

From the desk of your Corrections Coordinator James F.

District 24 Corrections Information

I have been asked to clarify and explain what NC District 24 is doing for the correctional institutions in our district, and what help we can offer in other districts. At this time, Davidson Correctional Facility (the Lexington Camp) is the only institution in our district that allows outside programs to enter and engage with the inmates. Davidson Correctional is a state operated correction facility. This means that the institution is controlled by the Corrections Department in Raleigh. AAs participation is contingent on following all State regulations related to outside volunteer groups.

The meetings are Big Book discussion meetings. This meeting has been going on for many years and is led *by the inmates for the inmates*. Our role is **solely** to participate and help guide the meeting. This is their meeting. This is not like other commitments where AA brings a meeting to a facility or detox. We are guests at the Camp; our members are just a part of the meeting.

State Requirements for participation in the Community Volunteer program:

- Completion of the *mandatory* Community Volunteer training. This training is given once a quarter, if possible, in the evening at the camp. The training is normally 3 hours.
- Individuals can not be on any type of probation or parole in the last year.
- A background check is run on each individual and prison administration can refuse acceptance of an individual based on their assessment of the report.
- Community Volunteers are required to attend six meetings within a set period of time to earn a Blue ID Card, which allows them to attend Volunteer programs at the camp. This is only valid at the camp of issue.
- The card must be renewed annually, but additional training is not required.
- The meeting is at 7pm every Wednesday until 8:30pm. No one will be admitted after 7pm. All volunteers are asked to arrive and leave together.

The Camp invested a lot of time and money in these volunteer programs and requests only serious inquiries for this training. They prefer individuals who can attend on a regular basis.

Unfortunately, we do not currently have access to local jails or women's facilities. Let me know if you become aware of related facilities that are open to receiving outside volunteers.

If you are interested and would like to discuss the program in more detail, please call me directly and I will be happy to provide additional information regarding the great rewards of this work.

In Service,
James Fonshill
336-666-0447