggio

## RESCUE MISSION OF TRENTON



**Site:** 98 Carroll Street, Trenton, NJ 08609

**Mailing address:** P.O. Box 790, Trenton, NJ 08605

**Phone:** 609-695-1436 ext. 139

**Email:** See website.

**Website:** [www.rescuemissionoftrenton.org](http://www.rescuemissionoftrenton.org)

**Hours:** *Shelter* - 365 days per year: 4pm-8am

*Soup Kitchen* - Sun: 11am-12pm; 5th Sat of each month: 11am-12pm

**Contact:** Joyce Williams

*This site provides an emergency shelter, food and clothing to homeless individuals.*

## SALVATION ARMY

**Site:** 575 E. State Street, Trenton, NJ 08601

**Mail:** P.O. Box 60, Trenton, NJ 08601

**Phone:** 609-599-9373

**Hours:** *Office and Day Center* - Mon-Fri: 8am-4pm

**Contact:** Captain John Ferreira

*This site provides a day center for the homeless, a children's program, and Christmas baskets. NO food pantry at this site.*

## TRENTON AREA SOUP KITCHEN (TASK)



**Site:** 72 1/2 Escher Street, Trenton, NJ 08605

**Mail:** P.O. Box 872, Trenton, NJ 08605

**Phone:** 609-695-5456 ext. 101

Email: dennism@trentonsoupkitchen.org

**Website:** [www.trentonsoupkitchen.org](http://www.trentonsoupkitchen.org)

**Hours:** Mon-Thurs: 9am-5pm; Fri: 9am-1pm

**Contact:** Dennis C. Micai

*This site provides a soup kitchen, clothing, social services, and adult education.*

## TRINITY CATHEDRAL FOOD PANTRY



**Site:** 801 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08618

**Phone:** 609-392-3805 ext. 100

**Website:** [www.TrinityCathedralNJ.org](http://www.TrinityCathedralNJ.org)

**Hours:** *Pantry* - every other Sat: 9-11am

**Contact:** Patrice D'Angelo

## D: Transportation



There is no general program that will provide assistance paying for transportation. NJ Transit will no longer accept release papers in substitution for bus tickets. However, you may purchase transit tickets from NJDOC for \$2.50 prior to release, which will assist you with reaching your destination.

Some of the programs listed in this book will provide bus passes to help you participate in a particular program. If you are assigned to a community/social service or reporting program, you may want to ask if the program offers transportation assistance.

For specific bus, rail or train schedules and fares, you may call NJ Transit: (973) 275-5555, NJ Text Telephone: 800-772-2287 or visit the NJ Transit Website: <http://www.njtransit.com>  
For specific route information on the web site, click on the “trip planner”. For your Mercer County travel convenience, may want to purchase weekly, monthly or discounted transit passes (when applicable).

### **TRANSPORTATION FOR THE DISABLED**

Transportation is generally geared toward seniors, disabled, individuals with AIDS or HIV and others with significant needs. Some agencies provide transportation for their program participants only. Contact the agencies below to determine eligibility requirements.

#### **Hamilton Neighborhood Service Center, Inc.**

169 Wilfred Avenue  
Hamilton, NJ 08611  
609-393-6480  
Transportation, Emergency Services (Food, Financial); Crisis Intervention

#### **Interfaith Caregivers Trenton/FIA, Inc.**

207 Hillcrest Ave  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
609.393.9922

#### **Medicaid**

7 Quakerbridge Plaza  
PO Box 712  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
800.356.1561

#### **Mercer County Board of Social Services**

200 Woolverton St.  
P.O. Box 1450  
Trenton, NJ 08650

#### **Mercer Street Friends Center**

151 Mercer Street  
Trenton, NJ 08611  
609-989-1925

#### **Trade Transportation**

300 Scotch Road, Bldg 1  
Trenton, NJ 08638  
609.530.1971

## **E. Money**

Once you are released from custody, you will need a source of income until you can find a job. (see section on “Finding a Job” for job seeking information).

**The DOC does not provide any “gate money,” except for the money you may have in your inmate account. If it is possible to save any money before you are released, you should try to do so.**

Based on need, Parole can give up to \$300.00 in emergency funds, but it is at their discretion. Ask your parole officer about this.



You may be eligible to get some sort of public assistance (welfare), not everyone qualifies for this. Listed below are some basics on seeking and applying for benefits.

**GENERAL ASSISTANCE (WFNJ-GA) AND TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (WFNJ-TANF)** provide cash benefits, GA for single people and TANF for people who have custody of their children. Both programs will require you to work or actively look for work and both have a five-year lifetime limit. Work First New Jersey also has an Emergency Assistance program that you may qualify for if you are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless: it can pay for things like food, clothing and transportation costs to look for housing, but also utility payments and temporary rental or mortgage payment assistance. Depending on the county you are returning to, you may be able to meet with the **P.R.E.P.A.R.E** social worker at your institution and complete a WFNJ-GA application prior to release. You can contact your social worker for more information.

**\*\*You can visit [www.njhelps.org](http://www.njhelps.org) to use the online screening tool for Food Stamps, General Assistance and other services offered.**

### **WFNJ-GA AND WFNJ-TANF** **Application sites in Mercer County:**

**Mercer County Board of Social Services**  
200 Woolverton St.  
P.O. Box 1450  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
609.989.4320 or 1-800-564-1595  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Tuesday, 8:30 am – 8:30 pm

**FYI:** Please call your local office to verify what the eligibility requirements are for obtaining General Assistance

### **FOOD STAMPS**

You may apply for food stamp while applying for GA/TANF. If you were convicted after August 22, 1996, of a drug distribution or sales offense, you may still be able to get Food Stamps if you have completed or are enrolled in a licensed drug treatment program, or completed a program in prison and are drug free (you will be tested). Same goes for possession offenses. Please contact the welfare office in Mercer County to inquire.

**OTHER BENEFIT PROGRAMS:** You may be eligible for other cash benefits, including Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits (if you are seriously disabled and cannot work) call 1-800-772-1213 and the Women's, Infants, Children (WIC) program, which gives food vouchers to low-income parents. You can inquire about WIC at the city and county welfare offices.



### **F: Veterans Benefits**

If you were receiving veteran's benefits, either for disability or a pension, and you were incarcerated for more than 60 days, you will have to get reinstated after you are released. If you were not receiving benefits and you are a veteran, you may be eligible for benefits or for other programs and services, including health care. You can contact the **P.R.E.P.A.R.E** social worker in your institution located in the social services department for assistance. You can also contact the Veterans Administration for questions about benefits at 800-827-1000; the health benefit number is 877-222-VETS. The 24-hour veterans mental health hotline is **1-866-VETS-NJ4U**.

#### **The closest VA Benefit Administration is located at:**

110A Meadowlands Parkway, Suite 102  
Secaucus NJ 07094  
201-223-7787

**Regional Office**  
20 Washington Pl., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Newark  
973-645-1441

**The nearest Veterans Services Office is located at:**

2280 Hamilton Avenue, Hamilton, NJ 08619  
Phone: (609) 989-6120  
Edward Mazzeo, Veteran Service Officer  
Monday thru Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

And

151 Eggert Crossing Road, Room 136  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
609-671-6697 or 6696

**Each office can assist you with your Veterans service needs.**

- Transportation to and from VA medical facilities
- Employment
- Vocational Rehab
- Mercer County One Stop Career Center
- Social Services
- War Veterans Re-Adjustment Counseling
- Affordable Housing Emergency and Transitional Housing
- Vet Center Clinic

Visit this local VA office to reinstate benefits or apply for new programs and services.

The following are some websites that can assist you in looking for information about veteran services:

Federal Veterans Information:

[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

Info for NJ Veterans:

[www.vetsinfo.com](http://www.vetsinfo.com)

New Jersey Dept of Veterans Affairs: [www.state.nj.us/military](http://www.state.nj.us/military)

New Jersey Veterans Guide:

[www.state.nj.us/military/veterans/njguide](http://www.state.nj.us/military/veterans/njguide)

VA Home Loans:

[www.homeloans.va.gov](http://www.homeloans.va.gov)

Veterans Counseling Service Center:

[www.va.gov/rcs/newjersey/html](http://www.va.gov/rcs/newjersey/html)



Be aware that the VA takes considerable time to make decisions. On average, it can take 273 days to process a new application for benefits.

## Taking Care of Yourself: Getting Support

The transition from prison back to society may take some time to get adjusted and we want to provide you with options to lessen the burden. Taking care of your mind and body will be important for your success. Below are a few places to that may be of assistance.



## Taking Care of Yourself: Health Care Resources

It is very important that you pay close attention to your aftercare once you are released from custody. Change in your daily routine cause a certain level of stress. Stress along with any medical condition may worsen if routine monitoring and treatment are not available. Therefore the resources listed below provide information on paying for health care, clinic visits and other resources in Mercer County.

### A. Health Care Benefits: Am I eligible?

In New Jersey, the **Medicaid** program provides health care benefits for some low-income people. If you gain custody of children under 18 when you are released, you may qualify if you are; *single, head of house and unemployed, or existing earnings are not enough to support the household* Other eligibility requirements include low-income status, over age 65, blindness, or inability to work due to a disability.

If you are disabled and are applying for SSI, you will also be screened for Medicaid at that time. If you qualify for General Assistance benefits, you will get some very basic health care benefits through Medicaid (Plan G). **Medicaid is a separate program from GA or TANF, so you don't have to be eligible for those benefits to qualify for Medicaid.**

For questions about Medicaid eligibility, or to apply for Medicaid in Mercer County go to:

**Mercer County Board of Social Services**

200 Woolverton St.

P.O. Box 1450

Trenton, NJ 08650

609.989.4320 or 1-800-564-1595

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Tuesday, 8:30 am – 8:30 pm

If you are a veteran, you may be eligible for health care benefits through the **Veterans Administration**, which provides a “Medical Benefits Package” for enrolled veterans. You may call 877-222-VETS for more information about eligibility and applying for benefits.

If you are HIV+ or have AIDS, you may also be eligible for the **AIDS Drug Distribution Program (ADDP)**, which provides help paying for HIV/AIDS medication for people who do not have other ways of paying. **You can apply for this program before you are released.** Contact the **Aids Drug Distribution Program** at 609-588-7038 or toll free 877-613-4533, Mon-Fri 8am-5pm to apply.

**Easter Seals New Jersey** provides information, referrals and loans of medical equipment (including wheelchairs) to people in need. For information call 732-257-6662.



## **B. General HealthCare Providers**

Even if you do not have Medicaid or other health insurance and benefits, here are some facilities that provide primary health care at low cost, sliding scale or free service. They are listed below. Most hospitals have charity care, for which you can inquire about during a hospital emergency room visit.

### **MERCER COUNTY HEALTHCARE LOCATIONS**

#### **Capital Health Regional Medical Center**

750 Brunswick Avenue

Trenton, NJ 08638

609-394-6000

Clinics, Medicaid, Medical Care, General Acute Medical Care

#### **Capital Health System at Mercer**

446 Bellevue Avenue

Trenton, NJ 08618

609-394-4000

Clinics, Medicaid, Medical Care, General Acute Medical Care

**Chambers Manor Family Practice**

317 Chambers Street  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
609-392-2635  
Clinics, Medical Care

**Haitian Center-Diocese of Trenton**

33 West Front Street-Rear  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-394-5693  
Medical Care

**Henry J. Austin Health Center**

112 Ewing Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-396-9600  
Clinics, Medical Care

**Henry J. Austin Health Center**

321 N Warren Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-989-3599  
Clinics, Dental Care, Medicaid, Medical Care, Women's health care

**Mercer County HIV Consortium**

447 Bellevue Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
800-5506755  
Dental Care, Medical Care

**Robert Wood Johnson Hospital at Hamilton**

One Hamilton Health Place  
Hamilton , NJ 08611  
609-586-7900  
Clinics, Medicaid, Medical Care, General Acute Medical Care

**St. Francis Medical Center**

601 Hamilton Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08629  
609-599-5000  
Clinics, Medicaid, Medical Care, General Acute Medical Care

**Trenton Division of Health**

218 N. Broad St.  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-989-3242  
Health Promotions and Clinical Services; Health Incentive Program for Women (HIP4W)

**University Medical Center at Princeton**

253 Witherspoon Street

Princeton , NJ 08540

609-497-4000

Clinics, Medicaid, Medical Care, General Acute Medical Care

**MERCER COUNTY DEPT OF HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES**

640 S Broad Street

Trenton, NJ 08625

609.989.6526

**Health & Behavioral Health Division** 609/989-6897

**Mercer County Geriatric Center** 609/588-5801

**Family Planning Centers in Mercer County Area:**

**Planned Parenthood**

**Administrative Offices**

69 E Newman Springs Road

Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

732-842-9300 or 1-800-230-PLAN

**Health Center**

437 East State Street

Trenton, NJ 08608

609-599-4881

**Hamilton Square**

**Golden Crest Corporate Center**

2279 Route 33, Suite 510

Hamilton Square, NJ 08690

609-689-4964

**C. Services for People with HIV/AIDS**

In addition to the clinics listed above, a number of places in Mercer County offer care and support services specifically for those living with HIV and AIDS.

**Hamilton Township Division of Health**

2100 Greenwood Avenue

Telephone #: (609) 890-3647

Fax #: (609) 890-6093

Clinic Session: Mondays 1-3 pm and Tuesdays 9-11 am

Walk-in Clinic (Free and Confidential)

STD – Counseling Testing and Treatment available

HIV – Counseling & Testing available

**Chambers Manor Family Practice**

317 Chambers Street  
Trenton, NJ 08611  
609.392.2635

**Family Guidance Center**

253 Nassau Street  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
888.866.9565

**Family Guidance Center**

946 Englewood Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
609.924.1320  
800.813.0555

**Henry J. Austin Health Center**

112 Ewing Street  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
609.396.9600

**Henry J. Austin Health Center**

321 N Warren St  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609.989.3599

**Hyacinth AIDS Foundation**

986 S Broad Street  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
609.396.8322  
Case management, support groups, buddy services and treatment  
advocacy

**Mercer Area Early Intervention Services (EIS)**

413 Hillcrest Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
609.538.0025

**Mercer County HIV Consortium**

1018 Hamilton Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
800.550.6755  
Case Management – HIV/AIDS

**Mercer County HIV Consortium**

447 Bellevue Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
800.550.6755

**NJ AIDS/STD Hotline**

1-800-624-2377 – 24 hours/day  
1.800.433.0254

The hotlines provide referrals, general information, counseling,  
testing locations and treatment information.

**STD Screening**

Trenton STD Clinic  
218 North Broad Street  
Telephone #: (609) 989-3242, choose option 4  
Fax #: (609) 989-3898

Clinic Session: **ADULT CLINIC HOURS**

Monday 8:15 am– 11:00 am & 1:15 pm – 3:00 pm

Tuesday 8:15 am – 2:00 pm

Wednesday 8:15 am – 11:00 am & 1:15 pm – 3:00 pm

Thursday 8:15 am – 5:00 pm

**D. Services for People With  
Tuberculosis and Hepatitis C**

In addition to the general medical care facilities listed above,  
there are a few services especially for people with tuberculosis  
and hepatitis C. Screening and treatment are available at no cost.  
Certain eligibility requirements apply.

**TRENTON**

Capital Health System @ Mercer  
Mercer County TB Services  
446 Bellevue Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 3:00 pm

Tuberculosis Program  
609-826-4878  
135 East State Street, 1st Floor  
P.O. Box 369  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0369

Princeton Regional Health Department  
1 Monument Drive  
P.O. Box 390  
Princeton, NJ 08542  
(609)-497-7608

## **E. Dental Care**

The locations listed below don't provide free care, but do have a sliding scale for those without insurance. Waiting lists can be long.

**NJ Family Care** is available to certain low income parents. In addition to health benefits dental and eyeglasses are offered. For children this service is free. In order to check for eligibility, please call 1-800-701-0710

### **Henry J. Austin Health Center**

321 North Warren Street **and** 112 Ewing Street

Trenton, NJ 08608

609-278-5943 and 609-396-9600

Clinics, Dental Care, Medicaid, Medical Care, Women's healthcare

## **F. Mental Health and Substance Abuse Resources**

**FYI:** Drug addiction can be fatal to your health, not to mention illegal and can result in jail time. In order to be successful in society seeking services for a drug or alcohol addiction will be necessary. Many of the health clinics, support centers and other resources listed in this guide can help refer you to treatment that most fit your needs. Listed below are some of Mercer County's treatment resources and each of these will also help with referrals if they can not help you. If you want treatment, you should also ask your parole officer for help — beds in treatment facilities are hard to come by, and they can help get you in. There are Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) support group meetings all over Mercer County. To find a meeting near you, call 866-920-1212 (for AA) or 800-992-0401 (for NA). For other self-help group resources, call the New Jersey Self Help Clearinghouse at 800-367-6274. Also, you can call the Addictions Hotline of NJ at 800-238-2333.

**FYI:** Each county has a mental health administrator. When you call this person they will provide you with the names and phone numbers closest to your area to provide services that fit your needs.

### **The mental health administrator for Mercer County is:**

Michele Madiou, Administrator  
Mercer County Division of Mental Health  
640 South Broad Street - PO Box 8068  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
(609) 989-6529

**Crisis and Screening Center**  
Capital Health Regional Medical Center  
750 Brunswick Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08638  
**HOTLINES:** (609) 396-4357 or (609) 989-7297

**The following are the agency listings in Mercer County that  
provide Mental Health services:**

**Association for Advancement of Mental Health**  
819 Alexander Road  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
www.AAMH.org  
**Phone:** (609) 452-2088

**Family Guidance Center Corporation**  
1931 Nottingham Way  
Hamilton, NJ 08619  
www.fgccorp.org  
**Phone:** (609) 586-0668

**Greater Trenton Behavioral Healthcare**  
Box 1393  
Trenton, NJ 08607  
Marianne Eagen 396-6788 x 252  
**Phone:** (609) 396-6788  
www.gtbhc.org

**SERV Centers of New Jersey**  
20 Scotch Road  
Ewing, NJ 08628  
**Phone:** (609) 406-0100

**The following are a list of agencies that provide assistance  
with substance abuse/addictions services:**

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ALCOHOL  
39 NORTH CLINTON AVENUE  
TRENTON, NJ 08609  
Phone: (609)394-9398

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEW CHOICES  
10 SOUTHARD ST  
TRENTON, NJ 08609  
Phone: (609)396-4557



CORNER HOUSE  
369 WITHERSPOON STREET  
PRINCETON, NJ 08540  
Phone: (609)924-8018  
Email: [gdeblasio@cornerhousenj.org](mailto:gdeblasio@cornerhousenj.org)

FAMILY GUIDANCE CENTER CORPORA  
2300 HAMILTON AVENUE  
HAMILTON, NJ 08619  
Phone: (609)587-7044  
Website: <http://www.fgccorp.org>

FAMILY GUIDANCE CENTER CORPORA  
946 EDGEWOOD AVE  
TRENTON, NJ 08618  
Phone: (609)393-1626  
Website: <http://www.fgccorp.org>

LEADING EDGE RECOVERY CENTER  
1777 KLOCKNER RD  
MERCERVILLE, NJ 08619  
Phone: (609)249-9470

NEW HORIZON TREATMENT SERVICES  
132 PERRY STREET  
TRENTON, NJ 08618  
Phone: (609)394-8988  
Website: <http://nhts.net>

NEW HORIZON TREATMENT SERVICES  
GRYPHON HOUSE  
144 PERRY ST  
TRENTON, NJ 08618  
Phone: (609)394-8988

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED,  
4 NORTH BROAD ST  
TRENTON, NJ 08625  
Phone: (609)503-9400

PRINCETON HOUSE BEHAVIORAL  
905 HERRONTOWN RD  
PRINCETON, NJ 08540  
Phone: (609)497-3300  
Website: <http://www.princetonhcs.org>

PRINCETON HOUSE BEHAVIORAL HEA  
741 MOUNT LUCAS RD  
PRINCETON, NJ 08540  
Phone: (609)497-3343  
Website: <http://www.princetonhcs.org>

PRINCETON HOUSE BEHAVIORAL  
1670 WHITEHORSE-HAMILTON SQUARE RD  
HAMILTON, NJ 08690  
Phone: (609)586-4788  
Website: <http://www.princetonhcs.org>

REHAB AFTER WORK  
2109 PENNINGTON RD  
EWING TOWNSHIP, NJ 08638  
Phone: (610)889-9939

RESCUE MISSION OF TRENTON  
72 EWING ST  
TRENTON, NJ 08609  
Phone: (609)815-2062  
Website: <http://www.rescuemissionoftrenton.org>

RESCUE MISSION OF TRENTON  
98 CARROLL ST  
TRENTON, NJ 08609  
Phone: (609)393-3533  
Website: <http://www.rescuemissionoftrenton.org>

SIGNS OF SOBRIETY (SOS)  
100 SCOTCH ROAD 2ND FL  
EWING, NJ 08628  
Phone: (609)882-7677  
Website: <http://www.signsofsobriety.org>

TRENTON TREATMENT CENTER  
56 ESCHER ST  
TRENTON, NJ 08609  
Phone: (609)392-2822

## **G. Emergency Mental Health Services**

**FYI: If at any time you may want to hurt yourself or someone else, please call 911. If you feel like you may be a danger to your self or others. It is very important that you call someone for help. Here are a few numbers of places that would be more than willing to come to your aid.**

**Capital Health System**

750 Brunswick Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08638 [www.capitalhealth.org](http://www.capitalhealth.org)  
**Phone:** (609) 989-8104 or (609) 394-6142

**Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton**

Central Administrative Services (609) 394-5981  
383 West State St., PO Box 1423 (609) 267-9339 x 108  
Trenton, NJ 08607-1423 [www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org](http://www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org)  
**Phone:** (609) 394-5181

**NJ Association of Mental Health & Addiction Agencies**

The Neuman Building  
3575 Quakerbridge Road, Suite 102  
Mercerville, NJ 08619  
[www.njamhaa.org](http://www.njamhaa.org)  
**Phone:** (609) 838-5488

**Jewish Family & Children's Service**

707 Alexander Road, Suite 102  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
**Phone:** (609) 987-8100  
[www.jfconline.org](http://www.jfconline.org)

**H. Free/Low Cost Eyeglasses and Eye care** 

**Campus Eye Group –  
Henry J Austin Health Center**

112 Ewing Street  
Trenton, NJ 08609  
609.396.9600  
Hours of Operation:  
Monday – Friday  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Campus Eye Group –  
Henry J Austin Health Center**

321 N Warren Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-989-3599  
Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm  
Saturday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Clinics, Dental Care, Medicaid, Medical Care, Women's health  
care

### **New Eyes for the Needy**

549 Millburn Avenue  
PO Box 332  
Short Hills, NJ 07078  
973-376-4903  
973-376-3807

Eligibility: Must be in financial need; have had a recent eye exam. (New Eyes does not pay for eye exams.); have no other resources available to pay for glasses, including federal or state programs or assistance from local charitable organizations; income at or below the U.S. poverty guidelines

A New Eyes voucher typically covers only the cost of a basic pair of single or bifocal eyeglasses.

To apply for a free eye exam or glasses, call VISION USA at 1-800-766-4466.



## **Finding a Job:**

### **Employment Assistance and Training Programs**

Getting a job is usually one of the most important necessities when released from prison. Not everyone can obtain employment immediately, sometimes things like getting drug treatment, dealing with your housing, health or family situation may come first. For most people, though, finding work is the first step to getting back on your feet. It will be very challenging to get a job once you have been in prison, but it is not impossible, and you need to be persistent and patient. Below are some pointers on job searching, and information about resources that can help you find a job or get training for the job you want.

### **A. Things to Know Before You Start Your Job Search**

**Be Prepared:** It is essential that you are organized, and have all records of previous employment available when beginning a job search. A resume is the smartest thing you can create. If you are unsure of how to do so, you may go to your local one-stop career center and seek assistance. Not only will employers want to know your work history, they will inquire of accurate dates that you were employed with the company. Knowing this information is vital to ensuring employment. Employers will not be interested in hearing that you do not remember dates or addresses for your work history. If an employer decides to hire you, he will also need your identification, so make sure that is readily available.

**Presentation:** Look as neat, clean and organized as possible, no matter what the job is. Be polite and respectful, even when people are not polite and respectful to you, and many won't be. Making the person you want to help you or hire you mad won't get you the job you want.

**Talking About Your Criminal Record:**

Never omit or falsify a document that asks you specifically if you have a criminal record. The application may ask you to give details to the nature of your crime or it may not. Chances are a criminal background check will be administered prior to employment, and lying will cost you the job.

**IT'S A JOB FOR RIGHT NOW,  
IT'S NOT THE REST OF YOUR LIFE**

When you are first starting out, especially if you've been out of the job market for a while, or have never had a job, you need to build a work history, and, of course, you need to make some money. Take whatever job you can get for now — it doesn't have to be the exact job you want, or what you eventually want to be doing. Do this job well —even if it's not a great job — and it can help you get a better one in the future. A year of good job performance will make your criminal record matter less.

**B. Help with Job Search and Job Training:  
Resources**

**The following are good places to start in looking for a job.**

**Mercer County One Stop Career Center**

26 Yard Avenue  
First Floor  
P.O. Box 954  
Trenton , NJ 08625-0954

**For Vocational Rehabilitation Services:**

Mercer County  
Vocational Rehabilitation Services  
28 Yard Avenue, P O Box 0959  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0959  
Phone: (609) 292-2940

### **C. Legal Restrictions on Employment and Protections Against Discrimination**

If you are interested in getting a job and building a career in a particular area, you should make sure that it isn't one that is forbidden to someone with the kind of criminal conviction that you have on your record. There are about 22 categories of jobs in New Jersey that exclude people with convictions (which conviction it is varies by job). These include: aircraft/airport employees; paid public school employees, school bus drivers and school crossing guards; bank employees; bartenders and waiters in establishments where liquor is served; housing authority and municipal police and parking enforcement officers; New Jersey Turnpike Authority employees; liquor retail, wholesale, manufacturing or distributing employees; paid firefighters; child care center employees; community residences for individuals with developmental disabilities. A much larger number of jobs require that you disclose your criminal record, and those employers perform background checks; some of these, however, also require that employers consider evidence of rehabilitation. These include most jobs in the health care and counseling fields (including drug and alcohol counseling) and social workers.

**FYI:** If you are going to begin training in a particular field, make sure you find out from the training course whether there are any restrictions that will keep you from getting a job.

#### **Protections for Licensed Occupations:**

If you are not absolutely barred from a position because of your conviction, New Jersey law says that you cannot be denied a professional license simply because of your conviction unless the crime for which you were convicted relates to the occupation you want to enter. If the licensing board or agency wants to deny you a license because the crime is related to the occupation, they have to explain, in writing, that they have considered certain factors like the seriousness of the crime, the circumstances of the crime, the date and your age when convicted, whether the crime was an isolated or repeated event, social conditions, and evidence of rehabilitation. You can ask your parole officer about applying for a "certificate of rehabilitation," which can be used in your license application.

## **D. Benefits for Employers Who Hire People With Criminal Records**

As you look for a job you can tell employers that the federal government has programs to support employers who hire people coming out of prison.

**FYI: Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC):** With the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, your employer may be able to save up to \$4800 the first year you are hired. Make sure to inform your potential employer of this benefit.

**Federal Bonding Program:** Provides bonding “or insurance coverage” for employers who hire individuals with criminal histories who are otherwise qualified but cannot gain employment due to their criminal backgrounds. Please contact your local one stop for more information:

### **Mercer County One Stop Career Center**

26 Yard Avenue  
First Floor  
P.O. Box 954  
Trenton , NJ 08625-0954

## **E. Opening a Checking or Savings Account**



After you’ve gotten a source of income, you may want to open a checking or savings account. A checking account is a great idea because many jobs provide direct deposit, and your check is automatically deposited into your account on payday. Using checks to pay for your bills is also cheaper than using money orders. To open a checking account you usually need a picture I.D. (driver’s license or non-driver state I.D.), proof of address, birth certificate, and a Social Security card. You can also request a debit card with your account, which you can use just like a credit card (as long as you have the money in your account already). You can get a debit card for either a checking account or a savings account, but with a savings account you can earn interest on the money you’ve saved. Fees for these accounts will vary depending on the type of account and bank. Many banks now offer free checking.



## **F. Public Libraries**

Your local public library can be a good resource for your job search. Public computers provide internet access (and help using the computer), job and course listings, and other local directories. Libraries also often carry the government forms mentioned in this guide, and librarians can help you find other information that you need.

### **Ewing Branch Library**

61 Scotch Road  
Ewing, NJ 08628  
Phone: (609) 882-3130

### **Hickory Corner Branch Library**

138 Hickory Corner Road  
East Windsor, NJ 08520  
Phone: (609) 448-1330

### **Hightstown Memorial Branch**

114 Franklin Street  
Hightstown, NJ 08520  
Phone: (609) 448-1474

### **Hollowbrook Branch**

320 Hollowbrook Drive  
Trenton, NJ 08638  
Phone: (609) 883-5914

### **Hopewell Branch**

245 Pennington-Titusville Road  
Pennington, NJ 08534  
Phone: (609) 737-2610

### **Lawrence Headquarters Branch**

2751 Brunswick Pike  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
Phone: (609) 882-9246

### **Robbinsville Branch**

42 Allentown-Robbinsville Road  
Robbinsville, NJ 08691  
Phone: (609) 259-2150



**Twin Rivers Branch Library**

276 Abbington Drive  
East Windsor, NJ 08520  
Phone: (609) 443-1880

**West Windsor Branch Library**

333 N. Post Road  
Princeton Jct., NJ 08550  
Phone: (609) 799-0462

**FYI:** Please note that summer and holiday hours differ from the above referenced, and you will need to call for those times.

**Reconnecting with Family**

As you prepare to come home, you may be thinking about reuniting with family members, including those you may not have seen for a long time. You may be excited to see your kids, your spouse, your parents, and others who are part of your family, and while most will be glad to see you home, others may be reluctant. All kinds of issues can come up, and you may need some help solving some of the problems that arise. This section provides some information and resources to help solve these issues.

**Hotlines For Family Services Resources****NJ Child Abuse/ Neglect Hotline:**

1(877)NJABUSE (652-2873)

**Child Care Hotline:**

1(800) 332-9227

**NJ Child Support Hotline:**

1 (877) NJKIDS- 1 (655-4371)

**Division of Family Development:**

1(800) 792-9773

**NJ Division of Youth and Family Services:**

1 (800) 331-DYFS (3937)

**Family Health Line:**

1 (800) 328-3838

**Family Help Line (for stressed parents):**

1 (800) THE KIDS (843-2537)

**National Domestic Violence Hotline:**

1(800) 799-7233

**NJ Domestic Violence Hotline:**

1(800) 572-7223

**Parents Anonymous:**

1(800) 843-5437

**A. Family Counseling Resources**

The following places can provide support, marital and family counseling and parenting classes to help you reunite with your family.

**Center for Innovative Family Achievement (CIFA)**

380 Scotch Road  
West Trenton , NJ 08628  
609-406-0100  
Family

**Counseling and Case Management**

707 Alexander Road, Suite 102  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
609-987-8100  
Family Counseling

**Family Guidance Center**

946 Edgewood Avenue  
Trenton , NJ 08609  
609-924-1320  
800-813-0555  
Family Counseling

**Mercer Street Friends Center**

151 Mercer Street  
Trenton , NJ 08611  
609-989-1925  
Family, Family Counseling, Family Services

**Trinity Counseling Service**

22 Stockton Street  
Princeton , NJ 08540  
609-924-0060  
Children, Family, Family Counseling, Family Preservation,  
Family Services, Marriage



**Parents Anonymous of New Jersey, Inc.**

1-800-843-5437 (24 hour hotline) Hours: Call to confirm group times at different locations Self-help for parents who are under stress and who want to improve their relationship with their children. Groups meet weekly and are facilitated by a volunteer professional; many groups provide child care. Groups meet in most counties throughout the state with some bilingual groups available. Parents Anonymous also offers an on-line support group as well.

**B. Child Custody and Visitation**

Establishing visitation and gaining custody of your children once you are released is not an overnight procedure. If you had custody of your kids at the time you were incarcerated, and no family was able to take care of them, they may have been placed in foster care. If this is the case, and you do not know your child's case manager's name or number, contact the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) at 800-531-1091. You will have to make an appointment with the case manager for an interview. They may not be willing to give you information over the phone. You'll be asked a series of questions in order to assess when and if you will be given visitation rights, so that you may reestablish your relationship with the child and hopefully gain custody again. This is just a quick overview of what to do and what you can expect.

***FYI: If you were convicted of any violent or sexual offenses against children, you may be unable to live with or regain custody of your children.***

**Listed below are the different offices for DYFS in your area. Please contact the office that applies to your location.**

**Mercer North LO- #673**

3131 Princeton Pike  
Building 6, Suite 202  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
**609-530-7200**  
**800-392-2735**  
Fax: 609-219-6564

**Mercer South LO - #669**

120 S. Stockton St., 2nd Fl  
P.O. Box 717  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
**609-292-5100**  
**800-392-2721**  
Fax: 609-633-9602

### **C. Getting and Paying Child Support**

Whether you have custody of your children on your own when you get out, and need help from an absent “non-custodial” parent, or you do not have custody of kids who need your support, child support payments will be an important part of your life after you are released. Some basic information is included below, as far as enforcing a child support order.

#### **To locate a parent prior to an order, contact:**

Mercer County Board of Social Services  
200 Woolverton Street  
P.O. Box 01450  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
(609) 989-4320

#### **To enforce an existing order, contact:**

Mercer County Child Support  
175 South Broad Street P.O. Box 8068  
Trenton ,NJ 08650  
1-877-NJKIDS1

#### **To establish or change an order, contact:**

Mercer County Family Court Bldg  
175 South Broad Street P.O. Box 8068  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
Phone: (609) 571-4200

You can also call **1-877 NJKIDS1** for more information.

#### **Paying Child Support**

If you have kids that you did not have custody of before you went to prison, there may be a child support order requiring you to pay a certain amount every month for their support. Even if you did not go to court, for example, the parent with custody filed for the order while you were incarcerated, the court can still order you to pay child support. The amount you pay in child support is tied to your income, and if the court does not know your income, they will assume you are working 40 hours a week at minimum wage. Child support payments are usually taken out of your paycheck. If you have not paid at all or missed payments, you will owe “arrear.” Unless you got a modification of your child support order when you went into prison (see below), the amount of arrears that you owe will have continued to grow while you were inside. When you come out, and get a job, they can begin to take out not just the monthly amount you owe for child support, but more money to pay back the arrears (up to 65% of your pay in total). They may also suspend your driver’s license. Here are some things you can do:

## **D. Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Resources**

The following places provide counseling, support and shelter or referrals to shelter in domestic violence situations. You can also call these 24-hour hotlines:

**New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women:  
(800)-572-SAFE.**

**Domestic Abuse Hotline for Men and Women:  
(888) 7HELPLINE (1-888-743-5754)**

**National Domestic Violence Hotline  
1-800-799-SAFE**

**WOMANSPACE, INC.  
1530 Brunswick Ave., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
Emergency Shelter  
24-Hr. Hotline:  
State Hotline:  
(609) 394-9000  
1-800-572-SAFE (7233)**

**Sexual Assault Support Services  
24 Hr. Hotline (609) 394-9000**

**Outreach  
1860 Brunswick Avenue, Lawrenceville, NJ, 08648  
(609) 394-2532  
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AVAILABLE**

**Batterers Services  
Family Growth Program  
39 N. Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08609  
(609) 394-5157**

## Getting More Education

Although getting more education may not be part of your short term plans, it certainly should be something to think about for the future, especially if you do not have a high school diploma or a GED.



### **A. High School Diploma/GED Certificate/High School Equivalency Degree (HSED)/Vocational School Certificates**

It is very important to keep records of any degrees and certificates of completion and work-related licenses that have earned. Before you are released, you can write to the school or agency where you earned your degree or certificate to obtain a copy. Once you have a copy in your possession, this should be kept in your strong box.

**FYI:** If you earned your GED while incarcerated, please call the Education Department of the institution you were in to obtain a copy.

You can also request your GED transcript or diploma verification from the New Jersey Department of Education providing you completed your diploma in a traditional setting. You will have to fill out a GED Information Request Form.

Please call 609-777-1050 for further assistance.

You may ask that it be sent to you; or you may pick up the form at a local testing center (which you can do after you are released); by downloading the form from the website <http://www.state.nj.us/njded/students/ged/ged7.htm>; or by writing to: GED Testing Program, Bureau of Adult Education and Family Literacy, New Jersey Department of Education, PO Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625.

Your chances of getting a job that pays a living wage and of moving forward in a career will improve with more education, and not having the high school diploma or GED will simply lock you out from a lot of opportunities.



## **B. GED Classes**

The places in Mercer County below offer classes to help you prepare for the GED exam. Call for exact times and procedures. Many locations offer classes at low cost or no cost. For more information, contact the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Workforce Readiness & Literacy at (609) 943-5921. Call individual programs for information on classes offered, fees and/or time schedules.

### **GED Testing Centers**

Mercer County Community College  
102 North Academy Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608-1702  
(609)586-4800 x6685 Fax: (609)989-8453  
Spanish Language Testing Offered

Hamilton Township Adult School  
90 Park Avenue  
Hamilton, NJ 08690  
(609)631-4100 x3025 Fax: (609)631-4110



## **C. Higher Education**

If you already have a high school diploma or a GED certificate, you may want to move forward and get your associate's degree, bachelor's degree or graduate degree.

### **Local Area Colleges**

Thomas Edison State College  
101 West State Street, Trenton, NJ  
(888) 442-8372

TCNJ Admissions Office  
Ewing Township, NJ  
(609) 771-1855

Rider University  
2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, NJ  
(609) 896-5000

Princeton University  
Roper Lane, Princeton, NJ  
(609) 258-3000

Forbes College  
115 Alexander Street, Princeton, NJ  
(609) 258-6094

Mercer County Community College  
1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, NJ  
(609) 586-4800

Westminster Choir College Of Rider University  
101 Walnut Lane, Princeton, NJ  
(609) 921-7100

Princeton Graduate College  
Clio Hall, Princeton, NJ  
(609) 258-3030

Strayer University  
3150 Brunswick Pike #100, Lawrenceville, NJ  
(609) 406-7600

### **Can I Get Financial Aid?**

To pay for this, you will probably try to get some financial aid. If you are applying for any federal financial aid programs after release (such as Pell Grants, Perkins Loans, Federal Family Education Loans, etc.), you are not restricted unless you have a drug-related offense. For possession offenses, a first offense means one year of ineligibility (after your conviction), a second offense, two years, and third offense means you are “indefinitely” ineligible, which to the government means permanently ineligible. For a sales or distribution crime, a first offense has two years of ineligibility, a second offense makes it permanent. Private financial aid or loan programs may not have any restrictions.

## **Other Things You Need to Know**

### **A. Getting Legal Assistance**

To get assistance with civil (not criminal) cases, you can contact the toll free hotline for **Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ)**, which provides information and referrals, **888-576-5529**. For local Mercer County legal services please contact the office located nearest to you:

Central Jersey Legal Services  
198 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ  
County: Mercer County  
(609) 695-6249  
Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Website: [www.lsnj.org/cjls](http://www.lsnj.org/cjls)



## **B. Checking and Correcting Your Criminal Record (“rap sheet”)**

Since employers, landlords and others will be performing criminal background checks and getting copies of your criminal record, it is important that you know what is on it, and that it is accurate. You should also be prepared to answer any questions about your background.

**FYI:** Background checks are now only done electronically. You may contact State Police Headquarters to inquire how to correct your criminal record at the following address.

State Section of Identification  
Records and Identification Bureau  
New Jersey State Police  
P.O. Box 7068  
West Trenton, NJ 08628  
1-609-882-2000 ext 6425  
1-609-530-4856 fax

## **C. Expungement: Cleaning Up Your Criminal Record**

You may have heard about expungement as one way to clean up your criminal record as you get some distance from your old arrests and convictions. Unfortunately, expungement is fairly limited in New Jersey. You can expunge any arrest that did not lead to a conviction at any point. You can expunge “disorderly persons offenses,” which are low level offenses in New Jersey, after 5 years, and most municipal ordinance offenses after 2 years. Convictions for “indictable offenses” (felonies), can be expunged 10 years from the date of conviction, payment of any fine, satisfactory completion of probation or parole or release from incarceration, but whichever is latest. The most serious of these offenses, such as murder, kidnapping, aggravated sexual assault, robbery, arson, perjury and distribution, sale or possession with intent to distribute of controlled dangerous substances (drugs), **can never be expunged.** Expungement is a broader remedy for offenses committed as a juvenile. Legal Services of New Jersey has published a guide to cleaning up your record through expungement.

To obtain a copy of the book, call 888-576-5529, or go to the LSNJ web site, where you can download it for free: <http://www.lsnj.org/english/crime/municipalcourt/clearingyourrecord.cfm>.

## **D. Checking and Correcting Your Credit Record**



While New Jersey allows employers to look at your criminal record, many employers — and others like landlords and mortgage companies — will use a credit report instead of or in addition to the state’s records. Credit records are maintained by private companies and generally have information about your debts, your history of paying bills and other financial matters, but may also have information about your criminal record. The information may not be correct, and the law does offer you some protections. For example, if an employer uses a credit record to deny you a job, they have to tell you this, and give you the name, address and phone number of the agency that provided the report, and the agency must give you a copy of that information on your request. They cannot charge you money for that request if the employer used the report to deny you a job. If the records of the credit agency contain incorrect information, they must investigate and correct inaccurate information.

You can get ahead of the curve by getting a copy of your credit record and making sure there isn’t any incorrect information on it. New Jersey residents are allowed one free credit report each year. Three companies that provide this service are:

**Equifax Information Systems, LLC.:**  
P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374  
800-685-1111.

**Transunion Personal Credit Report:**  
PO Box 1000, Chester PA 19022  
800-888-4213.

**Experian:**  
PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013  
800-397-3742.

**FYI:** By mail, be sure to include your full name, current address, Social Security number, and most recent former address for file-matching purposes.

## **E. Voting Rights**

New Jersey law does not allow you to vote while you are in prison, or while you are on probation or parole for an indictable offense (disorderly person’s offenses don’t disqualify you).

**Once you have completed your parole or probation term, you may register to vote.** Make sure that you are registered in the county in which you reside. **Applications for registration can be obtained from Social Services prior to release.** Also you may apply with the Division of Elections, the

Commissioners of Registration office in the County where you live or from your Municipal Clerk once you are released. Registration forms are also available in various State agencies and at Division of Motor Vehicle offices and can be obtained while transacting agency business. If you are not sure, you can visit [http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/vote\\_doe.html](http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/vote_doe.html). You will be able to download a voter's registration form and mail it in. This site also explains who can register to vote and where you can register.

## **F. Registration of Sexual Offenders (Megan's Law)**

Sex offenders are required to register with the police under Megan's Law. Offenses include: aggravated sexual assault; sexual assault; aggravated criminal sexual contact; endangering the welfare of a child by engaging in sexual conduct which would impair or debauch the morals of the child; luring or enticing and, if the victim were a minor and the offender not a parent, kidnapping; criminal restraint and false imprisonment and promoting prostitution of a child under 18. **You will be registered prior to release, but must re-register your home address at least 10 days prior to any move with the law enforcement agency with which you were registered when released.** You will also need to verify your address annually or every 90 days if you are a repetitive and compulsive offender.

## The Game Plan

Your first weeks out after leaving prison can be overwhelming. This section is set up to help you get organized and keep yourself on track toward your goals. First, think about what those goals are? What do you want or need to get done in your first week out? In your first month out? Where do you want to be in six months? There are lots of things that other people need you to do — your parole officer, for example, and your family — but you also need to think about what you expect from yourself.

### Places to stay

---

---

---

### Appointments to make? Doctors? Job help? Employers? Applying for Benefits?

---

---

---

### People I need to see or call:

Who? \_\_\_\_\_  
Who? \_\_\_\_\_  
Who? \_\_\_\_\_

### NOTES:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Your First Weeks Out

Here is a basic calendar to use to plan your first days out of prison. Below it, there are some questions to ask yourself about what you plan to do. You can mark appointments and tasks on the calendar, and write in dates in the small boxes.

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>

For how long? \_\_\_\_\_  
For how long? \_\_\_\_\_  
For how long? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where/phone number?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Where/phone number?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Where/phone number?

**Other things I need to do (get I.D., get prescriptions, go to a support group, etc.):**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**I.D. Checklist**

<b>Documents</b>	<b>Have?</b>	<b>Need?</b>
Strong Box	_____	_____
Social Security Card	_____	_____
Birth Certificate	_____	_____
County I.D.	_____	_____
Driver's License	_____	_____
Non-driver's I.D.	_____	_____
Certificate of Naturalization	_____	_____
Green Card	_____	_____
Military Discharge Papers	_____	_____
Passport	_____	_____
High School Diploma Or GED Certificate	_____	_____
Prison Release Papers	_____	_____

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**My Contacts:**  
**Important Names and Phone Numbers**

Parole Officer: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Parole Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Parole Office: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Smart Book Topics

-  **Getting Started:  
I.D. and Other Documents**
-  **First Steps After Release:  
Where Do I Go to Find...**
-  **Taking Care of You:  
Getting Support**
-  **Taking Care of You:  
Health Care Resources**
-  **Finding a Job:  
Employment Assistance  
and Training Programs**
-  **Reconnecting With Family**
-  **Getting More Education**
-  **Other Things You Need to Know**
-  **The Game Plan**