**Approved CBSA External Communication – Example**

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John Howard Society Media Sheet

The John Howard Society of Canada (JHS) has entered into a contract with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) in order to provide community case management and supervision to selected individuals who are released from detention. This partnership directly supports the CBSA’s effort to provide increased options for the effective release of individuals into the community while achieving a balanced enforcement outcome. It also aligns with recommendations from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) for a more robust Alternatives To Detention (ATD) program within Canada.

An ATD is any set of tools or programs that can offset a risk that an individual could pose if released into the community. In June 2018, the CBSA launched its ATD program which, in addition to other types of release options, includes the Community Case Management and Supervision (CCMS) program. The intent of CCMS is to promote detention avoidance, or release from detention for selected persons who are compliant with the CBSA. These individuals may either lack a suitable bondsperson, or require social service supports in addition to their bondsperson in order to mitigate risk upon release into the community. The JHS is established and experienced in the delivery of CCMS to individuals who pose some level of risk to the public, or pose a risk to the integrity of the CBSA’s immigration enforcement program.

To achieve the objectives of CCMS, the JHS employs a holistic approach by providing a structured and supportive environment that seeks to address the needs of the individual while abiding by the individual’s release conditions. The services provided may include:

* Establishing reporting requirements;
* Referrals to health & mental health support;
* Referrals to addiction support;
* Referrals to employment & housing support;
* Referrals to support for families & children; and
* Mandatory residency (for high risk individuals), as required

For more information on the CBSA’s ATD program, please email the Alternatives to Detention team.