

A photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water's surface. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a darker, muted orange at the top. The water in the foreground is dark with gentle ripples.

*New  
Beginning*

**All About GRACE, Inc.  
Re-Entry Check List**

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# WELCOME

All about Grace (AAG) is a not-for-profit organization established to help individuals returning home from incarceration to achieve optimal success. Helping individuals to have the best possible chance to succeed is the front and center of why we exist. We work to ensure that past occurrences do not prevent future success. Recognizing that the risks and needs are often very complexed and unique, we are committed to breaking down barriers, strengthening support systems, and promoting an “everyone deserves a chance” spirit among all in our society.

The All About GRACE, Inc., Re-entry *Check List* is designed to help you make a successful transition home. It was designed with you in mind. The most successful transitions start with a plan. A plan should have a check list of the things to do and consider when transitioning home. The All About GRACE, Inc., Re-entry *Check List* will link you to resources, information, and things to do when making the transition. This resource provides a basic starting point.

*“I will hold myself to a standard of GRACE and not to perfection...” Emily Ley*

# IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

There are several documents that you will need as you make the transition home. These documents are needed for many reasons including but not limited to getting a job, driving a car, getting medical assistance, and so much more. So, make sure you locate or obtain the following:

- Social Security Card
- Birth Certificate
- Virginia Drivers License or Identification Card
- DMV Compliance Summary (if required)
- Veterans DD214 ( if applicable)
- Proof of Citizenship (if foreign born)

Your local DMV is the place to go for many of these items and the [Virginia Vital Records Office](#) is responsible for maintaining and issuing certified copies of vital records (including birth, death, marriage, and divorce certificates) for events that occurred in Virginia. Contact the local Social Security Administration office for a social security card and the Veterans Affairs Administration for veteran documents. Each office will be able to provide you with a list of required items needed to obtain a document from their office.

## Action Items Check List

Items	Date Contacted/Applied	Date Received
Social Security Card		
Birth Certificate		
Driver's License/DMV ID		
DMV Compliance		
Veterans DD214		

# GOAL SETTING

It is very important to set goals. Goals should be specific, achievable and have a realistic not over-reaching timeline. Setting goals will help you to focus and maintain your direction.

Goal setting does not have to be complicated. Start by asking yourself important questions about what you want for your life. Break the big picture down into smaller and more specific goals. For example, you might decide you want to have a big house with a garage. This will be considered the “big picture.” Then, think strategically...what do I need to do to get that house? Answer: To get a job could be the answer. Therefore, one of your goals will be to get a job. Next, think about what you need to do to get a job. Write down your goals.

Remember, the date to accomplishment can be changed as needed. Do not become discouraged if the date has to change. As long as you are working hard to accomplish your goals, you are achieving!

## My Goals

Goals	Date to Accomplishment	Notes
#1		
#2		
#3		

# SUPPORT SYSTEM

Make sure you properly identify your support system...“your village.” Reaching out to even one wrong person can complicate things beyond your control. Simple questions to ask yourself: Who needs to know that I am home? Will this person help me to reach my goals? Make a list of those who can be a part of your village and should be a part of your village. Lean on them for support. Let them know your goals. This list can include family members who are invested in your success, a role model, your faith community, close friends who can be a positive influence, and of, anyone who you are required to report to as a condition of your release. Remember to talk through your challenges and share your successes with members of your village.

## My Support System: My Village

Name	Telephone Number	Email Address

# CLOTHING

The right clothing is essential. You will need different items for different occasions. If needed, search your community for local thrift stores and clothing drives to help get you started. The shopping list below provides a basic guide to the items you might need as you transition home.

## Shopping List

Item	Places to Shop	Yes/No
Work Shoes		
Casual Shoes		
Work Clothes		
Casual Clothes		
Interview Clothes		
Church Clothes		
Jacket		
Socks		
Pajamas		

# GOODS, ITEMS & SERVICES

Transition can be challenging, but it's possible. This check list of items focuses on the goods, items, and services that can aid your chance for a successful transition. Use your "village" to help as needed. You don't have to do it alone.

## Goods, Items, & Services

Item	Telephone Number/Address	Contacted Yes/No
Write a Brief Letter to Yourself about <i>What Being Home Means to You</i> ...It doesn't have to be more than 3 sentences...Hold on to this Letter.		
Register with Virginia Employment Commission		
Secure a Resume		
Attend an Interviewing Skills and Applications Workshop		
Apply for Medicaid		
Determine Eligibility for SNAP (food benefits) and Apply if Eligible		
Apply for Veterans Benefits, if eligible		
Join a Local Church or Return to Your Church		



Locate Free or Reduce Mobile Telephone Services		
Connect with 211 for Housing, Utilities Assistance, Food, and More		
Pursue GED, vocational training, or digital literacy programs as applicable		
Access free or low-cost counseling and daily self-care routines		



## APPOINTMENTS (IF APPLICABLE)

It is important to know the appointments and help that you need. Schedule appointments and remember not to miss an appointment. Comply with all requirements.

### Appointments

Item	Telephone Number/Address	Scheduled Yes/No
Probation Officer		
Parole Officer		
Child Support Enforcement		
AA Meetings		
Rehab Sessions		

**You Got This!**