



“We’re keeping our distance but we’re still in touch.”

**bounce
back.**

The health and wellbeing of our participants, staff, employers and partners are our top priority at this time and whilst things are changing rapidly, we would like to update our supporters and partners on our current position.

Our prime focus, naturally, remains the support of those either in prison, due for release or already released and relying on us. However we also recognise that there is amazing work being done in prisons and by organisations throughout our sector. We are all sharing the challenges of this pandemic and where we are able to offer resources or support for the prisons and our partners we would be delighted to do so, please do contact us.

So what is the current position for Bounce Back? Here is a summary.

IN PRISON All education provision in custody has been temporarily halted and at this time our team are no longer able to train in the prisons. We will monitor the situation to see how soon we can get back in but whilst pause has been pressed our trainers have prepared some cell work for the participants. They are also referring the candidates that are due for release to the case managers so we can do our very best to make sure they are supported. We are so proud of the dedication the Trainers have shown and the fact that they have delivered until now as key workers.

IN THE COMMUNITY Following Government advice, our offices in Victoria are temporarily closed and in order to meet distancing requirements we have stopped face to face support and we are in contact with all our participants in different ways that respond to both their digital capability and what they need.

We are seeking alternative solutions to ensure that we can engage with people ongoing and are working hard to develop our virtual offer and provide additional help in different ways.

We are actively looking for help to enable us to be in contact with the people being released now - a critical time when our support is vital. With the possibility of release dates for some being brought forward we want to ensure we are there for them. If you have any old phones you may be considering throwing out, alternatively if you'd like to buy a SIM card for a person leaving prison, please click here – a phone line could be their lifeline.

For the foreseeable future our continued support will be offered remotely, but our team are working hard to continue our employment guidance. The individual help we have had from some of our employers has been heartwarming and even more important during this time.

If you are keen to reach one of our team and have just left prison

- Contact us on: **0207 735 1256**

If you are a referral partner looking to refer someone

- Please do so online by clicking **HERE**

<https://www.bouncebackproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/referral-form.pdf> and a member of our team will be in touch to discuss their options.

Thank you again to all our employers, supporters and staff for their understanding during this time. Please remember there is some amazing talent still leaving prison and they will be very keen to work - we are doing everything we can to ensure that they are ready once we all emerge on the 'other side' of Covid 19.