

## Helping to educate Georgia citizens.

**Academic Education** provides academic development learning opportunities consisting of three educational levels:

- [Functional Literacy \(L/RR\)](#)
- [Adult Basic Education \(ABE\)](#)
- [Preparation for the General Education Diploma \(GED\)](#)

## Family Reunification

Inherent in the reentry process is to make the **family** a viable part of the offenders rehabilitation. Family support upon release is critical to a successful reentry. By utilizing “Family Day” programs at the centers, family members are made aware of ways to aid the offender in reentry rather than “enable” old crime producing behaviors.

## Faith and Character

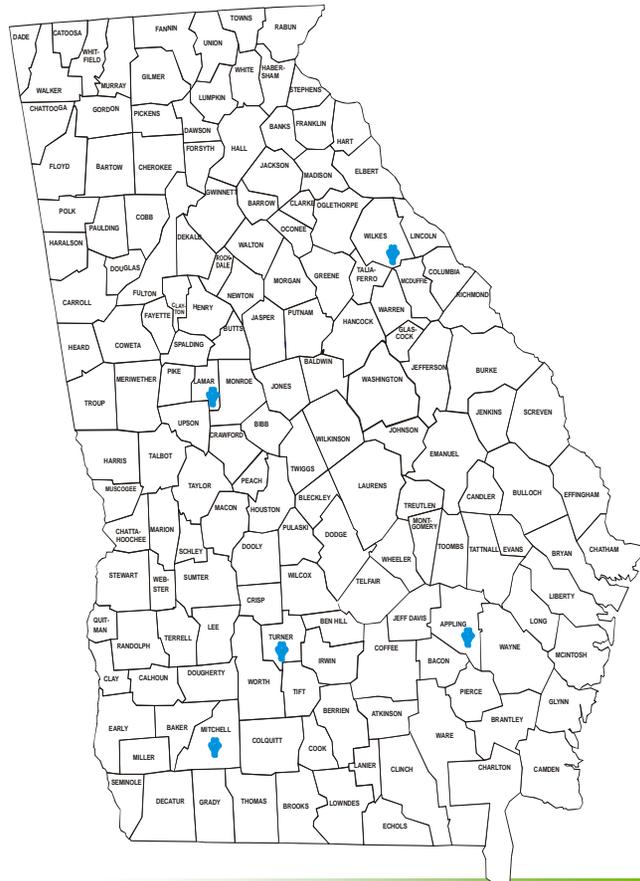
The transition to community is often a difficult and scary proposition for an offender. Faith and Character Based programs will be available to offenders placed in a PRC. These programs rely heavily on community volunteers and can provide an additional support system for offenders upon release.

**Reentry begins at pre-sentence and continues through community reintegration.**

*The Georgia Department of Corrections is committed to providing interventions and services to enable offenders to successfully reunite with their families and become productive citizens of the community.*

## Pre-Release Center Locations

- **Appling**
- **Lamar**
- **Pelham**
- **Turner**



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Department of Corrections  
Operation, Planning and Training  
Division



## Pre-Release Centers Units of State Prisons



James E. Donald  
Commissioner

# Pre-Release Centers

## Mission

The mission of the Pre-Release Centers (PRC) is to address the reentry needs of offenders in order to reduce their risk to re-offend, thereby increasing public safety. These facilities will provide a secure environment in which to target the reentry needs of inmates with **two years or less** to serve.

## Goal

The goals of the PRC is to emphasize work and provide the inmate with work experience. By providing additional work opportunities prior to release, the offender's work ethics will be enhanced .

In addition, two key elements are assisting the inmate in locating suitable housing and meaningful work upon release. In some cases, the expectation is to further facilitate rehabilitation by transitioning the offender to work release programs.

## Proven Effective Interventions

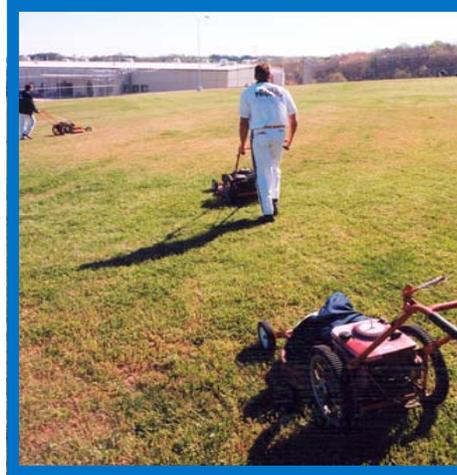
Providing evidence based programs that target crime-producing behavior is an essential element of the PRC. These programs focus on changing criminal thinking and reducing criminal behavior.

Risk factors such as *criminal thinking, substance abuse, low education levels, and lack of employment skills* represent needs, that when addressed, are associated with reductions in recidivism. Assessments are used to identify offenders in need of risk-reduction interventions.

*Success through community partnerships.*

## Intervening for a Safer Georgia

### Program Delivery Areas



**Cognitive-Behavioral** programming provides the following curriculum to change criminal thinking and behavior:

- **Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)** focuses on changing criminal attitudes, beliefs, values, thinking patterns, and behaviors.
- **Thinking for a Change (T4C)** is a cognitive-restructuring and skill-building program focused

**Substance Abuse** services offers programs designed to reduce drug use through the following programming:

- **Motivation for Change (M4C)** is the substance abuse risk reduction course that meets the legislatively mandated requirement for offenders in GDC facilities.
- **Prime For Life (P4L)** is a substance abuse risk reduction curriculum designed to change alcohol/drug use behaviors. P4L meets the legislative mandate for a substance abuse risk reduc-

*Work is a learned behavior.*

## Changing the community, one offender at a time.

**Workforce Development** prepares offenders for employment and is comprised of the following program components:

- **On the Job Training (OJT)** allows offenders to learn skills on work details while at the same time earn technical certificates.
- **Vocational Classroom Training** prepares offenders for employment in various occupational programs that include technical, construction, business and personal care trades.
- **TOPPSTEP** is a collaboration between the Department of Corrections, the Department of Labor, and the Board of Pardons and Paroles, to provide offenders pre-employment workshops and documents needed to obtain employment upon release.
- **Career Centers** provide offenders with an opportunity to develop an employment plan prior to release utilizing the Department of Labor's Interest Profiler.



*Helping those who want to help themselves.*