Reentry Services and Resources for Arizona

**General Resources**

Department of Corrections

<http://www.azcorrections.gov/>

Reentry in Arizona & Oregon: A Practical Approach to Promote Safer Communities through Successful Reintegration Strategies

<https://cabhp.asu.edu/files/presentations/center-hosted-presentations/arizona-specialty-court-2011/reentry-in-arizona>

Weed and Seed Reentry Initiative (2010)

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/az/reports/Newsletter/LECC_WS_Reentry_Initiative_Report_2010.pdf>

Yavapai Reentry Program

<http://www.prisoneducation.com/prison-education-news/2012/1/7/yavapai-reentry-program-helping-arizona-inmates-reenter-into.html>

National Reentry Resource Center

<http://www.nationalreentryresourcecenter.org/search?q=&state=Arizona&tags=Arizona>

Arizona Community Information and Referral Services

<http://www.cir.org/reentry/>

Fairly inclusive website with links to programs for individuals releasing from custody, including education, mentoring services, and legal assistance. The website also includes links to counseling programs, residential and employment programs and assistance, and support groups for individuals and families.

Reentry Coalition

<http://www.reentrycoalition.ohio.gov/pages/coalitions/montgomery/FINAL%20Pre-Post%20report%205-11-09.pdf>

Arizona:

The State of Arizona has poured 2-3 billion dollars into new prisons. They recently analyzed what was driving the prison growth and through a bi-partisan government effort proposed and passed a bill in 2008 that allowed for monies and other incentives to be awarded to both offenders and local probation departments for success. Offenders who perform well under probation supervision receive 20 days for every 30 days they are in compliance. The probation departments are measured for a decrease in revocations and if crime rates decrease they are awarded monies to put back into the probation department.

Probation and Sentence Reforms

<http://www.asca.net/system/assets/attachments/3702/1110SENTENCINGREFORM.pdf?1319987360>

Other states have incorporated “earned time” credits into their probation practices. Arizona did so by passing the Safe Communities Act after a 2008 analysis estimated that the state prison population would grow by 50 percent in a decade and require the state to build space for 17,000 new prison beds at a cost of $2 billion to $3 billion. A high rate of probation failures was identified as an important contributor to this growth. Before the act’s passage, the state was sending around 4,000 probationers back to prison each year for violating supervision terms, at a cost of approximately $100 million. To reduce recidivism rates, the law helped focus probation supervision on high-risk offenders by creating earned time credits for probationers who comply with the terms of their supervision. Under the law, offenders can earn 20 days off of their probation term for every month that they meet restitution payments and community service assignments, but they lose those credits if they are arrested. Consequently, lower-risk offenders who meet their obligations earn release earlier and probation officers can focus their resources on higher risk offenders. In 2010, Arizona released data showing that the number of probationers convicted for new felonies had declined by 31 percent, and that the overall number of probation revocations had dropped by 29 percent since passage of the Act. Moreover, these declines occurred despite the state’s overall increase in the number of offenders on parole, from 82,576 to 85,144, and despite the increase in the ratio of probation officers’ caseloads, from 60:1 to 65:1.

Pew Center on the States, “The Impact of Arizona’s Probation Reforms,” *Issue Brief*, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Washington, DC: March 2011, 1.

“The Impact of Arizona’s Probation Reforms,” March 2011.

Arizona Senate Bill 1476 (2008).

Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts, Adult Probation Services Division, *Arizona Adult Probation: Probation Revocation & Crime Reduction Report Fiscal Year 2010,* November 2010.

“The Impact of Arizona’s Probation Reforms,” March 2011, 3.