



## Transition Expo designed to help inmates succeed upon release

Borallon CC to work with community-based organizations to help prisoners transition back into the community

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**(Ipswich, QLD)** – Most prison inmates find their way back behind bars after they are released. That's a sad fact nationwide and worldwide. But it's a fact Borallon Correctional Centre – and its operator, Management & Training Corporation – are working tirelessly to change.

To help combat this repeat offender problem, Borallon Correctional Centre will host a Transitions Expo on the 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2006. The Expo will provide an opportunity for Borallon staff to network with those community agencies involved in reintegrating offenders back into the community. The Expo follows a recent Industries Forum, where MTC officials spoke with local business operators about how to effectively employ retrained and rehabilitated prisoners.

Troy Ittensohn, General Manager and supporter of the Transitions Expo said, *"This Transitions Expo is basically a forum where staff and community agencies can network to discuss the offender transitions process. MTC is strongly committed to doing everything it can to ensure that prisoners reintegrate back into the community successfully."*

Borallon Transitions Coordinator Sandra Kovacic is in charge of the Transitions Expo. She said, *"It is imperative that we offer prisoners the best support we can through our transitions process. Without these community-based agencies, prisoners would find community reintegration much more difficult."*

*"International research consistently shows, released prisoners typically face a wide range of barriers as they attempt to settle back into their communities upon release. This further confirms that successful re-settlement in the community is an effective means of achieving the dual goals of reduced re-offending and enhanced community safety,"* Kovacic added.

Research also shows, addressing severe accommodation problems will reduce the likelihood of released inmates re-offending by up to twenty percent. This is why Queensland Corrective Services developed the Transitions program. It wants prisoners to be able to address their practical resettlement needs prior to release.

The Transitions Expo is also viewed as an opportunity to strengthen the ties MTC has with the community. As a part of the day's activities, a tour of the Borallon Correctional Centre will be provided

Organisations invited to the Forum include: Centrelink and the Department of Housing.

For more information on Management & Training Corporation please visit [www.mtctrains.com](http://www.mtctrains.com).

For more information on Borallon Correctional Centre please visit [www.borallon.com.au](http://www.borallon.com.au)

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