

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Our Volunteers participate in meaningful and innovative work in our community as well as within our local correctional facilities by providing some of the following supportive services:

- Board membership, administrative and computer support, community advocacy, and assistance with Society programs and services.
- Volunteers support federal and provincial inmates through letter writing by participating in the Mailbag Program.
- Volunteers work with inmates to prepare for their release by providing counselling, life skills coaching, and information about agency programs and community resources.

INTAKE, COUNSELLING, AND CASE MANAGEMENT

- Individual clients meet with counsellors to share information and develop a plan of care during the intake interview.
- One on one sessions with professional counsellors help clients problem solve to make positive life changes.
- Counsellors provide internal referrals to Society programs and external referrals to other community agencies as needed.

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF ADDICTION

- Experienced addiction counsellors offer addiction counselling to match the specific needs of the individual with the appropriate treatment program (e.g. S.T.A.R.T. ~ Scarborough Treatment Addiction Resources Team).
- Weekly relapse prevention groups, motivational groups, individual counselling, community partnerships, and specific on-site institutional addiction counselling programs are offered to all individuals in need of support.



We are proud to be the John Howard Society of Toronto, named for John Howard (1726-1790), the British prison reformer who dedicated his life, his fortune, and his health to the cause of a more humane prison system. John Howard worked hard to change public attitudes toward inmates from a stance of uncaring punishment to one reflecting the recognition that all of us are not so different from those who serve their sentences in these harsh settings. Following the paths of church groups and community coalitions, in 1946, the Citizens Service Association of Ontario changed its name to the John Howard Society of Ontario. By 1994 all the provinces and the Territories had branches of the John Howard Society of Canada.

Brochure last revised June 2008

JohnHoward
SOCIETY OF TORONTO

MISSION STATEMENT

The John Howard Society of Toronto supports new beginnings by providing support to people in conflict with the law and adults at imminent risk of coming into conflict with the law, in order to facilitate positive change and achieve community reintegration.

Supporting New Beginnings

POST INCARCERATION HOUSING SUPPORT SERVICES

- We provide pre-release housing support planning services to individuals currently incarcerated in our local correctional facilities.
- Post incarceration housing support services are provided to homeless clients recently released from provincial and federal facilities to receive assistance to obtain and retain housing.
- As individual circumstance dictates, housing help will be available through partnerships and referrals to private landlords, public housing providers, and, other agencies that offer housing assistance and follow-up support services.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING SUPPORT SERVICES

We also operate transitional housing in partnership with the Center for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) for clients of the Toronto Drug Treatment Court. This transitional housing provides clients with on-going addictions counselling and access to permanent accommodations.

ABORIGINAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

Working within the Aboriginal community, community agencies and local jails to provide anger management, traditional teachings, support services, counselling, and healing and talking circles.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

We provide low cost transportation service to local provincial and federal correctional institutions to assist inmates in maintaining relationships with family members and friends. For more information please call: **416.408.1618**.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE and PARTNER SERVICES

- Treatment programs are available for men who have been mandated due to domestic assault charges. Voluntary participants are welcome for some treatment groups. To determine eligibility, men are invited to an assessment/orientation session (culturally-specific and generic groups are available evening's and Saturday's).
- Information, referrals and support, counselling and safety planning are offered to women whose partners attend Domestic Violence Programs.

ANGER MANAGEMENT GROUPS

- Groups for men offer an opportunity to learn new skills, manage feelings of anger, and appropriately communicate anger to others.
- Both mandated and voluntary participants are welcome, but those men charged with domestic assault will be included only after having successfully completed a domestic violence program.
- Specific workshops are available for clients in community settings (i.e.: shelter and treatment facilities).

COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROGRAM

This program provides adults charged with mostly minor first time criminal offence(s) an alternative to the formal court process. Individuals charged are still held accountable for their actions by completing community based sanctions. Upon successfully satisfying the program, through the options of charitable donations, volunteer community work, participating in workshops or programs, the charge(s) against the individual is withdrawn by the court. We offer Community Justice Programs at the Metro North Courthouse and the Metro West Provincial Court.

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES

Pre-release planning, supportive counselling, and institutional programs and/or groups are offered at the Toronto East Detention Centre, the Toronto West Detention Centre, the Toronto Jail and Mimico Correctional Centre.

ANGER MANAGEMENT/SUBSTANCE USE COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROGRAM

- Eligible participants are referred to attend this anger management and substance use program through the Community Justice Program.
- This program services community courthouses and client participation is recommended by our Society and other community based organizations who participate in the Community Justice Program.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

- We work closely with other community/coalition groups to educate individuals about the social justice issues affecting our clients.
- We provide information and workshops about the criminal justice system and its' impact on society.
- We help individuals to address barriers inside and outside of federal and provincial correctional facilities.
- We participate in research initiatives to enhance societal understanding about the needs of our clients.

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SOCIETY OF TORONTO

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