

TDCJ Considerations for Ex-offenders serving on Kairos Teams

Ex-offenders can be utilized with the Kairos ministry. I have added the following requirements for them below:

1. Ex-offenders who have discharged their sentences may serve as a volunteer, provided they have a clear criminal background for the previous 18 months and have demonstrated successful reentry into the community since discharging their sentence.

2. Releasees may serve as volunteers provided they have a clear criminal background check for the previous 18 months after incarceration; a satisfactory report from the supervising officer while on parole, mandatory supervision, or community supervision; and the supervising officer concurs with the releasee's participation in the volunteer program. A letter from the supervising officer concurring with the releasee's participation in the TDCJ Volunteer Program shall be requested. The supervising officer shall be notified when the releasee has been approved or disapproved as a TDCJ volunteer. The supervising officer shall report all violations of supervision to the director of volunteer services. Violations committed while on supervision may result in removal from the volunteer program.

3. The application of any ex-offender or releasee convicted of a sex offense, as defined by AD-04.09, "Sex Offender Identification Criteria and Methods of Recording Information," shall be reviewed by the manager of the Sex Offender Rehabilitation Program (SORP), or designee. The manager of the SORP, or designee, will provide the recommendation for approval or disapproval as a participant in the volunteer program, including a justification, before final approval is granted.

4. All ex-offenders and releasee applicants shall be screened for gang affiliation through the TDCJ Security Threat Group Management Office and the Texas Anti-Gang Information Tracking System.

A. Applicants who are confirmed gang members, but have completed the GRAD process, will not be excluded from the TDCJ Volunteer Program unless there is evidence that placement of the individual would affect the safety and security of the facility, employees, volunteers, and offenders.

B. Any individuals who are confirmed as a member of an STG while incarcerated and did not complete the GRAD process shall be subject to approval by the VRC.

