

This is a printer friendly version of an article from the **The Montgomery Advertiser**
To print this article open the file menu and choose Print.

[Back](#)

Program aims to help inmates adjust to life

April 10, 2007

The Alabama Department of Corrections is starting a new re-entry program designed to help inmates adjust to life outside of prison, Commissioner Richard Allen said Monday.

The program will attempt to help inmates find the information and necessary resources to get back on their feet, helping with tasks such as obtaining a birth certificate, a Social Security card, a driver's license and a GED Certificate.

The new transition program is based on one currently in place for people living with HIV or AIDS within the corrections system. It will be supervised by Elana M. Parker, an employee with the Alabama Department of Public Health who is working with ADOC for two years.

The state has 28,000 prisoners on its rolls, and ADOC estimates that more than 95 percent of those will eventually leave prison.

Studies have shown that without a sound re-entry plan and support from the home community, many inmates will return to prison within 12 months after release. Recidivism rates are lower for those who transition back into society with re-entry services.
