

Community Transition Program

In October 2004, the Department of Corrections began a community transition program designed to identify and assist offenders in need of support in their transition to community supervision. This program is provided at DOC facilities located in Sioux Falls, Pierre, Yankton and Rapid City. Transition case managers and parole agents work together in developing an Individual Transition Plan (ITP) for each offender involved in the program. This ITP lists specific behavior guidelines and/or program requirements tailored for each offender. Behavioral guidelines include but are not limited to curfew hours, financial management, and residence information. Program requirements include, but are not limited to, chemical dependency treatment, employment, sex offender treatment, and corrective thinking courses.

There are two phases to the program. Phase 1 consists of core programming (Chemical Dependency, Thinking for a Change, Job Finding and Keeping, and Financial Responsibility) specifically designed and implemented to address these identified areas of need. Phase 2 consists of securing a job in the community, saving money and transitioning towards a stable housing situation in the community.

From the start of the program through June 30, 2010, there have been 3,568 placements in the Community Transition Program. Seventy-five percent of participants have completed the program, and of the program completions, sixty-five percent remain in the community.