

# Community Restorative Centre



changing lives  
reducing crime

Head office 174 Broadway BROADWAY NSW 2007  
(cnr Shepherd Street)  
Phone: (02) 9288 8700 Fax: (02) 9211 6518  
[www.crcnsw.org.au](http://www.crcnsw.org.au)

CRC (Community Restorative Centre) is a community organisation in New South Wales dedicated to supporting prisoners, ex-prisoners, and their families and friends. Our staff offer personal and practical assistance such as counselling, accommodation, referral, and a subsidised transport service, as well as a court support service and outreach to jails.

We tackle issues such as drug and alcohol dependence, homelessness, and unemployment, which can put people at risk of crime. We assist those who are experiencing hardship and work with their families and communities, giving them support to develop their skills and build stable, independent lives.

## ***CRC Projects and Services***

### Family Caseworker

The Family Caseworker provides information, referral, counseling, advice and advocacy support to the families and friends of inmates and ex-inmates. Staff based in Sydney and Newcastle.

#### Sydney Family Caseworker

Office hours	9.00am – 5.00pm Mon to Fri – CRC Sydney Office
Area serviced	NSW
Cost of service	Nil
Referral Required	No

#### Hunter Family Caseworker – CRC Hunter Office

Office hours	Part Time (Mon, Tues, Wed 9.00 to 3.30)
Area serviced	Greater Hunter Area and Central Coast
Cost of service	Nil
Referral required	No

## Jailbreak Health Project (incorporating a radio show)

Health Promotion focusing on reducing the risk of transmission of HIV, Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infections. One component of the project is “Jailbreak” – a weekly half-hour radio program for prisoners, their families and supporters. Jailbreak provides information on criminal, prison and health issues as well as connecting prisoners to the community through their views, music and poetry. Jailbreak seeks to raise community awareness about prison as well as providing support and referrals for those affected by prison.

Office Hours                    9.00am to 5.00pm, Mon to Thu – CRC Sydney Office  
Radio Program broadcasts on Tuesdays at 6.00pm in & around Sydney on  
Community radio station 2SER FM 107.3, or can be accessed via the internet at  
[www.2ser.com](http://www.2ser.com)

Area Serviced                NSW (Radio program only available in and around Sydney)  
Cost of service                Nil  
Referral Required            No

## Court Support

Volunteers provide information on court procedures and sources of legal assistance, support for people in court, making referrals to community and government agencies and offering assistance in contacting other services.

Office Hours                Contact reception 9.00am to 5.00pm Mon – Fri – CRC Sydney Office  
Area serviced                Currently operating in the following Courts: Balmain, Bankstown,  
Burwood, Cobham Children’s Court, Downing Centre, Gosford, Kogarah, Manly, Mount  
Druitt, Newtown, Nth Sydney, Parramatta, Penrith and Sutherland Local Courts and Par-  
ramatta Family Court.  
Cost of service                Nil  
Referral Required            No

Other details  
This service does not provide legal advice.

## Transport to Jail Service

Providing low cost bus services to rural Correctional Centres where public transport is expensive or inadequate. The bus service currently operates between Sydney and Berri-  
rimala, Goulburn, Cessnock, Oberon, Junee, Bathurst, Lithgow, St Heliers and Kirkconnell  
Correctional Centres.

The service also offers information on accommodation for visitors to country and metro-  
politan prisons.

Office Hours 9.00am to 5.00pm, Mon to Fri – CRC Sydney Office

Service available Sat & Sun, visiting most centres on a fortnightly basis. Timetable is  
available from website.

Area serviced NSW

Cost of service \$15.00 for a return trip, \$5.00 for children for all services except  
Junee, which is a FREE service.

Referral Required No

Other details

Bookings required.

## MERIT: Transition and Aftercare Alcohol and Other Drugs Support Project

The project will work in partnership with the Summer Hill and Downing Centre MERIT  
Offices in the delivery of services to clients. Service priority will be given to clients iden-  
tified by MERIT as high risk, have complex needs and agree to continued support.

The support period will range from 3 – 6 months dependant on identified need, with  
ongoing support provided to those clients who continue to engage in the voluntary sup-  
port and /or present with ongoing needs that can only be met by a service such as CRC.

Wherever possible, the TAADS will work towards assisting the clients to engage with  
mainstream support services, to ensure that sustainability is built into client's progress.

Office Hours 9.00am to 5.00pm, Mon to Fri – CRC Sydney Office

Area serviced Sydney South West Area Health Region

Cost of service Nil

Referral Required yes – via Summer Hill and Downing Centre MERIT Office staff.

## Sydney - Transitional Support Project (for men and women)

Provides support and case management to men and women transitioning from prison to the wider community. The Transitional Workers meet with clients approximately three months before release to identify post-release needs. These needs generally include accommodation, employment, welfare, drug and alcohol, debt, relationships and adjusting to life on the outside. Transitional Workers support clients through the stressful transition period with the goal of clients establishing themselves in their community thus reducing the likelihood of the clients re-offending and returning to prison.

Office hours	9.00am to 5.00pm, Mon to Fri – CRC Sydney Office
Areas serviced	Sydney - Metropolitan Areas
Cost of service	Nil
Referral Required	Yes – via Welfare, Probation & Parole or other Agency for assessment, minimum of 3 months prior to release. Assessments can only be conducted at Sydney based Correctional Centres. Self Referrals prior to release from custody also accepted.

## Hunter - Transitional Support Worker (for men only)

The Transitional Support Worker provides support and case management to men transitioning from prison to the wider community. The Worker meets with clients up to three months before release to identify post-release needs. These needs generally include accommodation, employment, welfare, drug and alcohol, debt, relationships and adjusting to life on the outside. The Transitional Worker supports clients through the stressful transition period with the goal of clients establishing themselves in their community thus reducing the likelihood of the clients re-offending and returning to prison.

Office Hours	9.00am to 5.00pm, Mon to Fri – CRC Hunter Office
Areas serviced	Greater Hunter Area and Central Coast
Cost of service	Nil
Referral required	Yes - Via Welfare or Probation & Parole Staff at Cessnock & St. Heliers Correctional Centres, minimum of 3 months prior to release.

## CRC Accommodation Services (Men's Housing Project)

Referrals accepted via Newtown & Sydney City Probation and Parole Offices &/or from Foster House.

Provides supported accommodation assistance to people at risk of homelessness following release from custody. Men staying in selected crisis hostels will be assessed for short, medium and long term supported housing. Residents are offered counselling, advice and information on employment, job training and education courses, assisting them to settle back into the community & maintain their own independent tenancies. Assistance with long term accommodation through Dept. of Housing and community tenancy schemes.

Office Hours	9.00am to 5.00pm, Mon to Fri – CRC Sydney Office
Area serviced	NSW
Cost of service	Service is free other than Rent
Referral Required	Yes – via Probation & Parole services prior to release from custody, or via Newtown and Sydney City Probation & Parole offices, and Foster House. Self Referrals prior to release from custody also accepted.

## Women's Housing Project

Support and advocacy for women released or being released from the prison system. Assistance with finding affordable accommodation and providing ongoing support for up to a year. Provides support for clients with Dept. of Housing and private accommodation issues. This project works with single women, couples and families.

Office Hours	9.00am to 5.00pm, Mon to Fri – CRC Sydney Office
Area serviced	Sydney
Cost of service	Nil
Referral Required	Yes – via staff at Dillwynia, Emu Plains, Mulawa and Berrima correctional centres and Guthrie House. Self-Referrals prior to release from custody also accepted.

# CONNECT - Supporting Families of Prisoners

The Connect project aims to raise awareness about the extreme disadvantage experienced by women supporting a family member in prison. The project will provide training and resources to local government and non-government agencies, to enable them to develop appropriate, targeted services to meet the needs of families of prisoners and will also develop multisectorial partnerships to address recognised social determinates of health for this highly disadvantaged and socially excluded group of women.

CONNECT is currently working in the Bankstown, Fairfield, Blacktown, Gosford and Wyong local government areas.

Based at Woodville Community Services Quakers Hill Family Centre

Kamira Court, Villawood 32 Highfield Rd

PO Box 468 PO Box 146

Villawood NSW 2163 Quakers Hill NSW 2763

Ph: (02) 9724 3807 Ph: (02) 9626 6620

Fax: (02) 9726 0325 Fax: (02) 9837 2288

Mobile: 0429 609 340 Mobile: 0429 609 340

Email: [connect@woodville.org.au](mailto:connect@woodville.org.au)

[melanie.trail@wesleymission.org.au](mailto:melanie.trail@wesleymission.org.au)

org.au

Office Hours	Mon, Tue, Wed	Thurs, Fri
Area serviced	Bankstown / Fairfield LGA's	Blacktown LGA
Cost of service	Nil	
Referral Required	No	

Based at Horizons Family Support Service

PO Box 88

The Entrance

NSW 2161

Ph: (02) 4333 5111

Fax: (02) 4333 5122

Mobile: 0420 963 930

Office Hours	Mon, Tues, Wed
Area Serviced	Gosford / Wyong LGA's
Cost of service	Nil
Referral Required	No

## Parolee Support Initiative

The Parolee Support Initiative (PSI) provides comprehensive support to parolees with an intellectual disability and/or mental health issues throughout their period of transition from custody back into the community, with the explicit aim of successful community integration.

Office Hours	9.00 - 5.00 Monday to Friday
Area serviced	Western Sydney
Cost of service	Nil
Referral Required	Yes
	Based in Fairfield - Telephone: 9754-6861

## Intake Service

CRC provides an information, advocacy and referral service for people in crisis via telephone. Staff are able to assist with matters such as finding emergency accommodation, referral for financial assistance, mediation between clients and other agencies (ie. Centrelink, Dept. of Housing) and crisis counselling.

INTAKE ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE VIA TELEPHONE ONLY  
PH: 02 9288 8700

Service Hours	9.00am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 5.00pm Monday to Friday
Area Serviced	NSW (Based in Broadway)
Cost of Service	Nil