

Lee County Reentry Resource Guide 2017



Tools for a Successful Reentry

Hotline Legal Assistance Housing Emergency Shelters Florida Department of Children and Families DCF Customer Service Centers Education Lee County Colleges Employment Assistance Other Services Health Care Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment Dual Diagnosis and Mental Health Faith Based Organizations

Make a Plan. Use the Tools. Change your Life!!!

Finances Emergency Services Transportation for the Disadvantaged Hotline Legal Assistance Housing Emergency Shelters Florida Department of Children and Families DCF Customer Service Centers Education Lee County Colleges Employment Assistance Other Services Health Care Emergency Services Hotlines

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Introduction

“A bend in the road is not the end of the road... unless you fail to make the turn.”
~ *Unknown*

One of the important objectives of the Lee County Public Safety Council’s reintegration strategy is to provide organizations working with inmates, formerly incarcerated people, and their families with a resource directory in support of successful reentry and enhanced public safety. The reintegration subcommittee of the Lee County Public Safety Council has worked in collaboration with the Lee County Homeless Coalition and the Florida Gulf Coast University College of Health Professions Senior Seminar class to produce this guide. We hope to effectively reintegrate ex-offenders back into their communities and improve the public safety.

The purpose of this resource guide is to serve as a tool to connect you with the people and programs who sincerely want to help you succeed. We’ve tried our best to include accurate and helpful information. It does not contain all the services which may be available to assist you or guarantee services are still available. We hope that you will use this resource guide to get in touch with the programs in Lee County that are here to steer you toward success in reentering the community.



The Lee County Homeless Coalition is a not for profit organization. We are an advocacy group made up of community and faith-based service providers, local businesses, people who are currently experiencing or who have experienced homelessness, and other advocates committed to ending homelessness. Mission Statement: To advocate, educate, and promote awareness of issues and obstacles facing homeless individuals in Lee County through community collaboration, planning and implementing solutions.

Preparing For Your Release

While you are in prison:

- ✓ Develop your personal strategic plan.
- ✓ Participate in education programs – Get your GED.
- ✓ Address personal issues through treatment for addictions and mental health counseling.
- ✓ Modify (change) your child support order, if needed.
- ✓ Work toward finding a positive place to live when released.
- ✓ Apply for government benefits as soon as you can.
- ✓ Keep in touch with family members.
- ✓ See if family members can send you clothing for your release (check with your institution).
- ✓ Get a Social Security card and birth certificate.
- ✓ Develop a resume – seek assistance if necessary.
- ✓ Practice completing applications and job interviewing.
- ✓ Work with your case manager to prepare for your release.

Benefits of Hiring an Ex-Offender

- ✓ Federal Tax Credit for employer
- ✓ Federal Bonding Programs provides insurance for employer
- ✓ Reliable and timely employee
- ✓ Skilled employees
- ✓ Work productivity may increase due to point of contact for the ex-offender and drug testing
- ✓ Ex-offender is now contributing towards the community since he or she is now a tax-paying citizen
- ✓ Ex-offender is less likely to recidivate and become a more productive member of society

First Steps after Release

When you are released, take it one day at a time:

- ✓ Contact a reentry program and/or an employment program and make reason for contact clear and precise.
- ✓ Show respect and appreciation to all persons contacted for resources.
- ✓ Follow through with directions and advice given.
- ✓ Stay in a positive living situation.
- ✓ Get proper clothing and food.
- ✓ Find your way around – know the bus system.
- ✓ Get a birth certificate if you don't have one.
- ✓ Get a photo ID/driver's license.
- ✓ Get your Social Security card if you don't have one.
- ✓ Sign up for government benefits.
- ✓ Keep in touch with and report to your parole officer as required.
- ✓ Take care of health and dental needs.
- ✓ Take care of mental health needs.
- ✓ Get help for alcohol or other drug abuse.
- ✓ Make arrangements for child support.
- ✓ Take care of childcare or parenting needs.
- ✓ Get more training or education.
- ✓ Get civil rights restored.
- ✓ Clean up your record and get legal help if needed.
- ✓ Clean up your credit and spend money wisely.

24 Hour Hotlines

Name	Address	Phone
D.C.F. Child Abuse	www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/abuse/	(800) 962-2873
Mental Health/ Substance Abuse Help Line	SalusCare 2789 Ortiz Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33905 www.saluscareflorida.org	(239) 275-3222
Abuse Counseling and Treatment	Counseling, Safe Place (Spanish Interpreters Available) www.actabuse.com	(239) 939-3112
United Way	7273 Concourse Way, Fort Myers, FL 33908 www.unitedwaylee.org	Dial 211
Florida AIDS/HIV Hotline	http://211bigbend.net/hotline-history.html	English (800) 352-2437 Spanish (800) 545-7432 Creole (800) 2437-101 TTY (888) 503-7118
VA Clinic	Hotline	(800) 827-1000

Legal Assistance

Florida Bar Lawyer Referral Service	2077 First St., Suite 207, Fort Myers, FL 33901 www.leebar.org/wp-content/uploads	(239) 334-0047
Public Defender Office	2000 Main St., 3 rd Floor, Fort Myers, FL 33901 http://www.pd.cjis20.org	(239) 553-2911
Lee County Justice Center Probation Dept.	1700 Monroe St., 3 rd Floor, Fort Myers, FL 33901 http://www.ca.cjis20.org	(239) 533-9199
Lee County Bar Assn. Legal Aid Society	2211 Widman Way, Suite 600, Fort Myers, FL 33901 http://www.leecountylegalaid.org/	(239) 334-6118
Florida Rural Legal Services (Low Income)	3210 Cleveland Ave., Suite 101, Fort Myers, FL 33902 http://frls.org/	(239) 334-4554

Homeless\Low Income Services

Lee County Homeless Coalition	Download the Lee County Pocket Guide to Emergency Assistance. http://www.leehomeless.org/	(239) 322-6600
Cafe of Life - Bonita Springs	26724 Nomad Dr., Bonita Springs, FL 34135 Food Served by The Salvation Army Monday - Friday http://www.cafeoflife.org	(239) 495-9325
Fort Myers Rescue Mission - Fort Myers	6900 Mission Ln., Fort Myers, FL. 33916 Shelter for Men www.fortmyersrescuemission.org	(239) 334-7365
Lehigh Community Services - Lehigh Acres	201 Plaza Drive, Suite 103, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936 Emergency assistance with food is our first priority. Past Due Notice Required when seeking financial assistance for rent, electric, and water- By Appointment Only www.lehighcommunityservices.com	(239) 369-5818
Salvation Army - Fort Myers	2400 Edison Ave., Fort Myers, FL. 33901 Men's Rehab, Women/Children Shelter, Food Pantry, Corrections www.salvationarmyleecounty.org	(239) 334-3745
St Vincent de Paul Society - Fort Myers	2073 Lafayette St., Fort Myers, FL. 33901 Food Pantry, Utilities, Prescriptions www.svdpusa.org	(239) 334-9225
Habitat for Humanity	31 Willis Rd., North Fort Myers, FL 33917 Housing http://www.habitat.org	(239) 652-0388
Cape Coral Caring Center	4645 SE 15th Ave., Cape Coral, FL 33910 Food Pantry for Cape Coral Residents ONLY Electric bill assistance (when funds are available) www.capecoralcaringcenter.org	(239) 945-1927
Catholic Charities	4235 Michigan Link Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33916 Groceries once every 30 days www.catholiccharitiesdov.org	(239) 337-4193

Department of Children's and Families

For families that need help with their financial, medical or food needs may apply for assistance:

- From any computer with an Internet connection at:
<http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida> or (866) 762-2237
- At the Department of Children and Families ACCESS Florida community partners.
http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/docs/partner_listing.pdf
- At a Department of Children and Families ACCESS Florida Customer Service Center.
- A listing of Customer Service Centers can be found online at:
<http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/index.shtml#svcctrs>

Eligibility Requirements:

- Each application is different, but here are some examples of what you may need to know:
 - Personal information about each person you are applying for, such as their date-of-birth,
 - Social security number, where they were born and if they are pregnant.
 - Information about household expenses such as rent, mortgage and utilities.
 - Information about any vehicles.
 - Information about any assets like bank accounts, savings bonds or cash on hand.
 - Information about any income. The income can be earned like salary at a job, or unearned
 - i.e. child support payments or payments from social security.
 - US Citizenship or eligible non-citizen status, age, identity, Florida residency, etc.
- Languages Spoken: English, Spanish and Creole. Interpreters are available upon request.

DCF Customer Service Center

Name	Address	Phone
Fort Myers Service Center	2295 Victoria Ave - Room 110, Fort Myers, FL. 33901 http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/regions/c20/index.shtml To apply for Benefits call: DCF ACCESS FLORIDA INFORMATION LINE Or visit this website and click on "Apply On-line Now" http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/access/servicecenters.shtml SCR.C20.Client.Relations@myflfamilies.com	(866) 762-2237 Fax (866) 886-4342 Client Relations (239) 895-0231

Employment Assistance

Employ Florida Marketplace	Employment Website https://www.employflorida.com/	
Career Source SWFL	4150 Ford Street Extension, Fort Myers, FL 33916 Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Satellite Office 1020 Cultural Park Blvd., Bldg. 2, Cape Coral, FL 33915 www.careersourcesouthwestflorida.com	(239) 931-8200 (800) 557-3242 (239) 673-8591
Goodwill Industries of SWF	5100 Tice Street, Fort Myers, FL 33916 Workforce readiness training, retail training, resume preparation, assistance with obtaining and maintaining employment www.goodwillswfl.org	(239) 995-2106
Vocational Rehabilitation	5264 Summerlin Commons Way S#404, Fort Myers, FL 33907 1031 SE 9th Place, Suite 1, Cape Coral, FL. 33990 Employment opportunities and training for the disabled http://www.rehabworks.org	(239) 278-7150 (239) 772-6968
Labor Finders	3814 Palm Beach Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33916 Monday – Friday 5:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. www.laborfinders.com	(239) 334-1964 Fax (239) 334-0589

Dual Diagnosis and Mental Health

National Alliance on Mental Illness	7275 Concourse Dr., Suite 300, Fort Myers, FL 33912 Support groups, education and advocacy for individuals with MH diagnosis and their families info@namilee.org	(239) 337-9024
Park Royal Hospital	9241 Park Royal Dr., Fort Myers, FL Crisis Center	(239) 985-2700
SalusCare, Inc.	2789 Ortiz Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33905 3763 Evans Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33905 – <i>Permanent supportive housing for persons with mental illness and or substance abuse related family service programs, inpatient and outpatient – drug and alcohol detox.</i> www.saluscareflorida.org	(239) 275-3222

Education

Vocational Rehabilitation	5264 Summerlin Commons Way,#404, Ft. Myers, FL 33907 1031 SE 9th Place, Suite 1, Cape Coral, FL. 33990 Education opportunities for the Disabled Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. www.rehabworks.org	(239) 278-7150 (239) 772-6983
Cape Coral Technical College	360 Santa Barbara Blvd. N., Cape Coral, FL 33993 Occupational, technical training, job preparation, adult education www.capecoraltech.edu	(239) 574-4440
Fort Myers Technical College	3800 Michigan Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33916 Occupational, technical training, job preparation, adult education www.fortmyerstech.edu	(239) 334-4544
Literacy Council of the Gulf Coast	FREE: Learn to read and write English: Bonita Springs, San Carlos Park, Estero, Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres, Cape Coral, Sanibel and North Naples http://www.literacygulfcoast.org	(239) 676-5202
School District of Lee County	2855 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33966 Project Access OPEN: M-F 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. shennat@leeschools.net or RaniceM@leeschools.net	(239) 337-8333 (239) 335-1485

Dental & Health Care – Health Insurance

American Cancer Society	4575 Via Royale, Suite 110, Fort Myers, FL 33919 Patient Services	(239) 936-1113 (800) 227-2345
Blind Services	2830 Winkler Ave., Suite 207, Fort Myers, FL 33901 http://dbs.myflorida.com	(239) 278-7130
Cape Coral Hospital Lee Health	636 Del Prado Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33990 www.leememorial.org	(239) 424-2000

Family Health Centers of SWFL	2256 Heitman St., Fort Myers, FL 33901 www.fhcswf.org/fhcswf.htm Certified Application Counselors to assist with Health Insurance	Pharmacy (239) 278-3600 (239) 344-2310 (239) 931-3875
FL Southwestern State College	Dental Hygiene Clinic – 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33916	(239) 985-8334 (800) 749-2322
Gulf Coast Medical Center	13681 Doctor’s Way, Fort Myers, FL 33912 www.leememorial.org	(239) 343-1000
Lee County Health Dept.	3920 Michigan Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33916 83 Pondella Rd., #1, North Fort Myers, FL 33903 WIC, Healthy Start, Immunizations, STD, Dental Program www.leechd.com	(239) 332-9501 (239) 461-6100
Lee Memorial Hospital	2776 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901 www.leememorial.org	(239) 343-2000
Lehigh Regional Medical Center	1500 Lee Blvd., Lehigh Acres, FL 33936 http://www.lehighregional.com/default.aspx	(239) 369-2101
Project Dentist Care	Dr. Truax- Wednesday 5-9 p.m. / Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon 2051 McGregor, Fort Myers, FL	(239)561-1949
Salvation Army Family Health Centers	2400 Edison Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901 Health Care for Homeless Clinic – call for appointment http://www.fhcswf.org	(239) 334-2510
The McGregor Clinic	3487 Broadway, Fort Myers, FL 33901 Primary medical care for persons living with HIV/AIDS - <i>Call for appt.</i> www.info@mcgregorclinic.org or www.mcgregorclinic.org	(239) 334-9555
Prescription Drug Helpline	Assistance to Medicaid and low-income Medicare beneficiaries whose necessary medications have been denied http://www.floridalegal.org/drughelpline/index.htm	(800) 436-6001
United Way	Certified Application Counselors to assist with health insurance	(239)433-3900
VA Clinic	2489 Diplomat Parkway, East, Cape Coral, FL 33909 Homeless program services for Veterans who qualify for VA healthcare Enrollment for health benefits, request discharge paperwork, drug-alcohol treatment referrals, emergency housing, and domiciliary referrals Healthcare Center Benefits Information	(239) 652-1800 (800) 827-1000

Verity Pregnancy & Resource Center	8890 Salrose Lane, Suite 140, Fort Myers, FL 33912 Unwanted pregnancies - all services at no cost. http://www.Veritypmc.com	(239) 433-1929
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Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment

Referral Service	Substance Abuse Facilities, Low Income	(800) 662-4357
Aim Target Programs, Inc.	3677 Central Ave., Suite H, Fort Myers, FL 33901 Sliding Fee Scale, Random Drug Testing, Domestic Violence, Anger Management, Substance Abuse, Women's Batterers Intervention Classes, Spanish Classes	(239) 939-3363
Alcoholics Anonymous	12734 Kenwood Ln., Suite 79, Fort Myers, FL 33907 www.leecountyaa.org	(239) 275-5111
Grace Church Celebrate Recovery	13 SE 21st Pl., Cape Coral, FL 33990 Friday at 6:45 p.m. (dinner served prior to program)	(239) 574-7161
Lutheran Services FL, Inc.	3615 Central Ave., Suite 4, Ft. Myers, FL 33901 www.lsfnet.org	(239) 275-1126
SalusCare, Inc.	3763 Evans Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33901 Provides detoxification, outpatient and residential programs www.saluscareflorida.org	(239) 332-6937
Teen Challenge	1805 Cypress Dr., Fort Myers, FL 33907 www.teenchallenge.cc	(239) 277-0081
The Crossroads Program	The Salvation Army 2400 Edison Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901 www.salvationarmyleecounty.org/Programs-Services/crossroads.html	(239) 334-3745

Faith-Based Organizations

All Souls Episcopal Church	1460 N. Cleveland Ave., North Fort Myers, FL Free Meal on Wednesdays 10:30-11:00 a.m.	(239) 997-7685
CityGate Ministries	1735 Jackson Street, Fort Myers, FL 33907 Clothing, Recover Groups, Bike Program Showers, Food, Family Health Center Kiosk www.firstbaptistfm.org	(239)334-7747

Fort Myers Christian Outreach Center	3500 Fowler St., Fort Myers, FL 33901 Food, Clothing, Child care, Counseling, Education, Recovery Groups	(239) 481-6262
Grace Community Church	4151 Hancock Bridge Pkwy., North Fort Myers, FL 33903 Food, Clothing, Counseling, Recovery Groups, Education www.gracechurch.com/about-us	(239)574-7161
Integrity Houses	3044 Broadway Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901 Transitional home, low income housing, counselling, substance abuse welcome www.integrityhouses.org	(774) 316-6740
Jobe's House	Fort Myers men's 12-step recovery program. Life skills, employment assistance – transportation to/from appointments. Rent TBD	(239) 896-2947
Lucy's Love and Light Ministries	2900 N. Tamiami Trail, North Fort Myers, FL 33917 (Located on the Living Word Ministries property) Food Pantry on Tuesdays 7:00-9:00 p.m. and Outreach Services the last Saturday of each month	(239) 321-1543
Messiah Lutheran Church	2691 NE Pine Island Rd., Cape Coral, FL 33909 Child care, Recovery Groups, Education www.messiahnm.org	(239) 995-0133
We Care Outreach	4231 Desoto Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33905 Food, Clothing, Counseling, Recovery Groups	(239) 693-7911
Zion Lutheran Church	7401 Winkler Rd., Fort Myers, FL 33919 Food, Recovery Groups http://www.zionfm.org	(239) 481-4040

Financial Assistance

21st Century C.A.R.E.	2234 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33907 Cancer patient financial aid www.21stcenturycare.org	(239) 936-3756
Bonita Springs Assistance Office	25300 Bernwood Dr., Suite 6, Bonita Springs, FL 34135 www.bonitaassistance.org	(239) 992-3034
The Cape Coral Caring Center	4645 Southeast 15th Ave., Cape Coral, FL 33904 Food, Electric Bill Assistance (when funds are available) www.capecoralcaringcenter.org	(239) 945-1927

DCF- ACCESS Program	2295 Victoria Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901 Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Medicaid www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/access	(239) 936-5000
Lee County Dept. of Human and Veteran Services	2440 Thompson St., Fort Myers, FL 33901 Housing, other http://dhs.leegov.com	(239) 533-7900
Interfaith Caregivers of South Lee	17592 Rockefeller Circle, Fort Myers, FL. 33967 Food, Financial Assistance www.icslee.org/	(239) 267-3510
Lee County WIC Program	5624 8th Street, West, Suite 106, Fort Myers, FL. 33971 83 Pondella Rd, North Fort Myers, FL. 33903 WIC Checks -Food for Pregnant Women, Infants and Children http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdlee/WIC/index.html	239-344-2000

Emergency Services

Cape Coral Police Department	1100 Cultural Parkway, Cape Coral, FL 33990	(239) 574-3222
Fort Myers Police Department	2210 Widman Way, Fort Myers, FL 33901	(239) 321-7700
Lee County Sheriff Dept.	14750 Six Mile Cypress, Fort Myers, FL. 33912 www.sheriffleefl.org	Emergency 911 (239) 477-1000
Emergency Medical Services		Emergency: 9-1-1

Transportation for the Disadvantaged

Cape Coral Mini-Bus Service	400 Santa Barbara Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33991 Transportation for disabled and elderly (Appt. 2 days' notice for Cape Coral residents only) mhammer@capecoral.net / www.capecorals.com	(239) 574-0573
F.I.S.H Pine Island	Services for Pine Island and Matlacha residents only	(239) 283-4442
F.I.S.H. Sanibel	1630 Periwinkle Way, Suite B, Sanibel Island, FL 33947 Medical Transportation, Meal Delivery, Health Equipment http://fishofsanibel.com	(239) 472-4775

Goodwill Industries -Four Wheels for Work	3333 Fowler St., Fort Myers, FL. 33901 http://www.goodwillswfl.org/fourwheelsforwork	(239) 936-4861
Good Wheels	10075 Bavaria Rd., Fort Myers, FL. 33913 http://www.goodwheels.org/index.html	(239) 768-7190 (800) 741-1570
Lee Tran (Lee County Transit)	6035 Landing View Rd., Fort Myers, FL. 33907 http://www.rideleetrans.com	(239) 533-8726 (239) LEE-TRAN

Other Services

Social Security (SS) SSI (Supplemental Security Income) SSI (Social Security Disability Ins.) SSDI	10100 Deer Run Farms Rd, Fort Myers, FL 33966 Social Security Card, Proof of Income, Disability http://www.ssa.gov/	(800) 772-1213 (888) 318-9114
Department of Motor Vehicles	1039 9 th Ave. Cape Coral 33990 2480 Thompson St. Fort Myers 33901 3114 Lee Blvd. Bld. Suite 6, Lehigh Acres 33971 4048 Evans Ave., Fort Myers 33901 360 Santa Barbara Blvd., Cape Coral 33991 10041 Daniels Pkwy., Fort Myers 33913 15201 N. Cleveland Ave., North Fort Myers 33903 17105 San Carlos Blvd., #F-3, Fort Myers Beach 33931 http://www.dmvflorida.org/lee.shtml	(239) 533-6000 Customer Service (850) 617-2000
Department of Veteran Affairs	Healthcare Center Benefits Information 2489 Diplomat Pkwy., East, Cape Coral, FL 33909 Homeless program services for Veterans who qualify for VA Healthcare: Enrollment for health benefits, request discharge paperwork, drug-alcohol treatment referrals, emergency housing, and domiciliary referrals	(239) 652-1800 (800) 827-1000 (239) 223-4718 or 470-1729

Lee County Veteran Affairs	2440 Thompson St., Fort Myers, FL 33901 www.leecounty.com/gov/dept/VeteransServices	(800) 827-1000 (239) 533-8381
Vital Statistics/Birth Certificates	83 Pondella Rd., North Fort Myers, FL 33903 3920 Michigan Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33916 http://leechd.com/	(239) 332-9572 (239) 344-2000