



N CIA NEWS

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Reentry:

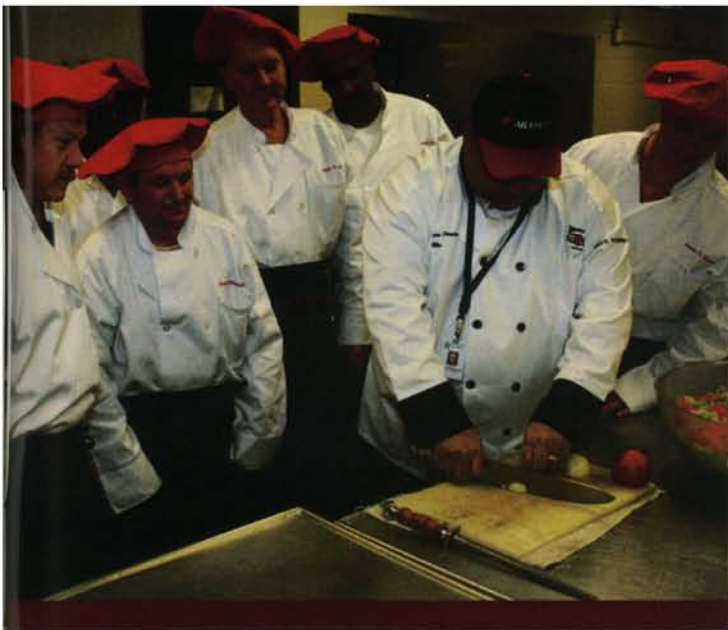
SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS



NATIONAL
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WORKING on the INSIDE -
SUCCEEDING on the OUTSIDE

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Reducing Recidivism with Culinary Training: ARAMARK Correctional Services' In2Work® Helps Make a World of Difference

By Sarah Jarvis, Director, ARAMARK Communications

In 2009, the Pew Charitable Trust* found that one in 100 adults is confined in an American jail or prison. The report's executive summary notes that the ever-increasing number of incarcerated Americans is "saddling cash-strapped states with soaring costs they can ill afford and failing to have a clear impact either on recidivism or overall crime."

The Pew study confirms what ARAMARK Correctional Services has seen in partnerships with clients across the nation: without targeted education and training, released inmates have a higher incidence of recidivism that those not offered the opportunities.

In 1999, ARAMARK Correctional Services created its In2Work® to address dwindling funding for inmate training programs. The unique culinary training program provides inmate workers with the skills and support that can lead to a more successful transition when they reenter the community. Currently offered in more than 60 correctional facilities across the country, In2Work® is a multi-week program that provides classroom instruc-

tion and vocational training in proper food production skills. At the close of the training period, participants may take a test, sanctioned by the National Restaurant Association, certifying satisfactory completion of its nationally recognized ServSafe program.

Today, given budget shortfalls, correctional facilities are finding it financially difficult to provide offenders with life skills and vocational training. In2Work® provides benefits which the inmates, the correctional facility and the local community will realize. The offenders learn job skills that may help them gain employment upon their release. The local community benefits from an increase in the number of trained workers with industry-recognized certification. Additionally, the program increases morale and contributes to better inmate behavior.

Reentry can be a daunting prospect for many. Often, ex-offenders are not prepared to deal with the everyday challenges that confront them outside of the facility walls, and they may end up back where they started

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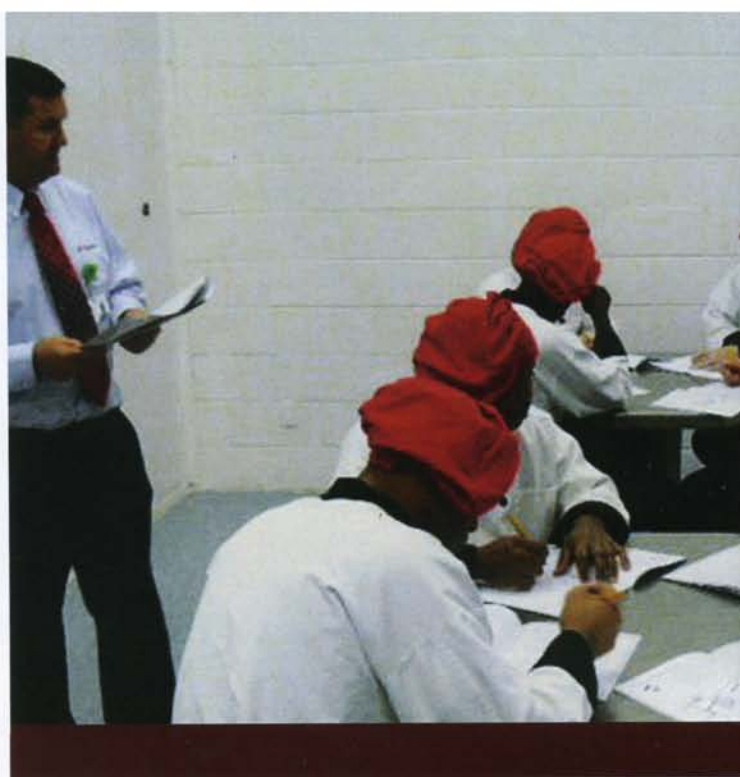
▲ PHOTO CAPTIONS

Photo 1: In2Work® trainees observe ARAMARK instructor's technique

Photo 2: Preparing cake batter as part of In2 Work program

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– incarcerated and still lacking the practical job and life skills that are necessary to find stable employment and become contributors to society.

Reducing recidivism rates benefits all of society by saving taxpayer dollars and justice system resources while giving ex-inmates a second chance at becoming positive contributors to the economy and to society at large. Perhaps more importantly, and probably overlooked, are the benefits realized by the families who have their loved ones back in the home and leading honest, productive lives. While future research will need to bear this out, the Second Chance Act and programs it funds may have the potential to favorably impact the children of ex-offenders simply because their parents are home and active in their lives.

Together with our clients and the hard work of very dedicated ARAMARK front line managers, In2Work®

has proven that by providing offenders with education and life skills, everyone wins. It's a win for ARAMARK clients, inmates, and communities.

Recidivism Facts

Each year, 600,000 individuals are released from prison and seek to rejoin their communities. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, nearly two-thirds of released prisoners in America are re-arrested and one-half are re-incarcerated within three years.

A 2001 study by the Urban Institute, a Washington think tank devoted to researching issues on crime and justice, found that job training reduced recidivism rates by 20 percent, proving that inmates who work while in prison have a better chance of finding employment upon their re-introduction into their communities.

** Pew Center on the States and the Public Safety Performance Project. Please visit www.pewcenteronthestates.org*

▲ **PHOTO CAPTIONS**

PHOTO 3: Inmates put their culinary skills to the test

PHOTO 4: Trainees take time out from the kitchen for classroom work