



## Training Day Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2008

Come to be refreshed and equipped to help those leaving our prisons to reintegrate into society and continue as disciples of Jesus through your local church.

Many people who have been in prison will seek out a church to help them in their journey with Christ as they reintegrate into society. We will be exploring issues faced by ex-offenders and how churches can learn to welcome them and be part of their reintegration into society. Using Alpha's Caring for Ex-Offenders (CFEO) program, we will be shown how to create CFEO teams to do this successfully.

We will hear from:

- ex-offenders who have made the transition back into society,
- church leaders discussing the barriers that exist in churches,
- experienced Christian prison ministry workers describe what works.

There will be a range of electives to choose from including: the process of reintegration, pastoral discipling of ex-offenders, helping ex-offenders with employment, helping sex ex-offenders, helping young offenders and drug and alcohol misuse.

Participants will receive lunch, the Caring for ex-offenders handbook, delegate notes, reports from each elective and a great day mixing with people with a passion for prison ministry.

**Date:** Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2008

**Time:** 9.00 am to 4.00pm (Registrations open at 8.30am)

**Cost:** \$25 per person (includes lunch)

**Venue:** Victory Life Centre, 1 Neil Street, Osborne Park

To register, please complete the registration form below or download a "Caring for Ex-Offenders Training Day" Registration Form from [www.victorylifecentre.com.au](http://www.victorylifecentre.com.au), and fax it to (08) 9201 1299 or mail to 1 Neil St Osborne Park WA 6017

Many churches are being invited, so register early to ensure you have a place!

For more information please contact:

Rev John Clarke - National Coordinator, Alpha for Prisons  
M: 0430 388 774 or E: [prisons@alpha.org.au](mailto:prisons@alpha.org.au)

Rick Milligan,  
M: 0415 206 204 or E: [pastorrick@iinet.net.au](mailto:pastorrick@iinet.net.au)

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Name .....

Address .....

Home Phone ..... Mobile .....

Email .....

Church Name .....

Church/Prison ministry Involvement .....

**All attendees must make a selection from the six Electives below.**

**PLEASE PRE-SELECT YOUR FIRST 3 PREFERENCES** (by numbering 1-3 next to them)

- \_\_\_\_\_ The process of reintegration
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mentoring and pastoral discipling of ex-offenders
- \_\_\_\_\_ Employing ex-offenders
- \_\_\_\_\_ Working with sex ex-offenders
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drug and alcohol misuse
- \_\_\_\_\_ Working with young ex-offenders

Electives are subject to the available number of places in each group.

**Cost: \$25.00 per person**

## Payment Details

<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque (payable to Victory Life Centre)	<input type="checkbox"/> Diners
Credit card:	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	
Name on Card	_____	
Card Number	_____	Expiry Date ____ / ____
Verification Code ____	Authorised Signature _____	Amount to charge \$_____

**Registrations Close: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

Please note, we cannot provide a refund for any cancellations, however you can transfer your registration to another person.

**Fax to Victory Life Centre: (08) 9201 1299 or  
Post: 1 Neil St Osborne Park WA 6017**

**Office Use Only**

Processed by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Caring For Ex-Offenders – Electives

## **Elective 1 – The resettlement process**

Elaine Toovey – Resettlement Coordinator, Acacia Prison

There are many barriers for offenders to effectively reintegrate into society. Through a diverse range of programs, Acacia prison has established a process starting from the offender's needs which maximises the opportunities for offenders to make positive preparations for their life outside. We will hear how this process is implemented at Acacia prison and become aware of the multitude of agencies that are available to help an ex-offender resettle into society.

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## **Elective 2 - Mentoring and pastoral discipling of ex-offenders**

John Clarke – Coordinator, Alpha for Prisons

Ex-offenders are no different than anyone else in the church, but often have very damaged lives and their need for support can be greater than average. We will explore our role in helping an ex-offender grow in their relationship with God through: being a good role model, expressing the love of God in practical ways, teaching how to pray and read the Bible and how to worship and be valued by others - all within the ex-offender/church agreement limits.

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## **Elective 3 - Employing ex-offenders**

Peter Kuhn, Employment Consultant, Jobstart Employment

Employment makes a huge difference to an ex-offender's successful reintegration into society. While often people enter prison with little employment history, they can leave prison with more skills and qualifications. Many employers are finding that a well motivated ex-offender is a great asset to their business.

We will discuss the opportunities, risks and how you, as an employer or as someone helping an ex-offender, might help an ex-offender join the workforce.

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## **Elective 4 – Working with sex ex-offenders**

Alan Forsyth – Chaplain Acacia Prison

When a known sex-offender joins a church, it is important to extend love and friendship. At the same time the leadership must give sufficient attention to information sharing, risk assessment and risk management so that the ex-offender is empowered to overcome temptation and participate in church life within the limits of the law and boundaries of the ex-offender/church agreement.

The issues surrounding sex offenders will be discussed and strategies for assisting their safe incorporation into the church and overcoming congregations' fears will be explored.

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## **Elective 5 - Drug and alcohol misuse**

Angie Jefferys - Mission Australia

It is estimated that 70-85% of offenders have drug or alcohol addictions, which reflects its prevalence in society as a whole. An understanding of the underlying personal and environmental factors of addiction, organisations that can help and effective methods of treatment is vital in the wise and compassionate care of a majority of ex-offenders.

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## **Elective 6 - Working with young ex-offenders**

Tim Sullivan – Chaplain working with juvenile offenders

Young offenders have some of the highest rates of returning to prison. Working with young offenders can be the most rewarding thing you ever do, whilst also being one of the most frustrating.

We need to give them the opportunity to look forward, to dream dreams and to have the hope of fulfilling them. We will look at how the church can offer the acceptance and guidance to point a young offender to God and to realise the contribution they can make to society.

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