

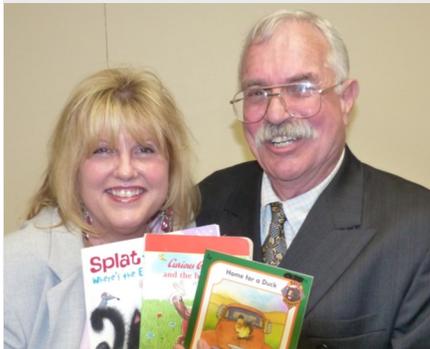


Rehabilitation

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP)
Millicent Tidwell, Director

News Update

Story Time: Inmates Record Stories for their Children



Victor Abrunzo of **Life Support Alliance** presents children's books donated by Friends of Thousand Oaks Library to CDCR Correctional Counselor III (RA) Michele Gonzalez for CDCR's Story Time program pilot. A videotape of an inmate reading a child's book will be produced and sent to that inmate's son or daughter at home.

Transitions Video

Coming soon on Inmate Television in adult institutions is a video encouraging eligible inmates to enroll in DRP's pre-release training for job-readiness and financial literacy in Reentry Hubs.

A total of 46 individuals were filmed over three days in January. Program participants, staff and instructors at **Folsom Women's Facility at Folsom State Prison**, **Central California Women's Facility**, and **Valley State Prison** shared their own life stories and changes brought about as a result of the Transitions program. Program graduates, career counselors and representatives were filmed at **Northern California Construction Training's** facility and **Sacramento Employment and Training Agency/Sacramento Works'** Franklin Career Center. Six participants are featured in flyers to announce the video. [Click here to view the video \(intranet\).](#)



Newsletter Readers: Click on article words in blue font to learn more!

California Institute for Men's SAT Provider Fair

California Institution for Men's (CIM) Substance Abuse Treatment (SAT) Providers' Fair on March 20, 2014, was a huge success.

All 156 inmates in CIM's current SAT program explored different programs, benefits, and locations to use during reentry into their communities, and also learned about probation rules and procedures. The SAT participants are within one year of release to either parole or Post Release Community Supervision. The contract provider Amity Foundation holds this event each quarter to help these inmates review their options.



Entire CIM SAT team (Amity Foundation staff, DRP, CIM, and Offender Mentor Certificate Program inmate mentors) at Provider Fair.

Representatives from Los Angeles Probation Department, San Diego Probation Department, Orange County Probation Department, San Bernardino Probation Department, Ellis Foundation, Weingart Foundation, Amity Vista Ranch, and Substance Abuse Services Coordination Agencies (SASCA) participated in this event.

Carlos Ramirez, Correctional Counselor III/ Re-Entry Hub Manager, CIM, stated that this was the final SAT event coordinated by the Amity Foundation before CIM converts to the new Cognitive Behavioral Treatment programs (**Re-Entry Hub**) this spring. He commended Amity Foundation for their efforts in support of the CDCR Blueprint mandate to place "the right inmate, in the right program, at the right time" and provide them with much needed treatment services.

Please contact Carlos F. Ramirez, CC III, CIM, Carlos.Ramirez@cdcr.ca.gov

Today!

CDCR Conservation Camps



Ready for Fire Season

California's **Conservation (Fire) Camp Program**, trains offenders to be Type I Firefighters on the front lines of wildfires, where they fight fires and cut containment lines that keep flames from spreading.

More than 4,300 offenders volunteer to participate in the program, which has approximately 200 fire crews. In an average year, Conservation Camp Program inmates provide approximately three million hours of firefighting and other emergencies, and seven million person hours of community service project work. These efforts save California taxpayers more than \$100 million annually.

Adult male inmates receive physical fitness and firefighting training at **California Correctional Center** in Susanville, **Sierra Conservation Center** in Jamestown, **California Men's Colony** in San Luis Obispo and **California Rehabilitation Center** in Norco. Female inmate firefighters receive training at **California Institution for Women** in Corona. [Click here to view the firefighter's training on CDCR's Rehabilitation Blog.](#)

"They are the infantry of wild-land firefighting" said Capt. Jorge Santana of CDCR's Division of Adult Institutions (DAI). [These inmates assigned to camps have the lowest overall recidivism rate of all CDCR missions](#), said Santana.

Projects completed by inmate firefighters in the off-season for local schools, counties, cities and other public entities include clearing fire breaks, restoring historical structures, park maintenance, flood protection, clearing fallen trees and debris.

Please contact Capt. Jorge Santana, DAI Reception Centers Mission, jorge.santana@cdcr.ca.gov



Rehabilitation

Today!

The right inmate in the right program at the right time:

Former Solano Inmate Honored by Dalai Lama

by Cole Bienek, Editor in Chief, Solano Vision

Academic Programs

Increase inmate reading levels to minimum 9th grade level with G.E.D. and accredited college courses also available

Career Technical Education

Prepares inmates for viable vocational career paths upon release by training to industry certification levels

Cognitive Behavioral Treatment

Provides evidence-based treatment for Substance Abuse, Anger Management, Family Relationships and Criminal Thinking

Offender Mentor Certification

Trains and certifies long-term inmates as interns by California Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (CAADAC) to assist as mentors in various substance abuse treatment programs

Pre-Employment Transition

Provides job readiness skills including job search, resume, interviewing, financial skills, access to career centers

California Identification Card

Assists in obtaining state-issued I.D. cards used to secure employment, housing, bank accounts, travel, and more

Reentry Hubs

Provide relevant training and services to eligible and interested inmates within 4 years of release

Step-Down Program

Provides alternatives to criminal gang lifestyle to reduce confinement in Security Housing Units (SHU)

Long Term Offender Program

Provides evidenced-based treatment programming in criminogenic behavior to inmates serving long-term sentences

James "Alex" Alexander paroled from [California State Prison, Solano \(SOL\)](#) two years ago, and was recently recognized by the Dalai Lama as one of the "Unsung Heroes of Compassion."

In 1983, at the age of 21, Alexander had a deadly confrontation with a drug dealer and eventually was convicted of 2nd degree murder. He spent the next 28 years in California prisons. "It may be surprising," Alexander says, "but that is where I found the opportunity to change my life."

While incarcerated, Alexander earned his drug counselor certification through DRP's [Offender Mentor Certification Program](#). He co-founded a program that tutors inmates to take their General Education Development high school equivalency test, became a licensed X-Ray technician, and was an [Alternatives to Violence Program \(AVP\)](#) team coordinator for the Level II facilities in SOL. After release, Alexander earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, graduating summa cum laude. He is a practicing alcohol and drug counselor in Napa and Sonoma counties and also serves the AVP community as a lead facilitator in Santa Rosa.

Northern California's [Wisdom in Action](#) non-profit organization presented the [Unsung Heroes of Compassion event on February 23, 2014](#). Alexander was one of 51 others recognized by His Holiness the Dalai Lama; along with the acknowledgement came a call to action, "a reminder that the well-being of our communities and, in fact, our world, is ours to shape through our own daily acts of kindness and compassion."

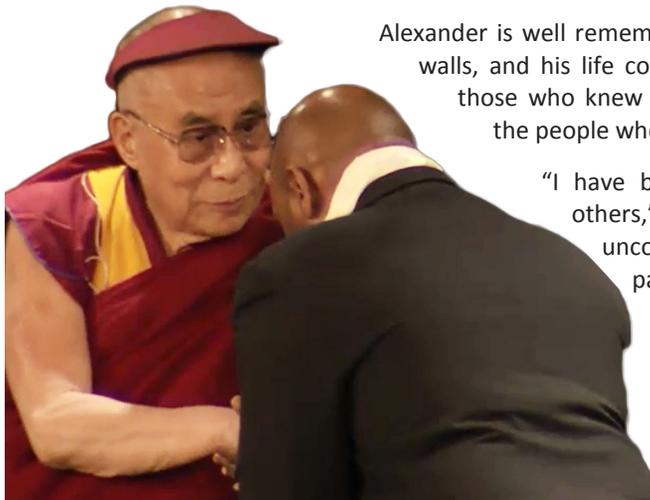
Alexander is well remembered by those still living within Solano's walls, and his life continues to shine as a beacon of hope to those who knew him, and by extension, through them to the people who never had the chance.

"I have been helped greatly by the kindness of others," Alexander remembers, "I was shown unconditional love and compassion. I want to pass that on to everyone I meet."

The Dalai Lama greets James Alexander during the 'Unsung Heroes of Compassion' awards ceremony



James Alexander



Rehab Today Note: This article was initially published in the Solano Vision, an inmate newspaper at California State Prison, Solano (SOL). Cole Bienek is an inmate at SOL who writes and edits the Solano Vision. Bienek previously worked on the San Quentin News as a staff writer. DRP thanks both Mr. Alexander and Mr. Bienek for their contributions.





Rehabilitation

Today!

DRP funds a growing network of focused evidence-based Community and Reentry Services throughout California to help offenders transform their lives and successfully reintegrate into society:

Computer Literacy Learning Centers (CLLC):

Certified teachers provide computer-based courses for basic reading, writing and math

Day Reporting Centers (DRC) and Community Based Coalition (CBC):

“One Stop Shops” address parolee’s needs through assessment and placement in classes and support services. Education, life skills, financial and employment training, substance abuse and counseling. Some transition housing available

Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program (FOTEP):

Gender-responsive residential treatment services for women and their children

Parolee Service Centers (PSC):

Residential programs provide group and family reunification, life, employment skills

Parolee Services Network (PSN):

Residential and Outpatient alcohol and drug treatment centers in 18 counties encourage clean and sober reintegration into society

Residential Multi-Service Centers (RSMC):

Housing, substance abuse treatment and independent living skills to help at-risk parolees transition back into the community

Substance Abuse Services Coordination Agencies (SASCA):

Community-based residential and outpatient sober-living treatment facilities in each region promote pro-social behavior that reduces potential for relapse or recidivism

Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Program (STAR):

Certified instructors provide substance abuse treatment education in select parole offices

Teeth and Lives Restored

“This job takes me away from being in prison. I am constantly challenged to provide the best solutions for each set of dentures or implants. Staff and co-workers are always available to share techniques, but in the end, it’s up to me. My work has to speak for itself.”
Inmate, Dental Lab worker, FSP

The Northern California Regional Dental Laboratory at Folsom State Prison (FSP) provides more than 250 dental appliances each month for inmates at numerous CDCR institutions, and career training for eligible inmates.

Inmates who qualify to work in the dental lab undergo a rigorous on the job training program covering all processes of the manufacture of removable dental prosthetic appliances, from infection control to denture processing and polishing of replacement teeth. Half of the inmate staff have life or indeterminate sentences, while the other half are within six years of release. Work in the lab requires consistent performance and progressive learning, which helps inmates qualify to become dental technicians upon release. Dental technicians can potentially earn more than \$30 per hour in the marketplace, so many of the inmate staff are enthusiastic about their opportunity to reintegrate successfully into society.

A former FSP participant became a dental technician at one of Western Dental’s laboratories in Central California on the second day after release. He has since become a regional laboratory supervisor and credits the Folsom Dental Lab with helping him break his recidivism cycle of four prior terms. He specifically cited his instructors and fellow workers for providing him with the job knowledge and helping him develop work skills which fostered his success

Please contact Gary Sexton, CHCPS Certified Dental Technologist, FSP, gary.sexton@cdcr.ca.gov



Dr. John Puig, D.D.S. (center) with Dental Lab inmate staff and Instructors Gary Sexton (l) and Richard Helms (r)

DRP Invests in Rehabilitation by Design

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the California Prison Industry Authority (CALPIA) announced female-inmate training that is the first of its kind in the nation. CALPIA’s Career Technical Education division enables female offenders to learn Computer-Aided Design (CAD) to design products in the manufacturing and engineering fields. Graduates will work alongside CALPIA engineering staff to improve existing correctional industry product designs and develop new products for CALPIA. The new certification program will also assist offenders in obtaining jobs upon parole in architectural, mechanical or engineering fields.

DRP partners with CALPIA’s Career Technical Education Programs to meet the rehabilitative needs of offenders, helping them gain certifications which enhance their career opportunities upon release.



Photo of Design Lab courtesy CALPIA



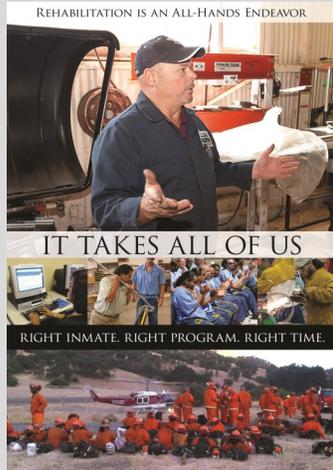
Rehabilitation

Today!

DRP Rehabilitative Outreach Materials

DRP produces a wide variety of materials to educate staff and offenders about rehabilitative initiatives:

Posters



What is a Reentry Hub?

Reentry Hubs are facilities with programs designed to offer offenders the skills and tools needed to successfully reenter society.

- Increased Academic Education
- Increased Career Technical Education
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Programs
 - Substance Abuse
 - Criminal Thinking
 - Anger Management
 - Family Relationships
- Transitions Programs
 - Help you get a job, plan your career, plan your financial future, and get a California ID card before your release.

Reentry Hubs
 Male: ASP, CIM, CMC, CTF, CVSP, HDSP, ISP, LAC, SATF, VSP
 Female: CCWF, CIW, FWF

Most eligible inmates will be transferred to Reentry Hubs within four years before release. Questions about Reentry Hubs should be referred to your Correctional Counselor.

Community-Based Programs for Parolees

Need a Helping Hand? It's Here!

- Housing Assistance
- Drug Treatment
- Help Getting a Job
- GED Classes
- Counseling

Find out more from your Parole Agent
 Division of Rehabilitative Programs and Division of Adult Parole Operations

Brochures



THE STORY TIME PROGRAM

The Story Time Program provides an opportunity for inmates with children to be video-recorded on a Digital Video Disk (DVD) while reading a children's book aloud. Once the DVD is complete, the book and the DVD are sent to the home of the child. Then the DVD recording of the child's parent reading the book can be played while the child follows along with the book.

STORY TIME PROGRAM INMATE ELIGIBILITY
 To participate in the Story Time Program, inmates shall meet the following program eligibility criteria:

- Have a legal or adopted child 7 years of age or less
- No existing restrictions as outlined in the California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Subdivision 5175.1
- Designated Privilege Group A
- Disciplinary Free for a minimum of 12 months prior to participation (Excludes both Serious and/or Administrative Rule Violation Reports)
- No active restraining orders
- Reading Score of 9.0 or higher
- Prior to being video recorded, complete a CDCR Form 146 (Rec. 06/08), Inmate Declaration to News Media Contact.

IF INTERESTED:
 • Send a CDCR Form 22 to the Community Resource Manager
 • In the return to include your full address where the book and DVD will be sent.

CDCR STEP DOWN PROGRAM

A five step program provided to those who meet the criteria. In this program you will be able to:

- MAKE YOUR OWN DECISIONS**
- CHANGE YOUR LIFE**
- EDUCATE YOURSELF**
- KNOWLEDGE IS POWER**
- WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?**
- GAIN CONTROL OVER YOUR OWN LIFE**

CDCR DIVISION OF REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS

the ARCAID MACHINE. FIND IT. CHOOSE IT. PRINT IT. USE IT.

Using an ARCAID machine is Fast, Easy, and Convenient.

- ARCAID Machines are located in the public lobby area of select parole offices across California.
- These fully touch-screen kiosks were created to help you find the closest programs, resources, and assistance available.
- After searching, print out the information and take it with you.
- Print out the directions to help you get to where you are going.

REHABILITATION
 • Education
 • Life Skills
 • Substance Abuse Treatment

MEDICAL
 • Doctor Visits
 • Emergency Services
 • Substance Abuse Treatment

GOVERNMENT
 • Birth Certificates
 • Child Licenses
 • Legal Services
 • Social Security Number

GENERAL
 • Employment
 • Housing
 • Voter Easing
 • Child Services

Simple to use. Follow these easy steps:

- STEP 1 TOUCH THE SCREEN and ENTER your INFO
- STEP 2 ENTER an ADDRESS
- STEP 3 START your SEARCH and MAKE your SELECTION
- STEP 4 PRINT your ADDRESS
- STEP 5 LOGOUT when DONE for SECURITY

Flyers



What Works in Reducing Recidivism—Ed Latessa



COMPAS (Inmate)



Community and Reentry Services (Inmate, Parolee)

Videos for Offenders and Staff



Community and Reentry Services (Staff)



Reentry Hub (Inmate, Staff)



Transitions (Inmate)