

Sixth Judicial District
Department of Correctional Services
Employment Services Program

Philosophy

The Employment Services Program has been designed around several core beliefs. These beliefs serve as the guides when providing employment-related services to offenders.

First, unemployed offenders are more likely to violate conditions of their supervision at a greater rate than offenders who are employed. A Texas study demonstrated that unemployed offenders were three times more likely to return to prison than an offender who had a job (Eisenberg, 1990). Concurrently, a New York study found that 83% of offenders who violated probation or parole were unemployed.

Second, offenders who are able to obtain and maintain employment that matches their interests, skills and aptitudes are more likely to remain in the community as a contributing member of society. Having satisfying employment contributes to realistic goal setting on the part of the offenders as they strive to become attached to a community in a pro-social manner.

Third, being employed in a job that suits the offender will also impact other criminogenic needs identified through assessment/case planning. Job satisfaction is reflected in family life, lower likelihood of substance abuse, emotional well being, attitude and orientation and financial stability.

Finally, the specialization of this team allows them to provide motivational techniques that will prove to have long-term benefits to offenders and the community.

Mission

The mission of the Employment Services Program is to pursue goals of re-entry through obtaining living wage employment as a foundation for pro-social living.

Vision

Reduce recidivism through gainful employment.