

## Strategic Direction 2016-2021

### Our Direction:

The restoration of broken lives affected by crime, giving hope through engaging the community.

### Our Purpose:

Engaging the community to pursue justice and healing in response to crime;

#### by seeing:

prisoners transformed,  
families reconciled and  
communities restored.

### Our Promises:

- Tough love
- Discernment
- Forgiveness and healing
- Victim/Offender reconciliation
- Second chances; transformation with hope
- Acceptance with respect and compassion
- Financial security
- Service without prejudice

### Long Term Goal:

That every prisoner in SA has the opportunity to receive rehabilitative and community based integration services so that broken lives and communities are restored.

*People who commit crime and enter prison are already in a state of hopelessness. If we do not restore them with hope, they will return to society in a continued state of hopelessness which will lead them back to criminal activity. Restoring hope with practical, emotional and spiritual support is crime prevention.*

# Restoring Communities

## Our Priority

## Our Pillars

### Prisoners

Many Second Chances SA volunteers have been visiting prisoners for decades responding to written requests for practical 'helps' such as personal banking and storage of property. This leads to accredited Second Chances SA in-prison volunteers listening and forming friendships pre-release then supporting the prisoner through the system till their release.

#### Key Strategic Objectives

- Expand volunteer presence into all SA prisons on a weekly basis.
- Increase capacity to process prisoner property storage records and retrieval.
- Introduce hope based short courses into SA prisons.
- Expand art class development opportunities across SA prisons.
- Complete a therapeutic rehabilitation unit proposal for SA prisons.
- Liaise with Parole Board to advocate for prisoners on a case by case basis.
- Provide strategic post-release housing advocacy through housing partnerships.
- Become a Preferred Service Provider (PSP) in delivering housing options.

### Children

While offenders suffer the consequences of their crime through imprisonment, it is the families who suffer even more – and it isn't even their fault! While research reveals that children of prisoners are up to seven times more likely to become the next generation of offenders, we know this is often a direct consequence of family trauma and their struggle to survive.

#### Key Strategic Objectives

- Attract ongoing funding for the family care staff after December 2016 and beyond to positively impact more children and families of prisoners.
- Increase funding and improved links to vocational education for youth 'at-risk'.
- Advocate for the immediate recording and registration of PKs upon imprisonment of the parent.
- Encourage the flow of information between NGO agencies and Families SA.
- Engage a Mentoring Co-ordinator to recruit and train suitable mentors.
- Engage more support from youth groups/Churches for youth 'at-risk'.
- Strengthen the effectiveness of PK Mentoring Camps through building future camp leadership.
- Support the building of communities which support children and families of prisoners.
- Future proof the next generation of prisoners through early intervention crime prevention programs.

### Community

Tax paying citizens expect rehabilitation to be a priority but resources are not allocated in proportion to the enormous need for effective reintegration. Australian culture believes in 'second chances' and 'giving people a fair go' especially for those who truly want to turn around and change their lives. Acceptance and belonging in society is made easier for the prisoner and their family when the community acknowledges the penalty has been paid. Societal attitudes need to adopt a restorative justice approach so the needs of the victim, offender and the community can be fully met.

#### Key Strategic Objectives

- Expand community education regarding the healing power of restorative justice.
- Engage Churches and service clubs to assist with 'Restoring Hope – Restoring Communities' through regular speaking appointments.
- Increase our influence with the community to change political will effecting prison reform State Policy and Legislation.
- Raise profile of Second Chances SA and 'Restoring Hope – Restoring Communities' programs.
- Influence communities for practical supports for individuals upon their release.
- Attract an increase in community support through financial donations and contributions.

## Our Foundations

Good Governance

Volunteers

Social Enterprises

Restorative Justice

Faith

## RESTORING HOPE in SA's FUTURE

The people we reach are ignored and shunned by the community. Children of prisoners are forgotten and overlooked by most. Community apathy and ignorance cloud our understanding. The crime problem continues with little focus on individual change due to inadequate and low priorities in resourcing NGOs in the community. We are well equipped to help achieve a seamless transition for ex-offenders to become of law abiding, tax paying citizens.

We are cognizant of the South Australian Strategic Plan and our priorities contribute to several of its targets.

The SA Government has seven key initiatives for South Australia, two of which Second Chances SA has already aligned itself- 'Every chance for every child' and 'Renewing our neighbourhoods to make them safe and healthy'.

Our Key Strategic Objectives point towards 'Restoring Hope- Restoring Communities' by strategically improving our key objectives within the portfolios of prisoners, children, families and community.

## BACKGROUND CREDENTIALS

As from 1 February 2015, Second Chances SA was fortunate to have staff and volunteers who had a long history for many years in the prison arena. They have participated in the delivery of a range of prisoner and family programs.

Our staff and volunteers have had significant experience in other prisoner support organisations.

They have been involved for up to 30 years in the development of effective prisoner visitation, storage of prisoner property, banking for prisoners, Mentoring Camps, Birthday and Christmas presents.

Second Chances Op Shop and Second Chances Furniture Warehouse help give things as well as people a 'second chance'.

## STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

### SECOND CHANCES SA IN THE COMMUNITY:

Seek high profile individuals to endorse the ministry and positively influence public and corporate opinion. Maximise this opportunity through the role of the PK Community Advocate.

### VISIBLE HEADQUARTERS:

Examine the viability of establishing a new ground floor home base location for a Second Chances SA headquarters on a visible traffic corridor which will enhance promotion through physical signage advertising.

### New SOCIAL ENTERPRISES:

Explore a range of new entrepreneurial opportunities for wealth creation to support the ministry and to include the training and employment of former prisoners.

### New PARTNERSHIPS:

Examine collaboration and feasibility of working partnerships/networks to achieve agreed goals with other NGOs with similar values.

### SAFE REINTEGRATION OF PRISONERS INTO THE COMMUNITY:

Explore best practice in providing practical and essential rehabilitative measures for the successful reintegration of prisoners into the community.

### EARLY INTERVENTION CRIME PREVENTION:

Explore best practice in strengthening and sustaining the delivery of early intervention programs for youth affected by crime and imprisonment.

### RESTORATIVE JUSTICE:

Investigate the implementation of hope based restorative justice programs in SA prisons and in the community.

### HOPE BASED MENTORING AND LIFE SKILLING:

Exhaust every avenue to effect positive change in prisoners through pre-release and post-release mentoring and life skilling.