

**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Regional Distribution**



**For Immediate Release.**  
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## **Job Fair at Newton Correctional Facility in May**

DES MOINES - Iowa Workforce Development, along with the Iowa Department of Corrections, will be sponsoring their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual prison job fair, and first ever job fair at the Newton Correctional Facility for pre-released offenders, throughout the day, on May 10, 2007. Statistics show the best transitional service that can be offered to offenders is the opportunity of employment. This job fair will provide the essential link for employment opportunities, which will afford these new job seekers the ability to move forward and turn their lives around.

Lack of employment opportunities that offer self-sufficiency is the single greatest reason for released prisoners to re-offend. High recidivism rates translate into an increase in crimes each year and wasted taxpayer dollars, both of which can be averted through improved prisoner community re-entry efforts. The need to create opportunities to help offenders who have the strong desire to change is important to their success.

Offering employment opportunities and community resources not only helps individuals and their families, but also contributes to a safer community. Putting offenders behind bars only protects society for the short-term. Successful rehabilitation and reintegration of an ex-offender is the only long-term solution to creating a society where every citizen matters.

If you are interested in attending this event as an employer willing to employ offenders, or a community resource that can assist offenders with successful reentry, please contact Brenda Tart at Iowa Workforce Development (515) 281-9708.

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**An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program**

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.  
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