

What is the Winona County CARE Program?

The CARE (Community Assessment and Reintegration) Program is a program to offer support and assistance to people who are leaving a correctional facility and re-entering the community. The CARE Program is designed to help ex-offenders realize and manage negative patterns in their lives so they can become productive members of the community. The overall goal of the CARE Program is to reduce recidivism or the cycle of coming out and going back to jail.

What are the benefits of a reentry program?

- **For the Community**
 - Greater accountability for the offender
 - Positive approach to offender adjudication
 - Less victimization/greater public safety
 - Reduced incarceration costs
 - Greater offender supervision
 - Limiting the “warehousing” mentality regarding offenders
 - Enabling offenders to become productive members of the community
- **For the Offender**
 - Break in the criminal cycle
 - Improve interpersonal skills
 - Learn and practice financial responsibility
 - Opportunity for intervention
 - Focus towards positive outcomes
 - Improve family relationships

Project Partners

The CARE Program was developed by the Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). For more information, on the CJCC, visit www.winonacountycjcc.org. Financial assistance for the CARE Program is provided by the federal government through a Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Award administered by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety-Office of Justice Programs. For more information on the MN OJP, see www.ojp.state.mn.us.



**For more information please contact:
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Winona County
CARE Program

Community Assessment And Reintegration Program (Community Brochure)

A grant-funded program
focused on the successful
rehabilitation and reintegration
of ex-offenders.

What services are available?

The Care Program may be able to help with...

Housing

Education

Mentoring

Employment

Family Issues

Transportation

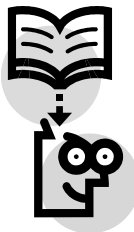
Substance Abuse

Parenting Classes

Financial Planning

Veteran's Assistance

Or additional programming specifically tailored to the client's needs.



Who is eligible for the CARE Program?

To be eligible for the program, an offender must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be a Winona County resident
- Be convicted as an adult in criminal court
- Be incarcerated in Winona County or a state prison for at least 15 days (and, if a state prisoner, is within 30 days of release)
- Reside in Winona County for at least 90 days post-release
- Voluntarily participate in the program
- Be identified as having a risk of re-offending
- Not be a level 3 sex offender
- Not have been enrolled in the CARE Program within the last 90 days

An offender who does not precisely meet the above criteria may gain admission into the program through a professional override process.

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Why are re-entry programs important?

- ◆ There are many reasons why people resort to unlawful behaviors. CARE is equipped to assess those reasons in order to significantly reduce the number of repeat occurrences.
- ◆ Almost all offenders return back to the communities in which they previously lived. Returning without addressing the issues that caused them to offend will likely cause the ex-offender to become a re-offender.
- ◆ Many offenders struggle with a great number of issues such as addictions, mental and physical disabilities, lack of family support, inadequate education, unemployment and lack of housing. The CARE Program can help to address these issues.
- ◆ Without programs aimed at reducing the likelihood of ex-offenders becoming re-offenders, tax dollars for incarceration increase as the rates of repeat offenders also increases.
- ◆ Without intervention, the types and number of the crimes committed by re-offenders may continue to increase in number and severity.