

# VISION STATEMENT

## Vision Statement

The American Correctional Association shapes the future of corrections through strong, progressive leadership that brings together various voices and forges coalitions and partnerships to promote the concepts embodied in its Declaration of Principles.

## Mission

The American Correctional Association provides a professional organization for all individuals and groups, both public and private that share a common goal of improving the justice system.

## Goals

**I. Membership** - Expand and serve membership. Develop recruitment and retention strategies. Identify benefits and services that will increase and serve the membership of the American Correctional Association.

**II. Diversity** - Promote diversity in the leadership, staff, membership and activities of the American Correctional Association. Encourage diversity of staff in the justice system.

**III. Professional Development** - Provide excellence in professional development and educational opportunities. Create and provide meaningful opportunities for those who cannot participate in professional development through traditional venues.

**IV. Standards and Accreditation** - Ensure the integrity of the standards and accreditation process. Develop standards that are based on valid, reliable research and exemplary correctional practice. Promote the accreditation process.

**V. Research and Education** - Build relationships with the educational community. Influence research agendas and the implementation of valid research findings within correctional agencies. Ensure that pertinent research is recognized, shared, and widely distributed. Promote continuing education and the expansion of degree programs relevant to corrections.

**VI. Public Perception of Corrections** – Lead and serve as the voice for corrections. Promote sound public policy and enhance positive public perception of the corrections field. Promote the American Correctional Association's policies, position statements, standards, and resolutions.

**VII. International Relations** - Develop relationships and promote opportunities in which the American Correctional Association can contribute to and benefit from active involvement within the international justice community.

**VIII. Ethics** - Promote ethics within the justice profession. Demonstrate in all endeavors socially responsible, humane correctional policies and practices. Promote awareness of and adherence to the Code of Ethics of the American Correctional Association.

*(Approved by the American Correctional Association's Delegate Assembly at the 132<sup>nd</sup> Congress of Correction in Anaheim, California, August 7, 2002.)*