

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT INTERVIEW

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOC Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Needs Assessment Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Completed By: \_\_\_\_\_

The purpose of this interview is to assess the thinking and the relationships of the participant. This information will be used to shape the focus of AIM programming while the participant is incarcerated, and should form the basis of the development of a reentry plan prior to release.

### **Part I. Education**

**A. What grade were you in last?**

**B. What school did you last attend? (name, city, alternative school or not, and so on)**

**C. There are good things and bad things about school. Tell me what school is like for you.**

**D. What are your educational plans for the future?**

**E. What will it take for you to accomplish these plans in the future?**

**F. Rate yourself as a student on a scale of 1-10. (1 would mean you were a total failure and 10 would mean you were outstanding). Tell me why you rated yourself this way.**

**G. What would it take for you to become a 10?**

**H. What did you like best about school?**

**I. What did you dislike most about school?**

**J. Tell me about the teachers you got along with. Why do you think you got along so well with them?**

**K. Tell me about teachers you didn't get along with. Why do you think you did not get along with them?**

**L. What subjects in school do you do the best in? Why do you think this is?**

**M. How important is learning to you? Explain.**

## **Part II. Employment**

- A. Tell me about the jobs you have held. How long did you work at each job? What was the reason you left each job?**
- B. How would you describe a good worker? Be specific.**
- C. Tell me about the ways you were a good worker at your jobs. Be specific.**
- D. In what ways were you not a good worker? Give examples.**
- E. What are three things you could do to be a better employee/worker?**
- F. Tell me about ways you got along with supervisors you have had on your jobs. Give some examples.**
- G. Tell me about ways you did not get along with supervisors you had on your jobs. Give some examples.**

### **Part III. Financial**

- A. Tell me about the money situation at home. Who contributes money to the family, and how does he/she get it? Is there any help from the government/welfare?**
  
- B. Tell me about the last three times you had money in your pocket. How much did you have? Where did the money come from? How did you spend the money?**
  
- C. What do you believe about saving money? Give me details.**
  
- D. What is the purpose of having money? Explain.**

### **Part IV. Health**

- A. Rate your health on a scale of 1-10. 1 would mean you are in very poor health and 10 would mean you are in excellent health. Tell me why you rated yourself in this way.**
  
- B. What would it take for you to give yourself a 10 on this?**
  
- C. How important is your health to you? Explain.**

**D. What things do you do that are damaging to your health?**

**E. What changes would you like to make to your health?**

**F. What things about your health are you worried about? What makes you worried about them?**

#### **Part V. Family**

**A. With whom were you living before getting locked up? List everyone that was in the house.**

**B. Is this where you expect to be living when you are released?**

**C. Tell me a little bit about the people in your home. For each person, give their name, age, and relationship to you. Do they work or are they in school? What hours are they working?**

**D. What sorts of things go on when you or other family members are just hanging around the house? Who does what with whom?**

**E. How would you describe a good mother? Give details.**

**F. Rate your relationship with your mother on a scale of 1-10. 1 means there is no relationship and 10 means the relationship is perfect. Tell me why you rated it like this. Give me some examples.**

**G. What would it take to make your relationship with your mother a 10? Be specific.**

**H. Give me three ways you would like to improve your relationship with your mother.**

**I. How would you describe a good father? Give details.**

**J. Rate your relationship with your father on a scale of 1-10. 1 means there is no relationship and 10 means the relationship is perfect. Tell me why you rated it like this. Give me some examples.**

**K. What would it take to make your relationship with your father a 10? Be specific.**

**L. Give me three ways you would like to improve your relationship with your father.**

**M. When you have children, what will you do better than your parents did?**

**N. Do you have any children? If so, tell me about them.**

**O. Tell me about your relationship with your children. Be specific.**

**P. Tell me about your relationship with your child's mother/father. Give details.**

**Q. Are there any relatives who don't live with you who are very important to you? Tell me about them.**

**R. What did your family do once you started getting in trouble with the law?**

**S. What can your family do to help you stay out of trouble when you get out?**

## **Part VI. Living Arrangements**

- A. Tell me about where you live. Is it a house or apartment? What is the general condition of the building? Do you have your own room?**
  
- B. What is your neighborhood like? What do you like about the neighborhood? What do you wish were different about the neighborhood?**
  
- C. How long have you lived at this address? What do you like about your home? What do you wish were different about your home?**
  
- D. Where do you want to live when you are released? Why?**
  
- E. What will it take for you to live there successfully? Give details.**

## **Part VII. Transportation**

- A. What kind of driver are you?**
  
- B. In what ways does your driving need to improve?**

**C. Do you have your license?**

**D. Tell me about your experiences using public transportation. Give details.**

**Part VIII. Peers**

**A. Tell me about your closest friends. How did you meet them? How long have you been friends? How old are they?**

**B. Have your friends been in trouble with the law? For what reasons? How many times?**

**C. What kinds of things do you do with your friends? Give examples.**

**D. Rate yourself on how you get along with others on a scale of 1-10. 1 would mean very poor and 10 would be excellent. Tell me why you rated yourself the way you did.**

**E. What would it take for you to be a 10 on this?**

**F. In what ways could you be making better choices about the peers you hang around with? Give examples.**

**G. In what ways are you a good friend to others? Give details.**

**H. In what ways can you be a better friend to others? Give details.**

#### **Part IX. Leisure Time**

**A. What do you usually do in your spare time (With and without friends and family)?**

**B. In what ways do your choices about how you spend your free time lead to your involvement in criminal activities? Give details.**

**C. How often do your leisure time activities involve getting high or drunk?**

**Part X. Substance Abuse**

- A. Tell me about your use of drugs. What drugs? When did you start? How often do you use?**
- B. Tell me about your use of alcohol. What is your choice of drink? When did you start? How often do you drink? Do you drink to get drunk?**
- C. What are your future plans for using drugs and alcohol? Explain.**
- D. Tell me about the connection between your criminal activities and the use of drugs or alcohol.**
- E. Tell me about the drinking and using habits of the people in your family. Type used, such as alcohol or marijuana and frequency of use. Have they ever been picked up for DUI, public intoxication, possession, and so on? Do you think that any of them have a “problem” with using, and what makes you think so?**

**Part XI. Personal Assessment**

**A. Describe yourself in the third person (he is..., she is....). What is he/she like? What are the good and bad things about this person?**

**B. What do you like best about yourself?**

**C. What would you most like to change about yourself?**

**Part XII. Criminal Activity**

**A. How come you were doing things that could get you locked up? What made it seem like an okay thing to do at the time?**

**B. What do you need to work on so that you don't get locked up again?**

**C. Have any of your family members been arrested in the past? If so, for what? How many times have they been arrested? Were they on probation or parole? If they have been locked up, where and for how long? How did it affect you?**

**D. Does any of your family have pending charges? If yes, who and for what?**

**E. Is any of your family on probation or parole? If yes, who and for what?**

**Part XIII. Violence**

**A. Tell me about times you have been seriously injured—that is, hurt bad enough that it looked like you might die from the injury (e.g., shot, car wreck, etc.). How have you been affected by this?**

**B. Tell me about situations you have been in where it looked like you were going to be seriously injured or killed, but it didn't happen. How have you been affected by this?**

**C. Tell me about times you have seen someone seriously injured or killed. Who was the person? How have you been affected by this?**

**D. Tell me about any violence you experienced in your home while you were growing up? In what ways are you a different person because of this? Explain.**

**Part XIV. Gangs And Guns**

**A. Have you ever been involved with a gang? (That is, a group of other juveniles or adults who engage in delinquent/criminal activities?) If so, tell me about the gang and your experience with it.**

**B. Have you ever carried a gun with you? If so, how did you get the gun? How often did you carry your gun? Why did you carry your gun? Did you ever use your gun in the commission of a crime (please describe)?**