

The Camden County Smart Book: A Resource Guide for Going Home

“Your Head Start for a Fresh Start”

2007

Prepared for:
The New Jersey Department of Corrections

By
Union Organization For Social Service (UOSS)
Camden County 2-1-1 Get Connected...Get Answers

Quick Reference: Useful Numbers and Hotlines

American Friends Service Committee
Prisoner's Resource Center..... 1-973-643-2205

CDC National STD and AIDS Hotlines
Spanish:..... 1-800-344-7432
English:..... 1-800-227-8922

Addictions Hotline of NJ..... 1-800-238-2333

Alcoholics Anonymous..... 1-800-245-1377

Division of Disability Services (DDS)..... 1-888-285-3036

Division of Youth & Family Services..... 1-800-792-8610

Hyacinth AIDS Foundation 1-800-433-0254

Legal Services of New Jersey
Toll-free Hotline,
Mon.– Fri., 9 am – 4:30 pm 1-888-576-5529

NJ Motor Vehicle Commission
Driver's License Suspension Hotline 1-609-292-7500
Main Information 1-888-486-3339

NJ Transit
For routes, schedules, & fares
6am to Midnight, daily 1-800-772-2222

Narcotics Anonymous of NJ 1-800-992-0401

National Suicide Crisis Hotline 1-800-784-2433

New Jersey AIDS STD Hotline
(Beth Israel) 1-800-624-2377

2-1-1 First Call For Help..... 2-1-1
Se habla español or toll free..... 1-800-331-7272

Camden County One Stop..... 1-877-995-2600

Social Security Office 1-800-772-1213

Service Empowering Rape Victims
(SERV)..... 856-964-SERV

Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline
(Womanspace, Inc.)
Bilingual and TTY accessible 1-800-572-7233

The Camden County Smart Book

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 Union Organization for Social Service

First Things First:

How to Use this Book

The purpose of this book is to help you get ready to leave prison and return home, and to help you find the things you need to get back on your feet once you're there. It is specifically focused on what you'll need to know during the first weeks and months that you're back, which can be a hard time of adjustment. This book will not answer all of the questions you will face in preparing for and adjusting to being back in the community, but it can help you get started. It will also tell you where to go to get more information.

Unless a fee or charge is listed, all of the services and resources listed here are free.

Each section of this book gives you some general tips and things you need to know, and provides addresses, phone numbers and other information about different programs and resources in Camden County. Things that you can do to get a head start before you are released are highlighted. Getting started early, before you get out, may be one of the best things you can do for yourself to make your first days home easier. In the back of this book, you will find a “**Game Plan**” for the first few weeks, a chart to help you plan ahead. We have also provided space where you can write down other useful phone numbers and appointments.

You won't find here every service or organization in Camden County but, again, this book should give you a place to start. The organizations that are listed can help refer you to other places in the area that can be of help to you. For more listings, and for up-to-date information about office hours and changes in policies, you can go to the website designed to help former prisoners in Camden County, www.njsuccess.org. When you get to this site, click on the Southern New Jersey tab. You can also contact the folks who wrote and designed this book, Union Organization for Social Service by dialing 2-1-1 or at our website www.infonet.org.

GETTING FREE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET

All of the public libraries listed on page 35 should be able to provide you with free internet access

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

In order to get a job, apply for public benefits (such as general assistance, food stamps or Medicaid) or other programs, get job training or apply for an apartment, you will need to have as many identification documents in hand as possible. While many people lose these documents when they are incarcerated, the good news is that you can begin to collect them again before you are released, by mail or with the help of your social worker. Below is a list of different documents and how to get them.

Helpful tip: Save any envelopes from bills or official mail. You might need these to prove your address.

A. Social Security Card

You can obtain a replacement card if you have a Social Security number (even if you don't remember what it is). You can get a new card by mail from prison, or you can get it after you are released by going to the social security office.

PRE-RELEASE: The New Jersey Department of Corrections has an agreement in place with the Social Security Administration that allows inmates in the release process to apply for a replacement Social Security Card. This service is offered through the Social Services Department of the Correctional Facility. The application and card are free. Once approved the card is sent to your correctional facility and will be issued to you upon your release from custody. For more information contact the Social Services Department at your correctional facility.

POST-RELEASE: You can get the application by phone or by mail, or by walking into the Camden County Social Security Office at 5 Executive Campus Suite 100, King and Cornell Ave in Cherry Hill. The form, SS-5, can also be downloaded from the Social Security website (www.ssa.gov/replace_sscard.html). You can fill it out there and show proof of identification. **Prison release papers count as proof of identification.**

B. Birth certificate

The Office of Vital Statistics in the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has all New Jersey birth, marriage, and death records. The fee is **\$25**.

PRE-RELEASE: You can write a letter requesting a birth certificate, which must include the name at birth on the certificate, the exact date of birth, the exact city and municipality and county of birth, the full maiden name of mother and the name of father, if his name is on the certificate. You must include a photocopy of the identification for the person requesting the record (which may be you, but somebody else can request the birth certificate for you — they just have to state in the letter what their relationship to you is). Valid I.D. includes a photo driver's license or non-driver's state identification card, a photo I.D. and some other form of I.D. with an address, or two alternate forms of I.D. with an address. You can use a prison photo I.D., with documentation of the address of the prison. Mail your request to: NJ Vital Statistics — Customer Service Unit, P.O. Box 370, Trenton, NJ 08625-0370. It should take 6 to 8 weeks. If not received after 8 weeks please call 1-609-292-4087 and select option "status of current request". For more information and assistance contact the Social Services Department at your correctional facility.

POST-RELEASE: In addition to writing, you can go directly to the Bureau of Vital Statistics on the first floor of the Health and Agriculture Building in Trenton, on the corner of Warren and Market Street. In-person counter service is available from 8:30am to 4:00pm and you can usually get the certificate on the same day. You will still have to have all the information listed above. For more information, there is also a website: www.state.nj.us/health/vital/. Also, you can usually obtain a birth certificate from Vital Statistics, Camden City Hall, Room 103 in Camden 1-856-757-7085 if you were born in Camden County. The fee is \$6.

C. County I.D.

You can obtain a county identification card by going to the Camden County Clerk's Office in Camden City Hall, Room 102 at 520 Market St. in Camden, or by visiting any of the County Stores. The County Store in Cherry Hill is located in the Cherry Hill Mall, store # 1025, 1-

856-661-3160; the County Store in Voorhees is located in the Echelon Mall, store # 2015, 1-856-566-2920; Service Center at Winslow, 35 Coopers Folly Rd in Atco 1-856-753-6210. You must show proof of residence in Camden County (so you can only do this after you are released), proof of age, and provide a social security number.

D. Driver's License

If you do not have a driver's license, you will have to wait until you get out to get one, or to replace a lost card or renew an expired license, unless you are in a halfway house and

Motor Vehicle Services	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Auto Operator License
	Your Name
	Street
	City, State
	X _____

can go directly to the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC). If you think, or know, that your license has been suspended, you should find out for sure before you get out and figure out what you will have to do to get it back. If you were convicted of any kind of drug offense, your license will have been suspended.

PRE-RELEASE: Get a copy of your driver's license record, which is called an "abstract." You will have to get and send in a "driver history abstract request" form from the Motor Vehicle Commission (the "MVC"). You can get this form by calling 1-888-486-3339, or by mail: Motor Vehicle Commission, Abstract Unit, 225 East State St., P.O. Box 142, Trenton, NJ 08666-0142. Once you get and fill out the form, you will have to send it back with **\$10**. The abstract will tell you whether your license is suspended and why. Depending on why it is suspended, you may be able to address some of the problems before you get out. For example, if your license was suspended because you failed to show up for a court date because you were incarcerated, you can write to the court and try to clear this up by mail. If you owe fines, you will probably not be able to pay these before you get out, but you should try to find out how much you owe, and to whom you owe them.

POST-RELEASE: Once you are out, you can get a certified driving abstract by visiting one of these Motor Vehicle Regional Offices: West Deptford site, 215 Crown Point Rd (Rte 44 South and Mid Atlantic Pkwy), Thorofare, NJ 08086; Hours: Mon-Wed and Fri 8am-

4:30pm, Thu 8am-7:30pm and Sat 8am-12pm and Trenton site, 1205 Stockton and Front St, Trenton, NJ 08611; Hours: Mon 8am-7:30pm, Tue-Fri 8am-4:30pm and Sat 8am-12pm. You will still have to pay **\$10**. If your license was suspended for 6 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 for 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: 1-609-292-7500.

MVC LOCATIONS IN AND AROUND CAMDEN COUNTY

Camden: 2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave.
Mon-Wed and Fri 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Thu 8:00am-7:30 pm; Sat 8:00am-12:00 pm

Cherry Hill: Executive Campus, Suite 110, Building 1
Mon, Wed-Fri 8:00am-4:30 pm
Tue 8:00am-7:30 pm; Sat 8:00am-12:00pm

Runnemede: 835 E Clements Bridge Rd.
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8:00am-4:30pm
Wed 8:00am-7:30 pm; Sat 8:00am-12:00pm

Regional Offices:

West Deptford

215 Crown Point Rd. (Route 44 South and Mid Atlantic Pkwy)
Thorofare, NJ 08086

Services: Driver conferences, driver records, (issuances and inquiries), points and surcharge (inquiries), suspensions and restorations.

Hours: Mon-Wed and Fri 8am-4:30pm; Thu 8am-7:30pm; Sat 8am-12pm

Trenton

1205 Stockton and Front St.
Trenton, NJ 08611

Services: Driver conferences, driver records, (issuances and inquiries), points and surcharge (inquiries), suspensions and restorations.

Hours: Mon 8am-7:30pm; Tue-Fri 8am-4:30pm; Sat 8am-12pm

If all you need is to replace a lost or stolen license, you will have to bring identification to the MVC and pay **\$11**. The MVC now has very specific kinds of I.D. that are required: you will need to bring certain kinds of "primary" I.D. (birth certificate, passport, citizenship papers, etc.) and "secondary" I.D. (school records, marriage or divorce certificates, employee I.D. cards, old driver's licenses, etc.) and proof of your address. You can get a brochure on this new "Six Point" system from the MVC offices listed above, or from the Motor Vehicle Commission website,

www.state.nj.us/mvc. If your license has expired, you will have to go to the MVC to fill out a renewal application, and bring I.D. You may have to take the written test again. License renewal costs **\$24**. License reinstatement (after suspension) costs **\$100**.

E. Non-driver's State I.D.

New Jersey provides a state photo identification card for non-drivers. **You can get this official state I.D. even if your driver's license is currently suspended**, so this may be a good option for you if it looks like it will take you a long time to get your license back. You will still need to bring the kinds of identification documents described above, under the new MVC "Six Point" system.

F. Certificates of Naturalization or Citizenship

You will need this for employment if you are not a U.S. citizen. 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

530 Fellowship Rd.
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054
1-856-439-5799

US Citizenship & Immigration Service

Peter Rodino, Jr. Federal Building
970 Broad St.
Newark, NJ 07102

Application Support Center

24 Commerce Ave.
Newark, NJ 07102

Application Support Center

116 Kansas St., Main Floor
Hackensack, NJ 07601

G. Alien Registration Card

("Green Card")

To replace a missing Green Card, you must go to the US Citizenship & Immigration Service Office (see above), bring identification, and fill out the I-90 form or you can go to the website and download the forms at www.uscis.gov. It costs **\$260** 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

PRE-RELEASE: You can write to request a copy of your records (discharge papers called a "DD214") from the Veterans Benefit Administration in New Jersey, at 20 Washington Pl., 3rd Floor, Newark, NJ 07102, or from the main records depository, NPRC, 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. You can do this by letter, but it's better to use the official form, the SF-180, which you can get by writing to either the local or national offices listed above, or from the local office by calling 1-800-829-1000. For more information and assistance contact the Social Services Department at your correctional facility.

POST-RELEASE: In addition to requesting your records in writing, or going to the office listed above, you can go to the website www.vetrecs.archives.gov and 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. After they receive the form, the records will be mailed directly to you.

I. Passport

Although a passport may not seem like an important thing to have at this point, it can serve as an easier form of widely accepted I.D. for you to have, although it does cost money. If you do not have one, after you are released, go to the Camden County Clerk's Office, 520 Market St., Room 102 in Camden, 1-856-225-5300 or one of the county stores. The County Store in Cherry Hill: Cherry Hill Mall, store # 1025, 1-856-661-3160; County Store in Voorhees: Echelon Mall Store #2015, 1-856-566-2920; Camden County Service Center at Winslow, 35 Coopers Folly Rd in Atco, 1-856-753-6210 or the Philadelphia Passport Agency, US Custom House, 200 Chestnut St., Room 103 in Philadelphia, 1-877-487-2778 (only serves customers who are traveling or submitting their passports for foreign visas within 14 days). 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, or a previous US passport (photocopies aren't accepted). You will also need to provide a social security number, and bring 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. However, if you do not have those forms of I.D., you can bring with you an identifying witness who has known you for at least 2 years and has a valid driver's license. In addition to this witness, you'll have to bring 3 other forms of I.D. You must bring 2 copies of a 2X2 face front photo. The cost from the clerk's office or any of the county stores is \$97 for a first time adult and \$67 for a renewal.

You may also obtain a passport at most U.S. Postal Services Offices.

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

It is very important to have records of any degrees, school completion certificates or work-related licenses that you may have. This will help you get a job, and can also provide additional identification if you need it. Before you are released, you can write to the school or agency that gave you your degree or certificate. Each of these will have separate procedures. You should also get copies of certificates for programs or classes completed while in prison.



You can also request a GED transcript or diploma verification from the New Jersey Department of Education, if you got your GED/diploma in New Jersey, and not at a correctional facility, local district high school, or local adult high school. You will have to fill out a GED Information Request Form, which you can have sent to you by calling the GED information line at 1-609-777-1050 and requesting that it be sent to you; picking 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.

Once you have filled out the form, send it to the above address with a **money order for \$5**. They do not accept checks.

K. Prison Release Papers

Make sure you hold on to your prison release papers. These can serve as identification in some circumstances.

First Steps After Release: Where Do I Go to Find...

The first days after you get out can be the toughest. This section will give you information to help you get on your feet: places to go for food, shelter, clothing, money, and other emergency needs. While every agency in Camden County isn't listed, we've listed places to help you get started, places that will work with people coming out of prison. Here are some pointers for the first days out:

BE PREPARED: Put all your paperwork and identification in one place, a folder or an envelope, and have it with you so you can answer questions that people ask.

KEEP RECORDS: Write down the full names and phone numbers of people that you've talked to, and when you spoke to them. You can use the blank pages in the back of this book to take and keep notes. Keep copies of any money orders or receipts for things you've paid for, and any letters you've gotten from government agencies, the courts, or organizations that are helping you.

BE PATIENT: You are probably going to have to wait in a lot of lines for things, and be put on hold by telephone operators. You will meet a lot of workers who are trying to help a lot of people, not just you. Expect to wait. Expect that you may be sent to different offices and workers to get something taken care of. Try to be patient and be polite — it will help.

Below you'll find the names, addresses, phone numbers and descriptions of agencies and services that can help you. It is a good idea to call first to check that hours of operation haven't changed:

See following pages for list of resources.

A. First Stops

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

FIRST-STOP AGENCIES

2-1-1/First Call for Help

Dial 211

1-800-331-7272 (Homeless Hotline)

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Emergencies and homeless calls are 24 hours/7 days a week.

2-1-1 provides 24 hour comprehensive human service information and referral for residents of Camden County. 211 can help you access information as well as connect you to resources that are available to you in the community. 2-1-1 is equipped for TTY callers and has a language line that provides translation services for 140 different languages.

Prison Fellowship

PO Box 10613

Pittsburgh, PA 15235-0613 (This is the main address for the program. Prisoners can write letters to this address if they cannot call).

1-800-861-0498

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Offers an aftercare reentry program for former prisoners that are trying to get reintegrated back into society. The program provides mentors, church homes, information and referral for housing, clothing, obtaining identification and other resources in the community. The reentry program meets at Antioch Baptist Church, 690 Ferry Ave., Camden, NJ (call the toll free number for meeting times).

B. Shelter

These are some of the places providing temporary places to stay.

MEN ONLY



VOA - Aletha R. Wright Center – Transitional Living

271 Atlantic Ave, Camden

1-856-966-0909

Hours: 24 hours/day

Offers services to 74 single adult homeless men. It is specifically designed to move each individual through 3 phases which concentrate on addressing basic needs, life skills, employment and housing. Must have a referral from the Camden County Board of Social Services (“welfare”); however a courtesy stay may be granted for someone not receiving assistance from the CCBSS, until the next business day so that he may apply for assistance then.

Respond, Inc. Path Homeless Services

816-818 N 5th St, Camden

1-856-365-6597

Hours: Open 7 days, provides shelter from 7pm-7am from October-April

Path provides emergency shelter to homeless men in Camden County.

Primarily a men’s shelter but houses women on occasion.

Homeless Hospitality Network

816-818 N 5th St, Camden

1-856-963-5820 Intake, information

1-609-238-8885 Emergency

Hours: Mon-Thu 10am-3pm; Fri 10am-1pm

From October to April, homeless men are housed by participating churches or synagogues on their property. Congregations serve as hosts for a 2 week period. Volunteers provide food, transportation and supervision. During the day the men go to a day center or jobs, on weekends the men stay with the host congregation. At the end of the 2 week period up to 6 men may be eligible to stay for up to 1 year in IHOC's transitional apartments.

WOMEN & CHILDREN

Anna Sample House

408 Line St, Camden

1-856-963-0430

Hours: Open 7 days

A 25 bed homeless shelter for women and children. The length of stay varies for each individual. Must have a referral from the Camden County Board of Social Services (CCBSS), however, a courtesy stay may be granted for someone not receiving assistance from the CCBSS until the next business day, so she may apply for assistance then.

C. Food

There are three ways to get help with food: 1) public benefits to help purchase food, 2) food pantries that provide groceries, and 3) soup kitchens that provide hot or prepared food. Food stamps and other public benefits are discussed under the section in this book labeled "Money". Food pantries and soup kitchens are listed below.

FOOD PANTRIES

Catholic Charities

1845 Haddon Ave, Camden

1-856-342-4100

Referrals are taken from a variety of agencies. Individuals cannot be serviced more than 4 times in a year. The hours are Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm.



Emergency Food, Neighborhood Center

278 Kaighn Ave, Camden

1-856-365-5295

Persons are given enough food for 3 meals for 3 days for each person in the household on a bi-monthly basis. Program is for South Camden residents only (from 2nd-7th Street) Mon-Fri 1:30pm-3pm.

Community Services, Mt. Olivet Seventh Day Adventist Church

800 Chelton Ave, Camden

1-856-365-6109

Provides food and other supplies to the poor, needy, and unfortunate. Food distribution is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

Little Rock Baptist Church

1210 Kenwood Ave, Camden

1-856-757-0440

The church distributes food packages to needy persons who are residents of the Parkside section of Camden on the first and last

Tuesday of the month from 5pm-7pm. Must bring ID, proof of address, children, and income.

Parkside United Methodist Church

1420 Kaighns Ave, Camden
1-856-964-2254

The church distributes packaged food to local needy persons and families of the Parkside section of Camden. Must bring ID, proof of address, children, and income.

Annunciation Episcopal Church Food Pantry

12 Warwick Rd, Lawnside
1-856-547-9016

A food pantry is provided to any person in need on Mon 12pm-2pm.

Atco Assembly of God Church – The Lord’s Cupboard

615 Jackson Rd, Atco
856-768-0022

Offers food pantry services to residents of Atco and surrounding areas on Mon 10:30am-2pm. Persons must bring ID, proof of address, children, income, and must have transportation to the church.

Audubon United Methodist Church

314 W Graisbury Ave, Audubon
1-856-547-6114

Emergency food pantry services are offered for residents of Audubon; contact the church for days and times. Persons must bring ID, proof of income, address, and children.

Collingswood Food Pantry

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
832 Park Ave, Collingswood
1-856-547-0860

Emergency food pantry services are offered to residents of Collingswood only, on Tues and Thu 11am-2pm. Persons must bring ID, proof of address, children, and income.

First United Methodist Church

201 New Jersey Ave, Mt. Ephraim
1-856-931-8090

The food pantry provides a 5 day supply of food per family member one time per month to needy individuals and families in Mt. Ephraim, Gloucester, Brooklawn, Haddon Heights, Audubon, and the Fairview section of Camden City on Thu 7pm-8:30pm.

Logan Memorial Presbyterian Church

White Horse Pike and Merchant St, Audubon
1-856-547-5571

Emergency food pantry services are offered to residents of Audubon only. Call for days and times. Must bring ID, proof of address, children and income.

New Covenant Community Church

255 Edgewood Ave, Audubon
1-856-546-0344

The church offers an emergency food pantry on a monthly basis. Call the church and leave your name and number and the pantry manager will contact you for the time and date to access the pantry. Only residents of Audubon, Mt. Ephraim, Barrington, Haddon Hts, Bellmawr, Oaklyn, Haddon Twp, Haddonfield and Gloucester City. Must bring ID, proof of address, and children.

Open Cupboard at Faith

Faith Baptist Church
76 Porter Ave, Erial
1-856-784-3388

Food pantry services are provided to residents of Clementon, Lindenwold, Stratford, Erial, Pine Hill and Sicklerville from 9am-1pm. Must have a referral from a church member or have their own membership.

Sacred Heart Church, St. Vincent DePaul Society

11 N Black Horse Pike, Mt. Ephraim
1-856-931-1441

The church offers an emergency food pantry for local poor and needy persons and families of Mt. Ephraim Mon-Fri 9am-4pm. Must bring ID, proof of address, children and income.

St. Edward's Food Pantry

500 Erial Rd (between 5th and 6th), Pine Hill
1-856-783-2670

The church offers an emergency food pantry for local poor and needy persons and families of the Pine Hill area. Persons can only get food once a month. The pantry operates the 3rd and 4th Thu 2:30pm-4:30pm (for emergencies just call). Must bring social security #, ID, proof of address (utility bill), children and income.

St. John Newmann Church

234 Sicklerville Rd, Sicklerville
1-856-728-1060

The church operates an emergency food pantry for local poor and needy persons and families of Sicklerville. Call for day and times. Must bring ID, proof of address, children and income.

St. Lawrence Catholic Church, St. Vincent DePaul Society

100 South Ave, Lindenwold
1-856-627-8824

Operates a food pantry for the local and needy persons in Lindenwold, Stratford, Laurel Springs and Pine Hill area Tue 12pm-3pm. Must bring ID, proof of address, children and income.

St. Maria Goretti Church, St. Vincent DePaul Society

321 Orchard Ave, Runnemede
1-856-933-0037

The church offers an emergency food pantry for local poor and needy residents of Runnemede (from the Black Horse Pike to the Turnpike). Persons must call for days and times. Must bring ID, proof of address, income and children.

St. Teresa Church, St. Vincent DePaul Society

13 E Evesham Rd, Runnemede
1-856-939-1681

The church offers an emergency food pantry for local poor and needy residents of Runnemede. Persons must call for days and times and must bring ID, proof of address, income and children.

St. Vincent DePaul Society

157 W White Horse Pike, Berlin
1-856-767-7391

Provides emergency and supplemental food to persons in need in Berlin Borough, Berlin Twp, Atco, Chesilhurst and Sicklerville Mon-Fri 11am-3pm. Must have a referral from the Camden County Board of Social Services (CCBSS) or other social service agency.

SOUP KITCHENS



Cathedral Kitchen

642 Market St, Camden

1-856-338-1529 (kitchen); 1-856-964-6771 (office)

Cathedral Kitchen provides a fully nutritional nightly meal, 5 days a week between 4pm-5pm.

Emergency Food, Neighborhood Center

278 Kaighns Ave, Camden

1-856-365-5295

A hot nutritious meal is offered at lunch time to anyone who is in need.

Leavenhouse Weekday Feeding Co-op

644 State St, Camden

1-856-966-4596

Congregate feeding is offered Mon-Thu 7am-8:30am for people who are co-op members. Anyone can become a member for a month by working 3 hours at Path, Frank's Place or Leavenhouse or by making a \$5 donation.

Leavenhouse Weekend Soup Kitchen

644 State St

1-856-966-4596

A full hot meal is provided for all who come Sat and Sun 3:30pm-5pm (closed 1st 7 days of the month).

Parkside United Methodist Church

1420 Kaighns Ave, Camden

1-856-964-2254

The church offers congregare meals to persons in need. Sun 8am church service is mandatory for breakfast Sun 9am.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

422 Market St, Camden

1-856-365-5880

The church offers breakfast Sun 9am-10am and dinner Sun 6pm.

EMERGENCY FOOD

Catholic Charities

1845 Haddon Ave, Camden

1-856-342-4100

Mon-Fri 8:30am-4pm

Emergency Food, Neighborhood Center

278 Kaighns Ave, Camden

1-856-365-5295

South Camden residents only (from 2nd to 7th St)

Mon-Fri 1:30pm-3pm

Good Samaritan Center, New Visions Community Services of Camden

523 Stevens St, Camden

1-856-963-0857

Must have a referral from the Camden County Board of Social Services.

9am-3pm 7days/week (Dec-Apr); Mon-Fri 9am-3pm (May-Nov)

OEO

538 Broadway, Camden
 1-856-964-6887
 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

OEO

299 S Route 73, Berlin
 1-856-767-3320
 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Open Cupboard at Faith

Faith Baptist Church
 76 Porter Ave, Erial
 1-856-784-3388

Must have a referral from a church member or have their own membership and must provide ID, proof of address and children.
 9am-1pm daily

Salvation Army

915 Haddon Ave, Camden
 1-856-338-1700
 Mon-Fri 8:30am-4pm

St. Vincent DePaul Society

157 W White Horse Pike, Berlin
 1-856-767-7391

Must have a referral from the Camden County Board of Social Services (CCBSS) or other social service agency and live in Berlin Borough, Berlin Twp, Atco, Chesilhurst or Sicklerville.
 Mon-Fri 11am-3pm

Your Food Shelf

1500 Federal St, Camden
 1-856-365-6475

Must receive TANF or GA through the Camden County Board of Social Services (CCBSS) and must live in East Camden.
 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm (closed 12pm-1pm for lunch)

D. Clothing

The following places provide free or low-cost clothing.

FREE OR LOW-COST CLOTHING SOURCES**Annunciation Episcopal Church Food Pantry**

12 Warwick Rd, Lawnside
 1-856-547-9016

The mission offers clothing to any needy person.
 Mon 12pm-2pm

Community Services, Mt. Olivet Seventh Day Adventist Church

800 Chelton Ave, Camden
 1-856-365-9309 (church); 856-365-6108 (office)

The ministry gathers clothing for the poor, needy and unfortunate.

Dress for Work Success, Bach Foundation

400 S Broadway, Camden
 1-856-966-0014

Provides 3 new or gently used outfits per individual who is returning to the workplace or is finding first time employment.

Goodwill Thrift Store and Donation Center

5461 Route 70, Pennsauken

1-856-662-1650

Operates a thrift store for low cost clothing, etc.

Mon-Sat 9am-9pm; Sun 12pm-6pm

New Visions Community Services of Camden, Inc.

523 Stevens St, Camden

1-856-963-0857

Provides free clothing to persons in need. Also provides business attire for welfare to work participants.

9am-3pm 7days/week (Dec-Apr); Mon-Fri 9am-3pm (May-Nov)

Respond, Inc. Path Homeless Services

816-818 N 5th St, Camden

1-856-365-6597

Has a clothing bank for homeless males.

Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30pm

St. Lawrence Church

100 South Ave, Lindenwold

1-856-627-8824

Operates a thrift store for the poor and needy in the local area

(Lindenwold, Stratford, Laurel Springs and Clementon); free clothing is provided when needed.

St. Vincent DePaul Society

157 W White Horse Pike, Berlin

1-856-767-7391

Operates a thrift store for low cost clothing, etc.

E. Showers and Laundry

The following places provide free showers and laundry facilities.

FREE SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY FACILITIES**Frank's Place**

523 Stevens St, Camden

1-856-963-0857

A homeless day center for men, women and children. It provides showers, washers/dryers, telephones and referrals to various agencies.

9am-3pm 7 days/week (Dec-Apr); Mon-Fri 9am-3pm (May-Nov)

Respond, Inc. Path Homeless Service

816-818 N 5th St, Camden

1-856-365-6597

Path is a day center for homeless males that provides showers, laundry, case management and information and referrals.

Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Ray of Hope Drop-in Center

523 Stevens St, Camden

1-856-338-1344

Assists clients in maintaining a healthy lifestyle through supportive interactions with staff. Offers a variety of amenities like a place to shower, laundry facilities, light snacks, telephone access, personal care items, condoms, bleach kits, as well as information and referral to medical and social services.

Mon-Fri 9:30am-6:30pm

F. Transportation



There is no general program to provide assistance paying for transportation. Though NJ Transit no longer will accept release papers in substitute for bus tickets, many correctional facilities offer NJ Transit bus tickets at a reduced rate, for more information contact the business office of the correctional facility. Some of the programs listed in this book will provide bus passes or bus cards to help you participate in the program. If you need that help, make sure you ask. For specific bus line information contact NJ Transit: 1-800-772-2222 or <http://www.njtransit.com>. If you click on the “trip planner” section you can find out routes.

If you are going to drive places, remember that you **must** have a valid driver’s license, and you **must** have insurance for any vehicle that you are driving. New Jersey now has a “Dollar-A-Day Car Insurance Program” for low-income individuals who receive Medicaid and who want to insure a car registered in their name. It costs **\$360** per year if you pay all at once and **\$365** if you pay in installments. You cannot get this insurance if either your license or registration is revoked or suspended. For more information contact: 1-800-652-2471; <http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/dollaradayqna.htm>.

TRANSPORTATION FOR THE DISABLED

NJ Transit Access Link

1-800-955-2321

Call between 8:30am and 5:00pm, Mon-Fri

NJ Transit’s Access Link paratransit service is comparable to the local bus service. This service is specifically for people whose disability prevents them from using the local fixed route bus service. You must call to be interviewed in person to determine your eligibility.

SenHan Transit

146 Black Horse Pike, Mt. Ephraim

1-856-456-3344

SenHan provides non-emergency medical transportation with door-to-door rides to doctors, hospitals and other medical facilities for seniors and persons who are disabled, as well as personal business errands, and employment transportation.

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

G. Money

Once you get out, you will need a source of income, at least temporarily, until you can find a job. (see under “Finding a Job” for information about looking for work). **The DOC does not provide any “gate money,” except for any money you may have in your inmate**

account. If it is possible to save any money before you get out, you should try to do so. Parole can give emergency funds, based on need, but it's at their discretion — ask your parole officer.

You may be able to get some form of public assistance (“welfare”), but not everyone qualifies. Here are the basics of what you’ll need to know about getting 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 their children with them. Both programs will require you to work or be actively looking for work and both have a five-year lifetime time 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. The Emergency Assistance Program can pay for things like food, clothing and transportation costs to look for housing, but also temporary rental or mortgage payment assistance and utility payments.

WFNJ-GA AND WFNJ-TANF APPLICATION SITES:

WFNJ/General Assistance

600 Market St, 2nd Floor
Camden, NJ 08102
1-856-225-8800

Provides emergency/financial services to adults without children for all the towns in Camden County that are not listed below.
Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri 8:30am-4:30pm; 7:30am-7:30pm Thu; closed to the public Wed 8:30am-1pm

General Assistance – Bellmawr/Runnemede

21 E Browning Rd, Bellmawr
1-856-933-1313
Mon-Fri 8am-11am

General Assistance – Gibbsboro

49 Kirkwood Rd, Gibbsboro
1-856-783-9791; 856-783-6655 - Emergency
Tue 5:30pm-7:30pm

General Assistance – Haddon Twp

135 Haddon Ave, Haddon Twp
1-856-854-1176 x125
Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

General Assistance – Pine Valley
Clementon Post Office, Pine Valley
1-856-783-7078
Mon 9am-12noon

General Assistance – Somerdale
105 Kennedy Blvd, Somerdale
1-856-783-6320 x21
Tue and Thu 9am-12pm or call beeper 856-337-3946; other days by appointment only

WFNJ/TANF
600 Market St, 1st Floor
Camden, NJ 08102
1-856-225-8800
Provides temporary financial support to families with dependent children.
Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri 8:30am-4:30pm; 7:30am-7:30pm Thu; closed to the public Wed 8:30am-1pm

NOTE: If you were convicted of an offense involving distribution or sale of drugs after August 22, 1996, you cannot receive cash benefits under GA or TANF. If you were convicted of an offense after that date that only involved possession of drugs, you may be able to get benefits if you completed or are enrolled in a licensed drug treatment program, or completed a program in prison and are drug free (you will have to submit to drug testing). If you apply for welfare and the case worker asks about your criminal background, you should answer truthfully and to the best of your knowledge. If you lie, you may be found ineligible and could also be prosecuted.

FOOD STAMPS provide a monthly sum to buy food. You apply at the same place you apply for cash benefits. 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). The same goes for possession offenses.



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 some of their other programs and services, including health care. You can contact the VA for questions about benefits at 1-800-827-1000; the health benefit number is 1-877-222-VETS. The VA Benefit Administration is located at 20 Washington Pl., 3rd Floor, in Newark, 1-973-645-1441 (regional office) or Camden County Department of Veterans Affairs, Lakeland Complex, 3 Collier Dr, PO Box 1535, Blackwood, NJ 08012 1-856-374-5801. **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.**

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 the Social Security office at 1-800-772-1213 for eligibility or to apply. The Women's, Infants, Children (WIC) program, gives food vouchers to low-income parents. You can inquire about WIC at the city and county welfare offices.

Taking Care of Yourself: Getting Support

Coming home and readjusting to living on the outside can be tough. There are places where you can get some support from people who have been through it already and know how the game is played. They can help you get back on your feet. Below are a few places to start. In addition, there are Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) support group meetings all over Camden County. To find a meeting near you, call 1-866-920-1212 (for AA) or 1-800-992-0401 (for NA). For other self-help group resources, call the New Jersey Self Help Clearinghouse at 1-800-367-6274.

Taking Care of Yourself: Health Care Resources



It is very important that you pay attention to your health during the period after you are released, and that you make sure you have a plan to get any prescriptions that you need filled and to see a doctor if you have health conditions that need care. Also,

stress and changes in routine can make many health conditions worse. Below, you'll find information on paying for health care and clinics and other resources in Camden 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, or if the main breadwinner in the household is unemployed, or isn't earning enough to support the family. Otherwise, if you are single, you will only qualify for Medicaid if you are low-income and are aged (meaning over 65), blind or so disabled that you are unable to work. 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 (GA) 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 getting those benefits to qualify for Medicaid.** For questions about Medicaid eligibility, you can call 1-800-356-1561. To apply for Medicaid in Camden County go to the Camden County Board of Social Services at 600 Market Street in Camden 1-856-225-8800 or 1-856-225-8266.

If you are a veteran, you may be eligible for health care benefits through the **Veteran's Administration**, which provides a "Medical Benefits Package" for enrolled veterans. You can call 1-877-222-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 AIDS medication for people who don't have other ways of paying. **You can apply for this program before you are released.** To apply, contact the **Aids Drug Distribution Program** at 1-609-588-7038 or toll free 1-877-613-4533, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

Easter Seals New Jersey provides information, referrals and loans of medical equipment (including wheelchairs) to people in need. For information call 1-732-257-6662.

B. General Health Care Providers

Even if you do not have Medicaid or other health insurance or



benefits, Camden County has clinics that provide primary health care at low cost, sliding scale or for free. They are listed below. Most hospitals have charity care and you should ask about this if you go to a hospital emergency room for treatment.

CAMDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

CamCare Health Corp., Gateway

817 Federal St, Camden

1-856-541-8217

Hours: Mon & Wed 8am-8pm; Tue-Fri 8am-4:30pm; Sat 9am-1pm

CamCare Health Corp., East

2610 Federal St, Camden

1-856-635-0203

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

CamCare Health Corp., North

6th & Erie St, Camden

1-856-757-9180

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

CamCare Health Corp., South

8th & Carl Miller Blvd, Camden

1-856-541-4926

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

Bellmawr Regional Health Center

35 Browning Rd, Bellmawr

1-856-931-2700 (ask for Nurses Station)

Hours: Call for times

Virtua Health – Kyle W. Will Family Health Center

1000 Atlantic Ave, Camden

1-856-246-3542

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu 8am-6pm; Wed & Fri 8:0am-4:00pm; Every other Sat 8am-12pm

East Camden Regional Health Center

2631 Federal St, Camden

1-856-756-2265

Hours: Call for times (only handles TB and STDs)

Gloucester Twp., Regional Health Center

DiPiero Center, Lakeland Rd, Blackwood

1-856-374-6084

Hours: Call for programs and hours

Family Practice – Kennedy Family Health Services

1 Somerdale Square, Somerdale

1-856-309-7700

Hours: Call for hours

All of these centers accept Medicaid and some insurance plans, and also provide services on a sliding scale basis, with additional fees for x-rays and lab work. Primary and preventive care is also available. Staff there can help you apply for Medicaid or other benefits if you may be eligible.

Project H.O.P.E.

439 Clinton St, Camden

1-856-968-2320

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm

Our mission is to improve the health and well being of Camden's homeless by providing medical, social outreach and advocacy services in order to assist men, women and children in their transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

CAMDEN COUNTY DEPT OF HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES

DiPiero Center, Lakeland Rd, Blackwood

1-856-374-6300 or 1-800-999-9045

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Provides many programs that address diabetes, high blood pressure screenings, hepatitis screenings, PAP smears, asthma services, routine blood work, immunizations, hearing and vision testing, community health programs, etc. Must be a Camden County resident.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF SOUTHERN NJ

317 Broadway, Camden

1-856-365-3519

Hours: Mon-Thu 8:30am-5pm; Fri 8:30am-4pm; Sat 8:30am-2pm

Provides gynecological exams, pregnancy testing/counseling, prenatal care, STD testing/counseling, teen programs, emergency contraception, family planning and male programs. Sliding scale fees based on income and family size, Medicaid and most insurance is accepted.

C. Services for People with HIV/AIDS

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

Aids Coalition of Southern NJ

100 Essex Ave, Suite 300, Bellmawr

1-856-933-9500

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm

Offers information about resources and services that are available in the community to people with HIV or AIDS.

Catholic Charities, Horizon of Hope

1845 Haddon Ave, Camden

1-856-342-4107

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Provides pastoral and mental health counseling and various support services to those infected or affected by HIV.

Ray of Hope Drop-in Center

523 Stevens St, Camden

1-856-338-1344

Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am-6:30pm

Ray of Hope is a drop in center for people who are HIV+ or at risk for HIV infection. Assists clients in maintaining a healthy lifestyle through supportive interactions with staff. Offers a variety of amenities like a place to shower, laundry facilities, light snacks, telephone access, personal care items, condoms, bleach kits, as well as information and referral to medical and social services.

Hyacinth AIDS Foundation

986 S Broad St, Trenton

1-609-396-8322 or call the State's hotline 1- 877-613-4533.

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; Wed 9am-6pm

Services include case management, support groups, buddy services and treatment advocacy.

NJ AIDS/STD Hotline

UMDNJ/65 Bergen St, Newark

1-800-624-2377 – 24 hours/7 days a week

The hotline gives referrals, general information, counseling, testing locations and treatment information.

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.

TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM, CAMDEN COUNTY

East Camden Regional Health Center

2631 Federal St, Camden

1-856-756-2265

Hours: Call for hours

Provides free testing, treatment, and medical supervision of suspected or diagnosed cases of tuberculosis and also conducts educational programs.

E. Dental Care

Most of the locations listed

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

CamCare Dental Center, East Camden

2610 Federal St, Camden

1-856-635-0307

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

Sliding fee scale, based on income and federal guidelines, all major insurance is accepted.

CamCare Dental Center, Gateway

817 Federal St, Camden

1-856-963-8768

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

Sliding fee scale, based on income and federal guidelines, all major insurance is accepted.

CamCare Dental Center, South Camden

8th & Carl Miller Blvd, Camden

1-856-541-4926

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

Sliding fee scale, based on income and federal guidelines, all major insurance is accepted.

Virtua Health Center

1000 Atlantic Ave, Camden
1-856-246-3545

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm (handles some emergencies in the morning and at lunch time)

William H. Copperthwaite Dental Hygiene Clinic

Taft Hall, 2nd Floor, Room 204, Blackwood
1-856-374-4930

Hours: Call for current hours.

F. Substance Abuse Resources

Getting clean and staying clean if you've got a problem with alcohol or drugs will be a major task for you if you want to stay out of trouble.

Many of the health clinics, support centers and other resources listed in this guide can help refer you to treatment that most fits your needs. Listed below are some of Camden County's treatment resources, and each of these will also help with referrals if they can't 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.

Also, you can call the Addictions Hotline of NJ at 1-800-238-2333.

**DETOXIFICATION****Kennedy Memorial Hospital – Substance Abuse Services**

Chapel Ave & Cooper Landing Rd, Cherry Hill
1-856-488-6789

Hours: Contact the program for more information.

Services include hospital based detoxification, intensive outpatient, outpatient detoxification, residential short term and partial hospitalization.

Delaware Valley Medical Clinic - Blackwood

300 Woodbury Turnersville Rd, Blackwood
1-856-227-5254

Hours: Mon-Fri 6am-2pm; Sat 7am-10am

This program offers outpatient methadone maintenance and methadone detoxification.

OUTPATIENT AND RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT**Addictions Hotline of New Jersey**

PO Box 1004, Williamstown
1-800-238-2333

Hours: 24 hours/day

Provides NJ residents with information about the types of detox, evaluation, treatment, professional and support groups available to drug and alcohol abusers or addicts who wish to stop their use of chemical substances.

National Clearinghouse for Drug and Alcohol Information

11420 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland
1-800-729-6686

Hours: 24 hours/day

The nation's one-stop resource for substance abuse prevention and treatment information.

Addictions Victorious (Fellowship House)

1722 Broadway, Camden

1-856-964-4545

Hours: Tue 6pm-8pm

Provides a weekly support group meeting with a 12 step recovery program based on Biblical principles; also provides referrals to Christian rehabilitation centers.

Service area: Camden City

Arway Recovery Inc.

PO Box 1054, Camden

1-609-405-6550

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; evenings by appointment only

This program provides comprehensive and quality drug addiction care to those in need of a drug-free, supportive environment.

Service area: primarily Camden City

Cooper House

7250 Westfield Ave, Suite J, Pennsauken

1-856-662-0221

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Cooper House provides screening and assessment, drug, alcohol group and individual treatment. **Services are for women only.**

Genesis Counseling Center

566 Haddon Ave, Collingswood

1-856-858-9314

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-8pm appointments are available

Provides alcohol and drug addictions assessment/testing as well as outpatient group and individual services.

IDRC – Camden County (Intoxicated Driver Resource Center)

2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave, Camden

1-856-225-5109

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4pm

Alcohol treatment, intensive day and aftercare, evening groups and IDRC for people with motor vehicle violations are provided.

Hispanic Family Center – La Esperanza

2700 Westfield Ave, Camden

1-856-365-7393

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Offers individual, family and group substance abuse services.

Kennedy Memorial Hospital – Substance Abuse Services

Chapel Ave & Cooper Landing Rd, Cherry Hill

1-856-488-6789

Hours: Contact the program for more information.

Services include hospital based detoxification, intensive outpatient, outpatient detoxification, residential short term and partial hospitalization.

Maryville, Inc.

156 Broadway, Westville

1-856-456-0660

Hours: Mon-Thu 9am-8pm; Fri 9am-4pm

Assessments evaluations and drug screening, one-on-one and group counseling and intensive supervised sessions are offered.

Website: www.maryvillerehab.org

My Brother's Keeper

502 State St, Camden

1-856-365-1332

Hours: Contact the program for more information.

The recovery ministry is a faith based program that offers transitional housing for addicted men. There is also a day center that provides information about substance abuse, job training, medical treatment and other resources available in the community.

Dorcas House is the female component of My Brother's Keeper. It focuses on women in recovery, coming out of prison. The program provides information and referral about resources in the community, however, it doesn't have living space for females as of yet.

Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Camden County

DiPiero Center, Lakeland Rd, Blackwood

1-856-374-6314

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm

This office provides alcohol treatment, intensive day and aftercare, evening groups and IDRC classes.

Delaware Valley Medical Clinic - Blackwood

300 Woodbury Turnersville Rd, Blackwood

1-856-227-5254

Hours: Mon-Fri 6am-4pm; Sat & Sun 7am-10pm

This program offers outpatient methadone maintenance and methadone detoxification.

Parkside Recovery, Inc.

413-17 Broadway, Camden

1-856-757-9190 x236 – Admissions

Hours: Mon-Fri 6am-3:30pm; Sat 6am-12noon

Provides methadone maintenance, family therapy, substance abuse evaluation, urine monitoring, drug free counseling, and group counseling.

Princeton House

905 Herrontown Rd, Princeton

1-800-242-2550 (inpatient); 856-779-8455 (outpatient in Cherry Hill)

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm (outpatient); 24 hours/day (inpatient)

Offers a full continuum of behavioral health care, inpatient, partial hospital, intensive outpatient and traditional outpatient services.

Regeneration Program

Mt. Olivet SDA Church

8th & Chelton Ave, Camden

1-856-365-9309

Hours: Contact the program for more information

A drug rehabilitation program, 12 steps for Christian recovery group is available.

Service area: Camden City

Starting Point Delaware Valley Addictions Center

215 Highland Ave, Suite C, Westmont

1-856-854-3155 x111

Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-10pm; Sat 9am-2pm

Outpatient programs are available; they specialize in the relapse process and help those that are stuck in the recovery process.

Sikora Center, Inc.

613-615 Clinton St, Camden
1-856-963-1312

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu 9am-9pm; Wed and Fri 9am-5pm

Offers drug treatment, prevention/education, intervention and support services to women and men; groups are gender specific.

SODAT of New Jersey



530 Cooper St, Camden
1-856-964-5000

Hours: Mon-Thu 9am-9pm; 9am-4pm Fri; Sat by appointment only

Offers outpatient drug and alcohol treatment, group and individual sessions.

Step Up

2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave, Camden
1-856-225-5070

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm

Alcohol treatment, intensive day and aftercare and evening groups are provided.

Substance Abuse Treatment Services

108 Somerdale Rd, Voorhees
1-856-428-5688

Hours: Mon-Thu 9am-8pm; Fri 9am-3pm

Offers substance abuse assessment, treatment, education and support for adults, adolescents, families and groups.

G. Mental Health Services/

Individual Counseling

While the medical care and drug treatment facilities listed in this booklet may be able to assist you with medication for mental health issues, and some counseling as well, there are also places to go to get counseling and therapy and other mental health services. Some of these services require Medicaid or other insurance, but some will also have sliding scale payments.

Archway ACT (Adult Counseling and Therapy)

258 Pinedge Dr, Berlin
1-856-767-6052

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4pm

Partial care program for adults with mental illness; group treatment and vocational training are provided.

Catholic Charities – Camden Counseling Center

1845 Haddon Ave, Camden
1-856-342-4162

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm; Sat by appointment only

Provides high quality, low cost individual, couple, family and group counseling services to all individuals requesting treatment. Fees are on a sliding scale.

Catholic Charities – Guadalupe Family Services

509 State St, Camden
1-856-365-8081

Hours: Call for hours

Provides high quality, low cost individual, couple, family and group counseling services to all individuals requesting treatment. Fees are on a sliding scale.

Center for Family Services – Camden

584 Benson St, Camden

1-856-964-1990

Hours: Mon & Fri 9am-5pm; Tue-Thu 9am-8pm

Services include substance abuse assessment, as well as individual, marital, and family therapy.

Center for Family Services – Voorhees

108 Somerdale Rd, Voorhees

1-856-428-5688

Hours: Mon-Thu 9am-8pm; Fri 9am-3pm

Services include substance abuse assessment, as well as individual, marital, and family therapy.

Genesis Counseling Center, Mental Health

566 Haddon Ave, Collingswood

1-856-858-9314

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Offers individual, family, and group counseling services.

Harmony Place

7070 A Route 70, Pennsauken

1-856-910-0303

Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am-4pm

Services for mental illness and substance abuse issues to adults are provided.

Hispanic Family Center – Partial Care Services

35 Church St, Camden

1-856-365-7393

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Intensive outpatient mental health services are provided.

Mental Health Association in Southwestern NJ

505 Cooper St, Camden

1-856-966-6767

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Provides a wide array of information about mental health services in the area.

Starting Point, Inc. of New Jersey

215 Highland Ave, Suite C, Westmont

1-856-854-3155

Hours: Mon-Thu 10am-10pm; Fri 12pm-9pm; Sat 9am-2pm

Provides many different counseling programs for individuals and families.

South Jersey Behavioral, Camden Outpatient Services

400 Market St, Camden

1-856-541-1700 x 2030

Hours: Mon, Tue, Fri 9am-3:30pm; Wed and Thu 9am-7pm

Services include individual, family and group therapy, psychiatric evaluation, medication monitoring, assessment and referrals.

South Jersey Behavioral, Stratford Outpatient Services

1 Colby Rd, Suite 7, Stratford

1-856-541-1700 x 2300

Hours: Mon-Thu 9am-9pm; Fri 8:30am-4:30pm
Services include individual, family and group therapy, psychiatric evaluation, medication monitoring, assessment and referrals.

H. Free/Low Cost Eyeglasses/Eye care



Bellmawr Regional Health Center

35 Browning Rd, Bellmawr
1-856-931-2700

Hours: Call for hours

This site offers low cost vision screening services.

Camden Eye Center – Camden

400 Chambers Ave, Camden
1-856-365-1811

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

Provides comprehensive, high quality, low cost eye and vision care services to the underserved population.

Camden Eye Center – Collingswood

Parkview on the Terrace, Collingswood
1-856-869-8702

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

Provides comprehensive, high quality, low cost eye and vision care services to the underserved population.

Camden Eye Center – Blackwood

Jefferson House, Lakeland Rd, 1st Floor, Blackwood
1-856-374-6078

Hours: Call for hours

Provides comprehensive, high quality, low cost eye and vision care services to the underserved population.

Gloucester Twp Regional Health Center

DiPiero Center, Lakeland Rd, Blackwood
1-856-374-6084

Hours: Call for hours

This site offers low cost vision screening services.

Finding a Job: Employment Assistance and Training Programs



Getting a job is usually one of the most important things people need to do when they get out of prison. You need money to support yourself and help your family and you want to get on with your life and do something productive. Not everyone can get to work right away — 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. 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: Have all your documents in order — I.D., school diplomas and training certificates. If you do not have a resume, make sure you have a list of any work experiences you've had, and schools and training programs you've completed, with names and addresses, so you can fill out applications. Figure out who your references will be and have their information handy: a former employer, a pastor or priest, a teacher or coach - somebody who knows you and can speak well of you.

PRESENTATION MATTERS: 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 (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: If you are asked about your criminal record, you should not lie. If you do, and you are later found out, you'll probably be fired for the lying, even if the record wasn't going to be a problem. It is easy for employers to perform criminal background checks, and many do. Before you apply for a job, think about what you will say when you are asked about your criminal background: you can be up front, but still stress what your strengths are, what you have to offer, what you have learned from your experience. Practice with a friend. While it is important to be honest, you should only answer the interview or application questions that you are asked. If you are asked, for example, about any felony convictions during the past 7 years, you don't have to volunteer information about misdemeanors, arrests that did not lead to convictions, or convictions from more than seven years ago. But, if you are going to have to work around appointments with your parole officer, or other requirements of parole, keep in mind that you will have to work this out with your employer, which means telling him or her that you are on parole, even if you are not asked.



**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 when looking for a job.

ACP Construction Trades Apprenticeship Program

1535 Broadway, Camden
1-856-964-1030
1-866-876-4527 or 866-TRN4JBS
Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm (office)



This is a 13 week (35 hours/week) construction trades program offering GED preparation, drug screening, construction site visits, job readiness training, basic safety, construction systems awareness, resume writing, job development, soft skill development and case management services.

Website: www.acpusa.org

Camden County One-Stop

2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave, Camden
1-856-614-3150 (help desk)
1-877-995-2600 (info line)
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

This facility has the ability to link people with jobs and training. Job listings, placement in job training classes and counseling for men and women who have been out of the job market.

Employment Service, New Jersey – Cherry Hill

1873 Route 70 E, Suite 304, Cherry Hill
1-856-751-8550
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Free labor exchange services for job seekers and employers, including job referrals, employment counseling, resume writing, job search workshops, job training and access to America's Job and Talent bank.

New Visions Community Services of Camden, Inc.

523 Stevens St, Camden
1-856-963-0857
Hours: 7 days/week 9am-3pm (Dec-Apr); Mon-Fri 9am-3pm (May-Nov)
Offers a community based job bank that assists in job search and placement for the under/unemployed.

OEO – Urban Women's Center

900 Broadway, Camden
1-856-365-8989
Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Women are trained for employment through the Job Readiness Program. Other services offered are case management, counseling and training in a variety of traditional and non-traditional work skills. Job placement assistance is available to job ready women.

Problem Solvers Employment Agency, LLC

1236 Haddon Ave, Camden

1-856-541-5300

Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30am-12pm; 2pm-6pm (closed 12pm-2pm for lunch)

Helps locate jobs for persons in need of employment.

Puerto Rican Unity for Progress (PRUP)

427 Broadway, Camden

1-856-541-1418

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Offers a job placement and referral program that addresses fundamental barriers such as lack of work ethics, office manners and behavior, job keeping skills, adequate dressing and interviewing techniques.

NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave, Suite 103, Camden

1-856-614-2500

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

This program includes diagnostic evaluation, vocational guidance and counseling, therapies, vocational training, rehabilitation workshop and training, tools, supplies, assistive devices, vehicle modification, supported employment/job coaching and job placement assistance. Disability must be a significant impediment to employment.

**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 and community residences for individuals with developmental disabilities. A much larger number of jobs require that you disclose your criminal record, and that 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.

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 “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.

WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT

An employer who hires people with criminal records is eligible to receive a Work Opportunity Tax Credit, a small rebate on their federal taxes. For more information you or the employer can call 1-800-792-8881 or 1-609-292-8112, or go to the internet at http://www.state.nj.us/njbiz/s_wotc.shtml.

FEDERAL BONDING PROGRAM

The Federal Bonding program provides bonding or “insurance coverage” for employers who hire individuals with criminal histories who are otherwise qualified but cannot get jobs due to their backgrounds. You can get information about this program for the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Employment and Training Services at 1-609-777-3203.

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.



LIBRARIES

Camden Free Public Library, Centerville/Ferry Ave

852 Ferry Ave, Camden
1-856-342-9789

Camden Free Public Library, Fairview Branch

1503 Collings Rd, Camden
1-856-962-6669

Camden Free Public Library, Main

418 Federal St, Camden
1-856-757-7640

Anthony P. Infanti Bellmawr Branch Library

35 E Browning Rd, Bellmawr
1-856-931-1400

Gloucester Twp-Blackwood Rotary Public Library

15 S Black Horse Pike, Blackwood
1-856-228-0022

M. Allan Vogelson Regional Branch Library

203 Laurel Rd, Voorhees
1-856-772-1636

William G. Rohrer Memorial Library

15 MacArthur Blvd, Haddon Twp
1-856-854-2752

Haddonfield Public Library

60 Haddon Ave, Haddonfield
1-856-429-1304

Merchantville Public Library

130 Centre St, Merchantville
1-856-665-3128

Pennsauken Free Public Library

5605 Crescent Blvd, Pennsauken
1-856-665-5959

South County Regional Branch Library

35 Cooper Folly Rd, Atco
1-856-753-2537



New Jersey...

Guide To...

How to...

Directory of...

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 children, your spouse, your parents, and others who are part of your family, and they may be glad to see you home, but your return can be stressful for you and for them. 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.

A. Family Counseling Resources

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

Catholic Charities – Camden Counseling Center

1845 Haddon Ave, Camden

1-856-342-4162

1-866-682-2166

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm (evenings and Sat by appointment)

Provides high quality, low cost, individual, couple, family and group counseling services to all individuals requesting treatment.

Catholic Charities – Guadalupe Family Service

509 State St, Camden

1-856-365-8081

Hours: Call for hours

Provides high quality, low cost, individual, couple, family and group counseling services to all individuals requesting treatment.

Center for Family Services - Camden

584 Benson St, Camden

1-856-964-1990

Hours: Mon & Fri 9am-5pm; Tue-Thu 9am-8pm

Offers substance abuse assessment, parenting education, individual, marital and family therapy, psychiatric evaluation, life skills education, support groups, as well as in-home therapy for the elderly and disabled.

Center for Family Services - Voorhees

108 Somerdale Rd, Voorhees

1-856-428-5688

Hours: Mon-Thu 9am-8pm; Fri 9am-3pm

Offers substance abuse assessment, parenting education, individual, marital and family therapy, psychiatric evaluation, life skills education, support groups, as well as in-home therapy for the elderly and disabled.

Genesis Counseling Center, Inc.

566 Haddon Ave, Collingswood

1-856-858-9314

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Offers a wide range of counseling services and programs; offers individual, group and family counseling for all ages. Services include alcohol and drug addictions testing, attention deficit disorder, marriage

counseling, eating disorders, smoking cessation, parent support and education groups, mental health and psychological testing, depression, grief and loss, stress and loneliness.

Starting Point

215 Highland Ave, Suite C, Westmont
1-856-854-3155

Hours: Mon-Thu 10am-10pm; Fri 12pm-10pm; Sat 9am-2pm

Offers support programs, workshops and referrals in many areas, including gambling, caregivers support, smoking cessation, adolescent counseling, eating disorders, teenage and young adult therapy, holistic counseling, play therapy, and much more to individuals and families.

Parents Anonymous of New Jersey, Inc.

127 US Highway 206, Suite 10, Hamilton

1-609-585-7666

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 children 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 1-856-614-2700 or 1-800-531-1091. 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.



■ Call DYFS and ask to speak to your child's case manager. For example "Hi, my name is _____. I have recently been released from prison. My child _____ has been under foster care while I have been incarcerated. I would like to speak to the case manager so that I can make an appointment with him or her." Make an appointment.

■ Be sure to make it to the appointment on time, and call if you are running late or need to reschedule. Bring paper and pencil to write down any information

the case manager gives you. **This is your chance to ask questions so take advantage of it!!**

■ Be prepared to talk about your criminal background, and any problems that you may have such as alcohol or drugs. The case manager can ask you if you have a place to live and other personal questions in order to assess whether you are eligible to establish visitation with your child. If you can, ask a friend or relative to help you practice answering these kinds of questions. Make sure to pay attention to what the case manager says and ask about anything that you do not understand. The impression you make in the interview is important. If you feel yourself getting angry, ask for a cup of water, and take an extra breath to cool down. Answer questions honestly, even about things like substance abuse, because the case manager may be able to assist with getting you into treatment or with other help you may need. The best way to help your child is to help yourself first.

■ Make sure you leave the office with all the documents that the case manager provided you regarding your child, and remember to ask for a business card from the case manager, in case you have questions later on.

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.

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 (“noncustodial”) 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 well as other places to go to get more information. **Child support, custody and visitation issues are very complicated, and if you can get a lawyer, you should.** Contact the Legal Services of New Jersey hotline, from 9:00 am - 4:30 pm, at 1-888-576-5529, or the Camden County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service at 1-856-482-0618. You can also contact Camden County Legal Services, at 745 Market St, Camden, 1-856-964-2010. The Prisoner’s Self Help Legal Clinic is another resource however this agency is only accessible on the web at www.pshlc.org.

GETTING AND ENFORCING A CHILD SUPPORT ORDER

If you have custody of your children, and want financial support from the non-custodial parent, you can apply for child support at the Superior Court of NJ Family Division, Hall of Justice, 2nd floor, 101 S 5th St, Camden, 1-856-379-2200. There is a one time **\$6** fee. You can also call 1-877-NJKIDS1 for more information about this. If you are receiving public assistance, there is no fee, and Work First New Jersey/TANF can help with the application, locating the absent parent, and paternity testing. You will also not get most of the money paid in support while you are receiving public assistance, because it will go to pay back the state for what has been paid to you. Child Support Services of the Probation Division is located at the Parkade Building, 40 N 5th St, Camden which helps enforce child support orders. The phone number there is 1-856-379-2055.

PAYING CHILD SUPPORT

If you have children 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 — if, 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 “arrears.” 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:

PRE-RELEASE: Before you are released, you can seek a modification of a child support order, based on your change in circumstances (incarceration). You would be asking the court to reduce the amount you owe, so that arrears do not continue to build up while you are in prison. This process can be done without a

lawyer but it is complicated because you have to fill out and send the appropriate papers to court, the other parent or his or her lawyer, and to the Probation Division. The forms you need and the instructions are available at the state judiciary website, www.judiciary.state.nj.us/prose/infmpjm.pdf, or may be available in your prison law library.

POST-RELEASE: You can find out how much you owe, and whether there is an existing child support order by going to the Family Division at the Hall of Justice, 101 S 5th St, 2nd Floor, Camden. If you have not been paying child support, you should be aware that there may be a warrant issued for your arrest — this may have been addressed at the time you were being released, but you should still call before you go there: 1-856-379-2200. Tell them who you are, that you have just been released from prison and want to find out about how to pay your child support, and ask if there is a warrant. You can ask if they will “recall” the warrant so that you can come in, possibly work out a payment plan, and get a modification of the child support order.

D. Domestic Violence Resources

The following places provide counseling, support and shelter, or referrals to shelter in domestic violence situations. You can also call the 24 hour hotline from the New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women:

1-800-572-SAFE.

Camden County Women’s Center

P.O Box 1459
Blackwood, NJ 08012
1-856-227-1234 (hotline)

Offers domestic violence crisis intervention, group and individual counseling for victims and their children. It also provides emergency shelter, food, clothing, court assistance accompaniment and case management services.

Domestic Violence Outreach Services

415 Cooper St, 2nd Floor, Suite 2B, Camden
1-856-963-5668

Educates and gives support needed to help victims of domestic violence reach their own personal goals.



Family Violence Prevention Program

518 Market St, Camden
1-856-668-2065

This program is a response to intimate partner violence providing treatment, counseling and accountability. It’s for perpetrators of domestic violence aimed at helping batterers address and correct the causes of their problems. It helps batterers become responsible family members and useful adults by enabling them to develop skills to help eliminate violent behavior patterns and take responsibility for their actions.

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. 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 a high school diploma or GED will simply lock you out from a lot of opportunities.

A. GED Classes

The places in Camden 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.

GED LOCATIONS

Camden County College

Broadway and Cooper St, Camden
1-856-338-1817

Camden County One-Stop

2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave, Camden
1-856-614-3150
1-877-995-2600

Cooper House

7250 Westfield Ave, Suite J, Pennsauken
1-856-662-0221
Services are for women only.

Genesis School of Business

Virtua Health Building
Atlantic and Mt. Ephraim Ave, Camden
1-856-963-1311

Jerrothia Riggs Adult Learning Center

1656 Kaighn Ave, Camden
856-966-5223

OEO – Urban Women’s Center

900 Broadway, Camden
1-856-365-8989
GED classes are for men and women receiving TANF or GA.

Woodrow Wilson Evening School

3100 Federal St, Camden
1-856-966-5457

Work Group

3720 Marlton Pike, Pennsauken
1-856-486-7390



*Preparing for
the
GED*

B. 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. Below are phone numbers for Camden County.

LOCAL AREA COLLEGES

Camden County College, Blackwood

200 College Dr
1-856-227-7200

Camden County College, Camden

Broadway and Cooper St
1-856-338-1817

Camden County College, Cherry Hill

1889 Route 70 East
1-856-874-6000

Rowan University, Camden

200 N Broadway
1-856-756-5400

Rutgers University, Camden

406 Penn St
1-856-225-1766

CAN I GET FINANCIAL AID?

To pay for higher education, 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 both

information and referrals, **1-888-576-5529**. You can also contact **Camden County Legal Services**, at 745 Market St, Camden, **1-856-964-2010**. The **Prisoner's Self Help Legal Clinic** is another resource however this agency is only accessible on the web at www.pshlc.org.

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. You will have to go into your local police station and make an appointment to be fingerprinted on a State Applicant Fingerprint Card (SBI19). On that card you will have to include your full name, social security number, date of birth and purpose for the record check. You then mail the card, with a cover letter listing the purpose of the request, the name of the person whose records are being requested, and the address where the records should be sent, to:

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

You must include a \$30 money order or cashier's check, certified check, or business check made payable to: DIVISION OF STATE POLICE-SBI. No personal checks are accepted.

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 get a copy of the book, which costs **\$15**, call 1-888-576-5529, or go to the LSNJ website, 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. That 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 SERVICES, LLC:
Write to them at P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA, 30374, or call 1-800-685-1111. By mail, be sure to include your full name, current address, Social

Security number, and most recent former address for file-matching purposes.

TRANSUNION PERSONAL CREDIT REPORT:

PO Box 1000, Chester PA 19022

Call 1-800-888-4213.

EXPERIAN:

PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013

Call 1-800-397-3742.

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 persons 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 the Division of Elections, the Commissioners of Registration office in the County where you live, or from your Municipal Clerk. Registration forms are also available at various State agencies and at Motor Vehicle Commission 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. 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 towards 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?

Your First Weeks Out

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sun	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thu	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Documents	Have?	Need?
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: _____

Getting Ready to Apply for a Job

In addition to personal information, most jobs ask questions about your background and experience. If you don't already have a resumé, use this space to list information to fill out a job application, or for an interview. Don't forget to include dates.

Education **Dates**

(For example: list high school, GED, or other education, and include any trade or vocational certificates.)

Smart Book Topics



**Getting Started:
I.D. and Other Documents**



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



**Taking Care of Yourself:
Getting Support**



**Taking Care of Yourself:
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