



MISSISSIPPI RESTORATIVE REENTRY HOUSING ECOSYSTEM

**A Statewide Framework for
Housing Stability After Incarceration**



STABLE HOMES
STRONGER
COMMUNITIES



SUPPORTING
SUCCESSFUL
REENTRY



BUILDING PATHWAYS
TO LASTING
OPPORTUNITY



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MISSISSIPPI RESTORATIVE REENTRY HOUSING ECOSYSTEM



VISION

Mississippi will establish a coordinated statewide reentry housing ecosystem so that every person leaving incarceration has access to a safe, lawful and appropriate place to begin rebuilding their life

The long-term goal is for all 82 counties to have a locally available reentry housing option or defined housing pathway. Depending on local population, need and existing resources, that option could include a single-family home, duplex, quadplex, small apartment development, scattered-site rental units, certified transitional housing, recovery housing or partnerships with existing housing providers.

This model is built on a simple principle: people are more likely to remain successfully in the community when they can return near healthy family relationships, employment opportunities, treatment providers, faith communities, and other supports that contribute to long-term stability.



82
COUNTIES

One coordinated goal:
locally available
reentry housing or
defined housing
pathways for all.



A STATEWIDE ECOSYSTEM, NOT A COMPETING HOUSING PROGRAM

The Mississippi Restorative Reentry Housing Ecosystem would not replace housing authorities, nonprofit organizations, recovery residences, shelters, transitional housing providers, faith-based ministries, local governments or private developers already doing good work.

Instead, the model would:

Identify who is currently providing housing and housing-related services.

Determine what populations, counties and regions each provider serves.

Document eligibility requirements, restrictions, available units and referral processes.

Support established providers through training, technical assistance and peer learning.

Invest in existing organizations when improvements, expansion or rehabilitation are needed.

Develop new housing only where true geographic or population gaps remain.

Create a shared system through which corrections, reentry coaches and community partners can locate appropriate housing before release.



MAGCOR would function as the coordinating and capacity-building backbone of the system rather than the owner or operator of every housing location.



THE 82 COUNTY HOUSING GOAL

COUNTY-LEVEL OPTIONS INCLUDE:

The statewide goal is not necessarily to construct a large housing facility in every county. It is to ensure that each county has a practical housing response proportionate to its population and need.



Partnerships with existing apartment owners or housing



Master-leased apartments reserved for reentry placement



Scattered-site rental units



Duplexes or quadplexes operated by certified community organizations



Housing appropriate for older adults



Units that accommodate couples, parents and children



Housing for people with significant criminal-history barriers



Shared regional developments serving several nearby rural counties



The model should ultimately create a local option in all 82 counties while allowing initial implementation to occur in phases. Early phases would map existing capacity, establish regional coverage and identify the counties with the greatest unmet needs. Funding would then be directed toward filling documented gaps.

THE JACKSON RESTORATIVE REENTRY HUB



The statewide system must also include a final safety-net option for people who cannot return to a home county, have no family or community support, face significant housing restrictions or cannot be placed with an existing provider.

The Jackson-area Restorative Reentry Hub would serve as that option.

The Hub would not be permanent housing and should not become a destination where people remain indefinitely. It would be a structured starting point where individuals can stabilize, obtain documentation, address immediate barriers, complete training, secure employment, and develop a permanent community placement plan.

The Hub would serve people such as:

- Individuals with no approved release address
- People whose family homes are unsafe or inappropriate
- Individuals with disabilities or significant health-related barriers
- People returning from long periods of incarceration
- Individuals with little to no current community support
- People who require specialized behavioral health or recovery services
- Individuals whose criminal histories make traditional housing difficult to obtain
- People subject to sex-offender residency restrictions and other substantial placement limitations

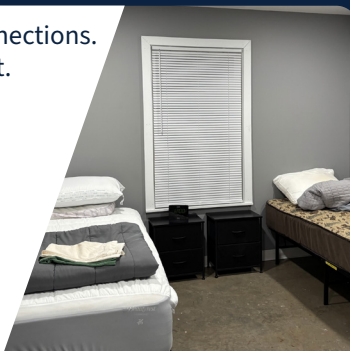


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PHASE ONE: STABILIZATION

Participants may initially require a highly-structured setting with staff support, clear expectations, and frequent contact.

Medical and behavioral-health connections.
Employment-readiness assessment.
Clothing, food and hygiene needs.
Parole or probation coordination.
Individualized reentry planning.
Identification and vital records.
Risk and needs assessment.
Medication continuity.
Benefits enrollment.
Transportation.



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PHASE TWO: SUPPORTED TRANSITION

Participants who are stable but still need structure could move into less restrictive shared housing.

Development of a permanent housing plan.
Employment and occupational training.
Tenant-readiness education.
Community engagement.
Transportation planning.
Treatment participation.
Budgeting and savings.
Family reunification.
Conflict resolution.
Financial literacy.



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PHASE THREE: INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY LIVING

Participants would transition into independent housing in the county or community that offers the strongest opportunity for success.

Independent units operated by certified community partners.
Project-based voucher developments.
Affordable apartment communities.
Permanent supportive housing.
Family reunification housing.
Homeownership pathways.
Housing authority units.
Private rental housing.



MAGCOR Reentry Coaches would remain involved during the transition to help prevent avoidable housing loss and connect participants to local services.



MAGCOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING CERTIFICATION

The MAGCOR Transitional Housing Certification would establish a consistent standard for organizations participating in the statewide ecosystem.

The certification would begin with a two-day intensive bootcamp designed for existing and emerging housing providers. The training would help organizations understand both the operational demands of transitional housing and the specific barriers faced by people returning from incarceration.

TRAINING TOPICS SHOULD INCLUDE:

- Community Education on Transitional Housing
- Reentry fundamentals
- Trauma-informed practices
- Housing-first and recovery-oriented approaches
- Facility policies and resident agreements
- Appropriate staff and participant boundaries
- Criminal-history considerations
- Parole, probation, and correctional coordination
- Medication-assisted treatment
- Behavioral-health and substance use needs
- Sex offender housing restrictions
- Crisis response
- Grievance and discharge procedures
- Safety and security planning
- Family reunification
- Transition planning into permanent housing

LEVELS OF CERTIFICATION

A tiered system would allow providers to be recognized according to the services they are equipped to deliver.



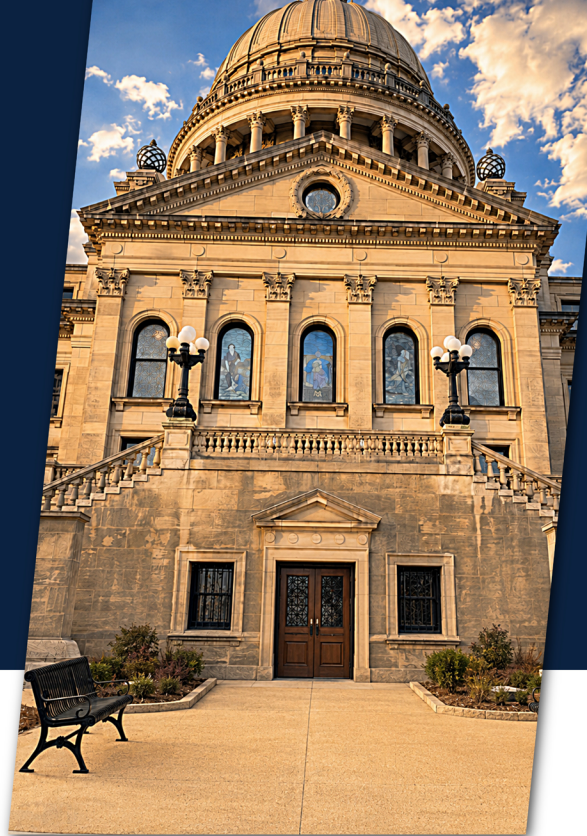
This system would allow reentry coaches to make informed referrals while recognizing that not every provider must offer every service.





SIX STATEWIDE PLANNING WORKSTREAMS

The development of a comprehensive statewide reentry housing ecosystem should be organized into six coordinated workstreams. Each workstream addresses a different part of the housing system, but all six must be operated together. The workstreams are designed to answer six fundamental questions:



Who controls housing policy and funding?

Identify the agencies, systems, and decision-makers that set policy and direct resources.



What housing currently exists?

Take stock of the housing inventory, capacity, and utilization across the state.



Which providers are prepared to participate and what support do they need?

Assess provider readiness and identify the resources and support required.



Where can housing be developed, preserved or expanded?

Identify opportunities for new development, preservation, and expansion.



What legal and eligibility barriers prevent people from accessing housing?

Examine laws, policies, and rules that create barriers to housing stability.



Where are the greatest county-level gaps?

Analyze data to pinpoint geographic disparities and priority areas.



Together, these workstreams create the roadmap for a **coordinated statewide housing ecosystem.**



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