

From the Executive Director



Two-thousand and seven was a banner year for the Alston Wilkes Society. All of our programs thrived due to the professionalism and commitment of our staff and the support of the community. We touched so many

different people's lives last year - from the Iraq War veteran with no home awaiting his arrival back to the United States, to the young teenager struggling with school - we made a positive impact on the lives of 6,005 clients, residents and families throughout South Carolina. We are very proud to share these accomplishments.

This past year also marked a special milestone for AWS - the celebration of our 45th anniversary. In 1962, the Reverend Eli Alston Wilkes founded AWS with the mission of helping offenders rebuild their lives upon release from prison. AWS remains true to that mission today with its Community Services Division, but has expanded its focus over the years to embrace the needs of the state, including programs that serve youth, veterans and families in need.

On behalf of the Board, staff and volunteers, I thank you for your continued support and look forward to another year of service in 2008.

Sincerely,

S. Anne Walker, Certified Corrections Executive
Executive Director

Adult Corrections

Under a contract with the Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP), AWS operates Residential Reentry Centers for offenders released from federal prisons. The 4 facilities, located in Charleston, Columbia, Florence and Greenville, served a total of 640 residents in 2007 and provided 24-hour supervision, job assistance/ placement, counseling, family reintegration and other services to ensure a successful transition back into the community. Other program highlights include:

- 90% overall success rate, exceeding the FBOP's average national release rate
- Charleston RRC successfully discharged 73 residents (89% success rate)
- Columbia RRC successfully discharged 179 residents (96% success rate)
- Florence RRC successfully discharged 66 residents (92% success rate)
- Greenville RRC successfully discharged 124 residents (91% success rate)

Clinical Day Program (CDP)

CDP accommodates the educational needs of the AWS Youth Home's residents, and also serves middle and high school students from Richland County School District #1. CDP is an alternative school for children that are not allowed to attend public schools due to behavioral problems, and ensures that at-risk youth have equal educational opportunities. In 2007, we provided education to 21 students. Other program highlights include:

- 100% of students eligible earned their high school diploma or certificate
- 40% of the students were successfully discharged to their home public school
- 20% of eligible students maintained part-time employment during the school year.

Community Services

The Community Services Program carries on the original AWS mission, assisting offenders, former offenders, family members and homeless individuals to rebuild their lives to become more productive citizens, and have a positive effect on crime reduction and prevention. Nine regional offices throughout the state provided 19,352 services to 5,171 clients in 2007. Other program highlights include:

- 433 clients were placed in jobs
- 2,449 picture ID vouchers were issued so clients could access community resources
- 3,308 education workshops were presented in correctional institutions

High Management Youth Home

Our youth residential facility in Columbia intervenes early in the lives of young males with serious emotional and behavioral problems. Our program provides intensive, individualized services, 24-hour supervision, life skills training, employment skills training, substance abuse



counseling, therapeutic recreational activities and referrals to other community services. All residents attend either public or alternative schools and colleges. In 2007, we served 26 boys between the ages of 11-17. Other program highlights include:

- 99% successful discharge rate
- 100% of eligible residents graduated from high school
- 67% of eligible residents obtained their GED

- 40% of eligible residents were employed part-time while working on their education

Intensive Family Services

Intensive Family Services (IFS) focuses on diffusing crises that threaten a child's stability. IFS offers limited clinical interventions in the home and community (e.g. counseling, skills training, etc.) and planned interventions that assist the family in developing relationships with community networks that support positive adaptation and facilitate the child's adjustment with school, peers and community activities. In 2007, IFS served families in 15 counties throughout the state. The program is staffed by 100% Master's Level Clinicians.

Therapeutic Foster Care

This program helps train and license foster families to accommodate the special needs of emotionally troubled youth throughout the state. In 2007, we placed 90 children into homes. Other program highlights include:

- 30% increase in TFC homes state-wide
- 7 children transitioned into independent living
- 2 children were adopted by their foster parents
- 100% of eligible students graduated from high school

Veterans Home (AWVH)

AWVH is the only facility in the Midlands that provides long-term transitional housing (up to 2 years) in conjunction with supportive services specifically for homeless veterans. In addition to basic needs, AWS provides transportation, employment assistance, counseling, life skills training, mentoring and other supportive services in order to help homeless veterans regain self-sufficiency. This program is a partnership with the



Veterans Administration, Palmetto State Base Camp and multiple local veterans, civic and church groups. In 2007, 50 homeless veterans participated in the program. Other program highlights include:

- 75% successful graduation rate
- 93% of eligible residents were employed
- 93% of residents had sufficient funds to move to independent housing
- Former President Bill Clinton visited the AWWH in November. He talked with residents individually and in small groups in an effort to better understand their unique needs.

Through a partnership with the Palmetto State Base Camp, program graduates now have the option of moving into one of seven transitional homes when they leave the facility. In 2007, 13 veterans and 1 family occupied these homes.

Program Locations

AWS provides services state-wide through 10 facilities and local offices. Columbia, Greenville, and Florence have multiple facilities/offices. Expansion of services into York County has been approved for 2008. Locations include:

- Anderson
- Camden
- Charleston
- Columbia
- Florence
- Greenville
- Greenwood
- Lancaster
- Moncks Corner
- Summerville
- Sumter

2007 Audited Financial Information

Combined Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2007

<u>Support and Revenue</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public Support	\$ 287,224
Grants	38,070
Fees and Contracts	5,107,463
Interest Income	29,317
Rent	220,800
Other Revenue	41,652
Total revenue, gains & other support	\$5,724,526
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>
Payroll and payroll taxes	\$2,651,242
Retirement & Benefits	190,429
Repairs & maintenance	99,091
Contractors & minor equipment	190,403
Legal fees	9,498
Program expenses	1,193,352
Utilities & telephone	212,707
Travel & auto	129,220
Insurance	188,697
Office rent & equipment rentals	245,878
Advertising	8,771
Interest	62,968
Depreciation & amortization	113,574
General & administrative	151,107
Total expenses	\$5,446,937



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For More Detailed Information, please contact us

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AWS is an EEO/AA Employer

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

Rebuilding Lives for a Safer Community

