

HOUSE RULES

Haven House staff will explain each rule to the participant and the participant must follow the guidelines and expectations of each rule in order to continue residing in Haven House. All interpretations of the following rules, assessments of violation, and assignment of discipline shall be at the discretion of Haven House staff. **Any violation of any federal, state, borough, or city law on the property is a violation of these rules and may result in dismissal and/or notifying the participant's probation/parole officer. Participants must comply with all their conditions of parole/probation while living in Haven House and any violation of said conditions may result in immediate dismissal from Haven House.**

GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

Staff will ensure a safe, sober, and stable home environment and will meet weekly with each participant to discuss her Individual Action Plan, refer participants to resources provided by other agencies, provide discipleship and faith guidance, facilitate house meetings, and administer UAs or breathalyzer tests when appropriate.

ADJUSTMENT PERIOD

After the participant arrives at Haven House, she is subject to a one month adjustment period.

- If during the one month adjustment period the new participant honors all of the House Rules of Haven House, with staff approval, she may stay for a period of up to 24 months (1 month adjustment period + 23 additional months).
- If the new participant has violated any of Haven House's House Rules, her probation/parole officer will be notified and she will be asked to find other housing. If the violation is deemed serious by staff, the participant may be required to depart within 24 hours.

INDIVIDUAL ACTION PLAN

After a participant has been accepted into the facility, staff and the participant will develop an Individual Action Plan (IAP). Based on the participant's conditions of release and her personal goals, the IAP will identify the services needed and specific goals to work toward. Each participant must actively take part in both developing and following her plan. Progress updates on goals and any compliance issues will be reviewed on a weekly basis. Participants are encouraged to include an advocate, sponsor, or mentor in their weekly plan reviews.

HOUSING

All furniture, kitchen appliances and utensils, bed linens, and towels are provided by Haven House. Although participants may bring clothing and small personal items of low value with them into the house, **Haven House accepts no responsibility for lost or stolen personal items.**

- Checks: Random checks of all Haven House property will be conducted to ensure compliance with the House Rules and health and safety standards. **Participants who refuse a check will be dismissed from Haven House.** Any evidence of illegal activity found during a check will be turned over to the local police and/or participant's probation/parole officer for investigation.
- Most bedrooms will have two female occupants and participants must keep their space clean and livable. No dishes, cups, glasses, perishable foods, TVs, cooking/warming devices, or candles are allowed in the bedrooms. Each participant must have permission before entering another participant's bedroom. No participant may give her right to occupy a bedroom to anyone else and no participant may sub-lease a room to another person for any period of time.
- Participants must be respectful of others' belongings. Obtain permission before wearing or using other participants' property. A participant found stealing will be dismissed from Haven House and may be subject to legal action. Each participant is responsible for her own property and if anything is lost or stolen, Haven House is not responsible for replacement.
- Participants may not have pets.

- Participants must abide by quiet hours, meaning that the volume of TV, voices, radios, etc. must be kept low.
- Participants are responsible for their own transportation. Haven House staff will assist you in locating public transportation.
- Participants should dress modestly. Women must wear a top and pants at all times while in common areas of Haven House.

CONTRIBUTION TO HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES

Household expenses are \$550/month and covers a shared bedroom; the common use of a living room, kitchen, bathrooms, and dining room; utilities; and internet. Each participant is required to pay her monthly contribution to household expenses and any other fees in the form of a money order made out to Haven House, Inc. **All payments must be delivered in person to the Co-Directors and if payments are not made on time, a seven day dismissal notice may be given to the participant.**

- \$275.00 is due on or before the 1st day of each month and \$275.00 is due on or before the 16th day of each month, for a monthly total of \$550.
- Upon initial admission into Haven House, each new participant is required to pay \$250, which will be applied towards her first month's contributions to household expenses.
- Each participant will be charged a \$50 key deposit, which is refundable once the participant has returned her key to Haven House staff. Any participant who loses her key must inform staff immediately and the participant will be charged for the replacement key.
- Haven House will provide laundry machines. Each participant will be assigned one day per week that she can do her laundry. Staff may assess a fee if it is determined that a participant is doing an excessive amount of laundry.
- The participant is responsible for buying all personal items such as toiletries and personal food.

LENGTH OF STAY

A participant may reside at Haven House for up to two years (1 month adjustment period + 23 additional months) and is required to commit to stay for at least 6 months (1 month adjustment period + 5 additional months).

VISITOR POLICY

Only legal family members may visit participants. Legal family members include: spouse, mother, father, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, grandparents, and cousins. Visitors must be scheduled at least 48 hours in advance and approved (background checks may be required) by staff. Visiting will occur in the main living room and visitors must leave by 10:00pm. The visitors must complete a confidentiality form on their first visit.

HOUSEHOLD RESPONSIBILITIES

Each participant must follow a weekly cleaning and cooking schedule assigned by Haven House staff. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: yardwork, sweeping, raking, shoveling walkways/driveway, mowing lawns, cleaning common areas, and cooking communal meals.

- All participants are responsible for keeping Haven House clean, safe, and sanitary. Participants will dispose of all garbage and other waste in a sanitary manner in the container provided and garbage must be taken outside the morning of trash day.
- The kitchen and dishes will be cleaned each time after cooking is done and the meal has been eaten. **If you use it, you clean it immediately.**
- No participant may install, change, or remove any door lock without approval from staff.
- Participants must notify Haven House staff when any equipment or appliance is not working properly and/or needs repair.

REQUIRED EMPLOYMENT

All participants are required to obtain and maintain employment that enables them to make monthly contributions to household expenses and pay any fees while at Haven House. Participants must submit a job search log to staff that details their efforts to secure employment.

- Any participant who has not acquired employment within 60 days of moving in will be required to meet with Haven House staff to discuss her situation and her probation/parole officer may be notified.

ABSENCES FROM THE HOUSE

All participants must return each evening to Haven House by curfew at 10:00 p.m., unless at a scheduled job or with the prior permission of the staff. Each participant is required to obtain pre-approval from staff if she will be away from the house for more than 24 hours. Any participant absent from the house for more than 24 hours without notifying Haven House staff and obtaining approval will be subject to disciplinary action and her probation/parole officer may be notified. Any participant absent for more than 48 hours will be dismissed. Participants must provide a copy of all travel passes, if applicable to their parole/probation conditions.

FOOD

Each participant's personal food must be clearly marked with her name and placed in her assigned storage area. All participants will respect these items as the property of the indicated participant. Food items provided by Haven House are intended to be shared.

LAUNDRY

Participants should wash and dry only full loads of laundry to save time and money. Clean the lint trap after each use and make sure no clothing is left in the laundry area. Do not use dyes in the washer. The participant must wash and dry all laundry items in the provided washing and drying machines. Participants who have laundry going must remain at Haven House until they remove their items from the machines and return their loads to their bedrooms.

- Staff may prohibit certain hours of use to avoid noise conflicts.

UTILITIES

Electricity, fuel, sewer, water, and garbage pickup will be paid by Haven House. Internet will be available for use in common areas. Each participant may possess her own cell phone, but all cell phones are subject to staff monitoring. Participants must be responsible in their use of all utilities, as increased utility usage will increase monthly contributions to household expenses.

- One phone line is provided for participants' personal and business contacts in the common area of Haven House and all participants must practice phone courtesy. Be aware of others who are in need of the phone and yield it to them. All phone messages are to be written down.

DAMAGES

The participant will be held responsible for any damages due to her intentional act or negligence, including cleaning fees. Participants are not responsible for wear resulting from ordinary use. Haven House retains the right to sue and to use all other rights and remedies for the collection of damages and fees.

DISMISSAL FROM HAVEN HOUSE

Haven House or the participant may voluntarily terminate this agreement, with or without any reason. Haven House requests that the participant give a seven day written notice before leaving and Haven House may terminate this agreement by giving a seven day written notice to the participant. Failure to pay any contributions to household expenses or fees when due may result in a seven-day dismissal notice. **Haven House staff may dismiss a participant immediately if deemed appropriate. Anyone absent from the house for more than 48 hours without giving prior**

notice to Haven House staff or anyone who uses alcohol and/or substances in Haven House or on Haven House property will be dismissed.

PRIVILEGES AND REQUESTS

Participants of Haven House are expected to work toward self-sufficiency. Requests for special privileges, such as a later curfew or using a personal computer in a bedroom, are at the discretion of staff and will be earned based on the participant's progress towards her Individual Action Plan and participation in the Haven House community.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

Haven House encourages participants to express their complaints and dissatisfactions without fear of reprisal and stipulates that the participant talk directly with the staff against whom she is filing a grievance in order to encourage healthy and direct communication during conflict. This grievance policy establishes the procedure that a participant must follow in order to file a grievance against Haven House, Inc. or Haven House staff:

- The participant has the right to explain her grievance, and must do so both in writing and orally, during a meeting with the person with whom she has a grievance.
- If talking directly with the person against whom the participant is filing a grievance does not resolve the issue, the participant and the individual will then have a meeting with one of the Co-Directors. In this meeting, too, she must explain her grievance both orally and in writing.
- If the participant is filing a grievance against either one of the Co-Directors and talking directly with the Co-Director does not resolve the issue, the participant will then have a meeting with a member of the Haven House Board and the Co-Director. She must again explain her grievance both in writing and orally.
- After filing the grievance, the Co-Directors or a Board member will have up to 15 days to review it and to respond.

Haven House, Inc. will not take retaliatory action against a participant for filing a grievance.

TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, DRUG, GAMBLING, SMOKING, AND PORNOGRAPHY POLICY

Participants recovering from substance and/or sexual abuse and those experiencing mental health issues need safe housing to help in their recovery. To ensure that Haven House remains a safe and sober home for all, Haven House has a zero tolerance policy for tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, gambling, smoking, or pornography. If Haven House staff has reason to suspect that a participant is under the influence of any substance including alcohol, the participant's probation/parole officer will be immediately notified and the participant will be required to submit to testing. **Failure or refusal of the participant to cooperate fully, sign any required document, or submit to any testing or inspection by Haven House staff, the participant's probation/parole officer, or any other authority may be grounds for dismissal from Haven House.**

- Participants may not use, possess, manufacture, distribute, share, sell, or store tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, gambling, smoking, and pornography in Haven House or on Haven House property. Violation of this will result in dismissal.
- Authorized Use of Prescribed Medicine: Participants must report any prescribed drug to staff. Participants must keep all prescribed medicine in their original containers and the container must identify the drug, the date of the prescription, and the prescribing doctor. All prescription drugs kept in the house must be kept in a secured location in the staff office.

A participant may be dismissed immediately from Haven House if she does not abide by the following:

HAVEN HOUSE REQUIRES THAT:

- Participants do not use, possess, manufacture, distribute, share, sell, or store illicit drugs, mind-altering substances, tobacco, alcohol, controlled substances, or drug equipment off Haven House property or in any vehicle parked off Haven House property.
- Participants submit to inspection and/or testing when requested by Haven House staff, the participant's probation/parole officer, or any other authority.
- Participants keep all prescribed medication in its original, labeled container in the staff office.
- Participants do not use tobacco within sight of Haven House property.

HAVEN HOUSE PROHIBITS:

- Theft or storing stolen items on Haven House property.
- Possessing, storing, or using any weapon on the property. Weapons include but are not limited to: all firearms; knives; spears; or any device designed to cause injury or death.
- Possession by any participant of pornography in any form (books, magazines, photos, videos, movies, sex toys, sound tapes, or equipment) on or off Haven House property. No video games rated T or M or movies rated R or PG-13 for nudity, sexual content, or language are permitted on Haven House property.
- Participant participation in any gambling, betting, or game of chance while on or off Haven House property.
- The participant may not inflict any physical, mental, or verbal abuse on oneself, other participants, or Haven House staff. This includes but is not limited to: any physical force or threat of physical force, the use of vulgar or obscene language, fist fighting, fighting using weapons of any sort, or bullying. Haven House staff will report this behavior to the appropriate authorities.
- Tampering with smoke detectors to allow for smoking tobacco or drugs, starting fires, or to endanger anyone, including the participant herself.
- Engaging in sexual relations with anyone anywhere on the premises.
- Intentionally damaging the Haven House property or the property of other participants.

HOUSE RULES AGREEMENT

Please read all of the House Rules carefully. By signing this agreement, the participant acknowledges:

- She has received a copy of Haven House, Inc.'s House Rules
- She understands that a breach of any part of the House Rules is a breach of this written agreement and may result in either immediate dismissal or a seven day dismissal notice
- She has read the House Rules and agrees to abide by all said rules, policies, and procedures
- She understands that any changes to the House Rules will be delivered in writing and will become effective immediately upon receipt by the participant.

I have read and understand all of the provisions contained in the House Rules, and I agree to abide by them.

Participant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Haven House Staff: _____ Date: _____

FY15-16 Cycle

Organization/Project/Program Title		<u>Averaged Scores</u>
TIER I:		
(AWARE) Juneau Choice & Accountability Program	\$ 25,000	231.71
(AWARE) Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Prevention Education	\$ 25,000	230.86
(SERRC) Adult ESL, Citizenship, and Employment Program	\$ 25,000	229.86
(CCS) Young Parent Healthy Teen Center	\$ 25,000	229.83
(SAIL) Adult Orca	\$ 25,000	228.71
(CCS) Bridge Adult Day Program of Southeast Senior Services (SESS)	\$ 25,000	227.67
(JFHBC) Donated Healthcare:Empowering Individuals, Strengthening Families	\$ 25,000	221.71
(JYS) Teen Intervene (Substance Use Screening and Early Intervention	\$ 25,000	217.86
(NCADD) School Prevention - SADD/TATU Peer Modeling	\$ 25,000	217.57
(NCADD) School Prevention - CHOICE ATI Retreats	\$ 25,000	214.57
(HAVEN HOUSE) Transitional Housing Program	\$ 24,999	212.43
(DCUMC) Feed the Hungry	\$ 25,000	181.14
(ADC) Juneau Homeless Medical Respite Program	\$ 18,000	166.43
(HUB) After School Program	\$ 25,000	165.29
(Juneau Symphony) Symphony Sundays	\$ 870	130.86
TIER II:		
(SERRC) The Learning Connection - Family Literacy Center	\$ 50,000	237.86
(JYS) Cornerstone Emergency Shelter	\$ 50,000	236.71
(JYS) Transitional Living Program	\$ 50,000	233.86
(The Glory Hole) Emergency Shelter, Soup Kitchen, Care Center	\$ 50,000	233.71
(SAIL) Aging and Disability Empowerment	\$ 50,000	233.00
(AWARE) Domestic Violence Children's Program Services	\$ 50,000	232.00
(CCS) Senior Wrap-Around Services	\$ 50,000	232.00
(CCS) Hospice and Homecare of Juneau (HHCJ)	\$ 50,000	230.33
(SERRC) The Learning Connection - Computer Literacy Center	\$ 50,000	229.29
(NCADD) Formal Intervention Services for Juneau	\$ 50,000	229.00
(AEYC) Juneau Parents as Teachers for Infant Toddler Classrooms (PARTIAL)	\$ 26,331	225.14
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(AEYC) Juneau Parents as Teachers for Infant Toddler Classrooms (PARTIAL)	\$ 23,669	225.14
(ALSC) Juneau Families at Risk Project	\$ 50,000	222.71
(NCADD) Senior Outreach & Intervention	\$ 50,000	220.43
(REACH) Project Now	\$ 50,000	217.14
(CIS) JUMPP: Connecting Our Medical and Mental Health Prevention Efforts	\$ 50,000	216.17
(GHS) Healthy Relationships & Family Recovery	\$ 44,050	214.43
(NAMI Juneau) Mental Health Initiative	\$ 50,000	214.29
(CIS) Dropout Prevention	\$ 50,000	198.43
(HAVEN HOUSE) Intermin Staffing Pattern	\$ 49,999	187.71
	<u>\$ 1,287,918</u>	
Total Requested for FY15-FY16 Cycle:	\$ 1,287,918	
Same level as FY13-FY14 cycle:	\$ 870,200	
Under Funded/(Missing \$\$) to fund ALL grants:	\$ (417,718)	

Alaska Prisoner Reentry Task Force

Five-Year Prisoner Reentry Strategic Plan, 2011 - 2016

"The country was built on the belief that each human being has limitless potential and worth. Everybody matters. We believe that even those who have struggled with a dark past can find brighter days ahead. One way we act on that belief is by helping former prisoners who've paid for their crimes -- we help them build new lives as productive members of our society. . . . the work of redemption reflects our values.

**The bill I'm signing today, the Second Chance Act of 2007, will build on work to help prisoners reclaim their lives. In other words, it basically says:
We're standing with you, not against you."**

President George W. Bush's remarks on signing the
Second Chance Act, April 9, 2008

"Given the importance of prisoner re-entry to the overall well being of our communities, I will be watching with great interest the work of the Alaska Prisoner Re-entry Task Force. I look forward to receiving the Task Force's recommendations regarding Alaska's five-year strategic re-entry plan."

Governor Sean Parnell, March 25, 2010
Letter to Chief Justice Walter Carpeneti and Attorney General Dan Sullivan

March 2011



**Female inmates at Hiland Mountain Correction Center
caring for Iditarod dogs that had been dropped during the race.**

Contact:

**Carmen Gutierrez
Deputy Commissioner for Rehabilitation and Reentry
Alaska Department of Corrections
550 West 7th Avenue Suite 601
Anchorage, Alaska 99501**

Chair, Alaska Prisoner Reentry Task Force

Phone: (907) 269-7397

Web site: <http://www.correct.state.ak.us/corrections/TskForce/tskforce.jsf>

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Executive Summary

Alaska's Five-Year Prisoner Reentry Strategic Plan, 2011-2016, (5-Year Plan) sets forth a plan for new and more effective strategies to reduce recidivism and make our communities safer. The first of its kind, this 5-Year Plan is the culmination of the work undertaken by the Alaska Prisoner Reentry Task Force, created by the Criminal Justice Work Group in February 2010 and endorsed by Governor Sean Parnell. It sets forth a seamless set of best practices aimed at reducing the number of adult offenders who return to custody, whether for a new crime or for a violation of probation or parole.

It was prompted in large measure by unsettling criminal justice data: 95 percent of prisoners are eventually released from prison in Alaska; more than 289 convicted felons were released into Alaska's communities each month in 2009 and subsequently, two out of three prisoners returned to custody within three years of their release. Alaska's recidivism rate is far too high, both in terms of the human and financial costs. It further reflects that Alaskans' criminal justice dollars could be better spent.

Over the last decade, Alaska has experienced rapid growth in its prison population. Until quite recently, Alaska's prison growth tracked with other states. By 2009, however, other states had begun to examine what was driving this growth and had begun to adopt new policies and practices that were more cost-effective and produced better outcomes. In 2009, for the first time in 38 years, the U.S. prison population contracted rather than grew; 26 states *reduced* their prison populations. Alaska was not among them. Instead, it was one of eight states with the highest increase in the rate of growth. Alaska has the 11th fastest growing prison population in the United States. Since 2005, Alaska's prison population has grown by approximately 200 inmates per year. From 1982 through 2007, Alaska has experienced a 152 percent increase in its prison population. In 2009, 1 out of 36 Alaskans was under the jurisdiction of the Alaska Department of Corrections (ADOC), up from 1 out of 90 in 1982.

Incarceration is expensive. As of January 2011, it costs the state \$49,800 per year (or \$136.00 per day) to incarcerate one prisoner. In the Spring of 2012, the new Goose Creek Correctional Center will open with 1,536 beds. This prison is costing the state approximately \$250 million to build and will cost approximately \$50 million per year to operate. If Alaska fails to change its current criminal justice practices, given its current rate of prison growth, the state will be required to build new prisons at ever increasing costs both to construct and operate.

This 5-Year Plan identifies the strategies currently in place to help former prisoners successfully integrate back into their communities. The most successful efforts

currently in place, although with very limited capacity, work with the mentally ill leaving prison. Today, the ADOC also provides substance abuse treatment to approximately 1000 prisoners per year of the 5600 who are currently incarcerated. ADOC is working to expand its educational and vocational education programs making them available to an increasing number of prisoners. It recently developed a reentry program for prisoners with one year or less to serve, with the goal of encouraging them to start thinking about safe housing, employment and continued community support for their behavioral health needs.

The reality, however, is much more needs to be done. In Alaska there is a paucity of affordable housing and when such housing is available, individuals with criminal convictions are not eligible. Additionally, many felons are precluded from employment by virtue of statutes, regulation and policies that make it impossible for people with felony convictions to work. The extent of these barriers to employment is unknown at this time without a full inventory being conducted.

Alaska currently does not have the capacity to provide substance abuse treatment to the many Alaskans who require such treatment both within and without the criminal justice system. This is because there is both insufficient funding for these programs throughout the state and insufficient trained and qualified providers. The faith-based mentor programs would benefit from additional state support. Citizens from the faith community provide much of the mentorship required to help newly released prisoners turn away from the negative influences that lead back to prison. Without the stabilization that comes from access to housing, employment, sober/mental health and positive peer supports, individuals do what they do best -- revert back to old patterns.

Too many individuals charged with misdemeanor crimes cycle in and out jail and prison. When underlying problems are left unaddressed, the criminal behavior can escalate from petty offenses to felony offenses. Many of these individuals have behavioral health needs that are not being addressed under our current approach. The state should consider new approaches that divert non-violent offenders from jail and prison to, where appropriate, making treatment as much a focus as punishment.

The courts and the ADOC have determined that the containment model for managing sex offenders is appropriate in virtually every sex offender crime. That being the case, and assuming this model does indeed reduce recidivism, more certified state providers are required to manage this population both in the prisons and in Alaska's communities. Far too many sex offenders upon release from custody are on a long waiting list for this treatment. Furthermore, these offenders have the most difficult time finding housing and employment. The result is that sex offenders end up in homeless shelters or camps making it very difficult for them to comply with state registration laws and making it difficult for probation and parole officers to supervise them in the community.

Recent national public polling clearly demonstrates the public's willingness to entertain new approaches that address the underlying causes of crime to reduce the

rate of incarceration and lower recidivism. The public's embrace of rehabilitation and successful reentry has helped the efforts of policymakers, even in "tough on crime" states such as Texas. These states are beginning to move away from a strict focus on incarceration and toward alternatives that will actually reduce crime and recidivism and promote successful offender reintegration .

Alaska has the capacity to turn the curve and reduce its rate of prison growth and recidivism by exploring alternatives to prison for individuals who have committed non-violent offenses primarily because of substance abuse and/or mental health issues. There are less expensive means to reaffirm societal norms and show community condemnation than prison sentences that cost the state \$136.00 per day or \$49,800 per year per prisoner.

Alaska must first identify the factors that have contributed to its rapid rate of prison growth. Once those factors have been identified, policymakers should then identify proven best practices approaches to address those factors in a more cost-effective manner that does not compromise public safety. As shown in other states, such an approach is Alaska's best chance for reducing its prison rate growth. At the same time, the ADOC should continue to expand its substance abuse, educational and vocational education programs with the goal of changing the hearts and minds of those incarcerated in its institutions. With this tandem approach, the state has the best chance to improve public safety, create healthier communities and divert criminal justice dollars to more proactive statewide endeavors.

Alaska's commitment to addressing the challenges presented by its prison growth and high recidivism rate is evidenced by the significant collaborative efforts that have gone into developing policy and practice solutions to criminal justice issues in Alaska. It is beyond the mandate of the ADOC to provide housing, employment, sober/mental health and positive peer supports to newly released prisoners. With the ADOC's decision to implement rehabilitative programming in its institutions and its commitment along with many other state and local agencies, tribal organizations, non-profits and concerned citizens to work collaboratively to improve prisoner reentry outcomes, Alaska is demonstrating its commitment to reduce recidivism and thereby improve public safety and the health of Alaska's communities.

Five-Year Strategic Plan Recommendations (2011-2016)

1. Continue the collaborative process.

State and local agencies, non-profits, local partners and concerned citizens are involved in a number of collaborative processes that address the shared goal of reducing criminal recidivism. These efforts should be encouraged by the Executive Branch, Legislature, Courts and other policymakers whenever possible. Collaboration increases accountability and the ability of state and local governments and community organizations to deploy resources effectively on the same population.

As part of this continued collaborative process, an existing workgroup should be charged with ongoing tracking and identification of the specific factors contributing to recidivism, and Alaska's rapid prison population growth. Without identification of these factors, policymakers will be less successful in selecting the best practices to reduce recidivism and slow Alaska's prison growth.

2. Expand the ADOC's institutional substance abuse treatment programs.

The ADOC currently operates the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) and Living Substance Success Substance Abuse Treatment (LSSAT) substance abuse treatment programs in its institutions. These programs have the capacity to provide treatment to approximately 1,000 prisoners per year of the more than 5,600 prisoners incarcerated. The ADOC is in the process of evaluating these programs. Those programs, or program elements, shown to be effective should be expanded. Those shown to be less effective should be modified to increase effectiveness or replaced with more promising programming.

3. Expand Probationer Accountability with Certain Enforcement (PACE).

Implemented by a collaborative team, (probation, courts, law, defense and local police and state troopers), the Anchorage PACE pilot project has demonstrated sufficient success to warrant expansion to other judicial districts where core team members are committed to following the model with fidelity, and are able to implement an initial pilot project without additional state resources. Further, this model should be implemented with parolees immediately upon their release from custody.

4. Expand the Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) in the Mat-Su Valley.

Operating in seven communities statewide, the EMP has proven to be a cost-effective system of monitoring offenders in the community without

compromising public safety. Information on EMP participant outcomes in Alaska indicates significant reductions in recidivism, as well as immediate savings in incarceration costs.

The Mat-Su Valley EMP cannot be expanded beyond its current capacity without additional state resources: one probation officer, a criminal justice technician and other infrastructure supports. With this expansion, the Mat-Su Valley could accommodate 60 more qualified offenders who would otherwise occupy a prison bed and not be supporting themselves and their families.

5. Improve the state's ability to collect, analyze and disseminate criminal justice data.

- a) Alaska should continue to work with the National Governors' Association to obtain technical assistance to help the state to identify and fill in gaps in its data collection systems and improve training and supervision of state employees responsible for data collection, entry and analysis.
- b) The ADOC should seek technical assistance to improve its ability to collect and report on a more comprehensive set of data elements.
- c) The state should investigate establishing an entity that would aggregate criminal justice data across agency lines. This entity would be responsible for producing reports that would provide the context and foundation for policy decisions throughout the state.

6. Improve former prisoners' access to affordable housing.

- a) Address the blanket presumption of guilt often used by public and private landlords to automatically preclude individuals with criminal records from being considered as tenants.
- b) As suggested by AHFC CEO/Executive Director Dan Fauske at the last Alaska Council on the Homeless meeting (12/1/10), convene a high level workgroup with a member from AHFC, The Trust, the ADOC, DHSS, and real estate owners and developers to discuss how Alaska may increase the statewide stock of available and affordable housing.
- c) Improve housing information available in the state's 211 system.
- d) Increase the use of subsidized housing programs, recognizing that these programs cost substantially less than incarcerating a recidivist at \$136.00 per day or \$49,800 per year.

7. Promote, where appropriate, the employment of newly released prisoners and facilitate the creation of job opportunities that will benefit communities.

- a) Better educate employers about financial incentives for hiring felons such as the Federal Bonding Program and Work Opportunity Tax Credit program.
- b) Determine which industries and employers are willing to hire people with criminal records and encourage job development and placement in those sectors.
- c) Use probation and parole officer or third-party intermediaries to assist employers with the supervision and management of employees.
- d) The ADOC should ensure that its institutional educational and training programs are consistent with those offered by state Job Centers.
- e) The ADOC and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development should work together to provide apprenticeship programs both within and without ADOC institutions.

8. Improve the ADOC's ability to identify and provide for the behavioral health needs of its inmates.

- a) Implement a statewide, on-line health record database system that is standardized and would allow entry of specific types of information pertaining to an offender's health, mental health, and substance abuse screening and treatment.
- b) Assess the ability for the ADOC and DHSS to electronically share specifically identified and pertinent information from individual databases (i.e. AK AIMS)
- c) Increase the staff capacity of ADOC to manage the APIC and IDP⁺ programs for offenders reentering Alaskan communities.
- d) Work with APIC community providers to enhance their workforce and program capacity to treat and support offenders reentering communities (i.e. peer supports/mentoring).

9. Reduce the number of misdemeanor offenders cycling in and out of jails.

- a) Identify the laws, rules, policies and practices that lead to the incarceration of individuals who pose no substantial risk to public safety.
- b) Expand prosecutorial diversion programs for misdemeanor offenses.
- c) Expand the ADOC Electronic Monitoring Program for misdemeanants.
- d) Make good use of halfway house stays by assessing sentenced misdemeanants for behavioral health and criminogenic risks and needs.

- e) Make good use of halfway house placements by screening sentenced misdemeanants for behavioral health and criminogenic risks and needs and assessing and referring for services as appropriate.
- f) Expand therapeutic courts and other problem-solving courts for misdemeanants such as the Mental Health and Addiction Therapeutic Courts, Operating Without License (OWL) Courts, and Anchorage adjudication/disposition courts.

10. Expand Treatment Services and Housing Options for Sex Offenders.

- a) Determine the effectiveness of the sex offender treatment programs offered by the ADOC with appropriate performance measures.
- b) Upon substantiation of their effectiveness, increase the ADOC institutional sex offender treatment program capacity.
- c) Increase the number of state approved community sex offender treatment providers.
- d) Create a sex offender treatment program for women.
- e) Expand the Y-K Delta sex offender treatment model to other communities that need and will embrace the program.
- f) Remove counterproductive residential restrictions on housing.

11. By order of the Governor, require all state agencies to:

- a) Inventory state employment restrictions related to criminal offenders. Consolidate this information in a unified document specifying restricted occupations and the substance and nature of the restrictions making relevant information readily accessible to the public.
- b) Analyze the necessity of these restrictions to public safety, identify possible mechanisms to provide relief from the restrictions (time limitations/waivers), and amend and simplify as appropriate.
- c) Compile baseline data on:
 - i. The number of people affected by restrictions,
 - ii. The number of jobs that are restricted,
 - iii. The impact of relief mechanisms.

12. Expand state support for the ADOC chaplaincy program.

- a) Expand the mentoring program including the number of volunteer-mentors, recognize the need for better screening, training and supervision of mentors.
- b) Support the efforts of the State Chaplain and Alaska Correctional Ministries (ACM) to develop the Healing Communities model in Alaska.

Building this model will bring more support and mentors to those in prison and coming home.

- c) Support the hiring of state-paid chaplains for the prisons. The volunteer chaplaincy efforts are laudable, but the role is too important and carrying too many responsibilities to be left to under-paid staff hired by ACM and volunteers.
- d) Support the continued expansion of programs such as prison Transformational Living Communities and the transitional community residences.

Part I

Introduction

The 5-Year Plan of the Alaska Prisoner Reentry Task Force focuses on the goal of reducing recidivism. For each prisoner who successfully returns home, fewer Alaskans are victimized, the former prisoner becomes a productive citizen and healthier families and communities result. Equally important, this individual is not occupying an expensive prison bed.

The plan is designed to provide policymakers, people working in the criminal justice system and interested citizens with a single resource that provides a baseline overview of the ADOC's current outcomes and the ADOC's new framework intended to promote successful prisoner reentry. It also describes ADOC's institutional and community based rehabilitative programs and the collaborative work it is performing with its state and community partners to improve prisoner reentry outcomes.

Part I of the 5-Year Plan explains the reasons the ADOC and other state and community partners are working to reduce criminal recidivism and what's at stake for Alaska should policy makers choose to ignore this issue. Chapters 1 through 5 discuss the ADOC's constitutional and statutory role in the state's criminal justice system, the rate of Alaskan prison growth, and the impact prison growth has had on our families, communities and the state at large. Basic information about the ADOC operations and its plan for inmate management, reentry and community transition is also included as is the work of the many entities seeking the same improved prisoner reentry outcomes. As a whole, Part I describes the ADOC, the other stakeholders in reentry efforts and in the context of current prisoner reentry efforts, lays the foundation for the 5-Year Plan described in Part II.

Part II discusses some of the most pressing hurdles facing prisoners upon reentry: housing, employment and access to behavioral health services. Chapters 7 through 9 discuss each of these issues and each chapter outlines a goal, the history of the problem and the specific best practice strategies for achieving the stated goal. Chapter 10 discusses the rehabilitation and reentry challenges imposed by the large number of misdemeanor offenders cycling in and out of Alaska's prisons. Solutions are proposed on how to intervene with this offender population. Chapter 11 discusses the challenges facing sex offenders in obtaining court ordered treatment, the need to expand the availability of treatment and how the lack of stable housing impacts the ability of probation officers to supervise these offenders. Chapter 12 discusses the collateral consequences of criminal convictions. There are numerous state and local laws, regulations, policies and practices that make it all but impossible for many people with criminal convictions to find a living wage job, housing and obtain safety-net benefits. Lastly, Chapter 13 discusses the important work being done by our faith-

based communities both within and without the state prison system and the developing evidence that shows these efforts result in improved reentry outcomes.

This 5-Year Plan does not contemplate handouts for those who choose not to abide by State law, but rather supports policy decisions that offer a hand-up and an opportunity for a second chance. By doing so, the State will improve its prospects for successful prisoner reentry and thereby promote healthier Alaskan families and communities.

This 5-Year Plan is not a static document, but rather one that outlines a set of goals with measureable strategies to be accomplished within the next five years. With the achievement of the goals outlined herein, new goals and strategies will be built on the successes and lessons learned through the implementation of this 5-Year plan.

Chapter One

Prisoner Rehabilitation and Reentry: Why Should We Care?

A. The Purpose of Alaska's Five-Year Prisoner Reentry Strategic Plan

The ADOC's approach to successful prisoner reentry is not a single program, but rather a philosophy central to its culture and its way of doing business. This approach is aimed at turning former prisoners into productive and law-abiding community members. The strategy is built on documented evidence shown to improve reintegration-related outcomes. It begins upon admission to prison and continues through incarceration, release, community supervision and ultimately the unsupervised and successful reintegration into the community.

The State of Alaska recognizes that the successful reentry of prisoners is a critical component of the State's public safety and corrections mission. Failure—which often means homelessness, unemployment, returning to or falling into addiction, often a new crime and a new victim, and ultimately re-incarceration—results in a costly waste of public resources and diminished public goodwill. The burden of this failure has a significant impact on our State's budget, Alaska communities and those former prisoners and their families struggling to succeed in society.

Incarceration impacts the state's economy in a number of ways: the diversion of state funds from other public projects, the social and financial costs to children of incarcerated parents and the impact to the economy when wage earners are no longer financially productive. Recent research shows that the growing number of male offenders convicted of felony crimes has greatly impacted the national GDP (gross domestic product). Using Bureau of Justice Statistics data, researchers estimated that in 2008, the United States had between 12 and 14 million ex-offenders of working age. As will be discussed in Chapter Twelve, because a prison record or felony conviction greatly lowers an ex-offender's prospects in the labor market, researchers estimated that this large population lowered the total male employment rate in 2008 by 1.5 to 1.7 percentage points. In GDP terms, these reductions in employment cost the U.S. economy between \$57 and \$65 billion in lost output.¹ In 2009, the number of Alaskan prisoners, both men and women, between the ages of 20 and 54 was 4,089.²

The ADOC cannot by itself fulfill its reentry mission. Acknowledging this, it recognizes and accepts its critical leadership role in improving prisoner reentry outcomes and reducing recidivism. Successful reintegration requires a collaborative strategy developed out of a partnership among the state criminal justice agencies from the

¹ Ex-offenders and the Labor Market, John Schmitt and Kris Warner, November 2010. found at: <http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/ex-offenders-2010-11.pdf>

² The ADOC 2009 Offender Profile, <http://www.correct.state.ak.us/corrections/index.jsf>

ADOC, state and local police, courts, prosecutors, defense attorneys, to other state agencies such as the departments of Health and Social Services, Labor, Education, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, and the Alaska State Legislature. Equally important to this effort is the ability of these state agencies to coordinate with local governments, tribal councils, and community partners such as the Alaska Native Justice Center, Partners for Progress, Akeela, Inc., Nine Star, and United Way to name a few of the many that offer resources and services needed for successful prisoner reentry.

Alaska's commitment to collaboration is evidenced by collaborations already put in place. This plan reflects the coordinated efforts of state and local agencies, community organizations and committed individuals working together toward the common goal of creating a statewide prisoner reentry strategy that addresses Alaska's unique reentry challenges caused by its geographical vastness and cultural diversity.

Alaska is not the first state to develop a coordinated recidivism reduction strategy, nor the first to have its state corrections agency adopt recidivism reduction as part of its mission. Given the country's high rates of recidivism and the ever-growing costs of incarceration, criminal justice policymakers nationwide have embarked on a major reexamination of their criminal justice systems with the goal of improving prisoner reentry outcomes. During the past decade, and in spite of a cynical and unproductive "nothing works" attitude that developed in 1976 by Dr. Martinson,³ an array of community-based, state, and federal efforts were launched specifically designed to provide effective and innovative responses to the myriad challenges presented by prisoners being released from incarceration. Research related to, and evaluation of these efforts resulted in a much better understanding of what does, and does not work. As a result, today we know far more about effectively preparing prisoners for release. We have new evidence of what works to reduce recidivism, the importance of correctional systems adopting evidence-based practices and an understanding that corrections alone cannot provide the desired results or solve the numerous challenges facing newly released prisoners. It is on this evidence that our strategies are based.

B. Cost-Effective Justice: What's at Stake for Alaska?

Operating a prison system is a costly proposition, not just for Alaska, but for all 50 states and the federal government. The ADOC FY 2011 operating budget is estimated to be \$258 million. Alaska is currently in the midst of constructing a \$250 million, 1536 bed, minimum to medium custody facility with an estimated annual operating budget of \$50 million—offset by the \$20 million currently spent to house 1000 prisoners in

³ The Psychology of Criminal Conduct, D.A. Andrews & James Bonta, The Martinson "Nothing Works" Debate, pgs 319-324 (4th Ed. 2006).

Hudson, Colorado— in the Mat-Su Valley. Given the growth in the State's prison population, there is uniform agreement that the state requires this new facility. Proof of the need is housing prisoners in an out-of-state private prison due to insufficient bed space in Alaska. One purpose of this plan is to advance new approaches that, if embraced by the state's policymakers, may avoid the need to construct additional new prisons within the next ten years.

This is an opportune time for Alaska to reevaluate current criminal justice practices to determine if it is receiving good value for the dollar spent. As measured by the state's recidivism rate—two out of three prisoners return to custody within the first three years of their arrest—good value is not being achieved. Thus, the state is now beginning to examine its current practices, learn from what other states have done to achieve more cost-effective results and determine if proven best practices would improve outcomes, reduce recidivism and build strong families and healthier communities.

Other states have performed a cost-benefit analysis of their criminal justice systems and found their citizens were receiving a poor return on the dollar spent. Given the rapidly increasing costs of their prison systems and their high rates of recidivism, these states set out to employ more cost-effective and smarter approaches to criminal justice.⁴ Texas is an excellent success story that is instructive on the cost-effective changes that can be made while at the same time improving public safety.

C. The Texas Experience

In 2007, the famously “tough on crime” Texas legislature took dramatic, bipartisan action to control crime and corrections costs. This initiative was led by Republican Jerry Madden who was appointed by the majority leader as Chairman of the Corrections Committee. The then speaker of the house instructed Rep. Madden to develop new approaches to slow Texas' rapid prison growth. “Don't build new prisons. They cost too much”.⁵ With that directive in mind, Rep. Madden, an engineer, gathered the data and the facts to develop a systematic approach to breaking the cycle of crime.

At the start of 2007, the state's corrections department projected a shortfall of 17,000 prison beds over the next five years and recommended the construction of 4,000 new beds at a cost of more than \$900 million. Texas legislators requested assistance from the Pew Center on the States' Public Safety Performance Project and its partner, the Council of State Governments Justice Center (CSG), to identify options to avert prison growth while protecting public safety.

⁴ Among these states are Kansas, Arizona, Alabama, Nebraska, North Carolina, and Texas.

⁵ Anchorage Daily News editorial, *Be tough, be smart*, September 19, 2010.