**Position: Prison Chaplain**

**Responsible to: Diocesan Bishop/ Corrective Services Department of Justice**

**Immediate Supervisor: Director of Mission and Renewal/ Governor of Correctional Centre**

**INTRODUCTION.**

*The Prison Chaplain is appointed by the Diocese under contract to Corrective Services to provide pastoral ministry to inmates and staff of the Correctional Centre. Under the auspices of the Diocesan Chancery, the role is part of the Diocesan Pastoral initiatives. The appointment is made by the Bishop and approved by the CCAC on behalf of the Minister for Justice of NSW.*

**Major accountabilities**

The Prison Chaplain is:

* To adhere to and promote expectations from Corrective services in relation to Chaplaincy.
* to provide a presence of their denomination and work with other denominations and faiths to offer pastoral care to inmates at the Corrective services location of their appointment.
* to support the spiritual and pastoral care of inmates, correctional officers and departmental officers at the Correctional center to which he or she is accredited.
* To assist inmates post release to engage with their faith and support agencies in the wider community.
* Offer assistance, as deemed appropriate, to others encountered through the position of Prison Chaplain.

**Key Communications**

Corrective services and CCAC.

To assist the Bishop and the wider community in the ways in which prison ministry may be engaged with and promoted as a significant part of the mission of the church in the Diocese of Bathurst.

To be available to speak at schools, parishes and assemblies to share the ministry of Prison Chaplain and the impact on personal faith.

Write for diocesan publications as deemed appropriate.

**Knowledge, Skills and Experience**

* Committed to the Catholic faith and its practice.
* Graduate studies in Theology.
* Completion of Clinical Pastoral Education training
* Self-management and leadership skills.
* Effective communication skills both written and verbal.
* Understanding and consistent practice of Professional Standards and Safe Church practices.
* Confidentiality.
* Be able to pass all necessary security checks.

**Duties**

* to visit inmates who are sick, injured, confined to cell or segregated from other inmates.
* to visit inmates, or arranging for them to be visited by another minister of religion of the same denomination.
* Be available to inmates and staff as required for Pastoral support.
* Provide chapel services and suitable activities for all inmates in all areas.
* Supervise volunteers and chaplain’s assistants with special skills and expertise as part of inmate pastoral care.
* Prioritise referrals from SAPO or Custodial staff to attend to inmates.
* Maintain the cleanliness of the chapel proper and office space, including ordering of resources.
* Facilitate the attendance of special visitors; religious visitors, elders and other chaplains.
* With the permission of the general manager, hold or conduct combined services in association with ministers of religion of other denominations.
* To minister to inmates of all denominations with appropriate permissions.
* to distribute Religious books, recognised objects of religious devotion and similar items belonging to an inmate are to be treated as approved personal property acquired with the permission of the general manager.
* in collaboration with the Commissioner and the appropriate religious authorities, may assist in: the development of community support for corrective services, and the development and extension of accredited chaplaincy services in correctional centres.
* to provide opportunities for inmates to engage in educational/therapeutic/spiritual development programs and activities.
* To be at times a pastoral support for relatives and friends of inmates.

**Measures of Success**

* Meet Corrective services expectations and settings in relation to Chaplaincy.
* That Christ’s presence is visible to those who encounter the chaplain through pastoral, personal and spiritual experiences
* Attendance at services
* Positive relationship with Corrective services management and associated bodies.
* increased involvement from parishes and church bodies.
* A reduction in recidivism among inmates who pass through the chapel and its activities.