

# Orange County Sheriff's Department

## Facts At A Glance 2008—Inmate Services Division Inmate Re-Entry



The **Inmate Services Division** was formalized in October 2004 by consolidating three existing jail support operations; Commissary Operations, Food Services, and Correctional Programs. By consolidating these Units into a central operation it unified their overall interaction between professional and law enforcement staff to provide a cohesive, consistent, and professional level of service to the inmate population incarcerated in the County's five jail facilities. There are five distinct units within the Inmate Services Division; Commissary Operations, Food Services, Correctional Programs, Inmate Re-Entry, and Division Support.

This Division, whose consolidated budgets are approximately \$32 million, consists of over 250 personnel and 900 volunteers working within seven County facilities. The staff and volunteers assure that the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department meets or exceeds Title 15 of the Minimum Jail Standards by providing support services, including meals, commissary, educational, vocational, and recreational programs to foster rehabilitation and reduce recidivism of inmates once they leave the Sheriff's custody.



The **Inmate Re-Entry Unit** was created to combat the continuing high recidivism rates that have been plaguing our state. The Orange County Sheriff's Department is taking a proactive role in changing the way we rehabilitate inmates. Statistics have shown that if an inmate receives rehabilitation programming while in custody and these same services are continued immediately upon release, their chance of becoming a productive member of society increases by at least 25%.

With the full support of our Sheriff, the Inmate Re-Entry Unit, which includes 11 employees and an operating budget of \$1.5 million, is now providing extensive in-custody inmate programs and post release after care services. Inmates can volunteer to receive an assessment from a Re-Entry coordinator who then will assist them with all of their rehabilitation needs while in custody. Items

discussed in the assessment are substance abuse history, education level, housing information, and employment history. Thirty days prior to being released the inmate then meets with our Re-Entry coordinator for a one on one pre-release planning session. At this time all referrals and or placements are finalized. Upon release these formerly incarcerated individuals can go to our Great Escape Resource Center where they can receive additional resources such as drug and alcohol treatment information, clothing, bus passes, and employment information. Since the opening of the Resource Center in January of 2007, over 1,100 formerly incarcerated individuals have used the center and an additional 336 have phoned in for services.

The **Orange County Re-Entry Program, or OCREP**, with the Sheriff as the lead agency, Probation, Courts, District Attorney, Public Defender, Health Care Agency, and CDCR collaborated with over 40 government agencies, private companies, and non-profit organizations to examine Orange County's inmate re-entry practices and to improve the community-based services provided to persons who are released from jail or prison into Orange County communities. of Regulations, Title 15 "Minimum Jail Standards" and related case law. Others programs are also provided and are designed toward successfully transitioning inmates back into the community and to help reduce recidivism in Orange County.



**The Great Escape Resource Center** — Provides outreach resources to formerly incarcerated persons. The center offers referrals to private, nonprofit, and community based organizations that supply counseling, employment information, clothing, and transportation. The Great Escape encourages post-custody treatment of substance abuse with inpatient and outpatient treatment upon request. Approximately 8,606 inmates attended informational sessions this year and 663 inmates were referred to outside agencies.

# Inmate Re-Entry Totals for 2008

## Great Escape

Total Attendance	8608
Certificates Received	632
Individual Counseling Sessions	1862
Average Attendance Per Month	717

## Anger Management

Total Attendance	865
Certificates Received	125
Individual Counseling Sessions	18
Average Attendance Per Month	72

## Domestic Violence

Total Attendance	2730
Certificates Received	357
Individual Counseling Sessions	133
Average Attendance Per Month	225

## Great Escape Resource Center

Individuals Signed In	1400
Walk in Service	1158
Call in Service	239



**In Custody Drug Treatment Program** – The Orange County Sheriff’s Department in partnership with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation provides a structured 60 day residential treatment program to male and female inmates. Upon successfully completing the program all participants become eligible to receive free post custody residential treatment services.

**Post Custody Treatment** – The Orange County Sheriff’s Department in partnership with the Orange County Health Care agency provide free post custody residential treatment services to male and female inmates who have a desire to continue rehabilitative services upon release. This program allows the inmate to slowly transition back into the community

while maintaining their sobriety.

**Pre Release Class** – The Inmate Re-Entry Unit offers a pre-release class to all inmates who have approximately 30 days left on their sentence. This class is designed to assist each inmate with developing a pre-release plan that will help them on their road to recovery.



**Community Providers** – The Inmate Re-Entry Unit has solidified partnerships with a variety of community providers all eager to assist inmates and formerly incarcerated individuals. These partnerships include private, nonprofit, faith based, and government agencies. Community providers are a vital part to the success of our Inmate Re-Entry program.

**Substance Abuse & Recovery Programs** - Are the same format offered by A.A. or N.A. outside of the jail system. The recovery programs focus the inmate on following a 12 step program toward continued sobriety. Volunteers work with inmates by holding group meetings in the jails and working the program steps one on one with the inmates. Referrals and post-custody resources are available to inmates upon request. In 2008, there were 179 referrals to Cooper Fellowship, 10 to Unidos Recovery, 9 to The Villa, 11 to New Beginnings, and 8 to Phoenix House.

**Domestic Violence/Anger Management** — The courses are not designed as therapy or a cure. Inmates are informed of what Domestic Violence symptoms are and the process of Anger Management. Domestic Violence instruction identifies the multiple forms of abuse that can occur between family members, relationship partners, and more. The class instructs what alternatives are available for persons being abused . Anger Management instructs inmates in identifying their own physical and mental symptoms of anger. The class offers inmates a more acceptable understanding of anger and alternative, healthy coping skills.



**Parent-Child Reunification Programs** – MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) and Responsible Fatherhood provide programs aimed at strengthening and reuniting the family.

**New Start Program** – The Orange County Sheriff’s Department, in partnership with Phoenix House, offers a 90 day in-custody drug treatment program for male inmates at the Theo Lacy Facility. This program is designed to assist inmates with their substance abuse issues while they are in custody. Inmates must volunteer and complete an application to participate in this program. All participants who successfully complete this program become eligible for free residential treatment services upon release. In 2007, 221 inmates participated in the program.