Welcome Home!

If you are returning to Bridgeport to start a new life after being in prison, you are not alone.

Many have gone before you, and they have succeeded.

Many others are here to help.

This guide is intended to help you with some common issues and point you to people and places who can help.

Good luck as you begin your journey! It is not always easy and it won’t be quick. But you can make a new future, and there is help.

-Bridgeport Reentry Collaborative

GBT Bus Routes designated by
Bienvenidos a Casa!

Si ha salido de la prisión, y desea empezar una nueva vida en Bridgeport, usted no está solo.

Ostros que han llegado antes que usted han tenido éxito.

Estamos aquí para ayudarle.

Esta guía le ayudará con algunos asuntos comunes y lo orientará hacia personas y lugares que pueden ayudarlo.

Buena suerte en su nueva jornada. No será fácil y probablemente no tendrá resultados inmediatos, pero usted puede hacerse de un nuevo futuro, y hay ayuda disponible.

-Bridgport Reentry Collaborative

GBT Rutas de Autobús designado por
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Reentry Points

Career Resources/Reentry Works
350 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 610-6209
www.careerresources.org
Job leads, education, work readiness. Preparing youth and adults in SW Connecticut to gain employment and progress in their careers.

Dress For Success
350 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 334-5627
www.careerresources.org
Gently used professional attire for women only. STRIVE job readiness program.

The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport CO-OP Center
1100 Boston Ave., Bldg 5A,
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 367-8441
www.ccgb.org/coop.htm
Monday-Friday, 8:45 am to 4:45 pm
Short/long term reentry services for DOC/EOS referrals for men women.
Family Reentry
75 Washington Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 362-2452
www.familyreentry.org
Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

• **Fresh Start Reentry Program:**
  Employment counseling, case management, basic needs support and mentoring.

• **Beacon Mentoring Program:**
  Monday, Tuesday, and Friday 8:30 am to 6:00 pm
  Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 am to 8:00 pm

• **Behavioral Health Program:**
  Substance abuse, anger management and mental health treatment.
  Monday and Tuesday 9:00 am to 8:00 pm
  Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

• **Women of Change**
  Preparing incarcerated women for life after release.

1. **FOOD**

Golden Hill United Methodist Church
210 Elm Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 336-0152
www.gbgm-umc.org
Serves Wednesdays, 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm
The Salvation Army
30 Elm Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203)334-0995
www.salvationarmy.org
Serves: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm; Kitchen-
Sun & Tues-Thurs, no specific times, please call.

Bridgeport Rescue Mission
1088 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Phone: (203) 333-4087
www.bridgeportrescuemission.org
Serves: Kitchen, Mon-Sat, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm;
Pantry, Mon-Thurs, 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm;
Mobile, Mon-Sat, 6:00 pm to7:00 pm

The Thomas Merton Family Center
43 Madison Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 367-9036
Serves: Mon-Fri, 9:00 am to 1:30 pm; Sat, 11:00 am to Noon

2. CLOTHING

The Salvation Army
30 Elm Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203)334-0995
www.salvationarmy.org
Gently used clothing.
Bridgeport Rescue Mission
1088 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Phone: (203) 333-4087
www.bridgeportrescuemission.org
Gently used clothing.

Life Bridge
475 Clinton Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Phone: (203) 368-4291
www.lifebridgetct.org
Gently used clothing.

Dress For Success
350 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 334-5627
www.careerresources.org
Gently used professional attire for women only.

3. HOUSING

YMCA-Central Connecticut Coast Alpha House
387 Clinton Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Phone: (203) 366-2809
www.cccymca.org
Emergency family shelter through the Families-in-Transition program.
Homes for the Brave
655 Park Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 338-0669
www.homesforthebrave.org
Transitional living program for homeless veterans.

Operation Hope
50 Nichols Street
Fairfield, CT 06824
Phone: (203) 254-2935
www.operationhopect.org
Homeless shelter for men, women, and women with children.

Bridgeport Rescue Mission
1088 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Phone: (203) 333-4087
www.bridgeportrescuemission.org
Overnight emergency shelter for men; new life discipleship program for men and women.

Prospect House
329 Prospect Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 576-9041
Transitional homeless shelter for single men and women.
4. TRANSPORTATION

CO-OP Center/ The Council of Churches
1100 Boston Ave., Bldg 5A
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 367-8441
www.ccgb.org/coop.htm
Bus tokens and train fares.

Family Reentry
75 Washington Ave. #3
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 576-6924
www.familyreentry.org
Bus tokens and train fares.

5. EDUCATION

Housatonic Community College
900 Lafayette Blvd.,
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 332-5000
www.hctc.commnet.edu
2-year associate degree, certificate-based programs.
Bridgeport Adult Education Department
Central High School
1 Lincoln Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06606
Phone: (203) 576-7374
www.bridgeportedu.com
GED classes and testing center.

CO-OP Center/ The Council of Churches
1100 Boston Ave., Bldg 5A
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 367-8441
www.ccgb.org/coop.htm
GED prep classes, computer training, assistance for local community college courses.

Career Resources
STRIVE
350 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 334-5627
www.careerresources.org
GED/ ABE classes, DIGITAL LITERACY courses, and STRIVE 3-week intensive employment readiness program.

Mercy Learning Center
637 Park Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 334-6699
www.mercylearningcenter.org
Life skills/education programs for women only.
A.  
Career Resources  
350 Fairfield Ave.

B.  
Family Reentry/ FreshStart/  
Women of Change  
75 Washington Ave.

C.  
The Council of Churches  
CO-OP Center  
1100 Boston Ave.
6. EMPLOYMENT

CT Works One Stop Career Center
2 Lafayette Square
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 455-2700
www.ctdol.state.ct.us
A comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of workers and employers.

CT DOL/Office for Veterans’ Workforce Development
2 Lafayette Blvd.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 455-2711
www.ctvets.org
All veterans’ needs including training and employment.

Family Reentry
75 Washington Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 362-2452
www.familyreentry.org
Vocational/educational planning.
7. IDENTIFICATION

CO-OP Center/ The Council of Churches
1100 Boston Ave., Bldg 5A
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 367-8441
www.ccgb.org/coop.htm
Assistance in obtaining legal identification, essential to entitlements.

Department of Motor Vehicle
95 Sylvan Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06606
Phone: (860) 263-5700
www.ct.gov/dmv/
CT state driver’s license and identification card.

Vital Statistics
999 Broad St.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 576-7477
Bridgeport, CT birth, death, and marriage records.

Social Security Department
3885 Main St.
Bridgeport, CT 06606
Phone: (203) 365-8452
Social Security card, SSI, SSD entitlements.
8. **HEALTH CARE**

**Bridgeport Department of Social Services**  
**Health Department**  
752 East Main St.  
Bridgeport, CT 06605  
Phone: (203) 576-7680  
Health insurance application through SAGA and food stamps.

**Americares**  
115 Highland Ave.  
Bridgeport, CT 06604  
Phone: (203) 333-9175  
www.americares.org  
Free clinic. Delivering medicine and health care to those in need.

**Southwest Community Health Center**  
968 Fairfield Ave.  
Bridgeport, CT 06605  
Phone: (203) 330-6000  
www.swch.org  
Community outreach, health education/disease, mental health, prevention programs, and entitlement enrollment services.
Outpatient health care for the entire family, pre-natal through geriatric services, and mental health.

9. MENTAL HEALTH

Bridgeport Mental Health
1635 Central Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 551-7400
www.ct.gov
Outpatient and inpatient mental health services for insured and uninsured.

CT Renaissance
1120 Main St.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 367-6827
www.ctrenaissance.com
Treatment of psychiatric disorders and/or co-occurring substance abuse and psychiatric disorders.
Life Bridge
475 Clinton Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Phone: (203) 368-4291
www.lifebridgect.org
Group and individual counseling, self-support skills and economic self-sufficiency.

Recovery Network of Programs
425 Grant St., Suite A
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 416-1915
www.recovery-programs.org
Detoxification, Methadone Maintenance, Suboxone, Residential/Intensive Out-Patient.

Bridgeport Recovery Community Center
49 Cannon Street (rear courtyard)
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone/Web: (203) 332-3303 www.ccar.us
Recovery community center, Telephone Recovery Support, Recovery coaching, Recovery housing database, smoking cessation.

DMHAS
97 Middle St.
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 579-7444
CT Offender Reentry Program (CORP), mental health diagnosis at Garner, Osborne, and York CI.
10. CHILD AND FAMILY RESOURCES

DCF-Family and Children Association
180 Fairfield Ave # 1
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 367-5361
www.ct.gov/dcf/site/default.asp
Protecting children, strengthening families, and helping young people reach their fullest potential.

Janus Center/ The Council of Churches
1100 Boston Ave., Bldg 5A
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Phone: (203) 367-8441
www.ccgb.org/janushouse.htm
Assists youth facing serious problems with their families, schools, or the juvenile court.

The Center for Family Justice
753 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 334-6154
www.centerforfamilyjustice.org
Domestic Violence and sexual assault services for women.
Fathers for Life/ Families for Life
Career Resources
350 Fairfield Ave., 3rd Floor
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Phone: (203) 953-3269
www.careerresources.org
Separate group sessions for parenting and life skills for couples and parents.

Catholic Charities of Fairfield County
238 Jewett Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06606
Phone: (203) 416-1322
www.bridgeportdiocese.com/catholiccharities
Direct services/case management, mental health, family counseling to needy people of all faiths.

Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition
2470 Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Phone/web: (203) 549-0203 www.bcacct.org
Improving the well-being of children through programs combining research, community planning, education, and mobilization.
11. OTHER RESOURCES

Community Solutions, Inc.
255 Island Brook Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06606
Phone: (203) 696-1323

Alternative Incarceration Center (AIC)
Services for people referred by the courts, probation and parole only. Services include employment assistance, cognitive restructuring, and substance abuse groups.

STRIDE
742 Upper Maple Street/ Quinebaug Valley CC
Danielson, CT 06239
Phone: (860) 412-7320
www.qvcc.commnet.edu/STRIDE/index.html
STRIDE is a transitional support workforce development program that serves a targeted group of incarcerated men and women both pre- and post-release from Bridgeport Correctional Center.

The CT Pardon Team, Inc.
Toll Free Phone (866) 251-3810
www.connecticutpardonsteam.org
Provides information and step-by-step assistance to individuals incompleting and filing a CT pardon application.
Energy Assistance
All applicants must apply in person. Appointments can be made by calling (203) 384-6904. All applicants must provide proof of income for all household members for the four weeks immediately prior to application date.

Additional resources can be located through:

- www.211ct.org
- INFOLINE, Phone: 2-1-1
- www.ct.gov
- Any public library branch

To update information to this guide, please email: danbraccio@ccgb.org
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Cover Illustration by Angel Gomez

This publication was printed by the students of the Graphic and Printing Technologies Department, Gates Correctional Institution, Niantic, Connecticut. A proud component of the Unified School District #1.