

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2-10

**THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF
RE-INTEGRATION SERVICES FOR EX-OFFENDERS (R.I.S.E.)**

WHEREAS, each year thousands of ex-offenders are released from federal, state and local correctional facilities back into Philadelphia. Most of these ex-offenders return to our communities severely undereducated, in need of additional training, skills development and employment opportunities. The successful reintegration of ex-offenders into our community is hampered by these deficiencies and because resources and opportunities are denied to them; and

WHEREAS, the inability of ex-offenders to obtain the skills and training that they need in order to secure employment, and thus become productive citizens, results in high recidivism rates, which equates to a decrease in community safety and an increase in City expenditures for police services and to operate the Philadelphia Prison System; and

WHEREAS, the Prison System's Budget in FY 2009 was \$242 million. This represents an increase of 38% from the FY 2003 Prison System Budget of \$175 million; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2009, the population of the Philadelphia Prison System reached an all time high of 9,885. The population of the Philadelphia Prison System did not go below 9,000 inmates in calendar year 2008; and

WHEREAS, to curtail escalating prison costs due to increases in population, it is necessary that ex-offenders be provided opportunities to obtain skills and apply for employment to successfully reintegrate back into our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael A. Nutter, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, by the authority vested in me by the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, do hereby order as follows:

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF R.I.S.E.

The Office for Re-integration Services for Ex-offenders (R.I.S.E.) is hereby established in the Philadelphia Prisons System.

The Mayor shall appoint the Director of R.I.S.E., who shall be responsible for its management and day-to-day operations and who shall report to the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety.

SECTION 2. MISSION OF R.I.S.E.

The mission of R.I.S.E. is to promote safer communities and reduce law enforcement costs by assisting ex-offenders to be constructive individuals who contribute positively to our community, thereby reducing recidivism rates.

SECTION 3. OPERATIONAL MODEL.

R.I.S.E. shall operate on a managed reintegration network model. Through R.I.S.E., the City shall form partnerships with businesses, faith based and community organizations, foundations and credentialed providers of job training services, job placement services, life skills training and literacy education to provide training and services to ex-offenders through performance based contracts.

SECTION 4. REENTRY TASK FORCE.

The Director of R.I.S.E. shall convene a Reentry Task Force, including representatives from relevant agencies, service providers, nonprofit organizations, and other stakeholders. The Task Force shall be charged with examining ways to pool resources and obtain grant funding and with identifying mechanisms to lower recidivism rates for ex-offenders. The Task Force shall collect data and evaluate best practices in offender reentry programs and report its findings to the Director of R.I.S.E.

SECTION 5. M.O.R.E.

The Mayor's Office for the Reentry of Ex-offenders (M.O.R.E.) is hereby abolished.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This order shall be effective immediately.

1/27/00
Date



Michael A. Nutter, Mayor