

A Reentry Program for Northern Virginia

America is the land of second chance and when the gates of the jail open, the path ahead should lead to a better life.

Program Overview

Of all life's transitions, perhaps the most difficult is returning to the community from incarceration. The Beacon, a re-entry program for Northern Virginia sponsored by OAR of Fairfax County, is an 18-24 month program for formerly incarcerated persons offering a comprehensive residential, employment/career training, and educational opportunities and resources. The program is designed to assist individuals who voluntarily wish to rebuild their lives and return to positive, productive roles in the workplace, in their families, and in the community.

Pre-Release Phase: The program's initial entry point for participants will be the **Alternative Incarceration Branch (AIB/ formerly the Pre-Release Center)** of the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center under the jurisdiction of the Sheriff's Office, The Beacon's public safety partner. Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements will be interviewed by a selection committee, which will include previously incarcerated persons. Upon acceptance into The Beacon, participants must sign a contract and agree to abide by the program's behavior code. They will be housed in the AIB where a needs assessment will be conducted, and an individualized service plan created. While living in the AIB the training/employment skills development and application of life-changing core values will be carried out for the remaining 180 days of confinement.

Community Living Phase: Following successful completion of the Pre-Release Phase, the participant will move into The Beacon's program residence. Here, participants will continue their training/employment activities and participate in needs assessment-driven programs. The core principle of "each one, teach one" along with positive peer support and accountability will form the foundation of The Beacon's residential community. While enrolled, participants must meet financial obligations such as program fees, restitution, court costs, child support, personal savings and other legitimate debts.

Graduation/Transitional Phase: Upon completion, The Beacon participants will be equipped with the tools needed for successful community reentry including the means to: prevent recidivism, avoid relapse, maintain employment, remain self-sufficient, improve familial relationships, and continue the process of productive community reintegration.

Program Services

- Participant will receive a stipend
- Intensive coaching (case management) and needs assessment
- Addictions recovery and relapse-prevention support and referrals
- Life skills coaching
- Work readiness and construction career training through **Construction Training Opportunities Program (CTOP)**
- Adult literacy and educational opportunities (i.e. Pre-GED and GED)
- Family reunification
- Spiritual and ethical growth

Qualifications For Inclusion in The BEACON

- 18 years of age or older by release date
- Eligible for Alternative Incarceration Branch (formally known as the PRC) classification
- Resident of Northern Virginia
- Persons whose criminal histories do not indicate a violent person or crimes of a sexual nature are considered for admission
- In good physical and mental health
- Willingness to learn and work in the construction field
- Presently within 180 days of release