



Equipping The Laity to Minister to Ex-Offenders

By: Rev. Kirk T. Houston Sr.



Course Objectives

Upon completion of this training course Participants will:

- 1. Be able to identify the needs and challenges of ex-offenders re-entering the community.
- 2. Have an understanding of the valuable and vital role of the church in ministering to and assisting ex-offenders re-entering the community.
- 3. Be equipped with the knowledge and skills to administer a Christian based ex-offender program.



MODULE 1 UNDERSTANDING THE NEEDS OF EX-OFFENDERS

Upon completion of this training module participants will:

- 1. Be able to identify the affects of incarceration upon ex-offenders.
- 2. Be able to categorize the physical, emotional and social needs of exoffenders.



MODULE 2 ASSESSMENT & SCREENING

Upon completion this training module participants will:

- 1. Be able to define the term "Needs Assessment."
- 2. Be able to conduct a needs assessment.
- 3. Be able to collect and analyze data related to ex-offender needs.



MODULE 3 MINISTERING TO THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF EX-OFFENDERS

Upon completion of this training module participants will:

- 1. Be able to recognize the spiritual needs of ex-offenders.
- 2. Be able to design a discipleship program for ex-offenders.
- 3. Be equipped with the basic skills for discipleship training.



MODULE 4 RESOURCE INDENTIFCATION/ COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Upon the completion of this training module participants will be able to:

- 1. Identify and access community resources related to the needs of ex-offenders.
- 2. Develop collaborative relationships between the church and community agencies.



MODULE 5 MENTORING

Upon completion of this module participants will be able to:

- 1. State reasons that ex-offenders need mentoring.
- 2. Describe ways a mentor can help exoffenders.
- 3. Apply mentoring skills in healthy and appropriate mentor mentoree relationships.



MODULE 6 EMPOWERING THE OFFENDER

Upon the completion of this module participants will be able to:

- 1. Explain the nature, relevance and effectiveness of "empowering" practices.
- 2. Describe the five stages of change.
- 3. Design a Life-Skills curriculum that equips ex-offenders for independent living.



MODULE 7 HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Upon completion of this module participants will be able to:

- 1. State the various health challenges that are prevalent among ex-offenders.
- 2. Identify community resources that provide health, mental health and substance abuse services