

How to Start an Angel Team

1. Choose an Angel Team Leader (someone who agrees to coordinate the efforts and resources for the Returning Community Member (RCM) and be the RCM's main point of contact).
2. Identify key Angel Team members, possibly including:
 - a. A Christian Science Practitioner
 - b. Local Christian Science volunteers who commit to helping the RCM to find resources, learn basic skills, and meet church members
 - c. A friend you know who you think would like to help
 - d. The Parole Officer
 - e. The Transitional House Manager
 - f. The Employer
 - g. A Christian Science Coach/mentor--a former RCM would be a good choice
 - h. Counselors required by the RCM's Terms and Conditions
 - i. A pro-bono lawyer
3. Be sure the Angel Team Leader is familiar with the RCM's Embraced:Fully application and share with the team as requested / needed.
4. Begin communication with the inmate in prison; coordinate efforts with the inmate's Christian Science chaplain (or volunteer).
5. Confirm the RCM's transportation from prison to their first night of shelter. Be prepared to give the RCM a ride.
6. Create a list of contents for the RCM's backpack and give it to the RCM on their first day out.
7. Give the RCM their cell phone and take time to demonstrate its use. Also, provide the RCM with written instructions on how to use their phone. BE SURE they start practicing the use of their phone immediately--it's their lifeline to help and resources.
8. Learn where the RCM will be living and contact the housing manager. Invite the housing manager to join the Angel Team.
9. Meet the Parole (or Probation) officer and attend the first PO meeting. Invite the PO to join the Angel Team. And at the first meeting, get a copy of the RCM's "Terms and Conditions" and distribute them to the Angel Team so the team can help keep the RCM on track.
10. Drive the RCM to church and introduce him/her to the church members.
11. On the first day out, the RCM and mentor/coach should meet to set up meeting times.
12. Put self-interest aside and be there for the RCM as they struggle to adapt to their new life.