

# ECO

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ENERGY COMMITTED

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TO OFFENDERS

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*Building People, Not Prisons*

## **ECO CENTER FOR WOMEN**

**2004-2005**

### **OVERVIEW**

ECO, Inc., a non-profit organization, has been serving offenders, ex-offenders and their families for 31 years. The organization began through a grant written by the North Carolina Department of Correction to help inmates' transition from prison to the community. The program grew to include families because of the changes they must make to survive in the community and support their loved one who is incarcerated.

In 1986, the North Carolina Legislature passed a bill introduced by Jo Graham Foster to allow ECO to provide housing for women nearing the end of their release from prison. This was in response to the closing of five residential facilities for women, including the one in Charlotte. These facilities provided a site close to home for women to complete their prison sentence and begin the transition back into their community.

In 1987, the ECO Center for Women opened under contract with the Department of Correction. It houses 20 women who are at Minimum Level III, which makes them eligible for work release. The primary program is work release. Other programs are offered at the facility such as study release, community volunteer leave and family leave family reunification.

The facility was at maximum capacity (20) for 278 days and at 19 the remaining 87 days in 2004-05. The cost per inmate, per day for the year was 49.32. The per diem contract amount paid was \$46.23.

Recidivism is measured as a rearrest within 2 years of release. Of the 10 releases in 2002-03, only 1 has been rearrested (bad check) and was placed on probation. These findings are not considered to be statistically significant since the group studied is so small.

The following annual report will provide more in depth information about the Center and the residents it serves.

ECO Center for Women  
Financial Overview for 2004-05

Revenue

Contract	330,780.
Program Fees	71,792
Miscellaneous	2,843
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Total	405,415

Expense

Compensation Cost	272,826
Occupancy	43,824
Program (supplies, telephone, travel, etc)	13,862
Rental, repairs	10,349
Contract labor/Professional fees	3,714
Insurance and bonding	13,073
Miscellaneous	2,430
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Total	360,078

+/-      45,337