The Hudson County Smart Book

A Resource Guide for Returning Home

2022 edition
by
The New Jersey Department of Corrections
Office of Programming & Supportive Services

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	1-888-576-5529
NJ Motor Vehicle Commission	
Driver's License Suspension Hotline	1-609-292-7500
Main Information	1-888-486-3339
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
Hudson County One Stop	
Union City	(201) 271-4529
Jersey City	(201) 795-8800
Social Security Office	1-800-772-1213
Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline	
(Woman's Space, Inc.)	
Bilingual and TTY accessible	1-800-572-7233

The Hudson County Smart Book

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The Start of a New Beginning:

How to use this book

This book is intended to prepare you for your arrival home and reintegration back into society. In order to make the transition smoother for you a list of resources have been compiled along with a list of necessary items you will find that are essential to your success. This book focuses on the first few weeks and months of your arrival home and assisting you on managing the transition. Although not every resource available to you will be found in here, there are many that will help to guide your journey.

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

Each section of this book is categorized by items that you will need in order to find employment, return to school, and to obtain identification. It will also provide addresses, websites, phone numbers, and general tips on how to acquire that particular service. You can use the table of contents to easily identify what service you require, and follow instructions as to how to contact providers.

FYI: ***Please feel free to utilize your social services department for assistance in contacting an agency or inquiring information about a service found in this book. There are some services that may be free to you that you can contact through your social services department before making an out-of-pocket expense.*

There are things that can be completed prior to release from prison. Two things specifically are requesting a duplicate social security card for **FREE** and applying for a birth certificate for a **fee**. Please contact your social worker six months prior to release to apply for these items. By doing this while still in custody, you are taking a large step towards making your transition back into the community easier for you. Providing both documents are processed successfully, you will have two necessary forms of identification made available to you the day you are released. This will speed up the process of finding employment.

You will not find every service or organization in **Hudson County** in this book, however there will be many to help you begin. Also, the organizations that are listed may be able to offer additional resources to you. For current information as services change procedure and or cost please visit www.njsuccess.org. Please visit www.hudsoncountynj.org for further county information. The local libraries located on page 43 to can assist you will obtaining internet access.

Getting Started:

Identification (I.D.) and Other Documents

In order to apply for employment, rent an apartment, apply for general assistance, food stamps, or Medicaid, proper identification will be required. The more identification you have in your possession, the easier it will be for you to obtain these services. Certain items can be obtained while you are still incarcerated ask your social worker for assistance, and, for the remainder, this book will point you in the right direction.

FYI: In order to obtain identification, various agencies will require proof of address. It is smart to keep bills in your name or official documents that have your name and address for further verification of your address.

A. Social Security Card



If at all possible, apply for a duplicate social security card with your social worker six months prior to release. If for some reason this is not possible or your application has been denied, you will need to visit your closest Social Security Office to apply. The following offices are the local branches in Hudson County. Please find which office is closest to your residence.

Social Security Administration
325 West Side Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Social Security Administration
79 Hudson St. 6th Fl
Hoboken, NJ 07030

Office hours M, T, W and F 9:00am-4:00pm
Th (9:00-12:00 noon)
Phone numbers:
Toll Free 1-800-772-1213
TTY- 1-800-325-0778

If you choose to visit your local office to apply you will need to fill out the application at the office.
To save time you can download the application online www.ssa.gov/replace_sscard.html. You will need to show proof of identification. **Prison release papers count as proof of identification. Also, use your NJDOC Temporary ID card.**

B. Birth Certificate 

The office of Vital Statistics in the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has all the New Jersey birth, marriage, and death records. The fee is **$25.00**. However, depending upon where you were born in Hudson County, you may be able to apply for a birth certificate for a lesser fee.

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Bureau of Vital Statistics and Registration
P.O. Box 360/ 140 E Front Street
Trenton, NJ 08625-0370
Closes at 4:00pm Monday- Friday

Contact information for the NJ Bureau of Vital Statistics and Registration:
1-609-292-4087
1-866-649-8726 (toll-free nationwide)

FYI: You are able to apply for a birth certificate while you are still in custody and have six months left prior to release. Please see your social worker to do so.

If you were born in the following towns you may go to your registrar's office and apply for a birth certificate at the cost listed below. Please call the contact person about office hours and fees.

Bayonne City
Municipal Building
630 Avenue C
Bayonne, NJ 07002
Phone: (201) 858-6134
Fax: (201) 858-6111

East Newark Borough
34 Sherman Avenue
Borough Hall
East Newark, NJ 07029
Phone: (973) 481-2902
Fax: (973) 481-0627

Guttenberg Town
Town Hall
6808 Park Ave.
Guttenberg, NJ 07093
Phone: (201) 868-3304 x119
Fax: (201) 868-0966

Harrison Town
Town Hall
318 Harrison Avenue
Harrison, NJ 07029
Phone: (973) 268-2436
Fax: (973) 482-2101

Hoboken City
Hoboken Vital Records
124 Grand Street
Hoboken, NJ 07030
Phone: (201) 420-2040
Fax: (201) 420-2052

Jersey City
280 Grove Street, Room 118
Jersey City, NJ 07302
Phone: (201) 547-5150 or 5151
Fax: (201) 547-5461

Kearny Town
Health Center
645 Kearny Avenue
Kearny, NJ 07032
Phone: (201) 997-0600
Fax: (201) 997-9703

North Bergen Township
1116 43rd Street 2nd Floor
North Bergen, NJ 07047
Phone: 201-392-2050
Fax:

Secaucus Town
Marriages, Deaths occurring
Sept 1, 2006 to Present
1203 Paterson Plank Rd
Secaucus, NJ 07094
Phone: (201) 330-2020 Marriages Only
Fax: (201) 617-5952

Union City
City Hall
3715 Palisade Avenue
Union City, NJ 07087
Phone: 201-348-5733
Fax: 201-271-9374

Weehawken Township
Municipal Building
400 Park Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07086
Phone: (201) 319-6024
Fax: (201) 866-8763

West New York Town
Health Center
428 60th Street, Rm 30
West New York, NJ 07093
Phone: (201) 295-5070
Fax: (201) 295-0769

C. County I.D.

The Hudson County Clerk's Office no longer provide county issued photo identification cards, however you may obtain a state issued photo identification card from your local motor vehicle agency. Motor Vehicle Commission locations are listed below.



D. Driver's License

Once you are released from prison, you can go to the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) to get a new driver's license, replace a lost one, or renew a card that has expired. If you believe that your license has been suspended, you should confirm this and figure out what you need to do to get it back. If you were convicted of any kind of drug offense, your license has been suspended.

Prior to your release, you can get a copy of your driver's license record, which is called an "abstract." Please contact your social worker if you are interested in obtaining an abstract. **The fee for an abstract is $15.00**

Upon your release, you can go to the MVC offices in Hudson County (listed below) or a Regional Service Center to request a driver's abstract. If you have internet access, you can also request an abstract online at WWW.STATE.NJ.US/MVC. You will still have to pay **$15.00**. If your license was suspended for six 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 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: **609-292-7500**.

Restoration Fees, Tickets, and Surcharges: If you found out that your license has been suspended, you will have to pay a restoration fee of **$100.00** in order to have your license reinstated. This does not include any additional fines or surcharges you are required to pay. This fee can be paid at

your local MVC Offices in Hudson County or a Regional Service Center (see below). If you have internet access, this fee can be paid online at WWW.STATE.NJ.US/MVC. You can pay your surcharges and parking tickets on this website as well.

MVC LOCATIONS IN HUDSON COUNTY
For questions, please call 1 (888) 486-3339

Bayonne:
1347 Kennedy Boulevard & Rte. 440, Family Dollar Plaza, Bayonne NJ 07002
Mon – Fri 8 am to 5:30pm; Sat 8am to 1pm

Jersey City:
438 Summit Avenue, Jersey City NJ 07307
Mon – Fri 8am to 4:30pm; Sat 8am to 1pm; Tues: 8am-1pm

North Bergen:
8901 Park Plaza, 90th & Bergenline Avenue, North Bergen NJ 07047
Mon – Fri 8am to 4:30pm; Sat 8am to 1pm; Tues: 8am-1pm

Secaucus:
County Avenue & Secaucus Road, Secaucus NJ 07094
Inspections Only: Mon – Fri 8am to 4:30pm; Sat 7am to 1pm; Tues: 8am-7:30pm

Regional Office: Trenton Agency
120 S. Stockton & Front St.
Trenton, NJ 08611
Services: Driver conferences, driver records, (issuances and inquiries), points and surcharge (inquiries), suspensions and restorations.
Hours: Mon- Fri 8am-5:30pm; Sat 8am-1pm

To replace a lost or stolen license, you will have to bring identification to the MVC and pay an **$11.00 fee.** The MVC now has very specific kinds of I.D. that are required under the new "Six Point" system:

Please use this guide to prepare yourself for your trip to MVC. Make sure you have the six points of identification necessary to obtain your drivers license or non drivers I.D

SIX POINT SYSTEM OF IDENTIFICATION

Primary Documents:
(4 Points)

- Birth Certificate or Certified Copy from one of the 50 states.
- U.S. Dept. of State Birth Certificate
- US Passport-Current or Expired less than 3 years
- Current US Passport card
- Current NJ Digital Drivers License
- Valid Active Duty US Military Photo ID Card
- US Adoption papers
- Certificate of Naturalization
- Certificate of Citizenship

Secondary Documents:
(3 Points)

- Civil Marriage/Domestic partnership/ Civil Union Certificate: Issued by the Municipality or State
- Order of Decree of Divorce
- Court Order for Legal Name Change: Signed by a judge or county clerk
- US Military Photo/Retiree Card

(2 Points)

- U.S. Military Discharge Papers (DD214)

(1 Point)

- Current/ Expired (Less than 1 year) Non-Digital NJ Photo Drivers License
- Social Security Card
- Bank statement or record
- ATM Card w/ pre-printed name and applicant signature
- NJ Public Assistance Card w/ Photo
- High School Diploma/GED/ College Diploma
- Veterans Affairs-Universal Access Photo ID Card

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 with your six points of I.D. to the MVC to fill out a renewal application. You may have to take the written test again. License renewal costs **$24.00**.

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. This may be a good option for you if it is going to be some time before you get your license back. You will still need to bring the same type of identification documents described previously, under the new "Six Point" system.

F. Certificates of Naturalization or Citizenship

This certificate is necessary for employment upon your release. 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
Peter Rodino, Jr. Federal Building
970 Broad St.
Newark, NJ 07102

Application Support Center
24 Commerce Ave.
Newark, NJ 07102

G. Alien Registration Card "Green Card"

To replace a missing Green Card, you must go to the US Citizenship & Immigration Service Office (see above) to fill out an I-90 form. Please make sure that you bring I. D. with you.

You can also visit the website and download the forms at www.uscis.gov. It costs **$290.00** 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

FYI: You may have the opportunity to meet with the Veterans Administration (VA) liaison from the Veteran's Administration during your incarceration. The VA liaison can assist you in requesting a copy of your DD214 (discharge papers) by completing the SF-180 form. Please notify your institution's social worker for assistance with your requests and to obtain information on your veteran status. You can

also obtain the SF-180 by writing the Veteran Benefit Administration in NJ or the NPRC, which is the main record depository.

Veterans Benefit Administration in New Jersey
20 Washington Pl., 3rd Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
800-827-1000

Main records depository
NPRC, 9700 Page Ave
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Hudson County Veterans Affairs
257 Cornelison Avenue, Room 2501
Jersey City, NJ 07302
201-369-3430
Fax: 201-369-3431

Upon your release, you can also visit the following website to request military records; www.vetrecs.archives.gov Once on the www.vetrecs.archives.gov website, 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. Upon receiving the form, the records will be mailed directly to you.



I. Passport

Although a passport may not seem like an important item to have at this point, it can serve as a major form of identification because it is widely accepted. There are fees involved in obtaining your passport. To obtain your passport you may visit the Hudson County Clerks Office at:

Hudson County Plaza
257 Cornelison Avenue ~ 4th Floor
Jersey City NJ 07302
Phone: (201) 369-3470 ~ Fax: (201) 369-3478
www.hudsoncountyclerk.org
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

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

- ✓ Official military I.D.
- ✓ A previous US passport; photocopies are not accepted.
- ✓ Your social security card
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ 2 identical copies of a 2x2 face front regulation passport photo.

$135 for regular service/passport
$110 check/money order – made payable to US Dept. of State of New Jersey
$25 check/money order/cash – made payable to Hudson County Clerk
A passport will be valid for 10 years.

J. NJDOC Release Papers/Temporary I.D. Card

Make sure you keep your prison release papers and temporary I.D. card. Your release papers can serve as identification in some circumstances and your I.D. card is valid for 30 days. These items along with several others will all be included in your *Fair Release and Re-entry Act* **(FRARA)** folder given to you on the day of release.

First Steps after Release:

Where Do I Go to Find…

This section provides resources for food, shelter, clothing, money, and other emergency needs. We have provided some resource options in Hudson County that you can utilize upon release.

FYI: Important paperwork will be needed repeatedly throughout your life. Make sure to invest in a folder or safe to keep important documents. **Never** carry your birth certificate or social security card with you. You will only need to produce these items upon request. It is smarter to keep them in a safe place.
Also, make sure to keep a notebook and a pen with you to write down the names and phone numbers of the people you come in contact with at various agencies. Remember, nobody is going to care about your success as much as you do.

Provided for you are agencies and services that can assist you in finding your basic needs.

FYI: It is a good idea to call first to check that the hours of operation haven't changed. Please try to be patient with those that are attempting to assist you.

See the following pages for list of resources.

A. First Stops

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

FIRST-STOP AGENCIES

2-1-1/First Call for Help – is a resource for Hudson County residents, which offers comprehensive information and referrals for human services, health care, government and community resource assistance. Dial 211, which can be accessed from the internet, cell phone or landline, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Dial 800-331-7272 for the Homeless Hotline, which addresses emergencies and homeless calls.

211 is multi-lingual and accepts TTY callers.

B. Emergency Shelter/Food Pantries



Here are some shelters, food pantries, soup kitchens in Hudson County. Access to most of these shelters can be obtained through the Hudson County Board of Social Services or through a general walk in. Although each agency has been verified, please call to check for most current hours of operation. Please call the agency listed below for further information.

Palisades Emergency Residence Corporation (PERC)
(formerly St. John's Shelter)
108 36th Street
Union City, NJ 07087
(201) 348-8150
Shelter/Food

Hoboken Clergy Coalition Shelter
300 Bloomfield Street
Hoboken, NJ 07030
(201) 656-5069
Shelter/Food

Sister Cabrini
Kenmare Alternate School
89 York Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 451-8225 ext. 155

Food Pantry/Soup Kitchen Only 

Let's Celebrate
One Highland Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306
(201) 433-5438

Domestic Violence and Family Shelters

Catholic Community Services
Anthony House
246 Second Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 420-1070
Family Shelter

Catholic Community Services
Franciska Residence
615 Grove Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 653-3366
Family shelter/Food

YWCA Battered Women's Program
270 Fairmont Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306
(201) 333-5700
DV Shelter

YWCA of Bayonne
259 Avenue A
Bayonne, NJ 07002
(201) 339-2330
DV shelter/Food

C. Clothing 

The local Salvation Army offices have clothing assistance programs. Here are the addresses to the Hudson County NJ Salvation Army centers.

Kearny Corps, 28 Beech Street, P.O. Box 489, Kearny, NJ 07032, 201-991-1115

East Newark, Harrison, Kearny, Lyndhurst, North Arlington families call 201-991-1115

Salvation Army center of Guttenberg, North Bergen, Secaucus, Union City, Weehawken, West New York. Call 201-867-4093

Adult Rehabilitation Centers, Jersey City, 248 Erie Street, Jersey City, NJ, 07302. Phone 201-653-3071

Salvation Army Thrift Stores in Hudson County

Bayonne, 482 Avenue C, Bayonne, New Jersey, 201-823-2217

Jersey City, 242 Martin Luther King Blvd., Jersey City, NJ, 201-433-4616
North Bergen, 7425 Bergenline Avenue, North Bergen, NJ, 201-861-4371

Union City, 900 Kennedy Blvd, Union City, NJ, primary phone 201-866-0680

Jersey City, 248 Erie Street, Jersey City, New Jersey 07302, main number 201-653-3071

D: Transportation 

There is no general program that will provide assistance paying for transportation. NJ Transit will no longer accept release papers in substitution for bus tickets. However, you may purchase transit tickets from NJDOC for $2.00 prior to release, which will assist you with reaching your destination.

Some of the programs listed in this book will provide bus passes to help you participate in a particular program. If you are assigned to a community/social service or reporting

program, you may want to ask if the program offers transportation assistance.

For specific bus, rail or train schedules and fares, you may call NJ Transit: (973) 275-5555, NJ Text Telephone: 800-772-2287 or visit the NJ Transit Website: http://www.njtransit.com For specific route information on the website, click on the "trip planner". For your Hudson County travel convenience, may want to purchase weekly, monthly or discounted transit passes (when applicable).

For additional Hudson County bus, rail or ferry information and specific routing of each bus line, contact the Hudson TMA at (201) 339-0078. Always be aware of new time tables.

FYI: Hudson County Community College Students my receive a 25% discount on NJ Transit monthly passes with enrollment to the Quik Tix Program (which requires a $3 monthly processing fee in addition to the fare).

Medicaid recipients may obtain a list of approved Medicaid transportation providers from the Hudson County Board of Social Services.

Transportation for senior citizens and people with disabilities:

Hudson County Paratransit
www.hudsoncounty.nj.org
(201) 369-4320 Office of Amtrak Access
800-872-7245

Greyhound Customers with Disabilities Travel Assistance Line
800-752-4841

E. Money/Public Assistance

Once you are released from custody, you will need a source of income until you can find a job. (see section on "Finding a Job" for job seeking information).

The DOC does not provide any "gate money," except for the money you may have in your inmate account. If it is possible to save any money before you are released, you should try to do so.

Based on need, Parole can give up to $300.00 in emergency funds, but it is at their discretion. Ask your parole officer about this.

You may be eligible to get some sort of public assistance (welfare), not everyone qualifies for this. Listed below are some basics on seeking and applying for benefits.



Work First New Jersey Program (WFNJ)

WFNJ provide cash benefits (General Assistance) for single people and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families for people who have custody of their children. Both programs will require you to work or actively look for work and both have a five-year lifetime 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: it can pay for things like food, clothing and transportation costs to look for housing, but also utility payments and temporary rental or mortgage payment assistance. You can contact your social worker for more information.

FYI: Please call your local office to verify what the eligibility requirements are for obtaining General Assistance

NJ SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)

You may apply for NJ SNAP while applying for GA/TANF.
If you were convicted after August 22, 1996 of a drug distribution or sales offense, you may still be able to get NJ SNAP 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). Same goes for possession offenses. Please contact the Division of Welfare in Hudson County to inquire.

Hudson County Dept. of Family Services
Division of Welfare
257 Cornelison Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 420-3000
Fax: (201) 395-4622

http://www.hudsoncountynj.org/division-of-housing-and-community-development.aspx

F: 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 other programs and services, including health care. You can contact the social worker in your institution located in the social services department for assistance. You can also contact the Veteran's Administration for questions about benefits at 800-827-1000; the health benefit number is 877-222-VETS. The 24 hour veterans mental health hotline is **1-866-VETS-NJ4U**.

The VA Benefit Administration is located at
20 Washington Pl., 3rd Floor
Newark
973-645-1441 (regional office).



Visit this local VA office to reinstate benefits or apply for new programs and services.

The following are some websites that can assist you in looking for information about veteran services:

Federal Veterans Information:
www.va.gov

Info for NJ Veterans:
www.vetsinfo.com

New Jersey Dept of Veterans Affairs: www.state.nj.us/military

New Jersey Veterans Guide:
www.state.nj.us/military/veterans/njguide

VA Home Loans:
www.homeloans.va.gov

Veterans Counseling Service Center:
www.va.gov/rcs/newjersey/html

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 1-800-772-1213 and the Women's, Infants, Children (WIC) program, which 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

The transition from prison back to society may take some time to get adjusted and we want to provide you with options to lessen the burden. Taking care of your mind and body will be important for your success. Below are a few places to that may be of assistance.

Taking Care of Yourself: LGBTQ+ Resources



Garden State Equality

Garden State Equality lifts up the diverse voices of LGBTQ+ communities through education and advocacy to advance the movement for equality in New Jersey and nationally.

Are you a Trans person who needs help changing your name in New Jersey? Garden State Equality is here to help! Learn more about **updating identification documents** at GSE's website:
https://www.gardenstateequality.org/take-action/update-id/

1408 Main Street
Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712
https://www.gardenstateequality.org/
(973) 509-5428

Equality Federation

Equality Federation is an advocacy accelerator rooted in social justice, building power in our network of state-based lesbian,

gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) advocacy organizations.
equalityfederation.org

The Pride Center of New Jersey
The mission of Pride Center of New Jersey is to provide a safe and welcoming space for all individuals who identify as LGBTQ+ to find support, educational tools, health and education resources, and social opportunities within a community of acceptance. Free HIV testing.

85 Raritan Avenue, Suite 100
Highland Park NJ, 08904-2430
(732) 846-2232
info@pridecenter.org

NJ Gay Life
Lists events throughout New Jersey to connect the LGBTQI+ community. Online directory of New Jersey businesses and a support group calendar organized by issues and geographic locations.
NJGayLife.com
PO Box 224, Metuchen, NJ 08840.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)
The PFLAG mission is to build on a foundation of loving families united with LGBTQI+ people and allies who support one another, and to educate ourselves and our communities to speak up as advocates until all hearts and minds respect, value and affirm LGBTQI+ people. To find a local chapter visit: https://pflag.org/find-a-chapter

Main Phone: (202) 467-8180
Fax: (202) 467-8194

Human Rights Campaign
Advocates for LGBTQI+ Americans, mobilizes grassroots action, and educates the public about LGBTQI+ issues.
www.hrc.org

SAMHSA Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration
Resources on the LGBTQI+ population include national survey reports, agency and federal initiatives, and related behavioral health resources from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Find Help and Treatment

The National Helpline provides 24-hour free and confidential referrals and information about mental and/or substance use disorders, prevention, treatment, and recovery in English and Spanish.

SAMHSA's National Helpline
800-662-HELP (4357)
TTY: 800-487-4889

For additional information on finding help and treatment options, visit www.samhsa.gov/find-treatment.

For general questions about SAMHSA, including information about mental and substance use disorders:
SAMHSAInfo@samhsa.hhs.gov
877-SAMHSA-7 (726-4727)
TTY: 800-487-4889

Edge New Jersey

The mission of EDGE New Jersey is to respond compassionately and responsibly to the HIV+ and LGBTQI+ communities by providing supportive services, housing opportunities, prevention strategies and education to enhance the community we serve. The vision of EDGE is to empower those we serve to achieve a healthy, safe and self-sufficient life, providing the resources to positively influence their community.

CAN Clinic (Temporary)
3155 NJ State Route 10, Suite 204
Denville, NJ 07834
973-370-3130

EDGE CAN Wellness Center
295 East Main St
Denville, NJ 07834
973-285-0006

Hudson Pride Center Hudson Pride serves as an advocate and social service provider for both the LGBTQI+ and HIV/AIDS communities in Hudson County.

205 Brunswick St
Jersey City, NJ 07302

NHCAC Health Center
2nd Floor, 714 31st St
Union City, NJ 07087
(201) 963-4779
info@hudsonpride.org

PROUD Gender Center of New Jersey

At Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH) New Brunswick it is a top priority to optimize health and well-being for every patient. The **LGBTQIA Program** is firmly rooted with that purpose in mind.
In full support of the transgender community, RWJUH provides a full suite of specialized services designed to bring you to the best "you" you can be.
At the Center, a multidisciplinary team of family medicine physicians, gynecologists, urologists, endocrinologists, plastic surgeons and otolaryngologists provides specialized care for LGBTQ patients. Hormone therapy and surgical procedures are offered to support the transition of transgender patients.

181 Somerset St., 2nd Floor
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
1-833-BH-PROUD (1-833-247-7683)

Lambda Legal

Founded in 1973, Lambda Legal is the oldest and largest national legal organization whose mission is to achieve full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and everyone living with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work.
As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, we do not charge our clients for legal representation or advocacy, and we receive no government funding.

National Headquarters
120 Wall Street, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10005-3919
212-809-8585

QSpot LGBT Community Center
QSpot fosters the health, well-being and pride of NJ's LGBT and allied community by providing resources, referrals, education, and outreach. QSpot works tirelessly to fulfill its mission while operating a safe and welcoming LGBT community center.

1601 Asbury Ave, Asbury Park, NJ 07712
(732) 455-3373

HOTLINES /CRISIS INTERVENTION

The National Helpline provides 24-hour free and confidential referrals and information about mental and/or substance use disorders, prevention, treatment, and recovery in English and Spanish.

SAMHSA's National Helpline
800-662-HELP (4357)
TTY: 800-487-4889

Crisis Intervention/Suicide Prevention
The Trevor Project: (866) 488-7386
The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) young people ages 13-24.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: (800) 273-8255 (online chat available)
The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Crisis Text Line: Text START to 741-741
Crisis Text Line is free, 24/7 support for those in crisis. Text from anywhere in the USA to text with a trained Crisis Counselor.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender National Hotline: (888) 843-4564
The GLBT National Youth Talkline (youth serving youth through age 25): (800) 246-7743
Both provide telephone, online private one-to-one chat and email peer-support, as well as factual information and local resources for cities and towns across the United States.

Trans Lifeline: (877) 565-8860
Trans Lifeline is a trans-led organization that connects Trans people to the community, support, and resources they need to survive and thrive.

National AIDS Hotline (800) 342-AIDS / (800) 344-7432 (Spanish) / (800) 243-7889 (TDD)
Other Hotlines

U.S. National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233 (English and Spanish) (800) 787-3224 (TTY)
They also have an online chat feature available. Operating around the clock, seven days a week, confidential and free of cost, the National Domestic Violence Hotline provides lifesaving tools and immediate support to enable victims to find safety and live lives free of abuse. Highly trained, experienced advocates offer compassionate support, crisis intervention information and referral services in over 170 languages.

Pride Institute: (800) 547-7433 24/7
Chemical dependency/mental health referral and information hotline for the LGBTQ community.

Rape Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN): (800) 656-HOPE / (800) 810-7440 (TTY)
The nation's largest organization fighting sexual violence, RAINN also carries out programs to prevent sexual violence, help victims and ensure that rapists are brought to justice.

Support for victims and survivors of sexual violence
Hotline: 1-866-295-SERV (7378)



Taking Care of Yourself: COVID-19 Testing and Vaccine

COVID-19 Testing and Vaccine

Call 211 for General COVID-19 Questions and information on how to stay safe, test sites, financial assistance, unemployment, donations, food, and other non-medical needs. (24/7)

Call 1-800-962-1253 (24/7) to speak to a healthcare professional at the NJ Poison Control Center about symptoms, when to seek medical attention and proper steps to take if exposed to COVID-19.

Call (COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing): 1-855-568-0545 (10a-6p, M-F; 10a-4p, Sa)

Call (Medical COVID-19 Questions): 1-800-962-1253 (24/7)

There are multiple ways to get a COVID-19 vaccine including:

1. Use the NJ Vaccine Appointment Finder to find available vaccination appointments near you or sites with walk-in vaccinations (no appointment needed).
2. Register with the NJ Vaccine Scheduling System to be notified when an appointment is available to you at vaccination locations that use the State's Vaccine Scheduling System.
3. Seniors 65+ can call the senior-specific hotline at **855-429-1168** from 8am to 8pm to schedule dedicated vaccine appointments
4. Many **VA** facilities and clinics are offering vaccines to veterans, their spouses, and their caregivers.



Taking Care of Yourself: Health Care Resources

It is very important that you pay close attention to your health after you are released from custody. Change in your daily routine cause a certain level of stress. Stress along with any medical condition may worsen if routine monitoring and treatment are not available. Therefore the resources listed below provide information on paying for health care, clinic visits and other resources in Hudson County.

Prior to your release, you will be given the opportunity to apply for Medicaid through the **Affordable Health Care Act (ACA).** ACA allows those will little or no income to be eligible for Medicaid under the new law. New Jersey residents complete an application for New Jersey Family Care and out of state resident complete an application for the Healthcare Marketplace. Applying for healthcare while at NJDOC allows enough time for processing to be completed and a health insurance card to be mailed to your residence with coverage beginning the day of your release. For more information regarding the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid, please contact your social worker or visit www.njfamilycare.org or www.healthcare.gov. Below is some information regarding traditional Medicaid.

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, head of house and unemployed, or existing earnings are not enough to support the household* Other eligibility requirements include low-income status, over age 65, blindness, or inability to work due to a disability.

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 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 eligible for those benefits to qualify for Medicaid.**

For questions about Medicaid eligibility, or to apply for Medicaid in Hudson County go to:
Hudson County Department of Family Services
Division of Welfare
257 Cornelison Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 395-4622

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 may call 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 HIV/AIDS medication for people who do not have other ways of paying. **You can apply for this program before you are released**. Contact the **Aids Drug Distribution Program** at 609-588-7038 or toll free 877-613-4533, Mon-Fri 8am-5pm to apply.

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



B. General Health Care Providers

Even if you do not have Medicaid or other health insurance and benefits, Hudson County has clinics that provide primary health care at low cost, sliding scale or free service. They are

listed below. Most hospitals have charity care, for which you can inquire about during a hospital emergency room visit.

Hudson County Community Health Centers

Bayonne Family Medicine by Horizon
Location: Bayonne, NJ - 07002-4654
Contact Phone: 201-683-2000

Columbus Health Center
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 7305
Contact Phone: 201-432-4600
Services: Dental Care Services, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services, Obstetrical and Gynecological Care, Other Professional Services, Primary Medical Care, Specialty Medical Care

Horizon Health Center
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 07306-4802
Contact Phone: 201-451-6300
Services: Adult (Check-up (every 6-12 months), Follow-up to a previous visit or visit to another provider, Any illness or health issue (except emergencies), Diabetes care, Asthmatic care, Testing, Medication management, Vaccinations/Immunizations, Wellness visits

Horizon Health Center / Journal Square
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 07306-3101
Contact Phone: 201-963-5774
Services: Check-up (every 6-12 months), Follow-up to a previous visit or visit to another provider, Any illness or health issue (except emergencies), Diabetes care, Asthmatic care, Testing, Medication management, Vaccinations/Immunizations, Wellness visits, Pre-emp

Jersey City Family Health Center
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 7304
Contact Phone: 201-946-6460
Services: Dental Care Services, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services, Obstetrical and Gynecological Care, Other Professional Services, Primary Medical Care, Specialty Medical Care

Metropolitan -West New York Site
Location: West New York, NJ - 07093-5616
Contact Phone: 201-478-5800
Services: We will provide you and all the members of your family with care when you are ill, as well as well-patient checkups, yearly physicals, immunizations, lab tests, foot care,

mammography, nutrition education and counseling, social services.

Metropolitan Family Health Network
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 07304-2731
Contact Phone: 201-478-5802
Services: We will provide you and all the members of your family with care when you are ill, as well as well-patient checkups, yearly physicals, immunizations, lab tests, foot care, mammography, nutrition education and counseling, social services.

Metropolitan Family Health Network, Inc. At Bergen Avenue.
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 07306-4405
Contact Phone: 201-282-0531
Services: We will provide you and your family with care when you are ill, as well as well-patient checkups, yearly physicals, immunizations, lab tests, foot care, mammography, nutrition education and counseling, social services.

North Hudson Community Action Corporation Corporate Headquarters
Location: Union City, NJ - 07087-2428
Contact Phone: 201-866-2727

North Hudson Community Action Corporation @ Hoboken
Location: Hoboken, NJ - 07030-2510
Contact Phone: 201-795-9521

North Hudson Community Action Corporation @ Jersey City
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 07307-1791
Contact Phone: 201-459-8888

North Hudson Community Action Corporation @ Mobile Health Van
Location: West New York, NJ - 07093-2622
Contact Phone: 201-617-7242

North Hudson Community Action Corporation @ North Bergen
Location: North Bergen, NJ - 07047-2712
Contact Phone: 201-330-2632

North Hudson Community Action Corporation @ Union City
Location: Union City, NJ - 07087-2427

Contact Phone: 201-863-7077
Services: Pediatric, Genetics, Perinatology, Internal Medicine, Women's Health, Dentistry, Podiatry, Mobile Health Center Community Screenings

North Hudson Community Action Corporation
Location: West New York, NJ - 7093
Contact Phone: 201-866-2388
Services: Dental Care Services, Enabling Services, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services, Obstetrical and Gynecological Care, Primary Medical Care

North Hudson Community Action Corporation Health Center Jersey City
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 7306
Contact Phone: 201-459-8888
Services: Dental Care Services, Enabling Services, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services, Obstetrical and Gynecological Care, Primary Medical Care

North Hudson Community Action Corporation Health Center North Bergen
Location: North Bergen, NJ - 7047
Contact Phone: 201-330-2632
Services: Dental Care Services, Enabling Services, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services, Obstetrical and Gynecological Care, Primary Medical Care

North Hudson Community Action Corporation Health Center Union City
Location: Union City, NJ - 7087
Contact Phone: 201-863-7077
Services: Dental Care Services, Enabling Services, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services, Obstetrical and Gynecological Care, Primary Medical Care

Snyder Hs Health Clinic
Location: Jersey City, NJ - 07305-1524
Contact Phone: 201-451-6300
Services: Adult (Check-up (every 6-12 months), Follow-up to a previous visit or visit to another provider, Any illness or health issue (except emergencies), Diabetes care, Asthmatic care, Testing, Medication management, Vaccinations/Immunizations, Wellness visits

West New York Family Health Center
Location: West New York, NJ - 7093
Contact Phone: 201-392-1102

Services: Dental Care Services, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services, Obstetrical and Gynecological Care, Other Professional Services, Primary Medical Care, Specialty Medical Care

Hospitals in Hudson County

Christ Hospital
176 Palisade Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07306
(201) 795-8200

Greenville Hospital
1825 Kennedy Blvd
Jersey City, NJ 07305
(201) 547-6100

Meadowlands Hospital Medical Center
55 Meadowlands Pkwy
Secaucus, NJ 07094
(201) 392-3100

Palisades Medical Center of NY Presbyterian Healthcare System
7600 River Rd
North Bergen, NJ 07047
(201) 854-5000

St. Mary Hospital
308 Willow Ave
Hoboken, NJ 07030
(201) 714-8900

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

Hudson County Department of Human Services
Meadowview Campus
595 County Rd
Secaucus, NJ 07094
(201) 271-4310

Hudson County Prescription Savings Program
800-633-0037
www.gspops.com

Family Planning Centers in Hudson County Area:

Bayonne Women's Health Center
Bayonne: (201) 823-1250

North Hudson Community Health Center
http://www.NHCAC.org
Jersey City: (201) 459-8888
West New York: (201) 866-9320
Union City: (201) 863-7077
North Bergen: (201) 330-2632

Hoboken Family Planning
http://www.sex-ed101.com
Hoboken: (201) 963-0300
Union City: (201) 319-9200
West New York: (201) 866-8071

Horizon Health Center
http://www.horizonhealth.org/
Jersey City: (201) 451-6300

Some sites *offer various services as they relate to medical, community education and special services;*

- ✓ Comprehensive physical exams, health screening & referrals
- ✓ HIV & other Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), diagnosis, treatment for both you and your partner
- ✓ Birth control instruction & counseling
- ✓ Emergency contraception
- ✓ Prenatal care & delivery program
- ✓ Male services
- ✓ Mid-life services
- ✓ Prenatal substance abuse programs
- ✓ Parent education programs

Sliding scale fees based on income and family size, Medicaid and most insurance are accepted.

C. Services for People with HIV/AIDS

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

Hudson Pride Connections Center
32 Jones Street
Jersey City, New Jersey 07304 (Hudson County)
Phone: 201-963-4779

Office Hours: Mon, Wed.: 9am-5pm, Tues., Thurs., Fri.: 9am-8pm

City of Jersey City, Division of Health
Preventive Medicine Clinic (STD Clinic)
115 Christopher Columbus Drive, Suite 303
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 547-5058
Mon to Fri, 8:30am – 4:30pm

Jersey City Medical Center
Family Health Center
HIV Counseling & Testing
953 Garfield Ave, 1st floor
Jersey City, NJ 07304
(201) 915-2545
Hotline: 800-280-2607 or (201) 451-2607

Canaan House
389 Bergen Ave, Jersey City, NJ 07304
(201) 434-3939

Francisca Residence
615 Grove St, Jersey City, NJ 07301
(201) 653-3366.

F.A.I.T.H Services – Franciscan Aids Initiative to Help
www.hobokenumc.com
307 Willow Ave, Hoboken, NJ 07030 (201) 792-6161

NJ AIDS/STD Hotline
UMDNJ/65 Bergen St, Newark
1-800-624-2377 – 24 hours/day
The hotline gives referrals, general information, counseling, testing locations and treatment information.

Rapid Testing Centers

The Center for Family Health
122-132 Clinton Street, 3rd floor, Hoboken, NJ 07030
(201) 418-3159

Hoboken Family Planning – Hoboken
124 Grand Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030
(201) 963-0300

Horizon Health Center
115 Christopher Columbus Drive, Jersey City, NJ 08302
(201) 710-2200

Hyacinth AIDS Foundation – Drop-In Center
492 Communipaw Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07306
(201) 360-3910

Hyacinth AIDS Foundation
Project LOL (Living Out Loud) Drop-In Center
(For men only)
492 Communipaw Avenue, 2nd floor, Jersey City, NJ 07306
(201) 706-3480

Jersey City Medical Center - Family Health Center
953 Garfield Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07304
(201) 915-2545

Jersey City Medical Center – Emergency Department
(for Emergency Department Patients only)
355 Grand Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 915-254

Hoboken Family Planning – Union City
1206 Summit Avenue, Union City, 07087
(201) 319-9200

Hoboken Family Planning – West New York
5305 Hudson Avenue, West New York, NJ 07093
(201) 866-8071

North Hudson Community Action Center (FQHC)
5301 Broadway, West New York, NJ 07093
(201) 866-9320

Center for Comprehensive Health
961 Garfield Ave, Jersey City
201-915-2545

Jersey City Preventive Medicine Clinic STD/HIV
For Jersey City residents only
115 Christopher Columbus Drive, Suite 303, Jersey City
201-547-5535

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.

Rutgers Global TB Institute
NJ Medical School
Clinical Services
225 Warren St.
Newark, NJ
973-672-6232

Tuberculosis Program
50 East Street, 3rd Floor
PO Box 363
Trenton, NJ 008625-0363
609-826-4878

TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM
29 Oakwood Avenue
Edison NJ 08837
732-321-5297
Hours: M-F 8:30am-4:15pm

E. Dental Care

The locations listed below don't provide free care, but do have a sliding scale for those with or without insurance.

Metropolitan Family Health Network
935 Garfield Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07304
201-478-5800

Horizon Health Center
115 Christopher Columbus Drive
Jersey City, New Jersey 07302
201-710-2200

Horizon Health Center
714 Bergen Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07306
201-451-2316

North Hudson Community Action Corp.
5301 Broadway
West New York, New Jersey 07093
201-866-9320
North Hudson Community Action Corp.
324 Palisade Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07307
201-459-8888

North Hudson Community Action Corp.
714 31st Street
Union City, New Jersey 07087
201-863-7077

North Hudson Community Action Corp.
535 Midland Avenue
Garfield, New Jersey 07026
973-340-1182

F. MENTAL HEALTH /SUBSTANCE ABUSE RESOURCES

FYI: Drug addiction can be fatal to your health, not to mention illegal and can result in jail time. In order to be successful in society seeking services for a drug or alcohol addiction will be necessary. Many of the health clinics, support centers and other resources listed in this guide can help refer you to treatment that most fit your needs. Listed below are some of Hudson County's treatment resources, and each of these will also help with referrals if they cannot 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. There are Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) support group meetings all over Hudson County. To find a meeting near you, call 866-920-1212 (for AA) or 800-992-0401 (for NA). For other self-help group resources, call the New Jersey Self Help Clearinghouse at 800-367-6274. Also, you can call the Addictions Hotline of NJ at 800-238-2333.

Detoxification Centers in NJ

New Horizon Treatment Services Inc
132 Perry Street, Trenton, NJ 08618
(609) 394-8988

Summit Behavioral Health
4065 Quakerbridge Road, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550
609-651-4001

Aldie Counseling Center
2291 Cabot Boulevard West, Langhorne, PA 19047
(215) 642-3230

Today Inc
1990 North Woodbourne Road, Newtown, PA 18940.
215-968-4713

Princeton House Behavioral Health
905 Herrontown Road, Princeton, NJ 08540.
609-497-3300

Livengrin Foundation Inc
4833 Hulmeville Road
Bensalem, PA 19020.

Burlington Comp Counseling Inc
75 Washington Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060.
(609) 267-3610

Carrier Clinic
252 County Route 601, Belle Mead, NJ 08502.
908-281-1000

Hunterdon Med Center/Addictions Treatment Services
2100 Wescott Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822.
908-788-6401

Somerset Treatment Services
118 West End Avenue, Somerville, NJ 08876.
(908) 722-1232

Jersey City Medical Center
355 Grand St.
Jersey City, NJ 0734
201-915-2281

Kaleidoscope Health Care, INC
75 Harrison Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07304
201-451-5425

New Pathway Counseling Service
995 Broadway
Bayonne, NJ 07002
201-436-1022

Spectrum Health Care, INC
74-80 Pacific Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07304
201-860-6100

Turning Point, INC.
595 County Ave
Secaucus, NJ 07096
973-239-9400

Outpatient and Residential Treatment

International Institute of New Jersey
1 Journal Square Plaza 4th floor
Jersey City, NJ 07306
201-653-3888

Bayonne Community Mental Health Center
601 Broadway
Bayonne NJ 07002
201-339-9200
Addictions program offers both outpatient and partial care services.

Bayonne Medical Center
29th Street at Avenue E
Bayonne NJ 07002
201-858-5298
Psychiatric inpatient unit and psychiatric emergency services.

Christ Hospital
176 Palisade Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07306
201-795-8376
Addictions program offers both inpatient and outpatient services.

Jersey City Medical Center
Behavioral Health Services
395 Grand Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302
201-915-2274

Palisades Medical Center
7101 Kennedy Blvd.
North Bergen, NJ 07047
201-854-0500
Offers outpatient services.

Hoboken University Medical Center
(St. Mary's Hospital- Hoboken)
308 Willow Ave
Hoboken, NJ 07030
201-792-8200
Offers dual patients services, partial care programs, and outpatient services.

Jersey City Episcopal Community Development Corp.
514 Newark Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07306
201-209-9301
Mental health services. Also has a drop in center for recovery 3 days a week. Please call for times.

Puerto Rican Family Institute, Inc.
40 Journal Square, Suite 300-2
Jersey city, NJ 07306
201-610-1446

Community Psychotherapy Associates
479 Avenue C
Bayonne NJ 07002
201-339-0142
Offers outpatient services.

Community Solutions
2853 JFK Blvd.
Jersey City NJ 07306
201-521-1300
Offers outpatient addiction services to parolees.

Cura, Inc.
595 County Ave
Secaucus, NJ 07094
973-622-3570
Offers both long term residential and short term outpatient services.

Endeavor House North
206 Bergen Ave
Kearny, NJ 07032
732-264-3824
Offers outpatient and intensive outpatient services.

Health Path/ Camino De Salud, C
204-18th St
Union City, NJ 07087
201-866-2934

Integrity House
595 County Ave
Secaucus, NJ 07094
201-583-7100
www.integrityhouse.org
Offers both long term residential and intensive outpatient services.

Inter Council on Drug
480 Kearny Ave
Kearny NJ 07032
201-998-1136
www.iccdaa.org
Offers outpatient, OPIOID maintenance- outpatient, Screening, Assessment.

North Hudson Community Action
5301 Broadway
West New York, NJ 07093
201-866-9320
Outpatient

FYI: While the medical care and drug treatment and or detoxification facilities listed above 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.
Although the services below provide mental health services, some may also offer substance abuse services, as well.

G. Emergency Mental Health Services

FYI: If at any time you may want to hurt yourself or someone else, please call 911. If you feel like you may be a danger to your self or others. It is very important that you call someone for help. Here are a few numbers of places that would be more than willing to come to your aid.

Hudson County Department of Health and Human Services Mental Health Board
201-369-5280

Primary Screening Center for Hudson County:

Jersey City Medical Center
355 Grand Street
Jersey City, NJ 07340
HOTLINE: 866-367-6023

Bayonne Medical Center
29 East 29th Street
Bayonne, NJ 07002
HOTLINE: 201-858-5286

Palisades Medical Center
7600 River Road
North Bergen, NJ 07047
HOTLINE: 201-854-6300

Christ Hospital
176 Palisade Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07304
HOTLINE: 201-795-8374

Hoboken University Medical Center
308 Willow Avenue
Hoboken, NJ 07030
HOTLINE: 201-795-5505

H. Free/Low Cost Eyeglasses and Eye care



American Council of the Blind of New Jersey
261 Island Drive
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey
69 Prospect Place
Belleville, NJ 07109
(973) 450-3030

Finding a Job:



Employment Assistance and Training Programs

Getting a job is usually one of the most important necessities when released from prison. Not everyone can obtain employment immediately, 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, and 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: It is essential that you are organized, and have all records of previous employment available when beginning a job search. A resume is the smartest thing you can create. If you are unsure of how to do so, you may go to your local one-stop career center and seek assistance. Not only will employers want to know your work history, they will inquire of accurate dates that you were employed with the company. Knowing this information is vital to ensuring employment. Employers will not be interested in hearing that you do not remember dates or addresses for your work history. If an employer decides to hire you he will also need your identification so make sure that is readily available.

Presentation: 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, and 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:
Never omit or falsify a document that asks you specifically if you have a criminal record. The application may ask you to give details to the nature of your crime and it may not. Chances are a criminal background check will be administered prior to employment and lying will cost you the job.

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 in looking for a job.

Hudson County One Stop
438 Summit Ave**.**
1st Floor
Jersey City, NJ 07306
(201) 795-8800
Hours: M-F 8:30am-5:30pm

NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
438 Summit Avenue, Suite 604
Jersey City, NJ 07306-3187
Phone: 201-217-7180

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 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; 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.

FYI: 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 a "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.

FYI: Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC): With the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, your employer may be able to save up to $4800 the first year you are hired. Make sure to inform your potential employer of this benefit.

For questions regarding WOTC, please call 609-292-5525 or 1-800-792-8881

Federal Bonding Program: Provides bonding "or insurance coverage" for employers who hire individuals with criminal histories who are otherwise qualified but cannot gain employment due to their criminal backgrounds. Please contact your local one stop for more information. 4800 Broadway Union City, NJ 07087 (201) 271-4529, 438 Summit Ave. 1st Floor Jersey City, NJ 07306 (201) 795-8800 and toll free 1-800-233-2258.



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

Bayonne Free Public Library
697 Avenue C
Bayonne, NJ 07002-2806
201-858-6970

Bayonne Public Library Branch Two
Bayonne Free Public Library
1055 Avenue C
Bayonne, NJ 07002-3254
201-858-6977

Story Court Branch Library
Bayonne Free Public Library
16 W 4th St
Bayonne, NJ 07002-2402
201-858-6979

Summit Bank Bayonne Branch
229 Broadway

Bayonne, NJ 07002-2523
201-339-1200

Five Corners Branch Library
Jersey City Free Public Library
678 Newark Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07306-2804
201-547-4543

Harrison Public Library
415 Harrison Ave
Harrison, NJ 07029-1797
973-483-2366

Hoboken Public Library
500 Park Ave
Hoboken, NJ 07030-3906
201-420-2346

Glenn D. Cunningham Branch
Library & Community Center
Jersey City Free Public Library
275 Martin Luther King Drive
Jersey City, NJ 07305
201-547-4555

Gordon Knowledge Management
& Medical Library
400 Plaza Dr
Secaucus, NJ 07094-3605
201-271-6105

Greenville Public Library
Jersey City Free Public Library
1841 John F Kennedy Blvd
Jersey City, NJ 07305-2106
201-547-4553

The Heights Branch Library
Jersey City Free Public Library
14 Zabriskie St
Jersey City, NJ 07307-2902
201-547-4556

Kearny Public Library
Town of Kearny
318 Kearny Ave
Kearny, NJ 07032-2505
201-998-2666

Kearny Public Library
Town of Kearny
759 Kearny Ave
Kearny, NJ 07032-3146
201-991-2116

Lafayette Branch Library
Jersey City Free Public Library
307 Pacific Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07304-3772
201-547-5017

Marion Branch Library
Jersey City Free Public Library
1017 W Side Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07306-6911
201-547-4552

Miller Branch Library
Jersey City Free Public Library
489 Bergen Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07304-2401
201-547-4551

North Bergen Free Public Library
8411 Bergenline Ave
North Bergen, NJ 07047-6517
201-869-4715

Pavonia Branch Library
Jersey City Free Public Library
326 8th St
Jersey City, NJ 07302-1906
201-547-4808

Pearsall Branch Library
Jersey City Free Public Library
104 Pearsall Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07305-3912
201-547-6557

Perfecto Oyola Biblioteca Criolla & Cultural Center
280 1st Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302-3456
201-547-4541

Main Library

Jersey City Free Public Library
472 Jersey Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07302
201-547-4500

Secaucus Public Library
Town of Secaucus
Plaza Ctr
Secaucus, NJ
201-330-2083

Travel Weekly Library
News America Inc
500 Plaza Dr
Secaucus, NJ 07094-3619
201-902-1500

Union City Branch Library
420 15th St
Union City, NJ 07087-4320
201-866-7503

Union City Free Public Library
324 43rd St
Union City, NJ 07087-5008
201-866-7500

Weehawken Free Public Library
Township of Weehawken
49 Hauxhurst Ave
Weehawken, NJ 07086-6803
201-863-7823

West New York Public Library
425 60th St
West New York, NJ 07093-2211
201-295-5135

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 kids, your spouse, your parents, and others who are part of your family, and while most will be glad to see you home, others may be reluctant. 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.

Hotlines for Family Services Resources

NJ Child Abuse/ Neglect Hotline:
1(877) NJ-ABUSE (652-2873)

Child Care Hotline:
1(800) 332-9227

NJ Child Support Hotline:
1 (877) NJKIDS- 1 (655-4371)

Division of Family Development:
1(800) 792-9773

NJ Department of Children and Families
1 (855) INFO- DCF 1-855-463-6323

Family Health Line:
1 (800) 328-3838

Family Help Line (for stressed parents):
1 (800) THE KIDS (843-2537

National Domestic Violence Hotline:
1(800) 799-7233
NJ Domestic Violence Hotline:
1(800) 572-7223

Parents Anonymous:
1(800) 843-5437

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 Community Services
Mt. Carmel, IFSS
3040 Kennedy Boulevard
Jersey City, NJ 07306

New Jersey MENTOR
80 Cottontail Lane, Suite 330
Somerset, NJ 08873
732.627.9890

Family Support Organization of Hudson County
705 Bergen Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07306
(201) 915-5145
www.fsohc.org

Grandparents raising Grandchildren
P.O. Box 1523
Rahway, NJ 07065
732.248.8255

Parents Anonymous of New Jersey, Inc.
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 kids 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 Child Protection and Permanency (formerly DYFS), at 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.
FYI: *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*.

Listed below are the different offices for DCPP in your area. Please contact the office that applies to your location.

Hudson Central
438 Summit Avenue, 4th Floor
Jersey City, NJ 07306
201-795-0423
800-982-7397
Fax: 201-217-7012

Hudson North
Gateway Plaza 4th Floor
1 Harmon Meadow Blvd.
Secaucus, NJ 07094
201-865-4101
800-982-7401
Fax: 201-864-4014

Hudson South
690 Broadway, 4th Floor
Bayonne, NJ 07002
201-823-5000
800-982-7396
Fax: 201-823-8173

Hudson West
Gateway Plaza 5th Floor
1 Harmon Meadow Blvd
Secaucus, NJ 07094
201-863-3179
888-670-6406
Fax: 201-864-4020

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 "non-custodial" 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 far as enforcing a child support order.

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 888-576-5529, or you can also contact Hudson County Legal Services, at 574 Summit Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07306 Phone: 201-792-6363. From prison, you can also contact the Prisoner's Self Help Legal Clinic, P.O. Box 768, Newark, NJ 07101.

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, 583 Newark Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07306, 201-795-6000. There is a possible fee. You can also call 1-877-NJKIDS1 for more information about this.

Paying Child Support
If you have kids 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:

Hudson County Child Support
Enforcement Unit
29 Cottage Street
Jersey City NJ 07306
201-217-5474 or 5430
To enforce an existing order

Hudson County Department of Social Services
Division of Welfare
JFK Office Building 100 Newkirk Street
Jersey City NJ 07306
201-420-3000
To locate prior to an order

Hudson County Family Division Administration Building
595 Newark Avenue Room 203
Jersey City NJ 07306
201-795-5668

To establish or change and order

D. Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Resources

The following places provide counseling, support and shelter or referrals to shelter in domestic violence situations. You can also call these 24 hour hotlines:

New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women:
(800)-572-SAFE.

Domestic Abuse Hotline for Men and Women:
(888) 7HELPLINE (1-888-743-5754)

Hudson County Rape Crisis Center Christ Hospital Counseling and Resource Center
179 Palisades Avenue
Jersey City , NJ 07306
24 Hr. Hotline: (201) 795-5757
Office: (201) 795-8741 or (201) 795-5816
Fax: (201) 795-8761 or (201) 418-7017
Education & Outreach
(201) 795-8375 ext. 5269

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.



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

It is very important to keep records of any degrees and certificates of completion and work-related licenses that have earned. Before you are released, you can write to the school or agency where you earned your degree or certificate to obtain a copy. Once you have a copy in your possession, this should be kept in your strong box.

FYI: If you earned your GED while incarcerated please call the Education Department of the institution you were in to obtain a copy.

You can also request your GED transcript or diploma verification from the New Jersey Department of Education providing you completed your diploma in a traditional setting. You will have to fill out a GED Information Request Form.

Please call 609-777-1050 for further assistance.
You may ask that it be sent to you; or you may pick 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.

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

B. GED Classes



The places in Hudson 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. For more information, contact the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Workforce Readiness & Literacy at (609) 943-5921. Call individual programs for information on classes offered, fees and/or time schedules.

GED Locations

Jersey City Public Schools
346 Claremont Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07305
Phone: (201) 915-6070 (main #)
Fax: (201) 915-6084
Program Director: Ellen P. Zadroga
E-mail: ezadroga@jcboe.org

Jersey City Employment and Training Center
525 Montgomery St.
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201)396-1184
Spanish Testing Offered

C. 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 Hudson County.

Local Area Colleges

Hudson County College
70 Sip Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07306
Phone: (201)-360-4182

New Jersey City University
2039 Kennedy Boulevard Jersey City, New Jersey 07305
Phone: (201) 200-2000
Undergraduate Admissions (888) 441-NJCU (888-441-6528) |
Graduate Admissions 877-NJCUGRAD (877-652-8472)

Stevens Institute of Technology
Castle Point on Hudson, Hoboken NJ 07030
Phone: (201)216-5000

Can I Get Financial Aid?
To pay for this, 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 information and referrals, **888-576-5529**. For local Hudson County legal services please contact the office located nearest to you.

Hudson County Legal Services
574 Summit Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07306
Phone: 201-792-6363

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.

FYI: Background checks are now only done electronically. You may contact State Police Headquarters to inquire how to correct your criminal record. The address is listed below.

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

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 obtain a copy of the book, call 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.

Northeast New Jersey Legal Services
Hudson County Office
(201) 792-6363
574 Summit Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306-2797



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. The 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 Systems, LLC:
P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374
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 800-888-4213.

Experian:
PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013
Call 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 Social Services prior to release**. Also you may apple with the Division of Elections, the Commissioners of Registration office in the County where you live or from your Municipal Clerk once you are released. Registration forms are also available in various State agencies and at Division of Motor Vehicle 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.

Here are a pages to use to plan your first days out of prison. There are some questions to ask yourself about what you plan to do. It's best to write things down and plan ahead. ***You should also refer to your discharge plan created by your social worker that outlines your needs. Have a wonderful and successful reentry!

DO I have my Basic Needs?

Shelter: _____

Food:

_____

Health Care:

_____

Clothing:

_____

Transportation: _____

DO I have support?

Family: _____

Friends:

_____

DO I have Identification?

Documents	**Have?**	**Need?**
Social Security Card	____	____
Birth Certificate	____	____
Driver's License	____	____
MVC Non-driver's I.D.	____	____
Certificate of Naturalization	____	____
Green Card	____	____
Military Discharge Papers	____	____

Passport	____	____
HS Diploma/GED	____	____

Other things I need to do (job leads, appointments):

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

<u>Important Names and Phone Numbers</u>
(Parole, Mentor, Emergency Contact)

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

Smart Book Topics

- **Getting Started: I.D. and Other Documents**
- **First Steps after Release: Where Do I Go to Find…**
- **Taking Care of You: Getting Support**
- **Taking Care of You: 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**