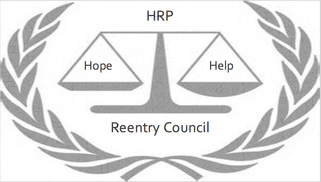
**Harrisonburg/Rockingham/Page Reentry Council**

**Reentry Handbook**



**Volume 1 2017**

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**Introduction**

With a focus on reducing recidivism, the Harrisonburg Rockingham Page Prisoner Reentry Council was created to provide a forum for discussion, understanding, and idea generation, as well as becoming a focal point for the creation of services and the coordination of local prisoner reentry activities.  
   
With an average of 40 active members, the Council is comprised of local individuals and representatives of public, non-profit, or faith based organizations, all of whom have an interest in services and activities related to prisoner reentry. The Council focuses upon pre- and post-release services, public awareness and support for returning citizens and their families.

**Mission**

The mission of the Council is to assist in the coordination of activities and services that support the successful reentry of the offending individual to the community, thereby increasing the individual's chances of successfully remaining in the community free of re-incarceration and ensuring public safety and security.

**Our Vision**

The vision of the Council shall be that every offender transitions successfully from incarceration to the community as a law abiding, productive member of the community able to meet their personal needs.

Being released from incarceration, whether after a short or lengthy sentence, can be an exciting and frightening experience. When getting out the following thoughts are common, and intimidating:

* Where will I live?
* Where can I work? Who will hire me?
* I don’t have my license: How can I get to my job? Probation? Service meetings? Doctor’s appointments?
* What can I do to stay sober?
* Who can help me with paying bills? Buying groceries? Getting a bank account?

As you prepare for reentry the facility you are housed in offers opportunities to begin the work of reentry even before you get out. For instance, the Department of Corrections (DOC) offers programming such as Ready to Work and Productive Citizenship that builds skills for employment, including resume assistance and interview preparation, and provides information on the use of technology and societal changes that may have taken place since incarceration.

The DOC also partners with local jails to facilitate reentry transition services. Selected offenders are relocated from prison to a local jail in their community to receive transitioning services such as life skills workshops and assistance with housing and employment. These services seek to strengthen public safety by better preparing the offenders for their return to the community.

**Phase 1: Programming**  
Offenders participate in daily workshops for a period of six – eight weeks. These sessions include classes such as Life Skills, Cognitive Thinking, Employability, Conflict Resolution, Substance Abuse, and Anger Management. The majority of the programming for these workshops will be conducted by Department of Corrections staff. Additionally, outside resources such as the local Virginia Employment Commission, Social Services, Community Service Boards, Pre-Release and Post Incarceration Services providers, Mental Health and other community agencies will enter the jail to provide resource information and assistance. Assistance with housing and employment is also offered during this time.

**Phase 2: Work Release**  
Offenders identified by the DOC Classification Unit as being suitable for work release will be eligible to participate in a work release program following the successful completion of phase one programming.

**Phase 3: Community Release**  
Offenders will be released from the local jail after having served their sentence and will begin their transition back into the community. These offenders will have had the benefit of connecting with necessary resources within the community as well as having completed intensive workshops. Offenders will be provided support and assistance during this phase.

Offenders completing the reentry program will leave the correctional system with career/life goals and job search training skills that will assist them in facilitating a successful return to their communities. Additionally, the program will help motivate offenders to make appropriate choices and to develop a sense of responsibility for their behavior.

The following handbook is designed to provide information to soon to be released offenders, those just released and family members or loved one or those that have been involved in our criminal justice system. The resources included hereafter are by no means exhaustive and contact information for agencies and individuals are subject to change. The Harrisonburg/Rockingham/Page Reentry Council will seek to have this information updated and correct as often as possible.

**Getting Identification and Documentation**

**This handbook belongs to:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Use the space below to write down the following important information for easy access:**

**Probation Officer:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reporting Location:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reporting Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Case Manager:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Office Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Health-Care Provider:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Other:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In order to obtain housing, get a job, apply for public benefits and get credit you will need proper documentation that verifies your status and identity. Those documents include your birth certificate, a driver’s license or identification card and a social security card. The Department of Corrections provides services for offenders to obtain these important documents. If an offender is being released from a DOC facility they should have been given the opportunity to apply for a birth certificate and social security card through prison staff, and will have been provided a watermark for the DMV to obtain a state photo identification card.

There are three agencies you will need to contact to obtain all of these vital documents. Their local information and steps to obtain the documentation is listed below.

**Birth Certificate:**

Virginia Office of Vital Records  
P.O. 1000  
Richmond, VA 23218-1000  
General Information Number: 804-662-6200

[**http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/vital-records/**](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/vital-records/)

Virginia requires a cost of $12.00 per certificate or search. This is non-refundable. Anyone requesting a vital record must submit a photocopy of their identification. Family members eligible to request your birth certificate include next of kin/immediate family which includes mother, father, husband, wife, child, brother, sister with valid ID. The application for getting your birth certificate can be reached at the following web link: [**http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/93/2016/07/appform.doc**](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/93/2016/07/appform.doc)

Common forms of identification used to submit with your application include your driver’s license or ID card, an employment photo ID card, a valid U.S. Passport, certified school records and/or a health insurance card, but please refer to the complete attached list of approved documents in the web link.

The vital records office is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday. Check for schedule changes around holidays. We are closed on major holidays.

If you were born in Virginia you can apply for a birth certificate at any DMV office in the state.

If you were born outside the U.S. but a child of U.S. parents, please consult the following to obtain a copy of your birth records:

U.S. Dept. of State  
Passport Services, Correspondence Branch  
1111 19th Street NW, Suite 510  
Washington, DC 20522-1705  
(202) 955-0307

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Social Security Card:**

**Harrisonburg Social Security Office Address:**

351 North Mason Street   
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

**Social Security Phone (Local)**: 1-866-964-1718   
**Social Security Phone (Nat'l)**: 1-800-772-1213

[**www.ssa.gov**](http://www.ssa.gov)

**Social Security Office Hours**:

MON: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM  
TUES: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM  
WED: 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
THUR: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM  
FRI: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM  
SAT & SUN: CLOSED

You must present original documents or copies certified by the agency that issued them. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies. All documents must be current (not expired). We cannot accept a receipt showing you applied for the document. You must present your birth certificate if it exists. If not, a valid U.S. passport or hospital record of your birth can be substituted. We can accept only certain documents as proof of identity. An acceptable document must be current (not expired) and show your name, identifying information (date of birth or age) and preferably a recent photograph. For example, as proof of identity Social Security must see your:

•U.S. driver's license;

•State-issued non-driver identification card; or

•U.S. passport.

If you do not have one of these specific documents or you cannot get a replacement for one of them within 10 days, we will ask to see other documents. Any documents submitted, including the following, must be current (not expired) and show your name, identifying information (date of birth or age) and preferably a recent photograph:

•Employee identification card;

•School identification card;

•Health insurance card (not a Medicare card); or

•U.S. military identification card.You must present original documents or copies certified by the agency that issued them. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies. All documents must be current (not expired). We cannot accept a receipt showing you applied for the document.

An application for a social security card may be found at the local Social Security office or accessed by the following web link: [**https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf**](https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf)

Once this form is completed you can mail it to the above listed Harrisonburg location. There is no cost associated with obtaining a social security card.

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**Photo Identification Card:**

Harrisonburg DMV Customer Service Center

3281 Peoples Drive

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Contact Phone: (804) 497-7100

[**https://www.dmv.org/vital-records/**](https://www.dmv.org/vital-records/)

In Virginia, you can use an identification card as an alternate form of photo identification if you don't have a driver's license or learner's permit. You can use your VA ID card for a number of things, including voting, opening a bank account, and proving your age. In order to apply, you must be a resident of Virginia and cannot hold a driver’s license or learners permit at the same time as an ID card.

You can access the application for obtaining a license or ID card at the following web link: [**https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/pdf/dl1p.pdf**](https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/pdf/dl1p.pdf)

ID cards cost $10 for an original, replacement or renewal, and the DMV accepts cash, check, money order, credit card or debit card as valid payment.

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Please note that in order to obtain any of these individual documents you will need proof of identity. Be certain to check which identifying documents are needed and accepted for each application before submitting.

Also note that the District 39 probation office in Harrisonburg will provide watermarks for individuals even when they are no longer on active supervision with that office.

**Employment**

Securing stable employment is no easy task, particularly if you have a criminal history. But that doesn’t mean acquiring fulltime work with benefits is impossible. Many employers in our community hire ex-offenders, depending on the convictions and the length of time since a disqualifying offense.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has ruled that employers governed by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act cannot deny employment based on arrests that did not lead to conviction unless there is a “business justification”; nor can they deny employment because of a criminal conviction unless there is a “business necessity.” Additionally, an employer is forbidden to ask questions in an application or during the interview process related to expunged offenses. A “ban the box” initiative was put into place by Governor Terry McAuliffe in 2015 prohibiting state agencies from asking questions related to criminal histories. This does not apply to private business but they have been discouraged from doing so they and many localities have taken their own steps to minimize the use of criminal records in the hiring process. This may mean little when engaged in your job search but it is always helpful to be aware of the facts.

The following section includes some tips on how to maximize your efforts to find employment and resources in our community that assist in those efforts.

There is a Federal Bonding Program to insure employers against employee dishonesty. This is an incentive to employers in hiring those with criminal histories. These bonds are free of charge to both applicants and employers and can be issued for any job at any employer in any state. For more information use the following web link or address.

Federal Bonding Program, ETA/DOL

1725 De Sales Street, NW Suite 700

Washington, DC 20036

1 (800) 233-2258

[**http://bonds4jobs.com/**](http://bonds4jobs.com/)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Tips**

-First and foremost, it is your responsibility to ensure the information related to your criminal history is correct. It is advised that if you seek a copy of your record, available through the Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) department for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The fee is $15.00. More information and forms can be accessed at: [**http://www.vsp.state.va.us/CJIS\_Criminal\_Record\_Check.shtm**](http://www.vsp.state.va.us/CJIS_Criminal_Record_Check.shtm)

-It is a personal decision as to how to address questions related to criminal offenses in an interview, however, honesty is typically the best policy. Being up front and taking responsibility for mistakes can be seen as an asset by employers. Suggest a willingness to discuss your past during an interview. If it is determined you have lied about your past you can be disqualified from the application process, and if already hired, a lie could be grounds for termination.

-Make use of a resume. A traditional resume is chronological, meaning you list your employment by dates from most recent to oldest. Some find functional resumes, where the focus is on possessed skills rather than job experience, as a good way to make you attractive to employers. Either way, we will provide some resources for help preparing a resume in this section.

[*Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.*](http://www.searchquotes.com/quotation/Though_no_one_can_go_back_and_make_a_brand_new_start%2C_anyone_can_can_start_from_now_and_make_a_brand/431871/)

*- Anonymous*

-Develop interview skills. Think about questions an employer may ask during the interview, particularly those related to your past. Focus on changes made to better decision making in your life. Practice interviewing: the only way to get more comfortable in an uncomfortable setting is repetition. Make eye contact and show you are paying attention.

**Other Quick Tips**

-On an application, if using employment while incarcerated and asked for salary, consider writing “minimum wage” and not an actual amount paid.

-Ask others (family, friends, and former co-workers) about your strengths and weaknesses. It is usually harder to judge your own strong and weak points so be open to asking others.

-Focus on grooming and hygiene. When applying for a job always look your best and be dressed and groomed appropriately. You never know when you might get interviewed on the spot or if you are dropping off an application to the hiring manager. You may even be interviewed on the spot. Remember, this includes body posture as well.

-Follow-up: Call back to check on the status of an application after 5-7 days. Send a thank you letter to employers that give you an interview. This shows you are interested and serious about the job.

-Don’t give up! Expect to hear “no” a few times. This happens even in the best of circumstances. If you are willing to put in the effort to find stable employment you will be successful.

**Community Resources**

**Virginia Employment Commission / Valley Workforce Center**

160 N. Mason St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 830-4993 (VEC)

(540) 433-4864 (Workforce)

John Jacobs, Manager

[**www.vec.virginia.gov**](http://www.vec.virginia.gov)

[**www.valleyworkforce.com**](http://www.valleyworkforce.com)

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays - 8:30a.m. until 4:30p.m.    
Wednesdays, 9:30a.m. until 4:30p.m  
Office will be open continuously through the day and will not be closed for lunch.

The Employment Commission and Valley Workforce are now located in the same building just outside of downtown Harrisonburg. Services include help for eligible individuals who have lost their job due to company closing or layoff find employment, training and access to certificate programs, workshops on resume writing and interviewing, internships, and case management for adult low-income workers seeking to increase employment opportunities.

**Temp Agencies**

**Adams and Garth**

625 Mount Clinton Pike, Suite A

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 434-9675

Most employers ask for felonies to be older than 7 years. Clients can register at [**www.adamsandgarthjobs.com**](http://www.adamsandgarthjobs.com)

**Kelly Services**

1951 Evelyn Byrd Ave. Suite G

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 433-5993

[**www.kellyservices.com/Global/home/**](http://www.kellyservices.com/Global/home/)

Services include temporary, temp-to hire and direct hire referrals. Please register online.

**Manpower**

2061 Evelyn Byrd Ave. Suite A

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 442-7625

[**www.manpower.com**](http://www.manpower.com)

Manpower commits to interviewing and assessing all potential clients who come in, regardless of criminal history. It is the prerogative of the employer as to whether they will accept placements with criminal records. They prefer you to register online but walk-ins are welcome.

**ResourceMFG**

3210 Peoples Drive, Suite 120

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 433-1555

Formerly known as Select Staffing. Does not discriminate against criminal records, the decision is in the employer’s hands. Sign up through [**www.resourcemfg.com**](http://www.resourcemfg.com)

**Staffmark**

2347 Kratzer Rd.

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 432-5312

309 Lucy Dr.

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

[**www.staffmark.com**](http://www.staffmark.com)

Responsible for the temp to hire staffing for LSC Communications in Harrisonburg as well as other leading employers in the central Shenandoah Valley.

**Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)**

1909 B E. Market St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-5981

[**www.vadars.org**](http://www.vadars.org)or [**www.dars.virginia.gov**](http://www.dars.virginia.gov)

Provides advocates for resources and services to improve the employment, quality of life, security, and independence of older Virginians, Virginians with disabilities, and their families. Services include grant funded employment opportunities, training and case management.

[](http://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=nXx1eXTb&id=F2E472FE2442A0C36343DACED8B6A75BF627FAEA&q=employment+for+offenders&simid=608007370092054731&selectedIndex=33&adlt=strict)

**Some helpful job search websites:**

* [**www.careerbuilder.com**](http://www.careerbuilder.com)
* [**www.regionalhelpwanted.com**](http://www.regionalhelpwanted.com)
* [**www.vawc.virginia.gov**](http://www.vawc.virginia.gov) (must register to use job seeking resources
* [**www.goodwillvalleys.com**](http://www.goodwillvalleys.com)

Be careful when using sites like monster.com or ZipRecruiter. Often websites will track your information and sell it to other advertisers. For this reason we recommend you feel free to look up ideas for job opportunities on these sites, but then go directly to the employer’s official website to fill out the application.

**Housing/Shelter**

Safe, secure and affordable housing can be one of the most difficult challenges of successful reentry. The good news is there are multiple community resources dedicated to provide housing opportunities and many government and private organizations committed to helping. The bad news is that these programs are dependent on the specific nature of a criminal offense and the availability of suitable property units in the area. Some programs are restricted based on offenses committed, some work only with disabled individuals or veterans. However, there are options available and the following section details some of the available programs.

**Subsidized Housing**

The housing choice voucher program, also referred to as Section 8 housing, is the federal government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. Housing assistance is provided on behalf of the family or individual, meaning the participant is free to choose any housing that meets the requirements of the program and is not limited to units located in subsidized housing projects. Vouchers are distributed by local Housing Authorities, whose funding for such programs comes from the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department branch of the federal government.

Those receiving vouchers are responsible for finding appropriate units that meet minimum standards of safety and health determined by the Housing Authority. A housing subsidy is paid directly to the landlord through the Housing Authority on behalf of the individual or family. The difference between actual rent charged and the subsidy paid is the responsibility of the participant to pay.

Eligibility for the voucher program is determined by the local Housing Authority and is based on gross annual income and family size. All U.S. citizens and certain classes of immigrants are eligible for this program. The Housing Authority will collect information on income, assets, and family size and makeup to determine eligibility. Once the information is confirmed you will be placed on a waiting list until a voucher can be distributed. Long waiting lists are common due to limited resources and properties in a given area.

Generally speaking, people with criminal records are not prohibited from Section 8 housing. The exceptions are those who are ordered to a lifetime registration on the sex offender registry and individuals who have been convicted of manufacturing methamphetamine while living in federally subsidized housing. You may also be disqualified for lying on an application or about other benefits received.

**Community Resources**

**Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority**

286 Kelley St.

P.O. Box 1071

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 434-7386

[**www.harrisonburgrha.com**](http://www.harrisonburgrha.com)

The Housing Authority offers options for families and individuals depending on need and eligibility criteria. Options include Section 8 housing, voucher programs for those participating in Family Self Sufficiency programs, and housing for the elderly living on incomes below 60% of the area median.

**Shelters and Housing Opportunities**

**Harris Gardens Apartments**

215 Vine St. Apt. 204

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 434-6569

Offers one, two or three bedroom apartments for families. Section 8 eligible.

**Mosby Heights**

2510 Mosby Ct.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-5490

A townhome community offering two, three and four-bedroom homes. Section 8 eligible and for those with disabilities.

**Mercy House of Harrisonburg**

305 N. High St.

P.O. Box 1478

Harrisonburg, VA 22803

Phone: (540) 432-1812

**www.themercyhouse.org**

**The mission of Mercy House is to feed, clothe, and house homeless families with dependent children in the Harrisonburg, Virginia area in a safe community while assisting them with services that will allow them to overcome the barriers that have led to their situation.** Family Shelter with apartments and case management for homeless families. Assisting homeless persons and families with re-housing assistance. Providing temporary rent assistance to people in financial crisis.

**First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence**

129 Franklin St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-0295 or (866) 223-9169

[**www.firststepva.com**](http://www.firststepva.com)

Organization dedicated to assisting those fleeing from domestic violence situations, regardless of gender. Shelter provided to victims and to women and children on basis of availability. Other services include a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, case management, legal advocacy and rapid rehousing assistance.

**The Salvation Army of Harrisonburg House**

895 Jefferson St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22803

Phone: (540) 433-2785

The Salvation Army’s Community Center of Hope and Emergency Shelter serves families with children as well as single men and women in need of help during a time of crisis. The 64-bed shelter has 5 family rooms as well as 14 beds for single women and provides a kitchen-dining area that can seat 50 at a time, three separate lounges, one for families with children, one for women and one for single men. Each lounge is equipped with a television, reading material, and games. The family lounge also has computers for children to do homework and a play area. Laundry rooms are also provided for client use.

Client registration begins daily at 4:30 pm. The evening meal is served in the dining room each day at 5:00 p.m.

Single persons must be 18 years of age. Stay is limited to 6 days if the client is not from Rockingham County. Longer stays are determined on a case by case basis after meeting with the Social Service Director. Couples may share a family room only after providing staff with proof of legal marriage.

**Deer Run Apartments**

899 Port Republic Rd.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-3173

Limited number of apartments available for Section 8 vouchers

**Open Doors Thermal Shelter**

176 West Market St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 578-3868

Open November through April. 40 beds available from 6pm until 7am. Locations differ between various community faith organizations. [**http://www.valleyopendoors.com/**](http://www.valleyopendoors.com/)

**Subsidized Housing in Page County**

**Rugby Square Apartments**

101 Madison Ln.

Luray, VA 22835

Phone: (540) 743-7778

**Luray Village Apartments**

111 6th St.

Luray, VA 22835

Phone: (540) 843-0328

**Massanutten Valley Apartments**

166 Massanutten Valley Rd.

Stanley, VA 22851

Phone: (540) 778-4219

**Autumn Ridge Apartments**

404 Pocahontas Ave.

Shenandoah, VA 22849

Phone: (540) 652-6134



**Transportation**

One of the biggest hurdles in reentry is having safe, secure and reliable transportation. Our community is relatively spread out so unless you’re in Harrisonburg your access to free public transportation is very limited. Another issue is that those who have been in contact with the criminal justice system often have their driver’s licenses suspended due to offenses committed, lack of ability to pay fines or courts costs, or because of delinquent child support payments. The following section has some tips on navigating the local transportation system, getting your driver’s license back and utilizing other resources to get you from one place to another.

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If your Virginia driver's license is suspended by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), you'll need to satisfy your suspension requirements before you can reinstate your license.

Your driver's license may be suspended or revoked for reasons including:

* A [DUI/DWI](http://www.dmv.org/va-virginia/automotive-law/dui.php) or driving under the influence of drugs.
* Falsifying information to the Virginia DMV.
* Felonies involving a vehicle.
* Violating insurance laws.
* Failing to pay child support or court fines.
* Accumulating too many driving record points.

Some traffic violations and crimes will result in immediate suspension or revocation of your Virginia driver's license. These include:

* Driving under the influence (DUI).
* Failing to stop at an accident you're involved in.
* Failing to complete a required driver improvement program.
* Reckless driving.

For specific details about your driver license suspension, including the duration, complete a [Compliance Summary Request](http://www.dmv.virginia.gov/onlineServices/) on the Virginia DMV website. You'll need to enter your:

* Driver's license number or Social Security number.
* Date of birth.

[**https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/dmvnet/pin\_maint/pin\_logon.aspx?SESS=NEW**](https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/dmvnet/pin_maint/pin_logon.aspx?SESS=NEW)

To reinstate your Virginia suspended driver’s license you may need to provide:

* Proof of payment for your court fines, if applicable.
* An SR22 certificate of insurance from your insurance company.
* Proof you have completed a driving improvement clinic.
* Proof you have completed an Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP).
* Payment for your licensing fee, if applicable.
* Payment for your reinstatement fee.

You may be able to pay your fees:

* [Online](http://www.dmv.virginia.gov/onlineServices/) at **www.dmv.virginia.gov**
* By mailingyour payment to:

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles  
P.O. Box 27412  
Richmond, VA 23269

By calling: (804) 497-7100.

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You may be eligible to request a restricted driver’s license to use while your license is suspended. You can use a restricted license to drive to authorized locations such as work, school, health care appointments and your children’s school or daycare.

You'll need to:

* Petition the court, if you had a court-ordered suspension for convictions including:
  + DUI.
  + Reckless and aggressive driving.
  + Drug convictions.
* Provide documents that justify your need for a restricted driver's license, including:
  + Court orders.
  + A letter from your school or employer.
  + A letter from your doctor.

If the court approves your restricted license request, you may need to visit your [local VA DMV](http://www.dmv.org/va-virginia/dmv-office-finder.php) with:

* Any required documents.
* Your court documents.
* Your reinstatement fees.

**Important:** If you owe fines, fees, or court costs in multiple jurisdictions, you will need to set up payment plans for each court, not just the court in the jurisdiction you are living.

DMV Fees: Reinstatement fees depend on the offense committed and are as follows.

* $145 for offenses including:
  + Failing to pay court fines.
  + Insurance violations.
  + Railroad crossing violations.
* $175 for offenses including:
  + Failing to complete a driver improvement program.
  + Driving with a suspended/revoked license.
  + Felonies involving a vehicle.
* $220 for offenses including:
  + A DUI or driving under the influence of drugs.
  + Vehicular manslaughter.
  + Commercial vehicle convictions involving alcohol.

**Accepted Forms of Payment**

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles accepts the following forms of payment to reinstate your suspended license:

* **Online**: E-check or credit card.
* **By mail**: Check or money order.
* **By phone**: Credit card.
* **In person**: Cash, check, money order, or credit card.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Community Resources**

**Way to Go, Inc.**

P.O. Box 946

Harrisonburg, VA 22803

Phone: (540) 705-6201

Email: [**ben@w2ginc.org**](mailto:ben@w2ginc.org)

Way to Go is a non-profit organization serving low income, working families in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.

Specific services that are provided include:

- providing a donated or purchased vehicle

- repairs, including State inspection

- vehicle insurance payments

- vehicle fees (DMV, City/County decals)

- gas vouchers

- monthly payment to bank or finance company

- taxi trips while vehicle is in the shop

- other urgent needs necessary to maintain employment

The three basic criteria for receiving services are:

- must reside in either the City of Harrisonburg or Rockingham County;

- must be employed or have a verifiable job offer; and

- specific assistance must be recommended by a social worker or case manager familiar with the family’s needs, resources, and work history.

**Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT)**

475 E. Washington St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 432-0492

**Fares**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Adults: $1.00 | **$1.00** |
| Non-city & EMU/ANU Students: $.50 | **$.50** |
| City students through grade 12: Free | **No charge\*** |
| Persons with disabilities: $.50 | **$.50** |
| Senior citizens (age 62 & older): $.50 | **$.50** |
| Medicare/Medicaid card holders: $.50 | **$.50** |
| JMU/BRCC students and faculty: Valid ID | **Valid ID** |
| Transfers (Please request when boarding transit): Free | **No charge** |

Please have exact change ready when boarding. Drivers do not carry change.

HDPT operates 6 year round bus routes and others when JMU is in session.

**Links to Harrisonburg City Bus Routes**

Copy and paste or enter these links into your web browser to view a fully detailed map for each route.

Route 1: [**https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route1Fall2014.pdf**](https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route1Fall2014.pdf)

Route 2: [**https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route2Fall2014.pdf**](https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route2Fall2014.pdf)

Route 3: [**https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route3Fall2014.pdf**](https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route3Fall2014.pdf)

Route 4: [**https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route4Fall2014.pdf**](https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route4Fall2014.pdf)

Route 5: [**https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route5Fall2014.pdf**](https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route5Fall2014.pdf)

Route 6: [**https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route6Fall2014.pdf**](https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/Transit/files/maps/Route6Fall2014.pdf)

Busses typically run from shortly before 7am until roughly 7pm Monday-Friday and until 6pm on Saturdays.

**Food, Utility and Clothing Resources**

**Community Resources**

**Blue Ridge Area Food Bank**

**Shenandoah Valley Area Branch & Headquarters Office**PO Box 937  
96 Laurel Hill Road  
Verona, VA 24482-0937  
Phone: (540) 248-3663  
Hours of operation:  Monday-Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm

[**http://www.brafb.org/**](http://www.brafb.org/)

The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank secures food from local and national sources, makes sure it is safe, and then distributes the food to hundreds of partner agencies throughout the communities we serve.    
  
Thanks to our affiliation with Feeding America, we capture donations from large corporations—national supermarket chains and food manufacturers—as well as the U.S. Department of Agriculture.   
Locally, we are supported by grocery stores. Much of this food is in good condition, but cannot be sold. If not for the Food Bank, it would be pulled from shelves and thrown away. Increasingly, we are securing more fresh produce, meat, dairy and other perishable goods through farmers, gleaning organizations and other local and national growers. Community food drives provide four percent of our food supply as well.  
Finally, monetary donations throughcommunity fundraisers, campaigns and grants enable us to buy food that is inshort supply and not available through donations.

**Harrisonburg and Rockingham County Food Pantries**

This listing is not exhaustive and changes based on availability of food and funding for locations. To review updated lists of local pantries, please visit [**www.foodpantries.org**](http://www.foodpantries.org) or use the search feature through the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank website.

**Patchwork Pantry**

70 S. High St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 433-2148

Pantry operates on Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm and serves residents of Harrisonburg City.

**Hope Distributed CDC**

1871 Boyers Rd.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-1092

Food pantry provides a variety of perishable and nonperishable items. Meat, produce, bakery, canned and dry goods are packed and provided to our clients. The food pantry is open to the public every Thursday from 4:00 to 5:30p.m. and the first, second, and third Saturday of each month from 9:00 to 11:00a.m.



**First Baptist Church Food Pantry**

611 Broad St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-3969

Pantry hours: Tuesday noon-5pm and Saturday 2pm

**Emmanuel Episcopal Food Pantry**

660 S. Main St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-2357

Pantry hours: Monday, Tuesday 10AM - noon.

**Salvation Army Food Pantry**

185 Ashby Ave.

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Provides several days of non-perishable food items to low-income Harrisonburg/Rockingham County families. With the assistance of volunteers, the food pantry distributes both donated food as food secured from the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.

**Hours**: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:00A.M. to 11:30A.M.

The Food Recovery Program is an extension of The Salvation Army’s Food Pantry. Perishable vegetables, fruit, breads, pastries, milk and eggs are received from local grocery stores and farmers.

The perishable items are made available five days a week during normal business hours to those who seek such items. The nature and quantity varies greatly from day to day, and by the time of year. All items are freely distributed on a walk-in basis during business hours.

**Normal Business Hours**: Monday-Friday, 8:30-12:00, 1:00-4:15

**Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

146 E. Wolfe St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 434-4341

Pantry hours: open from 9 am to 3 pm Tuesday through Friday. Clients should arrive by 2:30 pm to be seen by 3 pm.

**Page County Food Pantries**

**Page One of Page County**

42 W. Main St.

Luray, VA 22835

Phone: (540) 743-4357

The Page One Food Pantry is part of the Page One [Family Assistance](http://www.vapageone.org/Family.html) program. We receive food from the generous donations of churches, business and individuals, as well as the USDA. In addition, some of the funds that we raise are used to supplement donations so that we can provide families with well-rounded meals needed to stays healthy.

When coming to Page One Family Assistance, please bring

- Proof of current income (or previous is you are not currently employed)

- Photo ID and

- Proof of residency

- Proof of benefits (such as SNAP; only if your family receives benefits)

NOTE: We serve our clients based on income and your family does not need to receive public assistance to come to the Food Bank.

You can pick up food twice per month (USDA commodities are only served once a month).

Food Pantry / Family Assistance Open Hours

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Luray | Shenandoah |
| Location | 104 North Hawksbill Street | 600 Comer Lane |
| Open | Mon & Tues, 9:00-11:30 a.m. | Mon, Wed, & Fri, noon-4 p.m. |

**Public Meals**

**Monday:**

*- Otterbein Methodist Church*, corner of W. Market and High St., 4:30 PM (434-7747)

*- Our Community Place*, corner of N. Main St. and Johnson St., lunch (442-7727)

**Tuesday:**

*- First Presbyterian Church*, Court Square, 4:30PM – 6PM (434-6551)

*- Our Community Place*, corner of N. Main and Johnson St., lunch (442-7727)

**Wednesday:**

*- Blessed Sacrament*, 154 N. Main St., 4:30 PM (434-4341)

*- Our Community Place*, corner of N. Main and Johnson St. lunch (434-7727)

**Thursday:**

*- Friendship House at Blessed Sacramen*t, 11:00 AM (434-4341)

*- Our Community Place*, corner of N. Main and Johnson St., dinner (442-7727)

**Saturday:**

*- Harrisonburg Baptist Church,* Main and Liberty Sts., 11:00-12PM (433-2456)

*- Trinity Presbyterian Church*, S. High and Maryland Ave., 1st Saturday 9:30 – 10:30 AM﻿(434-9556)

**Utility and Other Assistance**

**People Helping People**

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church  
281 E Market Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
Phone: (540) 433-7286

Email: [**director@peoplehelpingpeople-harrisonburg.org**](mailto:director@peoplehelpingpeople-harrisonburg.org)

People Helping People (PHP) volunteers are trained and equipped to interview clients, assess their needs, and help them obtain the necessary assistance--either directly or by networking with other helping services in the area. We provide aid to over 1,200 families each year.

Of each dollar contributed to PHP, 95¢ goes *directly* to client assistance. We can do this because we have an all-volunteer staff.

People needing financial assistance or other basic needs (examples include: medicine, work shoes, birth certificates, IDs, food for diabetics and children, etc.) may come to the office and apply for assistance. Financial aid is determined on a per-household basis. Referrals to other agencies are always available.

Individuals facing a financial crisis frequently go to churches requesting assistance to pay for:

- fuel

- medicine

- utilities

**Elkton Area United Services (EAUS)**

Clients Services Building - 187 W. Spotswood Ave., Elkton, VA 22827

Food Pantry - 412 Gibbons Ave., Elkton, VA 22827

Thrift Store - 218 W. Spotswood Trail, Elkton, VA 22827

Phone: (540) 298-8685

***Emergency Assistance***, which aids families or individuals who are in immediate financial need.  These needs include funds for rent, fuel, electricity and medical needs within reason.  Applicants must meet 150% of poverty federally mandated income guidelines in order to qualify.  Financial assistance is given one time in a 12-month period and cannot exceed $200.  Individuals applying for assistance must make an appointment with the Client Services Manager at 540-298-8685.

***Food Pantry*** helps area families stretch their food dollars.  Eligibility for this program is based on 150% of poverty federally mandated income guidelines.  Food is distributed the third Friday of each month. In order to receive a food box, food pantry patrons must sign up in advance with the Client Services Manager at 540-298-8685.

**Mercy House Homeless Prevention Program**

305 N. High St.

P.O. Box 1478

Harrisonburg, VA 22803

Phone: (540) 432-1812

[**www.themercyhouse.org**](http://www.themercyhouse.org)

The Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) provides temporary rental assistance to low-income households at imminent risk of homelessness.  Security deposit and temporary rental assistance can be granted to homeless families and individuals who have found permanent housing.  
  
Participants of the HPP program have the potential to receive assistance including arrearages.  During this time, participants are given an opportunity to work on their financial literacy, to improve earnings, and to save money so their family will be able to have housing in the future.  This program is NOT designed to be used for permanent housing assistance.  It is intended to divert one instance of homelessness and a partnership for growth and stability.

Applicants must:

- Be in imminent (five days) danger of losing housing with a court date for eviction.

- Have a valid lease agreement with the landlords/owners.

- Meet the income limits

- Be willing to fulfill the expectations of the program

- Have used all other resources to remedy the crisis

- Demonstrate the risk factors as provided by VA State guidelines

- Have rent fees that meet fair market rent guidelines

- May NOT reside in subsidized/income based housing



**Thrift Stores**

**Mercy House Thrift Store:** 1005 High St.; Phone: (540) 433-3272

Monday through Friday 9 - 8 and Saturday 9–5

**Goodwill:** 2025 E. Market St. (540) 432-9600 (open until 8pm)

and

2475 S. Main St. (540) 434-6050 (open until 5pm)

**Granny Long Legs Resale:** 16 S. Main St.; Phone: (540) 433-4097

Monday - Friday 9:30 - 5:30 and Sat. 9 - 5

**Salvation Army:** 245 E. Washington St.; Phone: (540) 433-8770 (also in Timberville, (540) 896-3048)

Monday–Saturday 9–4:30

**Gift and Thrift Store:**731 Mt. Clinton Pike; Phone: (540) 433-8844

Monday–Saturday 9:30–5:00 and Friday 9:30–8

(Referral letter from People Helping People client receives 25% discount on necessities as determined by Gift and Thrift.)

**Harrisonburg First Church of the Nazarene:**1871 Boyers Rd.; Phone: (540) 434-1092

1st and 2nd Saturdays 9–12

**Grottoes Church of the Brethren:**

204 Aspen St.

**Free Clothing**

**Trinity Clothes Closet:** 725 S. High St.; 434-9556

Wednesdays 6:30–7:30 PM and 1st Saturday 10-11AM

**Otterbein Methodist Church:** 176 W. Market St.; 434-7747

Mondays 5 – 6PM

**McGaheysville United Methodist Church:**10106 McGaheysville Rd.

2nd and 3rd Wednesdays 10 – 1

(Infants' and children's clothing only)

**Faith Outreach Ministry Clothes Closet:** 1314 Pleasant Valley Rd. (across from LSC Communications)

By appointment only; call Cindy (540) 828-4292 or Loretta (540) 828-4597



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**Educational/Vocational**

Whether you’re interested in obtaining a GED, pursuing higher education options or looking for a certificate to help in finding employment, the Harrisonburg/Rockingham/Page community has choices that can help you.

There is a misconception that people with criminal records, particularly felonies are not eligible for financial aid. The fact is, only in special circumstances is someone not eligible to receive assistance for school. The form for federal financial aid to use for higher education is called the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. To be eligible you need to be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, have a valid social security number, comply with selective service registration requirements, and possess a diploma, GED or equivalent. You also must not owe on a federal grant or have defaulted on a federal student loan. If you were convicted for the possession or sale of illegal drugs and the offense happened while you were enrolled in school and receiving federal student aid (grants, loans, and/or work-study), your eligibility to receive federal student aid is suspended. The FAFSA has a worksheet to determine your eligibility based on drug convictions.

If you have been convicted of a forcible or non-forcible sexual offense, and you are subject to an involuntary civil commitment upon completion of a period of incarceration for that offense, you cannot receive a Federal Pell Grant.

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**Community Resources**

**Massanutten Technical Center (MTC)**

325 Pleasant Valley Road

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-5962

[**www.mtcva.com**](http://www.mtcva.com)

MTC provides classes in Adult Basic Education and Continuing Education depending on your needs. ABE Classes and small-group instruction are offered both morning and evening at MTC and at various satellite locations, to individuals age 18 and above who are functioning at or below a high-school-equivalent level in reading and/or mathematics.

Instruction and materials focus on the adult learner's individual goals, such as preparing for the GED test (English & Spanish), obtaining employment or general self-improvement. Classes are open-entry, with registration usually on Tuesdays from 9am-1pm and Wednesdays from 4-8pm, and begin with an orientation and assessment.

There is no tuition charge for these classes; however, students are charged a $30 per semester registration fee.

The Continuing Education program covers a range of adult training options from trade and industrial fields to nursing, dental,

cosmetology and computer technology. MTC also offers apprenticeship training and works with local companies for employee development. You can receive a nationally recognized journeyman certificate for use in looking for work or expanding your current career.

**Blue Ridge Community College**

Box 80, One College Lane  
Weyers Cave, Virginia 24486  
Phone: (540) 234-9261

[**www.brcc.edu**](http://www.brcc.edu)

Blue Ridge Community College offers credit courses and programs through the associate degree level, as well as non-credit workforce development and continuing education opportunities.

If your interest is in trades or certifications contact the Workforce and Continuing Education Department at the Plecker Center. Monday-Thursday: 8:15 am–6:30 pm and Friday: 8:30 am–4:30 pm or by phone at (540) 453-2215

**Skyline Literacy**

160 N. Mason St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone**:** (540) 433-0505

[**www.skylineliteracy.org**](http://www.skylineliteracy.org)

Offers assistance for adults reading at below a 5th-grade level, provides preparation for GED testing, citizenship preparation and English as a second language classes.

**Page County Technical Center**

525 Middleburg Road

Luray, Virginia 22835

Phone: (540)-778-7282

Offers career and technical programs in the fields of nursing, cosmetology, automotive technology and electricity. Also offers opportunities to earn college credits in partnership with Lord Fairfax Community College.

**Tips for adult learners:**

- Determine your goals - Write them out, and then remember them

- Be organized

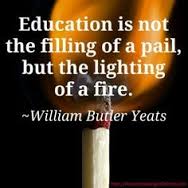
- Manage your time effectively.

- Be patient, relaxed, and focused

- You have transferable skills from your life experiences, so bring them into the classroom.

- Set realistic goals

**-** Update your technical knowledge: familiarize yourself with computers and other technology



**Benefits/Counseling/Service Agencies**

We all want you to succeed– to rejoin your family, your friends, and our community. Chances are you won’t be able to do it alone. It’s tough for anyone to navigate the system today and it’s ok to ask for help. There are plenty of people, programs and organizations that provide services that can support your successful reentry.

**Community Resources**

**Harrisonburg/Rockingham Community Services Board**

1241 N. Main Street,

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 434-1941

Emergency: (540) 434-1766

[**http://www.hrcsb.org**](http://www.hrcsb.org)

Provides mental health, substance abuse, and developmental services to residents of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. Mental health emergency services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Specific reentry services available for those returning from jail or prison.

**Northwestern Community Services Board (Page County Clinic)**

23 West Main Street

Luray, VA 22835

Phone: (540)743-4548

Emergency: (540) 635-4804

[**www.nwcsb.com**](http://www.nwcsb.com)

Provides mental health, substance abuse, and developmental services to residents of Page County. Mental health emergency services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Center for Marriage & Family Counseling**

96 Campbell St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 433-1546

[**http://cmfc.org/**](http://cmfc.org/)

The purpose of professional counseling at the Center for Marriage and Family Counseling is to provide professional, skilled, and therapeutic services to children, adolescents, and adults experiencing difficult life circumstances that negatively impact their mental health. The Center also provides couples/marital counseling, family services, EAP assistance, and group counseling in the fields of adult and adolescent anger management and substance abuse.

**Family Life Resource Center**

273 Newman Ave.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-8450 or

(800) 655-2055

[**www.flrc.org**](http://www.flrc.org)

Family Life Resource Center (FLRC) is a 501c3 non-profit counseling agency meeting the behavioral health need of individuals, couples and families.

Working from a Christian faith perspective, counselors at Family Life Resource Center are committed to helping people pursue health and wholeness as individuals and in their relationships. We work every day to be true to our name - Family Life Resource Center.

**Fairfield Center**

111 E Market St B

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 434-0059

[**www.fairfieldcenter.org**](http://www.fairfieldcenter.org)

The Fairfield Center offers multiple services, including restorative justice and civic engagement. Their conflict resolution program includes mediation and facilitation services to enhance communication and dialogue between parties. Often used as an alternative to court in separation and child support/visitation negotiations.

**Harrisonburg-Rockingham County Department of Social Services**

110 N. Mason St.

P.O. Box 809

Harrisonburg, VA 22803

Phone: (540) 574-5100

[**http://www.rockinghamcountyva.gov**](http://www.rockinghamcountyva.gov)

**Benefits Program**  
The Benefits Program provides medical, financial, fuel, and food stamp assistance to the citizens of Harrisonburg City and Rockingham County. These benefits can be paid from federal, state, and/or local funds.

**Service Program**  
The Service Program provides the following services directly, or via purchase of service:

- Adoption

- Adult Protective Services

- Adult Services

- Child Protective Services

- Day Care Services

- Employment Services

- Foster Care

**Page County Department of Social Services**

215 W. Main St., Suite A

P.O. Box 47

Stanley, VA 22851

Phone: (540) 778-1053

Services Page County and provides food stamps and other public assistance. Also houses the VIEW program, the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare, which supports the efforts of families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to achieve independence through employment. VIEW focuses on the participants' strengths and provides services to help them overcome job-related challenges, as well as personal, medical and family challenges that affect employment.

**Harrisonburg-Rockingham Free Clinic**

25 West Water Street

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

(540) 433-5431

[**http://www.hrfreeclinic.org/**](http://www.hrfreeclinic.org/)

Provides affordable, sustainable health care services for low income and uninsured adults, primarily though volunteer resources and community support.

**Page Memorial Free Clinic**

732 E. Main St.

Luray, VA 22835

Phone: (540) 743-1054

[**https://pagefreeclinic.org/**](https://pagefreeclinic.org/)

Open Tuesdays from 4-7pm. Page residents between 19 and 64 years of age that meet financial requirements and don’t qualify for Medicaid are eligible to receive services.

**Crossroads Counseling Center**

250 E. Elizabeth Street, Suite 102

Harrisonburg, VA 22803

Phone: (540) 801-0885

Or

221 West Main Street

Luray, VA 22835

Phone: (540) 843-2509

[**http://www.crossroadsvirginia.com/**](http://www.crossroadsvirginia.com/)

Provides counseling services to Medicaid eligible children and adults. Psychological assessments and evaluations parent mentoring and substance abuse treatment are also available.

**Strength in Peers**

733-B E Market Street

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 217-0869

[**www.strengthinpeers.org**](http://www.strengthinpeers.org)

Peer Support Specialists help participants understand mental health and/or substance abuse problems as well as to reach and maintain recovery goals. Services include weekly support meetings for ex-offenders, a drop-in center with computer access, information resources and access to support and a weekly anxiety and depression group.

Strength in Peers partners with the Harrisonburg/Rockingham CSB for an offender reentry program designed to offer transitional support, counseling and mentorship to those being released from incarcerations of over 90 days with a history of substance abuse or addiction. This program is run with cooperation from Rockingham Regional Jail and Middle River Regional Jail as well as the Department of Corrections.

**Rockingham Regional Jail**

25 S. Liberty St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 564-3850

[**http://www.rcso-va.com/rockinghamregionaljail.html**](http://www.rcso-va.com/rockinghamregionaljail.html)

**Middle River Regional Jail**

350 Technology Dr.

Staunton, VA 24401

Phone: (540) 245-5420

[**https://www.middleriverregionaljail.org/**](https://www.middleriverregionaljail.org/)

Also houses overflow offenders from Rockingham and Harrisonburg.

**Page County Jail**

108 S. Court St.

Luray, VA 22835

Phone: (540) 743-1236

[**http://www.pagesheriff.com/Jail.html**](http://www.pagesheriff.com/Jail.html)

Only houses adult male offenders. The Page County Jail is not certified to hold juveniles and does not have the required accommodations to incarcerate females on a long term basis. Therefore, female inmates and juvenile detainees are sent to other facilities.

**District 39 Probation and Parole**

30 W. Water St. A

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: (540) 433-2404

**Our Community Place**

17 E. Johnson St.

Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Phone: (540) 442-7727

**www.ourcommunityplace.org**

A community center that offers creative community meals, recreational activities, meaningful work, rest from the elements, positive relationships, spiritual guidance, and some basic services for individuals struggling with homelessness.

**2-1-1 Virginia**

[**www.211virginia.org**](http://www.211virginia.org)

2-1-1 is an easy to remember phone number connecting people with free information on available community services. When you dial 2-1-1, a trained professional listens to your situation and suggests sources of help using one of the largest databases of health and human services in Virginia.

2-1-1 VIRGINIA provides access to services in your community and statewide. All referrals are confidential and you can search for these same services on the 2-1-1 VIRGINIA Web site.

Government, nonprofit, community-based agency, and business that provide health and human services to the citizens of Virginia are encouraged to list their services.

**Lifeline Phone**

[**http://www.assurancewireless.com/Public/Welcome.aspx**](http://www.assurancewireless.com/Public/Welcome.aspx)

Federal Lifeline Assistance: Assurance Wireless is a federal Lifeline Assistance program brought to you by Virgin Mobile. Lifeline is a government benefit program supported by the federal Universal Service Fund.

Qualifications: Enrollment is available to individuals who qualify based on federal or state-specific eligibility criteria. You may qualify if you are on certain public assistance programs, like Medicaid or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). You can also qualify based on your household income.

Proof of Eligibility: You must provide proof of program participation or proof of income.

One Account per Household: The Lifeline Assistance program is available for only one wireless or wireline account per household. Separate households that live at the same address are eligible, including residents of homeless shelters and nursing homes. Residents with temporary addresses are also eligible.

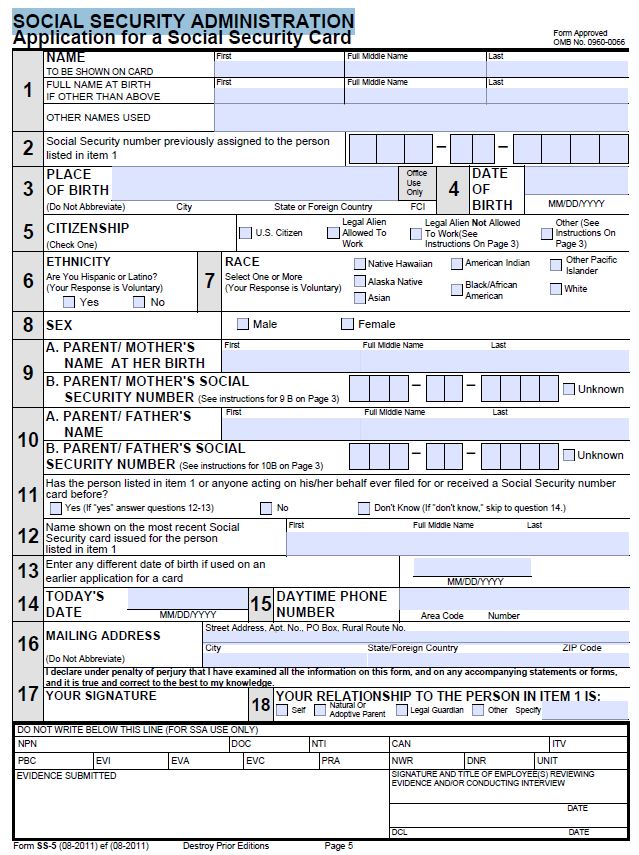
**Index and Tips to Navigating the System**

Part of what this handbook asks you to do is to think about what challenges face you– from personal issues to practical problems. This could be substance abuse issues or trying to figure out how to get a copy of your birth certificate. The following section provides some basic advice and templates on how to address those issues typically faced by someone being released from incarceration.

**Virginia Birth Certificate Application: Available at** [**http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/93/2016/07/appform.doc**](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/93/2016/07/appform.doc)



**Social Security Card Application: Available at** [**https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf**](https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf)



**Driver’s License/ID Card Application: Available at** [**https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/pdf/dl1p.pdf**](https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/pdf/dl1p.pdf)



**Sample Resume**

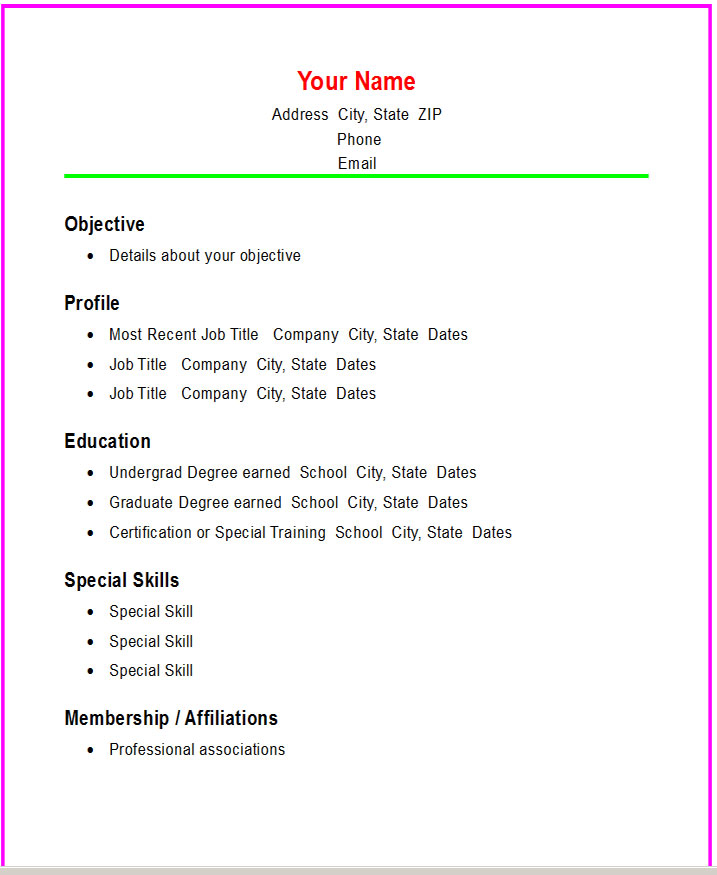
Be sure to include:

- Your name and contact information at the top of the page

- An employment objective that describes the kind of job you are looking for

- Your education and employment experiences; you may also consider including classes or programs you participated in while in custody

- A separate sheet prepared listing at least three personal references. This could include former employers, teachers, counselors, etc.



Resume Quick Tips:

* Double check spelling and grammar. Have someone else proofread it with you.
* Be brief. A resume is an opportunity to highlight skills and strengths but keep it simple.
* Be thorough. If you can’t remember an employer’s contact information, use the internet or a phone book to look it up. Try not to leave blank spaces.
* Avoid using “I” statements. Use general terms like “participated in”, “developed” and “conducted”.
* Include a cover letter. A cover letter is your real introduction to an employer and gives you a chance to highlight skills and experience while requesting a chance to meet with the employer to discuss hiring you.
* Be honest. You have a record. It will become known even if you don’t disclose it. So own it. Turn negatives into positives and focus on what you intend to do for the company you’re applying at moving forward. Confidence is an exceptional trait to take into the application and interview process.
* Work with resources available to you. The Virginia Employment Commission, Valley Workforce and many case management services exist to help you prepare a functional resume and locate the right employer. Take advantage of this help.

Here are some questions to expect in some form or another during the interview procedure. Plan on answering a lot of questions. Remain calm and patient and remember that you are selling yourself as someone the company cannot afford to pass up. Smile!

**Tell me your greatest strengths** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Tell me your greatest challenges** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**How do you resolve a dispute with a co-worker?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Why did you leave your last job?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Why should we hire you?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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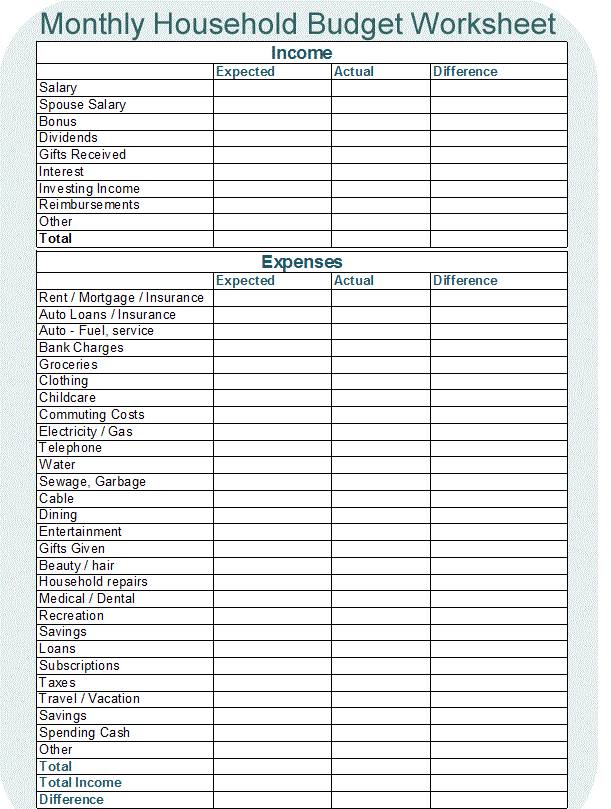
**Where do you see yourself in five years?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ask questions! Show interest in the position, the company and the people you are meeting with. Steer away from asking about salary, benefits or time off unless the interviewer brings it up first. If you sell yourself effectively, these questions will come up and you can discuss them.

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**Sample Household Budget**



**What is A.A.?**

Alcoholics Anonymous® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Link to finding an A.A. meeting in your community: [**https://aavirginia.org/meetings**](https://aavirginia.org/meetings)

**What is N.A.?**

Narcotics Anonymous is a global, community-based organization with a multi-lingual and multicultural membership. NA was founded in 1953, and our membership growth was minimal during our initial twenty years as an organization. Today, NA members hold nearly 67,000 meetings weekly in 139 countries. We offer recovery from the effects of addiction through working a twelve-step program, including regular attendance at group meetings. The group atmosphere provides help from peers and offers an ongoing support network for addicts who wish to pursue and maintain a drug-free lifestyle. Our name, Narcotics Anonymous, is not meant to imply a focus on any particular drug; NA’s approach makes no distinction between drugs including alcohol. Membership is free, and we have no affiliation with any organizations outside of NA including governments, religions, law enforcement groups, or medical and psychiatric associations. Through all of our service efforts and our cooperation with others seeking to help addicts, we strive to reach a day when every addict in the world has an opportunity to experience our message of recovery in his or her own language and culture.

Link to finding an N.A. meeting in your community: [**http://www.naws.org/meetingsearch/**](http://www.naws.org/meetingsearch/)

**What is Al-Anon?**

The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength, and hope, in order to solve their common problems. We believe alcoholism is a family illness, and that changed attitudes can aid recovery. Al-Anon is not allied with any sect, denomination, political entity, organization, or institution; does not engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any cause. There are no dues for membership. Al-Anon is self-supporting through its own voluntary contributions. Al-Anon has but one purpose: to help families of alcoholics. We do this by practicing the Twelve Steps, by welcoming and giving comfort to families of alcoholics, and by giving understanding and encouragement to the alcoholic.

Link to finding an Al-Anon meeting in your community: [**http://vaalanon.org/find-a-meeting**](http://vaalanon.org/find-a-meeting)

**Transition Planning Worksheet**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Identification**  Do you have a driver’s license, state ID, or other photo identification?  Do you have a copy of your birth certificate?  Do you have a copy of your Social Security card? | **YES** | **NO** |
| **Other Documents**  Do you have a copy of your high school diploma/GED, and any other educational degrees?  If you are a Veteran, do you have a copy of your Military Discharge Papers?  If you completed any courses while in custody, do you have documentation supporting your achievements? |  |  |
| **Benefits Information**  Do you currently have health insurance?  If you do not have health insurance, have you applied for the Affordable Care Act? |  |  |
| **Housing**  Have you identified a place to live upon your release?  If not, have you contacted family about letting you stay with them while you get back on your feet?  Have you completed an application with the Housing Authority for housing assistance? |  |  |
| **Health**  Do you have a primary care doctor?  Have you had a physical within the last 3 years?  Do you feel like you are or will be in need of mental health counseling?  Do you feel like you are or will be in need of substance abuse treatment? |  |  |
| **Employment**  Have you worked on building your resume?  Have you practiced interviewing skills with staff or friends?  Have you learned about the Employment Opportunity Tax Credit and Federal Bonding? (see page 8)  Have you been checking the paper or internet to see about employment opportunities?  Have you reached out for available assistance within your institution? (i.e. VEC, Virginia Workforce, etc.?) | **YES** | NO |

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There is little doubt that as you think about your successful reentry into your community, you have many things on your mind. Though many specific concerns may have crossed your mind, like where you will live and work, you may have been thinking about your life on the outside in general terms, too. Take the following space to think and write about what you would like to make happen in the future.

In the first 30 days after release, I am looking forward to: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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My goal for the first three months after I get out are to: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Some strategies for staying out in the first year– things I can do to stay sober, to follow the law, to not break probation, and to move myself towards the kind of life I really want: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What I want my life to be like in a year: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

People who can help me reach my goals: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

People I should stay away from so I can reach my goals: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Important Contacts**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Address** | **Phone** |
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This handbook was created by the Harrisonburg/Rockingham/Page Reentry Council for returning citizens coming back to our community. Special thanks go to all members of the Reentry Council and others who provided comments and suggestions for improvement of this document.