“In 2000, recidivism in Maryland peaked at more than 50 percent. When we took office in 2007, we set a goal to drive down Maryland’s recidivism rate and keep more ex-offenders with their families and in jobs rather than behind bars. Tools such as the MDCSL are essential to these efforts by enabling offenders to create post-release plans that will work for them and their families before they ever leave prison.”
—Governor Martin O’Malley

“Over the years, our staff and clients have grown to depend on MDCSL…The MDCSL allows us to locate programs and resources that can meet the needs of our clients.”
—Chief, Montgomery County Pre-Release Reentry Services Division

“I find that the information provided with each entry is invaluable in helping me to decide the applicability for each of my clients as I formulate a plan for their release from incarceration, thus allowing for a smoother transition…”
—Release Planner, Hagerstown Region of the Division of Corrections

“Maryland’s Inmate Community Services Locator now available for other jurisdictions

What Is the Inmate Community Services Locator (ICSL)?

The Inmate Community Services Locator is an online directory of community services that can be used by correctional facilities, community supervision agencies, and other reentry organizations to support reentry planning for inmates while they are incarcerated and help them access local programs and resources after their release.

What Makes the ICSL Different?

Centralized: Programs from numerous agencies, including criminal justice, social service, and health, are available in one searchable online database.

Comprehensive: Many program details are included, allowing users to search for programs by the type of services provided, population served, payment options, and other criteria, such as accessibility to public transportation. This means referrals can be tailored to meet individual needs.

Current: Entries are updated and verified regularly.

Practical: Users can search, map, and obtain driving directions for resources by location and distance from any specified address, potentially improving program attendance and retention.

User-Friendly: The ICSL’s user-friendly search interface allows it to be utilized by a broad audience—including those with limited computer experience.

ICSL Site Security

The ICSL site provides full functionality to users while meeting the strict security standards of correctional facilities. The ICSL site:

- offers a secure platform that only requires firewall access to a single domain
- contains no links to outside websites or email addresses
- contains no data submission forms

Launch Your Own ICSL

The Center for Substance Abuse Research (CESAR) at the University of Maryland, College Park offers assistance with all the tasks required to build and maintain an Inmate Community Services Locator.

- Technical development of the secure website
- Website maintenance
- Development of resource database
- Advertising and marketing of the locator
- Training of users
- Updating of listings and quality control

We will work with you to determine how to customize the locator to best meet your needs.

Please contact Erin Artigiani at 301-405-9794 or eartigia@umd.edu for additional information.

ICSL Is Based on Maryland’s Successful CSL

- Maryland’s Community Services Locator (MDCSL, www.mdcsl.org) was created by CESAR with funding from the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention. It successfully links people to nearly 9,000 criminal justice, health, and social service programs.

- MDCSL users say that they find this tool indispensable in helping them effectively serve their clients, particularly in providing individualized referrals that meet the specific needs of each client.

- Maryland’s ICSL (www.mdcsl-dpscs.org) is a secure version of the MDCSL that meets the strict security standards of correctional facilities. The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services provides access to the ICSL inside 21 correctional facilities, allowing Maryland inmates to search for community resources available to them upon release.
The images above are examples from Maryland’s Inmate Community Services Locator (www.mdcsl-dpscs.org). Other locators may have different agencies and options listed based on the resources available in each locality.