

SECTION H PEOPLE, ORGANISATIONS & RESOURCES

See also Section F: Volunteering & Caring for Prisoners

People and Organisations

Principal Prison Chaplain

Ian S Schneider, Principal Chaplain
Prison Chaplaincy Services & Department for Correctional Services
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Chaplaincy through the Churches

The websites of some churches contain information about chaplaincy – see below. Otherwise contact your main church office.

RC Archdiocese of Adelaide
<http://www.adelaide.catholic.org.au/our-works-and-community/chaplaincy/prison-chaplaincy>

Lutheran Church SA/NT
<http://219.90.132.114/?q=chaplaincy/prison>

Salvation Army
<http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/en/Find-Us/South-Australia/Social-Support/>

Uniting Church SA
<http://sa.uca.org.au/chaplaincy>

Minister for Correctional Services

Keeping our community safe while supporting offenders to turn their lives around are both priorities for the State Government. Jennifer Rankine (as at October 2012)
<http://www.corrections.sa.gov.au/home/minister-s-message>

Department for Correctional Services

The Department for Correctional Services has an important role in the criminal justice system in South Australia. This is reflected in the Department's vision for: *"A safer community by protecting the public and reducing re-offending."*
<http://www.corrections.sa.gov.au/home>

Victims of Crime

The physical and emotional impact of crime can be devastating both for those who are harmed and for their families and friends. No matter what the crime or circumstances in which it was committed, it may diminish the victim's sense of control and self-worth. Those not directly affected by the crime often can't understand how difficult the recovery can be.

Commissioner for Victims' Rights Phone: (+61 08) 8204 9635 Fax: (+61 08) 8207 1736 Email: voc@agd.sa.gov.au Post: GPO Box 464, Adelaide SA 5001
<http://www.voc.sa.gov.au/>

The Department for Correctional Services (DCS) recognises that victims of crime may wish to be informed of the offender/s' progress whilst in the custody and supervision of the Department. For this reason DCS established the Victim Services Unit (VSU) to promote and advocate the rights and needs of victims of crime and to manage the controlled release of information to Registered Victims as prescribed in Sections 85 C and D of the *Correctional Services (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 1996*.

<http://www.corrections.sa.gov.au/victims-info>

Centacare - Community Reintegration Program

The Community Reintegration Program provides positive and practical information, referral and linkages, supporting people exiting custodial sentences (pre and post release) and individuals under community based supervision to reconnect with their community.

<http://www.centacare.org.au/OurServices/DomesticViolenceandHomelessness/CommunityReintegrationProgram.aspx> or <http://reintegrationsa.org.au/>

Effective Living Centre

The Effective Living Centre (ELC) is a community partnership organisation and an integral part of [Christ Church Uniting, Wayville](#). The ELC empowers people to engage with and contribute to life more effectively. It is open and available to people of any social, political or religious stance. CD Rom available as a recording of a session led by Professor Rick Sarre on prisons. Contact office@effectiveliving.org or phone 8271 0329.

Spirituality and Meditation

Below are three examples of organisations that focus on Christian Spirituality and Meditation. These may be of interest to people involved in the prison system or they may be able to offer resources to assist people, including those who are prisoners.

Ignatian Spirituality fosters interior freedom and facilitates good life decisions. The Spiritual Exercises have been variously named "a school for prayer", "a school for discernment" and "a school for loving action".
<http://www.cis.jesuit.org.au/ignatian.html>

Christian Meditation - "In Contemplative prayer we seek to become the person we are called to be, not by thinking of God but by being with God. Simply to be with God is to be drawn into being the person God calls us to be."
John Main, OSB. <http://www.christianmeditationaustralia.org/index.html> and <http://www.christianmeditationaustralia.org/GroupsPdf/SA.pdf>

Stillpoint is a Spirituality Centre and a Faith Community of the Uniting Church in Australia. We offer a house of prayer, a venue for day retreats (residential if accommodation is booked at Nunyara), spiritual direction, leadership and resources for congregations, and prayer support for congregations.
<http://stillpoint.unitingchurchsa.org.au/>

Distance Education opportunities

Distance Education courses are available from various tertiary institutions, eg, universities, technological colleges. For those wishing to study theology or leadership development within churches, the Uniting College for Leadership Development and Theology offers Certificate level topics by distance, and as the theological faculty of Flinders University, degree topics towards a Bachelor of Theology. For access to the latter, intending students need to apply through

Flinders University and the University enrolment processes for South Australia. Certificate courses can be accessed through the above College, 34 Lipsett Terrace, Brooklyn Park 5032 Phone: 8416 8427.

Note: Prisoners in many gaols are not allowed access to computers in preparing their assignments, or to internet searches. However, they may submit handwritten work, and borrow on long loans books and other resources (such as copies of journal articles) from Adelaide Theological Library. Distance topics include printed copies of book extracts and articles, to make resources directly available to students.

One possible action is to advocate for prisoners to have access to computers and internet searches for their distance studies where this does not exist.

Prison Fellowship in SA

We are Christian.

We are committed to crime prevention through changed lives.

We believe in restorative justice and second chances.

We are responsive to the needs of prisoners and their families.

We recognise the needs of victims.

We believe in prison reform.

We are committed to good stewardship.

http://www.prisonfellowship.org.au/home_1_5.html

Kairos Prison Ministry Australia

Kairos is a local community-based Christian ministry that serves both those in prison and the families and friends of those in prison.

<http://www.kairos.org.au/default.aspx>

OARS Community Transitions www.oars.org.au

Services include:

Rehabilitation

Financial Counselling

Accommodation

Drug Intervention

Gambling Support

Restorative Justice

Parents Of Prisoners

Christmas Toy Program

Partners Of Prisoners

Seeds of Affinity - Pathways for Women Incorporated

Started by a group of South Australian women with lived prison experience. Members of Seeds of Affinity work together to challenge the stigmatization faced by women leaving prison. Seeds of Affinity members build a community where women feel a sense of belonging, solidarity and self worth. <http://www.seedsofaffinity.org.au>

Catholic Prison Ministry

Supporting prisoners and their families (Queensland based)

<http://www.catholicprisonministry.org.au/>

LifeLines - supports and befriends prisoners on Death Row throughout the United States, through letter writing. It is the first established organisation of its kind, and has spread both nationally and internationally, with members all over the world. <http://www.lifelines-uk.org/index.htm>

Jesuits

A project of the Thailand Jesuit Foundation. Its purpose is to assist prisoners who are held in different prisons within Thailand, especially for those who are poor and who have no visitors.

<http://www.jesuit-prison-ministry.org/index.php/en/home>

Other resources

- *Correctional Services - Rehabilitation or Revolving Door* - 2 CDs of talks given at the Effective Living Centre, at Wayville on 4th May 2012. The two CDs contain the three talks and question time. The three speakers were Rick Sarre: Professor of Law and Criminal Justice Uni SA giving the background statistics on prisons and Prisoners in SA (with a power point - also available); Anna Kemp Correctional Services and Women for Women group, speaking on her work with Women Prisoners and the innovative program Seeds of Affinity; and Liz Silk: Manager Mission Australia Employment Solutions speaking on the ways prisoners can be helped to get employment post their sentences in prison. Available for \$10.00 plus postage from the Effective Living Centre, 26 King William Road Wayville. Ph 8274 1451 or email: office@effectiveliving.org

- *Children's books about when Mum or Dad go to prison* –
 - When Mum Went To Prison: Lots of Things Changed
 - My Dad's In Prison
 These books help young children understand what their parent does in prison, This encourages discussion and questions and helps promote understanding and tolerance in all children.
 An excellent resource for library and classroom, for parents and friends, and for counsellors **“What does my Mum do in prison?” “How long does my Mum have to stay in prison?”** These are just some of the questions asked by young children who have a parent in prison.
 From **Good Beginnings** <http://www.goodbeginnings.org.au/resources/brochures-books>

- *Crime and Justice* a publication from the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand 2011 This small booklet contains in the introduction, an paper by Graham Redding Crime and Justice: A biblical and theological perspective; followed by three studies - What's happening; What's the impact; and What action can we take? Download from www.presbyterian.org.nz/sites/default/files/speaking_out/Crime_and_Justice.pdf

- Marshall, Christopher D. *Beyond Retribution – A New Testament Vision for Justice, Crime and Punishment*, Lime Grove House Publishing, Australia, New Zealand, 2001

Every effort had been made to ensure that the information in this Section is correct at the time of being written. The description of each organisation has been taken from that organisation's website or as provided to SACC as at October 2012. SA Council of Churches accepts no liability for errors, omissions or for actions taken based on this information. We invite you to send us any suggested changes.
