**Accommodating Disabilities in Corrections Key Term Handout**

1. **Mental Disability** –developmental or psychological disorders, such as retardation,organic brain syndrome, emotional illness, and specific learning disabilities
2. **Accommodations** –specialized housing units, treatment in regular housing, diversionto other institutions and services
3. **Mental Illness** –a group of disorders causing severe disturbances in thinking, feelingand relating—they result in substantially diminished capacity for coping with the ordinary demands of life
4. **Developmental Disabilities** – “normal” development failsto occur; diagnosis isdetermined by significant sub-average general intellectual functioning resulting in, or associated with, defects or impairments in adaptive behaviors such as personal Independence and social responsibility, with onset by age 18
5. **Communication** –effective means of communicating may require auxiliary aids forspeech, hearing, and vision impairments
6. **Auxiliary Aids** –assisted listening devices, telecommunication devices for the deaf,taped tests, and qualified readers
7. **Serious Mental Illness** –psychosis, schizophrenia, major affective disorder such asbipolar and major depression—likely to impair cognitive function and judgment but may include Axis I disorders
8. **Physical or Mental Impairment** –substantially limits one or more major life functions,such as seeing, hearing, walking or talking—this includes traumatic brain injury, impaired hearing, impaired mobility, impaired vision, heart disease, mental retardation and mental illness, HIV, and other chronic illnesses
9. **Mental Retardation** –consists of significantly below average intellectual functioningwith deficits in adaptive behavioral functioning, which manifests prior to age 18