

GAP PACK

WHY GAP PACKS?

Individuals are released from David L. Moss at all hours of the day and night, in all kinds of weather. Shelters may be closed or full. Some have no resources: no funds, no transportation, no one to call, no place to stay. At times people re-offend just to have a safe place to go, or are themselves victimized when they are at their most vulnerable. Gap Packs are intended to bridge the gap by providing basic resources to help those in need in their first 24 hours out of jail.

WHAT IS A GAP PACK?

A ziplock bag containing basic essentials: bottled water, snack, warm socks, a thermal blanket, condoms, tampons, map of downtown Tulsa, notebook with a poem, a pen, & resource list

PILOT PROJECT/ HOW ARE ITEMS SELECTED?

Items were selected based on focus groups conducted at the jail to see what inmates found to be most helpful upon release. In addition, printed resource lists & the map are made available to all upon release, as well as an instructional sign (in English & Spanish) regarding using the free lobby phone before exiting the jail. A successful pilot Gap Pack project was conducted with 100 packs at the beginning of April 2016 to ensure logistics were properly planned. Based on this, we estimate a need of 250 packs per month.

WHO?

All Souls Criminal Justice Outreach (CJO) partnered with organizations such as Planned Parenthood, Resonance, Lindsey House, East Side Christian Church, and others for the pilot program and is now in contact with partners for the next phase of the project.

HOW CAN I HELP?

We need partnering organizations (churches, corporate donors, etc.) to:

- Supply items for the Gap Packs every 2 months
 - Gather enough for 500 packs every 2 months
 - Transport gathered contributions to the drop-off site, Women in Recovery, located at 1055 S. Houston Ave. (drive to second floor of parking garage) M-F 8am-5pm
- Donate funds for printing costs or shortage of donated items
- For additional information on how to help, please contact RLRoach77@hotmail.com

DAVID L. MOSS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY (TULSA COUNTY JAIL) FACTS

- Has an average daily population of 1,519 inmates, with approximately 80-100 booked & released daily.
- Approximately 35% of inmates have mental illness, although due to lack of consistent definition and tracking, this is likely vastly underrepresented.
- Approximately 68% of the inmate population is pre-trial - individuals who have not been convicted, but remain in jail waiting for the wheels of justice to turn.
- Frequently individuals can lose representation by a public defender if they make bail, so some stay incarcerated, knowing they cannot afford a private attorney.