



# Season's Greetings

## Dear Colleagues,

**O**ur best and warm wishes to all of you for the festive season. May you experience happiness throughout this season and beyond. As some of you prepare to take a break from work to spend time with your loved ones, we wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to all correctional officials for ensuring that we achieve our mandate of rehabilitating offenders, and keeping them safely incarcerated.

The department experienced both the positive and negative in 2017. However, the negative experiences did not deter us from doing our work, and in many instances excellent work.

DCS recorded several successes, this year. We saw offenders giving back to various communities by building houses for the needy, showcasing the skills they acquired

while incarcerated. The department also formalised a long standing relationship with the University of South Africa (UNISA) this year.

We lost officials in the line of duty, such as those from Kimberley Management Area who passed away in an accident on their way back after transporting a parolee to the Eastern Cape.

Despite hostilities against officials by offenders in certain centres, officials remained committed to maintaining law and order. Convincing offenders to change their ways is a challenging task, yet officials make efforts to succeed and those efforts do not go unnoticed.

We hope that all of you will return after the Christmas holidays with renewed energy to continue the good work.



**correctional services**

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## Dear Inmates,

**F**or most people, Christmas is spent in the company of family and loved ones. However, for many this is not possible and can be a lonely time. During this joyful time of the year, inmates long for a visit from their loved ones. Offenders miss the warmth of human love, and the support of relationships.

Correctional Services is aware that inmates experience more challenges during the festive season, but we want to appeal to you to use this period for deep inner reflection and spiritual growth. Continue to cultivate positive relationships with your loved ones on

the outside by sending them Christmas cards or loving letters, even if they may not be able to visit you.

We also want to appeal to you not to allow yourself to become desperate to escape or to engage in other criminal activities. Understand that we are heightening security measures in correctional centres, so cooperate with officials to maintain order and calm. Be encouraged to participate in indoor activities and games.

We wish you hope, peace, joy and love this festive season.



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